

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

**IN THE MATTER OF THE RENEWABLE
PORTFOLIO STANDARD COMPLIANCE
STATUS REPORT FOR 2015 OF LINDE
ENERGY SERVICES, INC.**

CASE NO. 16-700-EL-ACP

**IN THE MATTER OF THE RENEWABLE
PORTFOLIO STANDARD COMPLIANCE
STATUS REPORT FOR 2016 OF LINDE
ENERGY SERVICE, INC.**

CASE NO. 17-955-EL-ACP

FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on March 14, 2018

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission approves the 2015 and 2016 renewable portfolio standard compliance status reports of Linde Energy Services, Inc.

II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Linde Energy Services, Inc. (LES) is an electric services company as defined in R.C. 4928.01(A)(9) and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 3} R.C. 4928.64(B)(2) establishes benchmarks for electric services companies to acquire a portion of their electricity supply for retail customers in Ohio from renewable energy resources. R.C. 4928.645 provides that an electric utility or electric services company may use renewable energy credits (RECs) and solar energy credits (SRECs) to meet its respective renewable energy and solar benchmarks. Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-01(BB) defines a REC as the environmental attributes associated with one megawatt hour (MWH) of electricity generated by a renewable energy resource, except for electricity generated by facilities as described in Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-04(E).

{¶ 4} Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-05(A) requires each electric services company to annually file by April 15 a renewable portfolio standard compliance status report (RPS

report), unless otherwise ordered by the Commission. The RPS report must analyze all activities the company undertook in the previous year in order to demonstrate how pertinent alternative energy portfolio benchmarks have been met. Staff then conducts an annual compliance review of the company's filing and the records of the applicable attribute tracking system to ensure that RECs were sourced from generating facilities certified by the Commission and were appropriately associated with electricity generated for the compliance period.

{¶ 5} On April 15, 2016, LES filed its 2015 RPS report. LES proposes to use a baseline of 81,215 MWH, which it indicated was its Ohio retail electric sales for 2015. LES further reported that it satisfied its 2015 compliance obligations.

{¶ 6} On April 11, 2017, LES filed its 2016 RPS report. LES proposes to use a baseline of 141,625 MWH, which it indicated was its Ohio retail electric sales for 2016. LES further reported that it satisfied its 2016 compliance obligations.

{¶ 7} On January 22, 2018, Staff filed its Review and Recommendations for LES's RPS reports. Staff reports that LES is an electric services company in the state of Ohio, and thus had an RPS obligation for 2015 and 2016. Staff reviewed LES's attribute tracking system account record to verify compliance, and determined that LES satisfied its 2015 and 2016 RPS compliance obligations. Further, Staff recommends that, for future compliance years, LES initiate the transfer of the appropriate RECs and SRECs to its attribute tracking system reserve subaccount between March 1 and April 15 so as to precede the filing of its annual RPS report with the Commission.

{¶ 8} Upon review of LES's 2015 and 2016 RPS reports and the records of these proceedings, we adopt Staff's recommendations. We find that LES's 2015 and 2016 proposed compliance baselines are reasonable, and that LES has met its compliance obligations for 2015 and 2016. Further, LES is directed to comply with Staff's recommendations for future compliance years.

III. ORDER

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That LES's 2015 and 2016 RPS reports be accepted as filed, as LES has met its RPS compliance obligations for 2015 and 2016. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That LES comply with Staff's recommendations adopted herein. It is, further,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO



Asim Z. Haque, Chairman

M. Beth Trombold

Thomas W. Johnson

Lawrence K. Friedeman

Daniel R. Conway

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MAR 14 2018



Barcy F. McNeal
Secretary