

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE RENEWABLE
PORTFOLIO STANDARD COMPLIANCE
STATUS REPORT FOR 2016 OF ASTRAL
ENERGY, LLC.

CASE NO. 17-892-EL-ACP

FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on April 18, 2018

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission approves the 2016 renewable portfolio standard compliance status report of Astral Energy, LLC.

II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Astral Energy, LLC 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 7, 2017, Astral filed its 2016 RPS report. Astral proposes to use a baseline of 2,606 MWH, which it indicated was its Ohio retail electric sales for 2016. Astral further reported that it satisfied its 2016 compliance obligations.

{¶ 6} On December 26, 2017, Staff filed its Review and Recommendations for Astral's RPS report. Staff reports that Astral is an electric services company in the state of Ohio, and thus had an RPS obligation for 2016. Staff states that, during the course of its review, Astral informed Staff that its actual sales for 2016 were 1,598 MWH, not 2,606 MWH, which resulted in Staff calculating Astral's obligations to be 2 SRECs and 38 RECs. Staff added that Astral has transferred three SRECs and 62 RECs to its reserve subaccount for 2016 Ohio compliance purposes, resulting in over-compliance of one SREC and 24 RECS. Staff reviewed Astral's attribute tracking system account record to verify compliance, and determined that Astral satisfied its 2016 RPS compliance obligations. Staff recommends that Astral should apply the over-compliance to its 2017 compliance obligations. Staff further recommends that, for future compliance years, Astral 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.

{¶ 7} Upon review of Astral's 2016 RPS report and the records of this proceeding, we adopt Staff's recommendations. We find that Astral's 2016 proposed compliance baseline is reasonable, and that Astral has met its compliance obligations for 2016. Further, Astral is directed to comply with Staff's recommendations for future compliance years.

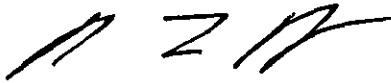
III. ORDER

{¶ 8} It is, therefore,

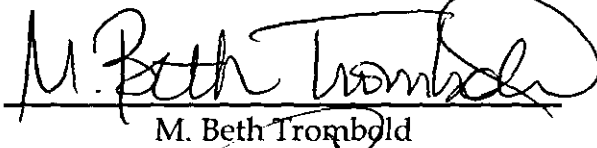
{¶ 9} ORDERED, That Astral's 2016 RPS report, as corrected by Staff, be accepted as filed, as Astral has met its RPS compliance obligations for 2016. It is, further,

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

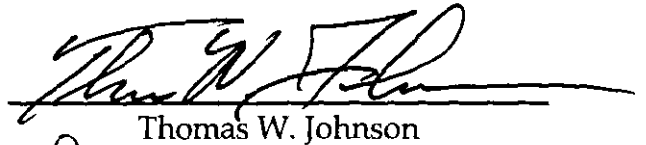
{¶ 11} ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all parties of record.

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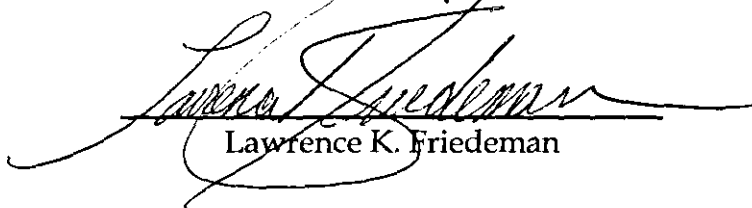
Asim Z. Haque, Chairman



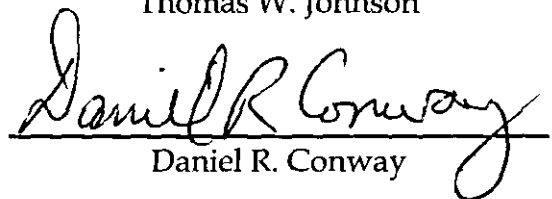
M. Beth Trombold



Thomas W. Johnson



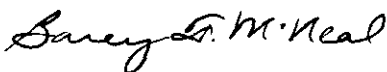
Lawrence K. Friedeman



Daniel R. Conway

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APR 18 2018



Barcy F. McNeal
Secretary