#### THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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

**CASE NO. 17-966-EL-ACP** 

### FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on July 25, 2018

#### I. SUMMARY

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

### II. DISCUSSION

# A. Applicable Law

- {¶ 2} Viridian Energy PA, LLC (Viridian) 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

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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.

# B. Procedural History

- {¶ 5} On April 11, 2017, Viridian filed its 2016 RPS report. Viridian proposes a baseline of 2,570 MWH, which is the average of its annual Ohio retail electric sales for 2013, 2014, and 2015. Viridian further reported that it satisfied its 2016 compliance obligations.
- {¶6} On March 27, 2018, Staff filed its Review and Recommendations for Viridian's RPS report. Staff reports that Viridian was an electric services company in the state of Ohio with retail electric sales in the state of Ohio during 2016 and, therefore, had an RPS obligation for 2016. Staff reviewed Viridian's attribute tracking system account record to verify compliance, and determined that Viridian satisfied its 2016 RPS compliance obligations. Staff recommends that, for future compliance years, Viridian 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.

### C. Commission Conclusion

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

## III. ORDER

- $\{\P 8\}$  It is, therefore,
- {¶ 9} ORDERED, That Viridian's 2016 RPS report be accepted as filed, as Viridian has met its RPS compliance obligations for 2016. It is, further,
- $\{\P$  10 $\}$  ORDERED, That Viridian 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.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Asim Z. Haque, Chairman

M. Beth Trombold

Lawrence K. Friedeman

Thomas W. Johnson

Daniel R. Conway

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Barcy F. McNeal

Secretary