THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD COMPLIANCE STATUS REPORT FOR 2017 OF VERDE ENERGY USA, INC.	CASE NO. 18-642-EL-ACP

FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on October 31, 2018

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission approves the 2017 renewable portfolio standard compliance status report of Verde Energy USA, Inc.

II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Verde Energy USA, Inc. (VEI) 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 12, 2018, VEI filed its 2017 RPS report. VEI proposes a baseline of 203,118 MWH, which it asserted was an average of its actual Ohio retail electric sales for 2014, 2015, and 2016. VEI further reported that it satisfied its 2017 compliance obligations.

{¶ 6} On July 23, 2018, Staff filed its Review and Recommendations for VEI's RPS report. Staff reports that VEI is an electric services company in the state of Ohio and, therefore, had an RPS obligation for 2017. Staff determined that VEI accurately calculated its 2017 RPS compliance obligations. Staff recommends that, for future compliance years, VEI 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 VEI's 2017 RPS report and the records of these proceedings, we adopt Staff's recommendations. We find that VEI's 2017 proposed compliance baseline is reasonable, and that VEI has met its compliance obligations for 2017. Further, VEI is directed to comply with Staff's recommendations for future compliance years.

III. ORDER

{¶ 8} It is, therefore,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That VEI's 2017 RPS report be accepted as filed, as VEI has met its RPS compliance obligations for 2017. It is, further,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That VEI 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

Thomas W. Johnson

Lawrence K. Friedeman

Daniel R. Conway

JML/hac

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OCT 31 2018

Barcy F. McNeal

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Secretary