

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION NARUC-NASEO TASK FORCE ON COMPREHENSIVE ELECTRICITY PLANNING TASK FORCE FEBRUARY 2021 ANNOUNCEMENT

There is significant work underway in North Carolina consistent with State Statutes, NC Utilities Commission Rules, and Executive Orders focused on establishing comprehensive utility system planning processes that connect generation, transmission, and distribution planning in a holistic, iterative and transparent way.

The Duke Utilities in North Carolina are currently engaged in a multi-year initiative to develop and implement an Integrated System & Operations Planning (ISOP) project. As stated in the Companies' 2020 Integrated Resource Plans, the advancements in planning tools through the ISOP initiative open new possibilities for analysis to help identify transmission and distribution infrastructure opportunities from a more holistic perspective. The Utilities Commission fully endorses Duke's efforts to date. It is also consistent with the State Energy Office's efforts to foster stakeholder participation into integrated distribution planning and resilience planning. Based on the anticipated value of this initiative, the Commission will endeavor to promote the learning and tools across all North Carolina distribution planning. The work of the NARUC-NASEO Task Force will inform this effort.

The North Carolina Utilities Commission issued an Order dated January 12, 2021 in the current IRP Docket (E-100 Sub 165) that establishes a Technical Conference to 1) provide information and briefs from the NARUC-NASEO task force, and 2) start laying the groundwork for expanding the engagement of the NC Electric Cooperatives and Municipalities in the ISOP and other integrated distribution planning efforts.¹ This will include developing approaches to encourage coordinated planning and the effective sharing of tools and outputs between the Utilities, Cooperatives, and Municipalities.

¹ See: <u>North Carolina Utilities Commission Order</u>



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