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Keith D. Wood
Director, Resource Planning

December 30, 2021

#### Via Electronic Delivery and U.S. Mail

Lora W. Johnson, CMC, LMMC Clerk of Council Room 1E09, City Hall 1300 Perdido Street New Orleans, LA 70112

**Re:** Rulemaking Proceeding to Establish Renewable Portfolio Standards

Council Docket No. UD-19-01

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Entergy New Orleans, LLC ("ENO") respectfully submits its Reply Comments regarding the Initial RCPS Compliance Plan Covering Compliance Year 2022 in the above-referenced docket. ENO submits this filing electronically and will submit an original and two hard copies to the Clerk of Council via U.S. Mail. Please file the original and two copies into the record and return a date-stamped copy via the stamped self-addressed envelope enclosed.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Keith D. Wood

Heatwood

KDW/bkd

**Enclosures** 

cc: Official Service List via email

# ENTERGY NEW ORLEANS REPLY TO COMMENTS REGARDING INITIAL RCPS COMPLIANCE PLAN COVERING COMPLIANCE YEAR 2022

Entergy New Orleans (ENO) appreciates the comments and feedback it has received from several parties regarding ENO's Initial RCPS Compliance Plan Covering Compliance Year 2022, filed in August 2021 (Initial Compliance Plan). In reply to these comments, and to resolve the outstanding issues identified in the Initial Compliance Plan, ENO has prepared the following response.

#### **EV Charging Credit**

ENO acknowledges the error that the Advisors discovered in row 15 of Table A-2. ENO has enclosed a corrected, dynamic spreadsheet version of Tables A-1 and A-2 along with this response in order to alleviate any confusion. ENO believes that this was merely a transcription error isolated to row 15 and that the remainder of the values in the table are correct, including the projected EV CEC credit rate in row 17. In later years, because of the increasing stringency of the RCPS, the electric sector emissions associated with serving EV load are lower, which in turn increases the net emissions benefit and increases the associated CEC credit rate. ENO also notes that Table A-2 serves as an informative projection of the EV charging credit rate for 2023-2026, and that ENO will repeat the calculation in Table A-1 in the final compliance report for each compliance year as better or newer parameters become available, such as the average efficiency of ICE vehicles or electric vehicles.

As a reminder, the purpose of the EV charging calculation is to measure and recognize the contribution of electric vehicle charging in reducing carbon emissions. The RCPS rules explicitly include EV electrification as a Tier 3 resource. Its associated electric demand, like all ENO retail sales whether new or existing, will be met with the RCPS-prescribed mix of clean resources. To the extent emitting resources are used to meet EV electric demand, their emissions are accounted for in the calculations in Tables A-1 and A-2. As Table A-1 shows, one megawatt-hour of electric vehicle charging delivers over one ton of net carbon dioxide emissions reductions, as well as the local air quality benefits from reducing emissions of nitrous oxide, ammonia, particulate matter, and other volatile compounds that would otherwise be delivered from car tailpipes into areas of high population density. A crediting mechanism that recognizes the net carbon reduction contributions of transportation electrification is essential to ensure that these electrification efforts are placed on a similar footing as other decarbonization measures.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In Section VII of its Comments, the Alliance seems to ignore the fact that the rules explicitly include EV charging as a Tier 3 resource by making the statement that, "such infrastructure should not satisfy RCPS requirements." Since the eligibility of EV charging as a Tier 3 resource was resolved in the Rulemaking and is not in question, the Alliance's comments in this Section should be disregarded.

#### **Green Power Option**

ENO agrees with the Advisors that the most reasonable treatment of the interaction between the Green Power Option (GPO) and the RCPS is to "modify[] the RCPS such that all RECs retired under the GPO are excluded from Compliance, and the retail compliance load is reduced by the same amount." This would also address the Alliance/EFNO's concerns and ensure that the RECs associated with the GPO are used and retired once. Under this treatment, ENO would retire RECs representing 25%, 50%, or 100% of the GPO customer's consumption, and these RECs would not be used for RCPS compliance. The customer's residual consumption (if any) would be included in Compliance Load and matched with the prescribed RCPS percentage of clean energy from the remaining resources in ENO's portfolio.

Given the current size of the GPO program, ENO also agrees that the right timeframe to address this issue is "during the next periodic RCPS Review, or to the extent GPO participation encompasses significantly more annual energy" as suggested by the Advisors.<sup>3</sup>

#### **Update to Expected Compliance Position**

During Hurricane Ida, two ENO-contracted resources, the Iris and St. James solar facilities, sustained damage that is expected to delay the near-term operation of these facilities. At this time, neither resource is expected to achieve commercial operation until at least 1Q2022. Accordingly, the expected total CECs from these resources for 2022 has been reduced by 25%. Combined with the approximate impact of excluding RECs retired for the GPO program from RCPS compliance, the resources in ENO's current portfolio are projected to generate 44,518 fewer CECs than projected in Table 1 of ENO's August filing. A revised table is shown below:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Advisors' Comments, pg. 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid

Resource Name	Type	Expected MWh	RCPS Multiplier	<b>Expected CECs</b>
Grand Gulf	Nuclear	1,873,531	1.00	1,873,531
River Bend	Nuclear	834,853	1.00	834,853
ANO Unit 2	Nuclear	233,566	1.00	233,566
ANO Unit 1	Nuclear	177,693	1.00	177,693
Waterford Unit 3	Nuclear	161,511	1.00	161,511
Energy Efficiency (implemented after 1/2021)	EE	119,554	1.25	149,443
Iris Solar	Solar	93,714	1.00	93,714
St James Solar	Solar	39,540	1.00	39,540
New Orleans Solar Station	Solar	41,457	1.25	51,821
Vidalia	Hydro	17,459	1.00	17,459
Commercial Rooftop Solar	Solar	10,978	1.25	13,723
Paterson Solar	Solar	2,349	1.25	2,936
Less: RECs reser	(100)			
			Total:	3,649,690

In order to maintain the planned 5% contingency in its 2022 RCPS Compliance Credit supply, ENO intends to increase its REC purchases by the corresponding amount, as summarized below in the updated version of Table 4 and 5 of the August Initial Compliance filing:

	Description	Initial Plan 8/2021	Updated 12/2021
(1)	Retail Compliance Load, BP21	5,597,191	5,597,191
(2) = 64%*[1]	2022 RCPS Requirement (64% of Retail Compliance Load)	3,582,202	3,582,202
(3) = 5%*[2]	5% Contingency	179,110	179,110
(4) = $[2]+[3]$	Target CEC Supply w/ 5% Contingency	3,761,313	3,761,313
(5)	Projected CECs from Existing Portfolio	3,694,208	3,649,690
(6) =[4]–[5]	Additional RCPS Compliance Credits to Pursue	67,104	111,623
	From Public EV Charger CECs	564	564
	From Purchased RECs	66,540	111,059

### **Alternative Compliance Payment**

Section 5.a.2 of the RCPS notes that the ACP shall be based on the highest market value of RECs in MISO over the prior three years, multiplied by a 1.15 multiplier. As ENO noted in its

Initial Compliance Plan, the range of available market data for MISO RECs is limited and most publicly quoted REC prices are tied to the RPS program for which the REC is used rather than the region from which the REC originates.

In light of this, the Advisors have recommended that "ENO should propose an ACP, as well as provide the Council with the range of highest price Green-e certified RECs, and associated REC contract terms, from available market sources in MISO or neighboring balancing authorities over the prior three years."

The table below shows the highest REC market index price over the past three years, based on REC market data from Marex Spectron. The table examines RECs that qualify for compliance in Michigan and Texas, states in which a portion of the retail customers are located in MISO.<sup>5</sup> Given the RCPS requirements to utilize Green-e certified RECs, the figure also shows REC market prices for National Green-e Certifiable RECs.

#### **REC Index Pricing, 12/2018-11/2021**

(Source: Marex Spectron)

Product Name	Share of Retail Sales in MISO <sup>6</sup>	Highest Index Price <sup>7</sup> (\$/REC)	Occurrence of Highest Index
Michigan RECs	96%	3.13	April 2021
Texas RECs	5%	7.35	August 2021
National Green-e Any Technology RECs	N/A	7.13	August 2021

ENO believes Michigan REC pricing is the most appropriate basis for the ACP calculation, given that the majority of the state is in MISO compared to only a small portion in Texas. ENO proposes that the Council set the ACP at \$3.60 per megawatt-hour, which is equal to 1.15 times the highest market price for Michigan RECs of \$3.13. If the Council includes Texas REC prices, the ACP would be \$8.45 megawatt-hour, equal to 1.15 times the highest market price for Texas RECs of \$7.35. While the National Green-e data provides helpful context (and could reflect the underlying REC costs for MISO resources), we believe that this data would not satisfy the RCPS requirements due to the lack of locational specificity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Advisors' Comments, pg. 3-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> For other states wholly or partially in MISO that have RPS programs, either no REC market data is currently available or the data history is incomplete.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> EIA Form 861 data, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The "index price" is calculated as the midpoint between the daily quoted bids and offers for the current or nearest future compliance year.

Finally, the Company notes that Section 5 of the RCPS Rules does not contemplate prospective inclusion in the ACP of a "penalty that cannot be passed on to ratepayers" as proposed by the Alliance in its Comments. Section 5(b) notes that the Rules do not limit the Council's authority to impose penalties for violations of the Rules, but any such determinations regarding a penalty would occur after the fact, not before, as proposed by the Alliance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> There are no page numbers to reference in the Alliance's Comments. Counting from the cover letter, the quoted proposal appears to be on page 5 of the filing.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE <u>Docket No. UD-19-01</u>

I hereby certify that I have served the required number of copies of the foregoing report upon all other known parties of this proceeding, by the following: electronic mail, facsimile, overnight mail, hand delivery, and/or United States Postal Service, postage prepaid.

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New Orleans, Louisiana, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021.

Keith D. Wood