

Entergy New Orleans, LLC 1600 Perdido Street, Bldg #505 New Orleans, LA 70112 Tel 504 670 3680 Fax 504 670 3615

Becky Knox Vice President, Regulatory Affairs rharshk@entergy.com

May 18, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL & U.S. MAIL

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

Re: Resolution & Order Establishing a Docket and Opening Rulemaking Proceeding to Establish Renewable Portfolio Standard Council Docket No. UD-19-01

Dear Ms. Johnson,

Please see the attached correspondence addressed to the Council for the City of New Orleans ("Council") on behalf of Entergy New Orleans, LLC ("ENO"), National Black Chamber of Commerce, U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Development, Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, South Coast Solar, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana, Southern Black Chamber of Commerce, Orleans Regional Black Chamber of Commerce, Biomolecular Engineering of Tulane University, Tulane Energy Institute/A.B. Freeman School of Business, Drive Electric Louisiana, Alliance for Transportation Electrification, Greater New Orleans, Inc., Center for Climate and Energy Solutions, and the Port of New Orleans, expressing collective support for Council's technology-neutral Renewable and Clean Portfolio Standard. Please file an original and two copies into the record in the above-referenced matter and return a date-stamped copy to us via the enclosed self-stamped envelope.

Should you have any questions regarding the attached, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance.

Sincerely, But Know

cc: Service List UD-19-01











The Southern BLACK CHAMBER of COMMERCE









DRIVEELECTRIC LOUISIANA







May 18, 2021

Members of the New Orleans City Council 1300 Perdido Street New Orleans, LA 70112

Re: Renewable and Clean Portfolio Standard

Dear Councilmembers:

In the spirit of environmental accountability, community partnership and long-term, sustainable planning, the undersigned organizations and individuals, along with Entergy New Orleans, commend the Council of the City of New Orleans for its actionable commitment to addressing the global climate crisis. Our City's roots – and future – are inextricably linked to robust natural resources and a healthy environment and, especially, halting the sea rise that threatens multiple coastal cities, including New Orleans.

We encourage you to further advance and expedite the City's stated goals of net-zero carbon emissions by 2040 and 100% carbon-free generation by 2050 by adopting the technology-neutral Renewable and Clean Portfolio Standard (RCPS) that the Council appeared poised to adopt in December 2020. This standard embraced a holistic range of opportunities to reduce carbon emissions from all sectors of the New Orleans economy, including our ports and the Sewerage and Water Board, which has 60 MW of generation located within City boundaries. We believe that the technology-neutral RCPS policy originally proposed is vital to achieving a cost-effective and sustainable transition to zero-carbon electric service, accelerating decarbonization of the New Orleans economy, and maximizing City-wide economic development opportunities.

Toward that end, our coalition favors an all-hands-on-deck approach – one that utilizes proven and emerging technologies, aimed at achieving carbon reduction efficiently and cost-effectively, and that does not unfairly single out or favor one technology or special interest over others.

For this reason, we strongly endorse the rules proposed to the Council in December 2020 that encompass an expansive, technology-neutral approach. We are not alone. This policy approach is accepted universally by climate scientists and is being targeted by the Biden Administration and the private sector for significant investment to combat the climate crisis. We encourage the Council to follow their lead.

An inclusive renewable and clean portfolio standard can help ensure the full de-carbonization of Entergy New Orleans' power service by 2050. It likewise also would remove barriers to investment in de-carbonizing other sectors of the New Orleans economy, creating a multiplier effect for even greater carbon reductions. In addition to carbon reductions, tools like beneficial electrification will lead to substantial reduction in harmful pollutants and particulate matter, which means cleaner air and health benefits for the City's residents, particularly those living in or working near major transportation corridors and transit routes.

By stripping the rules proposed by the Council of the tools of beneficial electrification and carbon capture, the revised proposed rules remove tools to remove carbon dioxide from the environs of New Orleans, to detriment of its citizens. It is difficult to understand the basis for removing these two tools for decarbonization given the important environmental objects at stake.

The undersigned organizations and individuals join with Entergy New Orleans in supporting a vision to decarbonize electric service and other sectors of the New Orleans' economy. A technology-neutral approach will create a framework that maximizes flexibility, encourages partnerships, supports creative solutions, seeks cutting-edge technology, and evaluates and deploys technologies based on efficacy and cost-effectiveness.

For the reasons and stated above, we strongly urge the Council to adopt the December 2020 Rules, as proposed. Such adoption will allow our City to move forward in addressing the climate crisis in a comprehensive, cost-effective and equitable manner.

Sincerely,

Deanna D. Rodiguy

Deanna Rodriguez President and CEO, Entergy New Orleans, LLC

Robert L. Suggs Jr. Chief Executive Officer, South Coast Solar

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Daniel F. Shantz Professor and Chair of Biomolecular Engineering, Tulane University

Philip B. Jones

Philip B. Jones Executive Director, Alliance for Transportation Electrification

Harry C. Alford

Harry C. Alford President and CEO, National Black Chamber of Commerce

Mayra E. Sineda

Mayra Pineda President and CEO, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana

En: N

Eric N. Smith Professor of Practice, AB Freeman School of Business, Tulane University, Associate Director-Tulane Energy Institute

Michael Hecht President and CEO, Greater New Orleans. Inc.

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Andrew Mangan Executive Director, U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Development

Annold Baker

Arnold Baker Founder and President, Southern Black Chamber of Commerce

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Pierre E. Conner III Executive Director and Professor of Practice, Tulane Energy Institute A.B. Freeman School of Business

Boblerciasere

Bob Perciasepe President, Center for Climate and Energy Solutions

Michael Hawaya

Michael Sawava President and General Manager, New Orleans Ernest N. Morial **Convention Center**

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LaVerne Toombs Executive Director, New Orleans Regional Black Chamber of Commerce

Ann Vail Executive Director, Drive Electric Louisiana

Mandy & Christian

Brandy D. Christian President and CEO, The Port of New Orleans