FILED
SEP 21 2022
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
G.P.S.C.

DOCKET# 44280
DOCUMENT# 191598

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BEFORE THE GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF GEORGIA

Georgia Power Company's 2022 Rate Case: Consideration of Georgia Power Company's Response to the Georgia Conservation Voters Education Fund's Multiple Applications for Leave to Intervene.	)	Docket No. 44280

ORDER CONSOLIDATING MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE

At its September 15, 2022 Energy Committee, the Commission heard arguments from parties on whether the Commission should consolidate the multiple applications for leave to intervene from Georgia Conservation Voters Education Fund.

At its September 15, 2022 Special Administrative Session, the Georgia Public Service Commission (the "Commission") adopted the motion by Chair Pridemore, which stated:

"I move the intervenor applications from Georgia Conservation Voters and Georgia Conservation Voter's Education Fund be consolidated into one GCV intervenor in accordance with Commission Rule 515-2-1-.06(3) and O.C.G.A. § 46-2-59(f). Any of the applicants who do not wish to be part of the consolidated intervention can appear as a public witness."

JURISDICTION AND AUTHORITY

Georgia Power is a public electric utility serving retail customers within the State of Georgia. Georgia Power is one of the retail operating companies of which the Southern Company system is comprised. This Commission has jurisdiction over Georgia Power generally pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 46-2-20, and 46-2-21, and over Georgia Power's Rate Case pursuant to 46-2-23.

STATUTES

§ 46-2-59: Permissible parties in proceedings before commission; intervention in proceedings generally; limited appearances; procedure for granting leave to intervene

(f) The commission or hearing officer may condition any order permitting intervention so as to assure the orderly conduct of the proceeding.

COMMISSION RULES

Rule 515-2-1-.06: Parties of Record

(4)(a) A person who is not a party to a proceeding may make a limited appearance by making an oral or written statement of his or her position on the issues, provided that the Commission maintains the discretion to disallow a person from making or continuing to make an oral or written statement if such disallowance is consistent with principles of fairness and necessary to maintain decorum, based on factors, including but not limited to:
(1) whether the oral or written statement is limited to and rationally related to the issues noticed for consideration at the hearing;
(2) whether the oral statement is redundant to the oral statements made by other persons so as to unduly delay the hearing;
(3) whether the person making the oral or written statement is speaking on behalf of a party to the proceeding; and
(4) whether the person making the oral or written statement is conducting him or herself in a disruptive, offensive, or defamatory manner.
(b) Nothing in this rule limits the Commission's ability to impose procedural requirements on the presentation of written and oral comments in order to effectively manage the proceeding. No procedural requirement will be based on the viewpoint of the speaker.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

While separately filed, the Applications are duplicative in both form and content. For example, each Application identifies either Georgia Conservation Voters ("GCV") or Georgia Conservation Voters Education Fund ("GCVEF"), uses GCVEF's physical address, and identifies two individuals associated with that organization as persons to be served with all pleadings and materials filed in this docket. The efficient and orderly conduct of this proceeding will be harmed if the Applications are all granted individually. According, the Commission finds it appropriate to consolidate the Applications as one intervenor.

On August 1, 2022, the Commission announced that it would reinstate the public witness process that was suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic. Any Applicant that does not wish to participate as part of the consolidated intervenor thus has an alternative way in which to participate in this docket without the need to fully intervene.

WHEREFORE IT IS ORDERED, the Commission orders the consolidation of the intervenor applications from Georgia Conservation Voters and Georgia Conservation Voter's Education Fund be consolidated into one intervenor.

ORDERED FURTHER, the single intervenor shall be referred to as, "Georgia Conservation Voters."

ORDERED FURTHER, that a motion for reconsideration, rehearing or oral argument or any other motion shall not stay the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

ORDERED FURTHER, that jurisdiction over these matters is expressly retained for the purpose of entering such further Order or Orders as this Commission may deem just and proper.

The above by action of the Commission in its Special Administrative Session on September 15, 2022.

Sallie Tanner
Executive Secretary

9/21/22
Date

Tricia Pridemore
Chairman

9/21/22
Date