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PROCEDURAL AND SCHEDULING ORDER

Docket No. 55378

In Re: Georgia Power Company's 2023 Integrated Resource Plan Update, Certification of the Power Purchase Agreement between Georgia Power Company and Mississippi Power Company, Certification of the Power Purchase Agreement between Georgia Power Company and Santa Rosa Energy Center LLC, and Amended Certification of the Residential Thermostat Demand Response Demand Side Management Program

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PART 1. PROCEDURE

To govern hearings in the above-referenced docket, the Georgia Public Service Commission ("Commission") enters this Procedural and Scheduling Order in accordance with the authority and duty conferred upon it by the Integrated Resource Plan Act ("IRP Act"), O.C.G.A. § 46-3A-1 et seq, as well as Commission Utility Rule Chapter 515-3-4, Integrated Resource Planning.

These hearings pertain to applications filed by Georgia Power Company ("Georgia Power" or "Company") on October 27, 2023. The applications seek approval of Georgia Power's 2023 Integrated Resource Plan Update ("IRP Update"), Certification of the Power Purchase Agreements with Mississippi Power Company and Santa Rosa Energy Center LLC, and an Amended Certification of the Residential Thermostat Demand Response Demand Side Management Program.

O.C.G.A. § 46-3A-2 (c) states that, "Within 120 days after the filing of each integrated resource plan, the Commission shall approve and adopt an integrated resource plan." O.C.G.A. § 46-3A-5(b) allows 180 days after filing for a certificate or certificate amendment for the Commission to render a decision. Further, O.C.G.A. § 46-3A-4 states, "The utility's application for a certificate shall be accompanied by its current integrated resource plan, whether or not previously filed." Georgia Power filed the applications and the updated IRP on October 27, 2023. Because the utility's application for certification, decertification, or an amended certification must be accompanied by its current IRP, it is appropriate to consider

these dockets and their schedules concurrently. (See Part II of this Order for Hearing Schedules and Filing Dates.)

The Commission hereby designates the following staff members to act as Public Interest Advocacy ("PIA") Staff in this proceeding:

Rob Trokey
Tom Newsome
William Threatt
Joseph Schneider
Jason Forsythe
Ben Deitchman
Jamie Barber
John Kaduk
Bobby Iseley
Preston Thomas
Ginny Davis
Jeff Stump (AG)
Charles Thimmesch (AG)
Patrick Hanson (AG)

The PIA Staff shall be responsible for performing an independent evaluation of the filed case from the standpoint of promoting the public interest and just and reasonable rates and advocating for that position. The PIA Staff is considered a party to the case and may negotiate settlements with other parties, in the public interest.

The Commission hereby designates the following staff members to act as Commissioner Advisory Staff in this proceeding:

Nancy Gibson
Blair Fink
George Brown
Anna Vukmanovic
Nicholas Hall
Ray-Kelle Preston
Sam Johnson
Nijah James

The Commissioner Advisory Staff shall not be a party to this case but shall act as a technical advisor to the Commissioners and shall advise Commissioners upon request based exclusively on its own independent evaluation of the facts contained in the record.

The Commission authorizes the PIA Staff to issue discovery pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 46-2-57(a). Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-13-13, these proceedings shall be considered as contested cases and also shall be deemed "complex litigation" as that phrase is used in O.C.G.A. § 9-11-33(a). Discovery procedures shall accordingly apply.

The Commission PIA Staff may conduct depositions and use any other methods of formal and informal discovery in these dockets. The use of any informal discovery methods shall not

augment or abridge existing discovery rights and responsibilities. Pursuant to Commission Utility Rule 515-3-4-.06(2), copies of the executive summary and technical volumes shall be made available by the utility for public inspection at the Commission.

In accordance with Commission Utility Rule 515-2-1-.04(3), Georgia Power is directed to give first notice of the proceedings in these dockets no later than December 17, 2023.

An original and fifteen (15) copies of all filings, including direct testimony, rebuttal testimony, briefs and proposed orders, shall be accompanied by an electronic version of the filing using Microsoft Word format for text documents and Microsoft Excel for spread sheets. Under no circumstances should any electronic filing consist of more than four (4) files, including attachments. This filing shall be made at the office of the Executive Secretary, Georgia Public Service Commission, 244 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30334-5701.

PART II. HEARING SCHEDULE AND FILING DATES

The schedule for the hearings in will be governed as follows:

October 27, 2023

Georgia Power Company filed with the Commission its 2023 Integrated Resource Plan Update, including an Application for the Certification of Power Purchase Agreements with Mississippi Power Company and Santa Rosa Energy Center LLC, and an Amended Certification of the Residential Thermostat Demand Response Demand Side Management Program.

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December 4, 2023

Georgia Power Company shall file direct testimony in Docket No. 55378 by 4:00 p.m.

December 19, 2023

At its regularly scheduled Administrative Session, the Commission will establish the fees in these dockets pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 46-3A-5(c). The sixty-day deadline for establishing these fees is December 26, 2023.

January 16-17, 2024

Beginning at 9:30am on January 16, 2024, the Commission will hear applications to intervene and any objections thereto, and any motions concerning the utilities pre-filed testimony and other appropriate motions. Following these preliminary matters, the Commission will conduct hearings on the direct case of Georgia Power in Docket No. 55378.

February 15, 2024

Staff and Interveners shall file direct testimony in Docket No. 55378. by 4:00 p.m.

February 29 – March 1, 2024

Beginning at 9:30 a.m. on February 29, 2024, the Commission will hear any motions concerning testimony and other appropriate motions. Following these matters, the Commission will conduct hearings on the direct cases of PIA Staff and any intervening parties in Docket No. 55378.

March 18, 2024

Georgia Power may file any pre-filed rebuttal testimony in Docket No. 55378 by 4:00 p.m.

March 27-28, 2024

Beginning at 9:30 a.m. on March 27, 2024, the Commission will hear any motions concerning testimony and other appropriate motions. Following these preliminary matters, the Commission will conduct hearings on any rebuttal testimony filed by Georgia Power Company in Docket No. 55378.

April 4, 2024

Simultaneous filings of briefs and/or proposed orders in Docket No. 55378 by all parties are due by 4:00 p.m.

April 11, 2024

At its regularly scheduled Energy Committee, the Commission will hear from parties.

April 16, 2024

At its regularly scheduled Administrative Session, the Commission will render a decision in Docket No. 55378.

PART III. ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

The issues to be addressed in Docket No. 55378 shall include those which are required pursuant to the IRP Act, O.C.G.A. § 46-3A-1 *et seq.*, and the Commission's implementation of Rule 515-3-4 as well as all issues required by previous Commission Orders and other related issues this Commission deems appropriate.

1. IRP Issues

Commission Rule 515-3-4-.06(5) requires the utility to submit an amendment to its IRP before it submits its next plan if within the first three years of the approved IRP:

(a) It anticipates submitting an application for a certificate to construct or purchase a supply-side capacity resource which was not previously approved as part of the integrated resource plan;

(b) It anticipates the need to release an RFP, or make a binding commitment for the acquisition or construction of a demand resource or supply resource excepted from the RFP process, which was not previously approved as part of the integrated resource plan;

(c) The basic data used in the formulation of its last approved plan requires significant modification which affects the choice of a resource or use of an RFP which was approved as part of the integrated resource plan; and

(d) It finds that other conditions warrant amendment of the plan. The conditions under which such an amendment is sought shall be specifically set forth in the application for amendment.

Commission Rule 515-3-4-.06(6) provides that the Commission may limit the scope of issues it will consider in the review of subsequent plans to those issues directly related to material changes.

The Company's 2023 IRP Update identifies the Company's revised demand forecast and capacity needs. The Company's new estimates are higher than those presented and approved in Georgia Power's 2022 IRP in Docket No. 44160. Due to the change in load forecast and capacity needs, the Company has proposed a number of resource solutions for Commission consideration. As such, the limited issues to be addressed in this proceeding are as follows:

1. What is the appropriate load forecast? Georgia Power has projected a significant increase in its peak demand. Georgia Power's new load forecast exceeds the growth projected in the load forecast produced and approved for the 2022 IRP, and the Company expects its winter peak demand in the winter of 2030/2031 to surpass its 2022 IRP projections by 5,900 MW. A significant portion of the increase in peak demand is result of new load outside the Company's service territory and / or large load customers. The impact of serving these new loads on other customers will need to be examined. To ensure the Commission and public have an accurate estimate of the capacity and demand-side resources needed to maintain reliability of the electric system in Georgia, the Commission shall decide whether to approve Georgia Power's revised load forecast as outlined in the Company's IRP Update filing, or whether to approve alternative forecasts or forecast adjustments recommended by other parties.

2. Should Georgia Power's capacity needs be revised, and, if so, how? Georgia Power estimates peak demand growth will cause its reserve margin to fall below the target approved in the 2022 IRP. The Company estimated a need for additional capacity for the winter of 2025/2026 in the IRP Update. The 2023 IRP Update seeks Commission approval of Georgia Power's revised capacity needs. What are the magnitudes and time periods for which the Company's target peak demand exceeds its ability to meet that demand?

3. Whether the Commission approves Georgia Power's proposed solutions to meet updated capacity needs, or whether alternative solutions should be approved. The 2023 IRP Update provides a plan, proposed by the Company, to maintain to ensure reliability through calendar year 2028. The Commission shall determine the preferred portfolio of resources to maintain reliability.

4. Whether the Commission approves Georgia Power's Amended Certificate for the Thermostat Demand Response program.

5. Whether the Commission approves Georgia Power's request to procure supply-side capacity outside of an RFP in accordance with Commission Rule 515-3-4-.04(f), as outlined in the 2023 IRP Update.

6. Whether to approve the Flex Capacity framework requested by the Company.

7. Whether to approve the Company's requests associated with financial, accounting and regulatory asset treatment requests or whether to defer consideration of such requests to the next base rate case.

8. Whether to approve the Company's transmission system expansion to accommodate the above-requested resources and the Company's Load and Energy Forecast.

2. Standard Certification Issues

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 46-3A-3(a), after January 31, 1992, no utility shall commence the construction of an electric plant, sell an existing plant or any portion thereof which is included in the retail rate base or which has been certified, enter into a long-term purchase of electric power, or make expenditures for a demand-side capacity option for serving the utility's Georgia retail customers without having first obtained from the Commission a certificate that public convenience and necessity requires, or will require, such construction, sale, purchase, or expenditure.

O.C.G.A. § 46-3A-4(b) requires that the utility's application for a certificate be accompanied by its current integrated resource plan, whether or not previously filed. Further, the utility's application for a certificate shall contain a cost-benefit analysis covering the estimated useful life of all capacity resource options considered in developing its current integrated resource plan. Each certificate shall describe the capacity resource, its approximate construction or implementation schedule, and its approved cost. The estimated cost of the capacity resource proposed to be certificated shall be presented in such reasonable detail as the Commission may require. The Commission shall issue an order adopting a forecast of future Georgia retail electricity requirements of the utility and describing in what manner the prospective certificate relates to the integrated resource plan and either granting the requested certificate or denying the requested certificate and authorizing a specific alternative means of supplying the requirements found by the Commission to exist.

3. Additional Issues

The current filings are in part a result of Commission directives from previous orders. Additional issues to be addressed in Docket No. 55378 shall include any issues and directives of the Commission from its prior orders whether or not expressly identified in this order.

PART IV. INTERVENTION AND HEARING PROCEDURES

The following are procedures to which the parties should adhere with respect to this Docket.

1. Intervention

Intervention Period

(a) Any person or party, on whom a statute does not confer an unconditional right to intervene, must file an application for leave to intervene within thirty (30) days following the first published notice of the proceeding. Pursuant to Commission Utility Rule 515-2-1-.04(3), Georgia Power will be directed to give first notice of the proceedings in this case not later than December 17, 2023.

Application Requirements

(b) In addition to the requirements prescribed by O.C.G.A. § 46-2-59 for applications for leave to intervene, the application must (1) identify other intervening parties or intervening party applications whose interest is similar to that of the applicant, along with an explanation of why the identified intervening party or intervening party applicant will not adequately represent the applicant's interest; and (2) state the applicant's present intention to submit direct testimony and by whom and on what subject. The requirements identified herein shall constitute a continuing obligation of the applicant or intervening party. Each application for leave to intervene shall also contain a valid email address for the intervening party.

Late Applications for Intervention

(c) Any application for leave to intervene filed late must state the reason why such application was not submitted within thirty (30) days of first published notice. Objections to late intervention applications must be filed in conformance with the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 46-2-59-(d).

Rulings on Intervention Applications

(d) The Commission will take up and rule on applications for leave to intervene at the first hearing date set in these dockets.

2. Service

Each party has the responsibility to serve copies of any documents filed with the Commission upon each intervenor and intervenor applicant. Furthermore, in the case of documents filed prior to the deadline for intervention established above, copies shall also be served upon each party indicated in the Certificate of Service accompanying this Order.

3. Witnesses' Testimony

(a) Summations of direct testimony will take no longer than fifteen (15) minutes or, at the discretion of the Commission, no longer than thirty (30) minutes.

(b) Summations should be limited to testimony and exhibits in the pre-filed testimony.

(c) Demonstrative handouts intended to be used during summations of the pre-filed testimony or in opening or closing statements, if applicable, must be pre-filed at least five (5) days prior to the hearing and must be limited to the scope of the testimony and exhibits in the pre-filed testimony.

(d) Except for good cause shown, corrections to testimony must be pre-filed at least five (5) days prior to the hearing.

(e) In the absence of a valid objection made and sustained to pre-filed testimony, the pre-filed testimony and exhibits, with corrections, will be admitted into the record as if orally given prior to the witness' summation, subject to a motion to strike after admission or other relevant objection.

(f) Where the testimony of a panel of witnesses is presented, cross-examination may either be addressed to the panel, in which case any member of the panel may answer, or cross-examination may be addressed to an individual panel member, in which case that panel member shall give the answer provided, however, that any other panel member shall be allowed to supplement the answer given.

(g) Motions to strike any portion of pre-filed testimony must be filed at least two (2) days prior to the hearing.

(h) Any individual that presents testimony during this proceeding may not conduct cross-examination of other parties.

4. Hearing Exhibits

For the record in all hearings, it shall be the responsibility of the parties sponsoring any hearing exhibits to ensure that the Hearing Reporter and all parties of record receive copies of the hearing exhibits at the time of introducing the exhibits at the hearings. (Exhibits filed with pre-filed testimony should already have been provided in fifteen (15) or more copies, as per Commission Utility Rule 515-2-1-.04(3).)

5. Hearing Requests

For any hearing requests approved by the Commission, responses shall be filed with the Commission and served on all interveners. Unless otherwise ordered, such responses shall be due within seven days of the request.

PART V. Procedures and Forms for Making an Application to Intervene

Applications to intervene and Commission approval thereof are addressed in O.C.G.A. § 46-2-59 and the Commission's Utility Rule 515-2-1-.06. Each applicant shall submit an original and fifteen (15) copies of its application to intervene to the Commission, addressed

to the Executive Secretary, Ms. Sallie Tanner, 244 Washington St. S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334-5701.

In addition, each applicant shall submit a copy of its application to the Georgia Power Company[1], and all other parties who have applied to intervene, and submit a Certificate of Service to the Commission certifying that these copies have been served on the other parties. To obtain a list of other applicants that have intervened, contact Ms. Quawanda Boyer, Assistant to Utility Division Director, Georgia Public Service Commission, 244 Washington St., S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334-5701, (Telephone Number: (404) 656-0977).

PART VI. Specialized Testimony And Assistance

O.C.G.A. § 46-2-33(a) provides that the cost to the Commission of providing reasonably necessary specialized testimony and assistance in proceedings initiated by a utility shall be charged to the affected utility. It further provides that, with certain exceptions, the amount of such charges shall not exceed $284,015 per case per year except for utility rate cases, generation construction monitoring, integrated resource planning cases, and generation certification cases, to the extent such amount is not also being recovered pursuant to an order issued under subsection (c) of O.C.G.A. § 46-3A-5, which shall not exceed $852,046 per case per year. O.C.G.A. § 46-2-33(b) provides that at the time the Commission determines that specialized testimony and assistance is required, the Commission shall issue an order setting forth the scope and budget for such testimony and assistance.

O.C.G.A. § 46-2-33(b) provides that all invoices relating to the testimony and assistance shall be subject to Commission review and approval, and no utility shall be required to pay any invoice not approved by the Commission. O.C.G.A. § 46-2-33(c) provides that the amounts paid by regulated companies under this Code section shall be deemed a necessary cost of providing service, and the utility shall be entitled to recover the full amount of any costs charged to the utility pursuant to this Code section. O.C.G.A. § 46-2-33(c) further provides that, at the election of the utility, the utility shall be entitled to recover all such costs promptly through a reasonably designed rider designated for such purpose.

The Commission hereby determines that specialized testimony and assistance is required in Docket No. 55378. Accordingly, the Commission hereby sets forth the scope and budget for such assistance as described below:

J. Kennedy and Associates	$ 142,000
Daymark Energy Advisors	$ 177,220
Larkin and Associates	$ 69,990
Transmission TBD	$ 55,000

[1] Georgia Power Company, as the applicant in their respective dockets, is a party of record upon which applications to intervene must be served. Failure to serve the applicant, or any other party, tolls a fifteen (15) day limit for objections to interventions until this defect is corrected.

WHEREFORE, it is

ORDERED, that the procedures and schedule contained within this Procedural and Scheduling Order are hereby adopted by the Commission.

ORDERED FURTHER, that issues to be addressed in Docket No. 55378 shall include, at a minimum, those related issues and directives of the Commission pursuant to its previous orders and those specific issues identified in this Procedural and Scheduling Order.

ORDERED FURTHER, that Georgia Power Company shall be charged up to $852,046 for the specialized assistance as described in this Order, and that Georgia Power Company shall promptly pay any Commission approved invoice for such specialized testimony and assistance.

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 this matter is expressly retained for the purpose of entering such further Order or Orders as the Commission may deem just and proper.

The above by action of the Commission in its Administrative Session on the 21st day of November 2023.

Sallie Tanner

SALLIE TANNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

JASON SHAW
CHAIRMAN

11-21-23

DATE

11-21-23

DATE