

## **Energy Office Review of Duke Energy Carolinas 2018 Integrated Resource Plan**

The ORS Energy Office (Energy Office) pursuant to SC Code Section 58-37-40(C) provides the following evaluation of the Duke Energy Carolinas (DEC) 2018 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP).

SC Code Section 58-37-40(C) states, "The State Energy Office, to the extent practicable, shall evaluate and comment on external environmental and economic consequences of each integrated resource plan submitted and on the environmental and economic consequences for suppliers and distributors."

Through the Energy Office's development of the State Energy Plan, a study committee was established to evaluate South Carolina's IRP process. This committee consisted of diverse representation to include state agencies, conservationists, special interest groups, electric utilities, and electric cooperatives. The committee met frequently to develop [IRP Guidelines](#). On December 15, 2017, the IRP study committee adopted the IRP Guidelines by consensus. These guidelines include best practices to be considered when electric utilities develop annual IRPs. The Energy Office's review of IRPs is based on these guidelines.

On August 31, 2018, DEC filed its 2018 IRP with the Energy Office. On January 14, 2019, the Energy Office requested additional information from DEC relating to its IRP submittal. DEC submitted responses on January 28, 2019. One question referred to the best practices included in the IRP Guidelines.

The Energy Office requested of DEC "With reference to the consensus IRP Best Practices Guidelines produced by the State Energy Plan IRP Study Committee, please discuss how DEC has addressed each best practice listed below in its 2018 IRP."

DEC responded to each IRP Best Practice and noted where it is discussed in the IRP. Where information was not provided in the IRP, DEC indicated plans to include the information in the future. Additional data needed to comply with the Best Practices was also provided.

During the study committee discussions, the electric utilities agreed to evaluate their current IRP process and incorporate the IRP Guidelines as appropriate. The Energy Office encourages DEC to continue to incorporate the IRP Guidelines into future IRPs, as appropriate, including opportunities for stakeholder input and public engagement.

Additionally, the Energy Office encourages DEC to:

1. Highlight South Carolina specific information where feasible throughout the IRP and limit references to North Carolina information that does not pertain to South Carolina programs.
2. Explore the possibility of using the future addition of battery storage in the local community at Medical Needs Shelters during emergencies.