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**Office of Regulatory Staff Granted Intervention in
Duke-Progress Merger in North Carolina**

On Friday, May 27, 2011, the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS), with the support of the North Carolina Public Staff, received approval from the North Carolina Utilities Commission to intervene and become a party of record in the proposed holding-company merger application filed in North Carolina of Duke Energy Corporation (Duke) and Progress Energy, Inc. (Progress).

The ORS sought to intervene in North Carolina so that the public interest of South Carolina can be advocated in a proceeding in which the proposed merger of Duke and Progress, the holding companies of Duke Energy Carolinas LLC (DEC) and Progress Energy Carolinas Inc. (PEC), is at issue.

The Office of Regulatory Staff is an agency of the State of South Carolina. Its mission is to represent the public interest in utility regulation by balancing the concerns of the using and consuming public, the financial integrity of public utilities, and the economic development of South Carolina. For more information, please visit the ORS web site at <http://www.regulatorystaff.sc.gov/>