Form 5500

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

▶ **Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.**

OMB Nos. 1210-0110
1210-0089

2025

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025

A This return/report is for:
- [ ] a multiemployer plan
- [ ] a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)
- [X] a single-employer plan
- [ ] a DFE (specify) _____

B This return/report is:
- [ ] the first return/report
- [ ] the final return/report
- [ ] an amended return/report
- [ ] a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)

C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. . . . . ▶ [ ]

D Check box if filing under:
- [X] Form 5558
- [ ] automatic extension
- [ ] the DFVC program
- [ ] special extension (enter description)

E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. . . . . ▶ [ ]

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan
DUKE ENERGY RETIREE HEALTH & WELFARE BENEFIT (FINANCED) PLANS

1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 503

1c Effective date of plan 01/01/2014

2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan)
Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box)
City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions)
DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION

525 SOUTH TRYON STREET
CHARLOTTE, NC 28202

2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) 20-2777218

2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number 704-382-4703

2d Business code (see instructions) 221100

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/12/2026	RENEE METZLER
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☐ Same as Plan Sponsor

DUKE ENERGY BENEFITS COMMITTEE

526 SOUTH CHURCH STREET
CHARLOTTE, NC 28202

3b Administrator's EIN: 20-2777218

3c Administrator's telephone number: 704-382-4703

4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report:

a Sponsor's name

c Plan Name

4b EIN

4d PN

5	Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	**5**	40532
6	Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines **6a(1), 6a(2), 6b, 6c,** and **6d**).		
a(1)	Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year	**6a(1)**	0
a(2)	Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	**6a(2)**	0
b	Retired or separated participants receiving benefits	**6b**	22381
c	Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits	**6c**	14566
d	Subtotal. Add lines **6a(2)**, **6b**, and **6c**.	**6d**	36947
e	Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.	**6e**	
f	Total. Add lines **6d** and **6e**.	**6f**	
g(1)	Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g(1)**	
g(2)	Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g(2)**	
h	Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.	**6h**	
7	Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	**7**	

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions:

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions:

4A 4B 4D 4Q

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)

- (1) [X] Insurance
- (2) [ ] Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
- (3) [X] Trust
- (4) [X] General assets of the sponsor

9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)

- (1) [X] Insurance
- (2) [ ] Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
- (3) [X] Trust
- (4) [X] General assets of the sponsor

10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules

- (1) [ ] **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2) [ ] **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3) [ ] **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (4) [ ] **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____
- (5) [ ] **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

b General Schedules

- (1) [X] **H** (Financial Information)
- (2) [ ] **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- (3) [X] **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 3
- (4) [X] **C** (Service Provider Information)
- (5) [ ] **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- (6) [ ] **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ..... ☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ..... ☐ Yes ☐ No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2025 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2025 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code_____

SCHEDULE A (Form 5500)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Insurance Information

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**

▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).

OMB No. 1210-0110

2025

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025

A Name of plan
DUKE ENERGY RETIREE HEALTH & WELFARE BENEFIT (FINANCED) PLANS

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 503

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
20-2777218

Part I **Information Concerning Insurance Contract Coverage, Fees, and Commissions** Provide information for each contract on a separate Schedule A. Individual contracts grouped as a unit in Parts II and III can be reported on a single Schedule A.

1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
SECURIAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
41-1412669	93742	70385	6541	01/01/2025	12/31/2025

2 Insurance fee and commission information. Enter the total fees and total commissions paid. List in line 3 the agents, brokers, and other persons in descending order of the amount paid.

(a) Total amount of commissions paid	(b) Total amount of fees paid
0	173127

3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

WILLIS TOWERS WATSON US, LLC
COM LOCK BOX 28852
NEW YORK, NY 10087

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
0	173127	SUPPLEMENTAL COMMISSIONS	3

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

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	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information

Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4	Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end	4	
5	Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end	5	

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:

a State the basis of premium rates ▶

b	Premiums paid to carrier	6b	
c	Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year	6c	
d	If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount.	6d	

Specify nature of costs ▶

e Type of contract: (1) ☐ individual policies (2) ☐ group deferred annuity

(3) ☐ other (specify) ▶

f If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶ ☐

7 Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

a Type of contract: (1) ☐ deposit administration (2) ☐ immediate participation guarantee

(3) ☐ guaranteed investment (4) ☐ other ▶

b	Balance at the end of the previous year			7b	0
c	Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year	7c(1)			
	(2) Dividends and credits	7c(2)			
	(3) Interest credited during the year	7c(3)			
	(4) Transferred from separate account	7c(4)			
	(5) Other (specify below)	7c(5)			
	▶				
	(6)Total additions			7c(6)	0
d	Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**).			7d	0
e	Deductions:				
	(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	7e(1)			
	(2) Administration charge made by carrier	7e(2)			
	(3) Transferred to separate account	7e(3)			
	(4) Other (specify below)	7e(4)			
	▶				
	(5) Total deductions			7e(5)	0
f	Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)			7f	0

Part III Welfare Benefit Contract Information

If more than one contract covers the same group of employees of the same employer(s) or members of the same employee organizations(s), the information may be combined for reporting purposes if such contracts are experience-rated as a unit. Where contracts cover individual employees, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

8 Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

- **a** [ ] Health (other than dental or vision)
- **b** [ ] Dental
- **c** [ ] Vision
- **d** [X] Life insurance
- **e** [ ] Temporary disability (accident and sickness)
- **f** [ ] Long-term disability
- **g** [ ] Supplemental unemployment
- **h** [ ] Prescription drug
- **i** [ ] Stop loss (large deductible)
- **j** [ ] HMO contract
- **k** [ ] PPO contract
- **l** [ ] Indemnity contract
- **m** [ ] Other (specify) ▶

9 Experience-rated contracts:				
a Premiums: (1) Amount received	**9a(1)**			
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid	**9a(2)**			
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	**9a(3)**			
(4) Earned (**(1)** + **(2)** - **(3)**)			**9a(4)**	0
b Benefit charges (1) Claims paid	**9b(1)**			
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	**9b(2)**			
(3) Incurred claims (add **(1)** and **(2)**)			**9b(3)**	0
(4) Claims charged			**9b(4)**	
c Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --				
(A) Commissions	**9c(1)(A)**			
(B) Administrative service or other fees	**9c(1)(B)**			
(C) Other specific acquisition costs	**9c(1)(C)**			
(D) Other expenses	**9c(1)(D)**			
(E) Taxes	**9c(1)(E)**			
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies	**9c(1)(F)**			
(G) Other retention charges	**9c(1)(G)**			
(H) Total retention			**9c(1)(H)**	0
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were [ ] paid in cash, or [ ] credited.)			**9c(2)**	
d Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement			**9d(1)**	
(2) Claim reserves			**9d(2)**	
(3) Other reserves			**9d(3)**	
e Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line **9c(2)**.)			**9e**	
10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:				
a Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier			**10a**	9253866
b If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount.			**10b**	

Specify nature of costs.

Part IV Provision of Information

11 Did the insurance company fail to provide any information necessary to complete Schedule A? [ ] Yes [X] No

12 If the answer to line 11 is "Yes," specify the information not provided. ▶

SCHEDULE A (Form 5500)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Insurance Information

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**

▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).

OMB No. 1210-0110

2025

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025

A Name of plan
DUKE ENERGY RETIREE HEALTH & WELFARE BENEFIT (FINANCED) PLANS

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 503

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
20-2777218

Part I Information Concerning Insurance Contract Coverage, Fees, and Commissions

Provide information for each contract on a separate Schedule A. Individual contracts grouped as a unit in Parts II and III can be reported on a single Schedule A.

1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
SIERRA HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, INC

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
94-0734860	71420	H2001	6865	01/01/2025	12/31/2025

2 Insurance fee and commission information. Enter the total fees and total commissions paid. List in line 3 the agents, brokers, and other persons in descending order of the amount paid.

(a) Total amount of commissions paid	(b) Total amount of fees paid

3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information

Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4	Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end	4	
5	Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end	5	

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:

a State the basis of premium rates ▶

b	Premiums paid to carrier	6b	
c	Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year	6c	
d	If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount.	6d	

Specify nature of costs ▶

e Type of contract: (1) ☐ individual policies (2) ☐ group deferred annuity

(3) ☐ other (specify) ▶

f If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶ ☐

7 Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

a Type of contract: (1) ☐ deposit administration (2) ☐ immediate participation guarantee

(3) ☐ guaranteed investment (4) ☐ other ▶

b	Balance at the end of the previous year			7b	0
c	Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year	7c(1)			
	(2) Dividends and credits	7c(2)			
	(3) Interest credited during the year	7c(3)			
	(4) Transferred from separate account	7c(4)			
	(5) Other (specify below)	7c(5)			
	▶				
	(6)Total additions			7c(6)	0
d	Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**).			7d	0
e	Deductions:				
	(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	7e(1)			
	(2) Administration charge made by carrier	7e(2)			
	(3) Transferred to separate account	7e(3)			
	(4) Other (specify below)	7e(4)			
	▶				
	(5) Total deductions			7e(5)	0
f	Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)			7f	0

Part III Welfare Benefit Contract Information

If more than one contract covers the same group of employees of the same employer(s) or members of the same employee organizations(s), the information may be combined for reporting purposes if such contracts are experience-rated as a unit. Where contracts cover individual employees, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

8 Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

- **a** [X] Health (other than dental or vision)
- **b** [ ] Dental
- **c** [ ] Vision
- **d** [ ] Life insurance
- **e** [ ] Temporary disability (accident and sickness)
- **f** [ ] Long-term disability
- **g** [ ] Supplemental unemployment
- **h** [ ] Prescription drug
- **i** [ ] Stop loss (large deductible)
- **j** [ ] HMO contract
- **k** [ ] PPO contract
- **l** [ ] Indemnity contract
- **m** [ ] Other (specify) ▶

9 Experience-rated contracts:				
a Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)			
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid	9a(2)			
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	9a(3)			
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3))			9a(4)	0
b Benefit charges (1) Claims paid	9b(1)			
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)			
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2))			9b(3)	0
(4) Claims charged			9b(4)	
c Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --				
(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)			
(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)			
(C) Other specific acquisition costs	9c(1)(C)			
(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)			
(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)			
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies	9c(1)(F)			
(G) Other retention charges	9c(1)(G)			
(H) Total retention			9c(1)(H)	0
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were [ ] paid in cash, or [ ] credited.)			9c(2)	
d Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement			9d(1)	
(2) Claim reserves			9d(2)	
(3) Other reserves			9d(3)	
e Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).)			9e	
10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:				
a Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier			10a	9063145
b If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount.			10b	

Specify nature of costs.

Part IV Provision of Information

11 Did the insurance company fail to provide any information necessary to complete Schedule A? [ ] Yes [X] No

12 If the answer to line 11 is "Yes," specify the information not provided. ▶

SCHEDULE A (Form 5500)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Insurance Information

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**

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OMB No. 1210-0110

2025

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025

A Name of plan
DUKE ENERGY RETIREE HEALTH & WELFARE BENEFIT (FINANCED) PLANS

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 503

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
20-2777218

Part I **Information Concerning Insurance Contract Coverage, Fees, and Commissions** Provide information for each contract on a separate Schedule A. Individual contracts grouped as a unit in Parts II and III can be reported on a single Schedule A.

1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
UNITED HEALTHCARE INSURANCE COMPANY

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
11-3283886	60093	S5921	2888	01/01/2025	12/31/2025

2 Insurance fee and commission information. Enter the total fees and total commissions paid. List in line 3 the agents, brokers, and other persons in descending order of the amount paid.

(a) Total amount of commissions paid	(b) Total amount of fees paid

3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
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	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	

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	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information

Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4	Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end	4	
5	Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end	5	

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:

a State the basis of premium rates ▶

b	Premiums paid to carrier	6b	
c	Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year	6c	
d	If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount.	6d	

Specify nature of costs ▶

e Type of contract: (1) ☐ individual policies (2) ☐ group deferred annuity

(3) ☐ other (specify) ▶

f If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶ ☐

7 Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

a Type of contract: (1) ☐ deposit administration (2) ☐ immediate participation guarantee

(3) ☐ guaranteed investment (4) ☐ other ▶

b	Balance at the end of the previous year			7b	0
c	Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year	7c(1)			
	(2) Dividends and credits	7c(2)			
	(3) Interest credited during the year	7c(3)			
	(4) Transferred from separate account	7c(4)			
	(5) Other (specify below)	7c(5)			
	▶				
	(6)Total additions			7c(6)	0
d	Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**).			7d	0
e	Deductions:				
	(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	7e(1)			
	(2) Administration charge made by carrier	7e(2)			
	(3) Transferred to separate account	7e(3)			
	(4) Other (specify below)	7e(4)			
	▶				
	(5) Total deductions			7e(5)	0
f	Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)			7f	0

Part III Welfare Benefit Contract Information

If more than one contract covers the same group of employees of the same employer(s) or members of the same employee organizations(s), the information may be combined for reporting purposes if such contracts are experience-rated as a unit. Where contracts cover individual employees, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

8 Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

- **a** [ ] Health (other than dental or vision)
- **b** [ ] Dental
- **c** [ ] Vision
- **d** [ ] Life insurance
- **e** [ ] Temporary disability (accident and sickness)
- **f** [ ] Long-term disability
- **g** [ ] Supplemental unemployment
- **h** [X] Prescription drug
- **i** [ ] Stop loss (large deductible)
- **j** [ ] HMO contract
- **k** [ ] PPO contract
- **l** [ ] Indemnity contract
- **m** [ ] Other (specify) ▶

9 Experience-rated contracts:				
a Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)			
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid	9a(2)			
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	9a(3)			
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3))			9a(4)	0
b Benefit charges (1) Claims paid	9b(1)			
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)			
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2))			9b(3)	0
(4) Claims charged			9b(4)	
c Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --				
(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)			
(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)			
(C) Other specific acquisition costs	9c(1)(C)			
(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)			
(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)			
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies	9c(1)(F)			
(G) Other retention charges	9c(1)(G)			
(H) Total retention			9c(1)(H)	0
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were [ ] paid in cash, or [ ] credited.)			9c(2)	
d Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement			9d(1)	
(2) Claim reserves			9d(2)	
(3) Other reserves			9d(3)	
e Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line **9c(2)**.)			9e	
10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:				
a Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier			10a	1356
b If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount.			10b	

Specify nature of costs.

Part IV Provision of Information

11 Did the insurance company fail to provide any information necessary to complete Schedule A? [ ] Yes [X] No

12 If the answer to line 11 is "Yes," specify the information not provided. ▶

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500)	Service Provider Information	OMB No. 1210-0110
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**	**2025** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection.**

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025

A Name of plan
DUKE ENERGY RETIREE HEALTH & WELFARE BENEFIT (FINANCED) PLANS

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 503

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
20-2777218

Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)

You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, $5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions).. . . . . ☐ Yes ☒ No

b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, $5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

HEALTHEQUITY

94-3351864

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
65	NONE	187985	Yes [ ] No [X]	Yes [ ] No [ ]		Yes [ ] No [ ]

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

UNITED HEALTHCARE

36-2739571

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
65	NONE	133712	Yes [ ] No [X]	Yes [ ] No [ ]		Yes [ ] No [ ]

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

MCCONNELL & JONES

76-0488832

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
10	NONE	46365	Yes [ ] No [X]	Yes [ ] No [ ]		Yes [ ] No [ ]

2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, $5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

EXTEND HEALTH

26-0775680

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
65	NONE	37988	Yes [ ] No [X]	Yes [ ] No [ ]		Yes [ ] No [ ]

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

STANDISH MELLON ASSET MANAGEMENT

23-3094847

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
28	NONE	28805	Yes [ ] No [X]	Yes [ ] No [ ]		Yes [ ] No [ ]

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

CAREMARK

55-0712129

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
65	NONE	13103	Yes [ ] No [X]	Yes [ ] No [ ]		Yes [ ] No [ ]

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received $1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	**(b)** Service Codes (see instructions)	**(c)** Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	**(b)** Service Codes (see instructions)	**(c)** Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	**(b)** Service Codes (see instructions)	**(c)** Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	**(b)** Nature of Service Code(s)	**(c)** Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	**(b)** Nature of Service Code(s)	**(c)** Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	**(b)** Nature of Service Code(s)	**(c)** Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	**(b)** Nature of Service Code(s)	**(c)** Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	**(b)** Nature of Service Code(s)	**(c)** Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	**(b)** Nature of Service Code(s)	**(c)** Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)

(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:

b EIN:

c Position:

d Address:

e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:

b EIN:

c Position:

d Address:

e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:

b EIN:

c Position:

d Address:

e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:

b EIN:

c Position:

d Address:

e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:

b EIN:

c Position:

d Address:

e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Financial Information

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**

OMB No. 1210-0110

2025

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025

A Name of plan
DUKE ENERGY RETIREE HEALTH & WELFARE BENEFIT (FINANCED) PLANS

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 503

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
20-2777218

Part I Asset and Liability Statement

1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a	0	0
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	137000	127000
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)		
(3) Other	1b(3)	5179000	91000
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	2753000	3918000
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)		
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)		
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	17649000	20226000
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)		

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
1d Employer-related investments:			
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)		
1e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e		
1f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	25718000	24362000
Liabilities			
1g Benefit claims payable	1g	138000	127000
1h Operating payables	1h		
1i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
1j Other liabilities	1j		
1k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through1j)	1k	138000	127000
Net Assets			
1l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	25580000	24235000

Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: **(A)** Employers	2a(1)(A)	29807000	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	3563000	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines **2a(1)(A), (B), (C),** and line **2a(2)**	2a(3)		33370000
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)		
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)		
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines **2b(1)(A)** through **(F)**	2b(1)(G)		0
(2) Dividends: **(A)** Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	738000	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines **2b(2)(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**	2b(2)(D)		738000
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: **(A)** Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line **2b(4)(B)** from line **2b(4)(A)** and enter result	2b(4)(C)		0
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: **(A)** Real estate	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines **2b(5)(A)** and **(B)**	2b(5)(C)		0

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		2043000
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all **income** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		36151000
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	18786000	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)	18261000	
(3) Other	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines **2e(1)** through **(3)**	2e(4)		37047000
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)	374000	
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)		
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)	46000	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	29000	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)		
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines **2i(1)** through **(11)**	2i(12)		449000
j Total expenses. Add all **expense** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		37496000
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line **2j** from line **2d**	2k		-1345000
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) [X] Unmodified **(2)** [ ] Qualified **(3)** [ ] Disclaimer **(4)** [ ] Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) [X] DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 **(2)** [ ] DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) **(3)** [ ] neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: MCCONNELL & JONES, LLP **(2)** EIN: 76-0488832

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1) [ ] This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. **(2)** [ ] It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

		Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)	**4a**		X	
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)	**4b**		X	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)	**4c**		X	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)	**4d**		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	**4e**	X		25000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	**4f**		X	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	**4g**		X	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	**4h**		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	**4i**	X		
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)	**4j**		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?	**4k**		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	**4l**		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	**4m**		X	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.	**4n**			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? [ ] Yes [X] No

If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year _____.

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	**5b(2)** EIN(s)	**5b(3)** PN(s)

5c Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) ..... ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined

If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

Duke Energy Retiree Health & Welfare Benefit (Financed) Plans

Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements

December 31, 2025 and 2024

Duke Energy Retiree Health & Welfare Benefit (Financed) Plans

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McConnell Jones

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Participants and Plan Administrator of the
Duke Energy Retiree Health & Welfare Benefit (Financed) Plans

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit

We have performed audits of the financial statements of the Duke Energy Retiree Health & Welfare Benefit (Financed) Plans (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits and of benefit obligations as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits and of changes in benefit obligations for the year ended December 31, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements (collectively, the financial statements).

Plan management (Management), having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of the financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's (DOL) Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and for the year ended December 31, 2025, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion on the Financial Statements

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section:

- the amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (US GAAP).
- the information in the accompanying financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that Management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (US GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the

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Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with US GAAP, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect Management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, Management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements were available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments, administering the Plan, and determining that the transactions of the Plan that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the Plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Except as described in the *Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit* section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with US GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with US GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audits.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audits in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls of the Plan. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by Management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the ability of the Plan to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certifications, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of US GAAP.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with US GAAP.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audits, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Matter – Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

The supplemental information in the accompanying Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2025, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of Management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with US GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule that is agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion

- the form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that is agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

- the information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that Management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

McConnell & Jones LLP

Houston, Texas
October 1, 2026

Duke Energy Retiree Health & Welfare Benefit (Financed) Plans
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
December 31, 2025 and 2024
(In thousands)

Assets	**2025**	**2024**
Investments in trusts, at fair value	24,144	20,402
Net assets held in Duke Energy defined benefit plans - restricted for 401(h) accounts	145,937	140,928
Refunds due from third party administrators	91	179
Employer contribution receivable	127	137
Tax refund receivables	—	5,000
Total assets	170,299	166,646
Liabilities		
Premiums, claims and administrative expenses due to third-party administrators	127	138
Total liabilities	127	138
Net Assets Available for Benefits	$ 170,172	$ 166,508

See Notes to Financial Statements

Duke Energy Retiree Health & Welfare Benefit (Financed) Plans
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
Year Ended December 31, 2025
(In thousands)

	2025
Additions	
Employer contributions	$ 29,807
Participant contributions	3,563
Net increase in 401(h) accounts	5,009
Net gain on investments in trusts	2,781
Net additions	41,160
Deductions	
Claims paid and accrued	18,786
Premiums paid	18,261
Administrative expenses	449
Net deductions	37,496
Net Increase	3,664
Net Assets Available for Benefits, Beginning of Year	166,508
Net Assets Available for Benefits, End of Year	$ 170,172

See Notes to Financial Statements

Duke Energy Retiree Health & Welfare Benefit (Financed) Plans
Statements of Benefit Obligations
December 31, 2025 and 2024
(In thousands)

Post-Retirement Benefit Obligations	**2025**	**2024**
Net of amounts currently payable	$ 265,415	$ 272,019
Total Benefit Obligations	$ 265,415	$ 272,019

See Notes to Financial Statements

Duke Energy Retiree Health & Welfare Benefit (Financed) Plans
Statement of Changes in Benefit Obligations
Year Ended December 31, 2025
(In thousands)

Post-Retirement Benefit Obligations, Net of amounts currently payable	**2025**
Beginning of year	272,019
Service cost	1,668
Interest cost	12,647
Retiree and employee contributions	1,072
Decrease in actuarial accrued liability for Retiree life insurance	(1,687)
Benefits paid	(28,315)
Actuarial (gains) losses	8,011
End of year	265,415
Total Benefit Obligations, End of Year	$ 265,415

See Notes to Financial Statements

Note 1: Description of the Plan

The following description of the Duke Energy Retiree Health & Welfare Benefit (Financed) Plans (the "Plan") is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to individual Plan documents for more complete information. In the event of any inconsistencies, the Plan documents shall control.

Participation and Purpose

Duke Energy Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the "Company") maintains the Plan, which consolidates the Company's funded retiree health and welfare benefit programs under one plan document. The Plan components include retiree medical, retiree dental and retiree health reimbursement account ("HRA") benefits, and retiree basic life insurance.

The Plan is funded in part by four voluntary employee beneficiary association ("VEBA") trusts. The Duke Energy Corporation Welfare Benefits Trust VEBA I ("VEBA I") funds retiree medical and retiree HRA benefits for key employees, retiree dental benefits and retiree basic life insurance. The Duke Energy Corporation Post-Retirement Medical Benefits Trust VEBA II ("VEBA II") facilitates pre-funding of retiree medical and retiree HRA benefits for non-key employees. The Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc. 501(c)(9) Trust for Retired Non-Bargaining Employees ("Piedmont Non-Bargaining VEBA") and the Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc. 501(c)(9) Trust for Retired Bargaining Unit Employees ("Piedmont Bargaining VEBA") fund retiree medical and retiree HRA benefits for certain eligible Piedmont retirees. The Plan also is funded in part by 401(h) accounts established under the Duke Energy Retirement Cash Balance Plan and the Duke Energy Legacy Pension Plan in accordance with Section 401(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended ("Code"). See 401(h) Account below for additional information.

The investment of the assets held in the VEBAs is administered by the Duke Energy Investment Committee, and each of the component plans under the Plan is administered by the Duke Energy Benefits Committee. The Board of Directors of the Company, or its delegate, appoints the Chair of the Duke Energy Investment Committee, who, then in turn, appoints the other members of the Investment Committee. The Board of Directors of the Company, or its delegate, appoints the Chair of the Duke Energy Benefits Committee, who, then in turn, appoints the other members of the Benefits Committee. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA").

Contributions

Eligible retirees may be required to contribute specified amounts, determined periodically by the Company in consultation with the Plan's actuary, for their own coverage and to extend coverage to their eligible dependents. The costs of retiree medical and dental coverage under the Plan are shared by the Plan's participating companies and retirees. Retiree contributions in the current and prior year, including contributions for subsidized spouse/domestic partner coverage, were determined in accordance with the following:

Medical and Dental Plans and HRAs

The amount of contributions paid by retirees for retiree medical and retiree dental benefits is based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, date of hire, years of service, employee classification, year of retirement, dependents covered and the specific medical or dental plan option covering the retiree during retirement. The retiree contributions range from no retiree contributions to retirees paying the full cost of coverage for retiree medical and retiree dental benefits. The Company credits the HRAs with the applicable subsidy amounts. Retirees are not able to contribute to the retiree HRAs.

Basic Life Insurance Plan

The Company contributes specified amounts, determined by the insurance provider for the Duke Energy Retiree Basic Life Insurance Plan (the "Retiree Life Plan"), to purchase basic life insurance coverage under the Retiree Life Plan.

Plan Management

Under the terms of trust agreements between The Bank of New York Mellon/BNY Mellon, N.A ("Mellon") and the Company, Mellon maintains VEBA I, VEBA II, the Piedmont Bargaining VEBA and the Piedmont Non-Bargaining VEBA.

Benefits

The VEBAs are intended to meet the requirements of Section 501(c)(9) of the Code and to fund the payments of benefits on behalf of the Plan. Responsibility for payment of retiree medical, dental and HRA benefits to participants and providers resides with the Plan. Death benefits for retired employees are covered under policies with certain insurance companies. These benefits are described in the applicable "Summary Plan Descriptions" and Plan documents, which may be obtained from the Duke Energy Benefits Committee.

Eligibility

Generally, but subject to certain exclusions, retirees of participating companies and their eligible dependents are eligible for coverage under the Plan if, at the time of, and following retirement, they satisfy the requirements specified in the Plan documents. Continuation of retiree medical, dental and HRA coverage under the Plan may be available in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Plan and the rules contained in the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985.

Plan Termination

The Company reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan at any time. Upon termination, the net assets of the Plan will be used to satisfy outstanding claims for Plan benefits to the extent net assets are available.

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("US GAAP").

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with US GAAP requires Plan management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts of assets, liabilities, benefit obligations and changes therein, claims incurred but not reported, claims payable, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan utilizes various investment instruments. Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the financial statements.

The actuarial present value of benefit obligations is reported based on certain assumptions pertaining to interest rates, health care inflation rates and employee demographics, all of which are subject to change. Due to uncertainties inherent in the estimations and assumptions process, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in these estimates and assumptions in the near term could be material to the financial statements.

Claims Payable and Claims Incurred but not Reported

Plan obligations at December 31, 2025 and 2024 for claims payable and claims incurred but not reported at those dates are estimated by the Plan's actuary using actuarial methods that use historical trend information. The actuary determined that incurred but not reported claims at December 31, 2025 and 2024 were not material.

Payment of Benefits

Premiums paid by either the Company or a VEBA trust are recorded as premium payments in the accompanying statement of changes in net assets available for benefits. Claim payments are recorded when paid by the third-party claims processor. Amounts due to claims processors that have yet to be reimbursed by the Plan are recorded as payable to claims administrators in the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits.

Refunds Due from Third Party Administrators

Refunds received from the Plan's pharmacy benefit manager ("PBM") are recorded in the period that the refunds were received by the PBM from pharmaceutical companies ("PCs") and are based on the amount of a particular drug the PBM purchased on the Plan's behalf from the PCs. These refunds are presented in the "Claims paid and accrued" line of the *Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits*. The Plan recorded $0.1M and $0.2M of prescription drug refunds due from third party administrators as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Plan investments are recorded at fair value. Fair values are determined based upon quotations obtained from national securities exchanges at the financial statement date, if available. Investments that are not

listed on an exchange are valued based upon quotations obtained from brokerage firms and investment managers. Common/collective trust funds are valued at the net asset value ("NAV") of units of a bank collective trust. The NAV, as provided by the trustee, is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. The NAV is based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the fund less its liabilities. This practical expedient is not used when it is determined to be probable that the fund will sell the investment for an amount different than the reported NAV. Money market funds are valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily NAV and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Management fees are operating expenses charged to the Plan for common/collective trust funds held by the Plan, and are deducted from income earned on a daily basis and are not separately reflected. Consequently, certain management fees and operating expenses are reflected as an investment return for such investments.

401(h) Account

The Duke Energy Retirement Cash Balance Plan and the Duke Energy Legacy Pension Plan (individually, each a "Retirement Plan" and collectively, the "Retirement Plans") contain provisions to include a medical-benefit component, in addition to their normal pension benefits, to fund a portion of the Retirement Plans' post-retirement obligations for retirees and their beneficiaries in accordance with Section 401(h) of the Code. A separate account has been established and maintained in each Retirement Plan for such contributions. In accordance with Section 401(h) of the Code, the Retirement Plans' investments in the 401(h) accounts may not be used for, or diverted to, any purpose other than providing health care benefits for retirees and their beneficiaries. The related obligations for health care benefits are not included in the Retirement Plans' obligations in the statement of accumulated plan benefits but are reported as obligations in the financial statements of the Plan.

Post-Retirement Benefits

The amount reported as the post-retirement benefit obligations represents the actuarial present value of estimated future benefits that are attributed by the terms of the Plan to employees' service rendered to the date of the financial statements, reduced by the actuarial present value of contributions expected to be received in the future from current Plan participants. Post-retirement benefits include future benefits expected to be paid to or for (1) currently retired employees and their covered dependents and (2) active employees and their covered dependents after retirement from service with the participating companies. The post-retirement benefit obligation represents the amount that is to be funded by contributions from the participating companies and from existing Plan assets. Prior to an active employee's full eligibility date, the future post-retirement benefit obligation is the portion of the expected future post-retirement

benefit obligation that is attributed to that employee's service rendered to participating companies through the valuation date.

The actuarial present value of the expected post-retirement benefit obligation is determined by the Plan's independent actuary and is the amount that results from applying actuarial assumptions to historical claims-cost data to estimate future annual incurred claims cost per participant and to adjust such estimates for the time value of money (through discounts for interest) and the probability of payment (by means of decrements such as those for death, disability, withdrawal, or retirement) between the valuation date and the expected date of payment, and to reflect the portion of those costs expected to be borne by the retired participants and other insurance providers.

For measurement purposes, an 8.0% annual rate of increase in the per capita cost of covered health care benefits, including prescription drugs, was assumed for 2026. The rate was assumed to decrease gradually to 5.0% in 2038. For measurement purposes, a 4.0% annual rate of increase in the per capita cost of covered dental care benefits was assumed for 2026.

The weighted-average health care cost-trend rate assumptions have a significant effect on the amounts reported in the accompanying financial statements. If the assumed rates increased by one percentage point for each year shown, they would increase the benefit obligation as of December 31, 2025, by approximately $2.8 million for retiree medical and retiree dental.

Significant actuarial assumptions used in the 2025 calculations of the funding requirements and other assumptions used to calculate post-retirement obligations at December 31, 2025 and 2024, as applicable, were as follows:

	December 31, 2025
Mortality	PriH-2012 rates with no collar adjustment and PriH-2012 Contingent Survivor rates projected generationally with scale MP-2020, adjusted for short-term COVID impacts in 2021 & 2022 and birth cohort weighting/convergence
Retirement	Rates vary by age, from 0.05 at age 55 to 0.65 at age 66 for 2025
Discount Rate	5.5% for 2025

	December 31, 2024
Mortality	PriH-2012 rates with no collar adjustment and PriH-2012 Contingent Survivor rates projected generationally with scale MP-2020, adjusted for short-term COVID impacts in 2021 & 2022 and birth cohort weighting/convergence
Retirement	Rates vary by age, from 0.05 at age 55 to 0.65 at age 66 for 2024
Discount Rate	5.7% for 2024

The foregoing assumptions are based on the presumption that the Plan will continue. Were the Plan to terminate, different actuarial assumptions and other factors might be applicable in determining the actuarial present value of the Plan's benefit obligations.

The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (the "Act") introduced a prescription drug benefit under Medicare ("Medicare Part D") as well as a federal subsidy to sponsors of

retiree health care benefit plans that provide a benefit that is at least actuarially equivalent to Medicare Part D. The Company and its actuarial advisors determined that benefits provided to certain participants are at least actuarially equivalent to Medicare Part D. The Plan's post-retirement benefit obligation in the statements of benefit obligations as of December 31, 2025 and 2024 and the changes in the postretirement benefit obligation in the statements of changes in benefit obligations for the years then ended, do not reflect any amount associated with the Medicare subsidy because the Plan is not directly entitled to the Medicare subsidy. The post-retirement benefit obligation recorded by the Plan differs from that disclosed by the Plan's sponsor because the Plan's sponsor has included the effects of the Medicare subsidy in measuring its post-retirement benefit obligation in accordance with US GAAP for the preparation of the Plan sponsor's financial statements.

Plan Management's Review of Subsequent Events

In preparing the accompanying financial statements, Plan management has reviewed all known events that have occurred after December 31, 2025, and through October 1, 2026, the date the financial statements were available to be issued, for inclusion in the financial statements and footnotes.

Note 3: Investments (Certified by Trustee) and Fair Value Measurements

Information related to investments as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the related investment income for the year ended December 31, 2025, was certified by Mellon, the trustee, as complete and accurate, as permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

Financial Accounting Standard Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic No. 820, *Fair Value Measurement* ("FASB ASC 820") defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in US GAAP and expands disclosure requirements about fair value measurements. Under FASB ASC 820, fair value is considered to be the exchange price in an orderly transaction between market participants to sell an asset or transfer a liability at the measurement date. The fair value definition under FASB ASC 820 focuses on an exit price, which is the price that would be received by the Plan to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability versus an entry price, which would be the price paid to acquire an asset or received to assume a liability. Although FASB ASC 820 does not require additional fair value measurements, it applies to other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements.

The Plan determines fair value of financial assets and liabilities based on the following fair value hierarchy, as prescribed by FASB ASC 820, which prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value into three levels:

Level 1

Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Plan has the ability to access. An active market for the asset or liability is one in which transactions for the asset or liability occur with sufficient frequency and volume to provide ongoing pricing information.

Level 2

Inputs other than quoted market prices included in Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, for the asset or liability. Level 2 inputs include, but are not limited to, quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in an active market, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active and inputs other than quoted market prices that are observable for the asset or liability, such as interest rate curves and yield curves observable at commonly quoted intervals, volatilities, credit risk and default rates.

Level 3

Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability. Unobservable inputs reflect the Plan's own assumptions about the factors that other market participants would use in pricing an investment that would be based on the best information available in the circumstances.

A financial instrument’s level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

See Note 2 for a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2025.

The following tables provide by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the VEBA investments, at fair value as of December 31, 2025 and 2024 (in thousands):

	December 31, 2025				
	Total Fair Value	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**NAV**
Money Market Funds	$ 3,918	$ 3,918	$ —	$ —	$ —
Mutual Funds	20,226	20,226	—	—	—
Total Investments at Fair Value	$ 24,144	$ 24,144	$ —	$ —	$ —

	December 31, 2024				
	Total Fair Value	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**NAV**
Money Market Funds	$ 2,753	$ 2,753	$ —	$ —	$ —
Mutual Funds	17,649	17,649	—	—	—
Total Investments at Fair Value	$ 20,402	$ 20,402	$ —	$ —	$ —

Note 4: Income Tax Status

The Company and the Plan administrator believe the Plan is currently designed and operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Code. Although the trusts are tax-exempt trusts under Section 501(c)(9) of the Code, they are subject to unrelated business income tax. Historically, the trusts have not had any liability, and thus, had the full amount of estimated and previously paid unrelated business income tax refunded. Therefore, the unrelated business income tax will not be paid unless there

is a change in the year over year funding status. As of December 31, 2025 and 2024, the Plan expects to receive $0 and $5,000,480, respectively, in refunds relate to 2020 and 2019 tax payments and interest.

US GAAP requires the Plan administrator to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Company has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2025, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

Note 5: Exempt Party-In-Interest Transactions

Plan investments are shares of common/collective trust funds, non-interest bearing cash, and a money market fund managed by Mellon. Mellon is the trustee and, therefore, transactions with Mellon and the funds it manages qualify as exempt party-in-interest transactions as defined by the prohibited transaction rules of ERISA. Fees paid by the Plan to Mellon were $36,561 for the year ended December 31, 2025.

Note 6: Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per Form 5500 to the financial statements at December 31, 2025 and 2024 (in thousands):

	2025	2024
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	$ 170,172	$ 166,508
Net assets held in 401(h) account	(145,937)	(140,928)
Net assets per Form 5500	**$ 24,235**	**$ 25,580**

The following is a reconciliation of the change in net assets per Form 5500 to the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2025 (in thousands):

	2025
Total net increase per the financial statements	$ 3,664
Less: Net increase in net assets held in 401(h) account	(5,009)
Net loss per Form 5500	**$ (1,345)**

Supplemental Schedule

Duke Energy Retiree Health & Welfare Benefit (Financed) Plans
EIN 20-2777218 PN 503
Form 5500, Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held At End of Year)
December 31, 2025
(In thousands)

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
	Non-proprietary funds (Cash)	Money Market Fund	3,918	3,918
	DODGE & COX INTL STCK-I	Mutual Equity Funds	1,360	2,055
	DODGE & COX STOCK-I	Mutual Equity Funds	827	1,160
	EUPAC FUND-R-6	Mutual Equity Funds	1,714	2,153
	HARBOR CAPITAL APPRECIA-INST	Mutual Equity Funds	1,224	1,651
	LAZARD GLBL LSTD INFRA-INST	Mutual Equity Funds	781	979
	PGIM GLOBAL REAL ESTATE-Z	Mutual Equity Funds	640	643
	T ROWE PR NEW HORIZONS-INV	Mutual Equity Funds	1,165	981
	VANGUARD 500 INDEX-ADM	Mutual Equity Funds	648	2,687
	VICTORY SYCAMORE S/C OPP-A	Mutual Equity Funds	1,073	1,225
	AMER CENT INFL-ADJ BND-INV	Mutual Bond Funds	1,142	1,062
	DODGE & COX INCOME-I	Mutual Bond Funds	3,796	3,718
	FH INST HI YLD BND-IS	Mutual Bond Funds	1,314	1,212
	MASSMUTUAL GLBL FLTG RT-Y	Mutual Bond Funds	774	700
			$ 20,376	**$ 24,144**

(a) - *Party-in-Interest

Duke Energy Retiree Health & Welfare Benefit (Financed) Plans
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