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Case Number (if already assigned)

PUR-2019-00145

Case Name (if known)

Petition of Appalachian Power Company For approval

of a broadband capacity pilot

Document Type

OTHR

Document Description Summary

Appalachian Power Company's Grayson Broadband

Biannual Report

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DOUNDLESS ENERGY

Legal Department

March 7, 2022

American Electric Power 1051 E Cary Street, Suite 1100 Richmond, Virginia 23219 AEP.com

By Electronic Filing

The Honorable Bernard J. Logan, Clerk State Corporation Commission Document Control Center Tyler Building, First Floor 1300 East Main Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

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Re: Petition of Appalachian Power Company
For approval of a broadband capacity pilot
program pursuant to § 56-585.1:9 of the Code of Virginia
Case No. PUR-2019-00145

Dear Mr. Logan:

Attached for filing in the above-referenced case please find the Appalachian Power Company's Grayson Broadband Pilot Biannual Report.

Sincerely,

Noelle J. Coates

Attachment

cc: Raymond L. Doggett, Jr., Esq. Kiva Bland Pierce, Esq. C. Meade Browder, Jr., Esq. Audrey T. Bauhan, Esq. James G. Ritter, Esq. James R. Bacha, Esq.

Appalachian Power Company Case No. PUR-2019-00145 Grayson Broadband Pilot Biannual Report March 2, 2022

Summary

This report will discuss the status of Appalachian Power Company's ("Appalachian" or "Company") broadband capacity pilot program in Grayson County, Virginia ("Grayson Broadband Pilot"), which the Company proposed and the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") approved pursuant to § 56-585.1:9 of the Code of Virginia.

Grayson Broadband Pilot

The Company filed its Petition under § 56-585.1:9 of the Code of Virginia, a law enacted in 2019. The Company has received approval to build and own "middle-mile" broadband infrastructure. The nongovernmental Internet service provider ("ISP") can then lease that capacity and use it to deliver Internet service to customers in unserved areas.

For this project, Appalachian will install fiber-optic cable in Grayson County that it will lease to GigaBeam Networks, LLC ("GigaBeam"), which is the nongovernmental ISP. Grayson County is sparsely populated and largely unserved with modern broadband. The opportunities to grow the local economy and create jobs without broadband are limited. Among other benefits, the proposed Pilot will help the county in its economic development efforts. In addition to benefiting Grayson County, the Pilot also will benefit Appalachian. The Company will use the infrastructure to support its installation of smart-grid technologies like AMI and DACR, which need a communications network to function.

In receiving Commission approval in Case No. PUR-2019-00145, the Company presented two alternative scenarios for deploying fiber. The Commission approved the scenario involving the installation of 238 miles of fiber optic cable. It was also the scenario used by Grayson County and GigaBeam when applying for funds from the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative.

In its Final Order approving the Grayson Broadband Pilot, the Commission directed Appalachian to submit biannual reports that include the following information:

- Miles of fiber installed and miles of fiber remaining to be installed;
- A tabular breakdown of the number of poles replaced and rationale for replacement;
- A tabular breakdown of GigaBeam customers by the speed offerings, rate of
 offerings, the number of fiber residential subscribers, wireless residential
 subscribers, fiber business subscribers, and wireless business subscribers;
- A tabular breakdown of economic benefits resulting from the Pilot; and
- Copies of the quarterly reports given to Grayson County by GigaBeam.

Appalachian Power Company Case No. PUR-2019-00145 Grayson Broadband Pilot Biannual Report March 2, 2022

The Company submits this report in order to comply with that requirement and provide the Commission and Staff with biannual updates on the status of the Grayson Broadband Pilot.

Pilot Update

Exhibits:

GRAYSON COUNTY FIBER MILES

																			3.5	Ser. Ye	
No.									er e		er in			. 4				e ja	Arek	Andrew Re	
1	Independence - Elk Creek	3.6	6.5														10.1	10.1	0	100%	
2	Old Bridle - Elk Creek	3.8	6.32	5.6	4.4	2.5											22.62	22.7	0.08	100%	
3	Elk Creek - Liberty Hill	5.1	4.08	1.53	1.59												12.3	12.3	0.00	100%	
4	Liberty Hill - Green Valley					0.85	3.7	5.2									9.75	8.9	-0.85	110%	
5	Liberty Hill - Fries *					8.84	1.41	1.4	0.73	4.04	3.01	0.78					20.21	20.4	0.19	99%	
6	Rosehill - Independence						4.4	8.8	4.67	0.68	1.41	1.41					21.37	19.3	-2.07	111%	
7	Volney - Rosehili				[6.65	2.11	6.36	5.99		21.11	18.5	-2.61	114%	
8	Volney - Fairwood *													2.98	1.21	2.91	7.1	14.3	7.2	50%	
9	County Line - Volney											2.38	7.92	9.13			19.43	21.1	1.67	92%	
10	River Crossing - Skyline														3.64		3.64	25.8	22.16	14%	
11	Skyline - Galax															3.43	3.43	17.9	14.47	19%	
12	Independence - Fries														3.07	3.28	6.35	25.0	18.7	25%	
_	Grayson - Wythe *							$\overline{}$		Ī							0.	21.2	21.2	0%	
	Yotals	12.5	16.9	7.13	5.99	12.19	9.51	15	5.4	4.72	4.42	11.2	10	18.5	13.9		157.4	237.5	58.89	66%	

GRAYSON COUNTY POLE REPLACEMENTS

					ar de la companya de	aki di kata kata kata kata kata kata kata kat	
01	0	1	3	4	4	75%	3 - Space due to fiber, 1 - Strength
Q2	0	0	4	4	4	100%	All were due to space on the fiber
OI .	264	37	16	53	317	17%	16 identified so far due to fiber
All SegmentsTotal	264	38	23	61	325	19%	

Key

Pending Poles Poles Identified for replacement but have not yet been replaced Pre - Fiber Poles Poles that need to be replaced prior to the fiber being hung

Post - Fiber Poles Poles that need replaced due to the installation of the fiber optic cable

Actual Total Poles that were actually replaced

Total Poles Poles that have been identified to be replaced and poles that have been replaced

Appalachian Power Company Case No. PUR-2019-00145 Grayson Broadband Pilot Biannual Report March 2, 2022

GRAYSON COUNTY GIGABEAM CUSTOMERS

		AL 2			er.	in .	age ²⁰⁰
o l				42			
Residential Scribers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Wireless Residential Scribers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Fiber Business Scribers	0	0	0	1	1	N/A*	0%
Wireless Business Scribers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Totals	0	0	0	1	1	0	0%

* Currently developing projections/reporting with ISP as we move into test/turn-up year

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_	1.5 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
2	2 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
3	3 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
	6 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
	12 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
- 6	25 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
7	50 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
-8	75 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
_	100 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
	Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%

ó		
1	1.5 Mbps	0
2	2 Mbps	0
	3 Mbps	0
4	6 Mbps	0
5	12 Mbps	0
6	25 Mbps	0
7	50 Mbps	0
	75 Mbps	0
	100 Mbps	0
	Totals	0

ECONOMIC IMPACT & GIGABEAM REPORTING TO GRAYSON COUNTY:

At this time, there is insufficient data to quantify economic impact. No reports have been provided to Grayson as of March 4th, 2022.