

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION  
AT RICHMOND, JULY 17, 2024

2024 JUL 17 2 4: 21  
CASE NO. PUR-2024-00120  
SOS - CLERK'S OFFICE  
CORPORATION CONTROL CENTER

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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, *ex rel.*

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

2024 JUL 17 2 4: 21  
CASE NO. PUR-2024-00120

*Ex Parte:* In the matter of promulgating regulations establishing a single, consistent cost-effectiveness test for use in evaluating proposed energy efficiency programs

ORDER INITIATING STAKEHOLDER PROCESS

Chapters 794 and 818 of the 2024 Virginia Acts of Assembly ("Acts"), *inter alia*, amended and reenacted §§ 56-576 and 56-596.2 of the Code of Virginia ("Code"). Pursuant to their second enactment clauses, Chapters 794 and 818 of the Acts direct the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") to no later than September 30, 2025, "promulgate regulations establishing a single, consistent cost-effectiveness test for use in evaluating proposed energy efficiency programs" ("EEP Cost-Effectiveness Test Regulations").<sup>1</sup> In developing these regulations:

The Commission shall (i) refer to the cost-benefit analysis framework and process contained in the National Energy Screening Project's National Standard Practice Manual for Benefit-Cost Analysis of Distributed Energy Resources, in addition to any other materials deemed relevant by the Commission; (ii) utilize a stakeholder process to develop such regulations, facilitated by an independent monitor with technical assistance provided by a group with experience in the process set forth in the National Standard Practice Manual for Benefit-Cost Analysis of Distributed Energy Resources, compensated under the funding provided pursuant to subsection E of § 56-592.1 of the Code of Virginia; and (iii) design such regulations to further the Commonwealth's energy policy requirements and goals, including furthering compliance with the

<sup>1</sup> Senate Bill 565, 2024 Va. Acts ch. 794, and identical House Bill 746, 2024 Va. Acts ch. 818.

standards set forth under § 56-596.2 of the Code of Virginia, as amended by this act.<sup>2</sup>

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of this matter, is of the opinion and finds that a stakeholder process ("Stakeholder Process") should be initiated to commence the development of the EEP Cost-Effectiveness Test Regulations. We direct the Commission's Staff ("Staff") to conduct the Stakeholder Process, which should be facilitated by an independent monitor ("Independent Monitor"). In this regard, the Commission finds that interested persons should have the opportunity to participate in the Stakeholder Process through a schedule of stakeholder group meetings ("Stakeholder Group Meetings"). Within a reasonable amount of time following the final Stakeholder Group Meeting, the Independent Monitor shall provide to Staff a summary of these meetings to inform Staff's development of proposed regulations. Further proceedings, including those related to the rulemaking, will be established by subsequent Commission order.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUR-2024-00120.

(2) The Stakeholder Process shall include the following seven (7) virtual Stakeholder Group Meetings, conducted on the following dates, via Microsoft Teams and facilitated by the Independent Monitor: September 18, 2024; October 2, 2024; October 16, 2024; October 30, 2024; November 20, 2024; December 4, 2024; and December 18, 2024.

(3) On or before September 1, 2024, any interested person or entity wishing to participate in the Stakeholder Process shall notify the Independent Monitor at [gjutras@keystone.org](mailto:gjutras@keystone.org). The notification shall include the name, address, email address, and

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<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

phone number of the interested person or entity, or their counsel. Questions regarding the Stakeholder Process or Stakeholder Group Meetings shall be directed to the Independent Monitor at the above-referenced email address. All notifications and questions shall refer to Case No. PUR-2024-00120.

(4) The Director of the Commission's Division of Information Resources promptly shall post a copy of this Order Initiating Stakeholder Process on the Commission's website.

(5) Within five (5) business days of the filing of this Order Establishing Stakeholder Process and Rulemaking Proceeding with the Clerk of the Commission, Staff from the Commission's Division of Public Utility Regulation shall electronically transmit copies of this Order to those persons and entities identified by Staff as potentially having an interest in this matter, to include the parties who participated in Virginia Electric and Power Company's and Appalachian Power Company's most recent base rate proceedings and most recent proceedings filed pursuant to Code § 56-585.1 A 5. Staff shall promptly file with the Clerk of the Commission a certificate of transmission and include a list of names and addresses of the persons and entities to whom the Order was transmitted.

(6) Further proceedings, including those related to the rulemaking phase, will be established by subsequent Commission order.

(7) This matter is continued.

A COPY hereof shall be sent electronically by the Clerk of the Commission to all persons on the official Service List in this matter. The Service List is available from the Clerk of the Commission.