

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JUNE 30, 2020

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APPLICATION OF

VIRGINIA NATURAL GAS, INC.

CASE NO. PUR-2020-00095

For a general rate increase and for authority
to revise the terms and conditions applicable
to natural gas service

ORDER FOR NOTICE AND HEARING

On June 1, 2020, Virginia Natural Gas, Inc. ("VNG" or "Company"), filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application pursuant to Chapter 10 of Title 56 (§ 56-232 *et seq.*) of the Code of Virginia ("Code") requesting authority to increase its rates and charges, effective November 1, 2020, and to revise other terms and conditions applicable to its gas service ("Application").

VNG indicates that the proposed rates and charges are designed to increase the Company's annual rate base revenue by approximately \$60.1 million per year, which includes \$10.5 million currently being collected by the Company outside of base rates in a surcharge associated with its Steps to Advance Virginia's Energy plan ("SAVE Plan") pursuant to Code § 56-603 *et seq.*¹ VNG states the requested increase in annual rate base revenue reflects its costs and revenues for the test year ending December 31, 2019, the increase in the Company's average rate base since its last base rate increase in 2017,² an updated capital structure and requested return on equity of 10.35%, and certain rate year adjustments that "can be reasonably

¹ Application at 1; Schedule 21.

² See *Application of Virginia Natural Gas, Inc., For a general increase in rates and for authority to revise the terms and conditions applicable to natural gas service*, Case No. PUE-2016-00143, 2017 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 423, Final Order (Dec. 21, 2017) ("2016 Rate Case").

predicted to occur" during the 12 months ending October 31, 2021 ("Rate Year"), as permitted by Code § 56-235.2.³

VNG states that, since the 2016 Rate Case, it has made significant investments in its system to serve customers better.⁴ The Company represents that it will have invested approximately \$494 million to improve the integrity and performance of its system from the beginning of 2017 through October 31, 2020. VNG projects that it will invest approximately \$133 million more during the Rate Year.⁵

The Company states that its SAVE Plan was designed to facilitate the accelerated replacement of SAVE-eligible natural gas infrastructure and was implemented in 2012.⁶ VNG represents that it will have dedicated approximately \$161 million of its capital expenditures through October 31, 2020, to its SAVE Plan.⁷

VNG states in its Application that, in the time since the 2016 Rate Case, it has experienced changes in its operating costs and has launched and expanded several new initiatives to improve safety systems, modernize internal processes, bolster the technical workforce, and better engage with customers. The Company indicates that its non-gas operations and maintenance ("O&M") expenses have increased by approximately \$17 million since the 2016 Rate Case and that this increase is primarily attributable to workforce development and customer

³ Application at 4-5.

⁴ *Id.* at 3.

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ *See Application of Virginia Natural Gas, Inc., For approval of a SAVE plan and rider as provided by Va. Code § 56-604*, Case No. PUE-2012-00012, 2012 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 393, Order Approving SAVE Plan and Rider (June 25, 2012).

⁷ Application at 3.

service enhancement initiatives, safety and compliance, depreciation, and shared services costs.⁸

In its Application, the Company provides further detail on these and other O&M initiatives including: (i) development of an apprentice pool and increased staffing for Distribution and Field Service Operations; (ii) expansion of the Company's Construction Operations, Systems Operations (Transmission), and Compliance departments with additional employee positions; (iii) utilization of a predictive analytics solution to identify excavation tickets most likely to result in damages and enhanced staffing to establish a predictive analytics team; (iv) increased scope of the Company's cross bore surveying program; (v) several safety initiatives; and (vi) customer satisfaction and community outreach initiatives.⁹

VNG represents that a typical residential customer with average usage will experience an average increase of \$11.20 per month under the proposed rates.¹⁰

The Company also proposes revisions to its Terms and Conditions and Schedules for Supplying Gas including: (i) implementing a standard tampering charge to account for costs incurred to lock or remove meters following customer manipulation to restore service after a shut-off for non-payment; (ii) updating the Service Connection Charge, Service Reconnection Charge, Accelerated Reconnect Charge, Seasonal Reconnect Charge, and Light-Up Service Call Charge rates to better reflect the current cost of these activities; (iii) a revision to the purchased gas cost adjustment mechanism to discontinue the Target Margin and update the System Peak Day Firm Sales Volume as well as the Demand Charge Allocation Factors; (iv) discontinuing propane service to certain individual tank customers; (v) updates to reflect the rates and

⁸ *Id.* at 4.

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ *Id.* at 7.

consumptions patterns proposed by the Company under its Weather Normalization Adjustment; (vi) creation of a fixed bill rate schedule designed to allow the Company to offer a fixed bill option to residential customers; (vii) implementation of a multifamily pilot program that would offer a contribution payment to builders and developers to offset the costs of internal piping and venting to individually metered apartments and condominium units to provide choice in energy options; (viii) creation of a targeted conversion program that would provide VNG the opportunity to recover investment costs of converting neighborhoods to natural gas through base rates; and (ix) inclusion of bill-payment transaction fees in base rates in an effort to improve the overall customer experience.¹¹

NOW THE COMMISSION, having considered this matter, is of the opinion and finds that VNG should provide notice of its Application; a public hearing should be scheduled for the purpose of receiving testimony and evidence on the Company's Application; a procedural schedule should be established to allow interested persons an opportunity to file written or electronic comments on the Company's Application or to participate in this proceeding as a respondent; and the Commission's Staff ("Staff") should be directed to investigate the Application and file testimony and exhibits containing its findings and recommendations thereon. We also find that a Hearing Examiner should be appointed to conduct all further proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Commission and to file a final report.

The Commission further takes judicial notice of the ongoing public health emergency related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19, and the declarations of emergency issued at both the state and federal levels.¹² The Commission has taken certain actions, and may take

¹¹ *Id.* at 6-7.

¹² *See, e.g.*, Executive Order No. 51, Declaration of a State of Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus, COVID-19, issued March 12, 2020, by Governor Ralph S. Northam. *See also* Executive Order No. 53, Temporary Restrictions

additional actions going forward, that could impact the procedures in this proceeding.¹³

Consistent with these actions, in regard to the terms of the procedural framework established below, the Commission will, among other things, direct the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings unless they contain confidential information, and require electronic service on parties to this proceeding.

Also, in light of the current COVID-19 public health crisis that has caused devastating economic effects that impact all utility customers, we will suspend VNG's proposed rates for 150 days, the maximum allowed by law.¹⁴

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- (1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUR-2020-00095.

on Restaurants, Recreational, Entertainment, Gatherings, Non-Essential Retail Businesses, and Closure of K-12 Schools Due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), issued March 23, 2020, by Governor Ralph S. Northam, and Executive Order No. 55, Temporary Stay at Home Order Due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), issued March 30, 2020, by Governor Ralph S. Northam. These and subsequent Executive Orders related to COVID-19 may be found at: <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/executive-actions/>.

¹³ See, e.g., *Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Electronic Service of Commission Orders*, Case No. CLK-2020-00004, Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200330035, Order Concerning Electronic Service of Commission Orders (Mar. 19, 2020), *extended by* Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200520105, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (May 11, 2020); *Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel., State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency*, Case No. CLK-2020-00005, Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200330042, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (Mar. 19, 2020) ("Revised Operating Procedures Order"), *extended by* Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200520105, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (May 11, 2020); *Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Electronic service among parties during COVID-19 emergency*, Case No. CLK-2020-00007, Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200410009, Order Requiring Electronic Service (Apr. 1, 2020).

¹⁴ See Va. Code § 56-238. In addition to maximum suspension of rates, we have also responded to this economic emergency by, among other actions, temporarily suspending customer service disconnections for customers of Virginia utilities during the pandemic emergency. *Commonwealth of Virginia ex rel. State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Temporary Suspension of Tariff Requirements*, Case No. PUR-2020-00048, Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200320175, Order Suspending Disconnection of Service and Suspending Tariff Provisions Regarding Utility Disconnections of Service (Mar. 16, 2020), *extended by* Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200410196, Order Extending Suspension of Service Disconnections (Apr. 9, 2020), and Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200630135, Order on Suspension of Service Disconnections (June 12, 2020).

(2) All pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter should be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (“Rules of Practice”).¹⁵ Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. For the duration of the COVID-19 emergency, any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.¹⁶

(3) Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission directs that service on parties and the Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information, parties and the Staff are instructed to work together to agree upon the manner in which documents containing such information shall be served upon one another, to the extent practicable, in an electronically protected manner, even if such information is unable to be filed in the Office of the Clerk, so that no party or the Staff is impeded from preparing its case.

(4) As provided by Code § 12.1-31 and Rule 5 VAC 5-20-120, *Procedures before hearing examiners*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, a Hearing Examiner is appointed to conduct all further proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Commission and to file a final report.

¹⁵ 5 VAC 5-10-20 *et seq.*

¹⁶ As noted in the Commission's Revised Operating Procedures Order, submissions to the Commission's Clerk's Office via U.S. mail or commercial mail equivalents may not be processed for an indefinite period due to the COVID-19 emergency.

(5) Pursuant to Code § 56-238, VNG may implement its proposed rates on an interim basis, subject to refund with interest, for service rendered on and after October 29, 2020.

Alternatively, as requested by the Company, VNG may implement its proposed interim rates for services rendered on and after November 1, 2020.

(6) On or before October 23, 2020, VNG shall file a bond with the Commission in the amount of \$60.1 million payable to the Commission and conditioned to insure the prompt refund by the Company to those entitled thereto of all amounts the Company shall collect in excess of such rates and charges as the Commission may finally fix and determine.

(7) A public hearing on the Application shall be convened on May 11, 2021, at 10 a.m., to receive the testimony of public witnesses and the evidence of the Company, any respondents, and the Staff. Further details on the hearing will be provided by subsequent Commission Order or Hearing Examiner's Ruling.

(8) Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Company's Application by submitting a written request to counsel for VNG, Joseph K. Reid III, Esquire, McGuireWoods LLP, Gateway Plaza, 800 East Canal Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219-3916, or Jreid@mcguirewoods.com. Where possible, the interested person's request shall include an electronic mail address to which the Company may send the requested documents. The Company shall provide the documents by electronic means where possible. Interested persons may also download unofficial copies from the Commission's website: <https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information>.

(9) On or before July 24, 2020, VNG shall cause the following notice to be published as display advertising (not classified) on one (1) occasion in newspapers of general circulation throughout the Company's Virginia service territory:

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF
 VIRGINIA NATURAL GAS, INC.'S
 APPLICATION FOR A GENERAL INCREASE IN RATES AND
 FOR AUTHORITY TO REVISE THE TERMS AND
 CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO NATURAL GAS SERVICE
CASE NO. PUR-2020-00095

- **Virginia Natural Gas, Inc. ("VNG") has applied for approval of a general increase in rates.**
- **VNG requests a total annual increase in revenue requirement of \$60.1 million per year.**
- **A Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will hear the case on May 11, 2020.**
- **Further information about this case is available on the State Corporation Commission's website at:**
<https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information>.

On June 1, 2020, Virginia Natural Gas, Inc. ("VNG" or "Company"), filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application pursuant to Chapter 10 of Title 56 (§ 56-232 *et seq.*) of the Code of Virginia ("Code") requesting authority to increase its rates and charges, effective November 1, 2020, and to revise other terms and conditions applicable to its gas service ("Application"). VNG indicates that the proposed rates and charges are designed to increase the Company's annual rate base revenue by approximately \$60.1 million per year, which includes \$10.5 million currently being collected by the Company outside of base rates in a surcharge associated with its Steps to Advance Virginia's Energy plan ("SAVE Plan") pursuant to Code § 56-603 *et seq.* VNG states the requested increase in annual rate base revenue reflects its costs and revenues for the test year ending December 31, 2019, the increase in the Company's average rate base since its last base rate increase in 2017, an updated capital structure and requested return on equity of 10.35%, and certain rate year adjustments that "can be reasonably predicted to occur" during the 12 months ending October 31, 2021 ("Rate Year"), as permitted by Code § 56-235.2.

VNG states that, since its last rate case (PUR-2016-00143), it has made significant investments in its system to serve customers better. The Company represents that it will have invested

approximately \$494 million to improve the integrity and performance of its system from the beginning of 2017 through October 31, 2020. VNG projects that it will invest approximately \$133 million more during the Rate Year.

The Company states that its SAVE Plan was designed to facilitate the accelerated replacement of SAVE-eligible natural gas infrastructure and was implemented in 2012. VNG represents that it will have dedicated approximately \$161 million of its capital expenditures through October 31, 2020, to its SAVE Plan.

VNG states in its Application that, in the time since its last Rate Case, it has experienced changes in its operating costs and has launched and expanded several new initiatives to improve safety systems, modernize internal processes, bolster the technical workforce, and better engage with customers. The Company indicates that its non-gas operations and maintenance ("O&M") expenses have increased by approximately \$17 million and that this increase is primarily attributable to workforce development and customer service enhancement initiatives, safety and compliance, depreciation, and shared services costs.

In its Application, the Company provides further detail on these and other O&M initiatives, including additional staffing and employee changes, utilizing predictive analytics to identify excavation tickets most likely to result in damages, and increasing the scope of the Company's cross bore surveying program, as well as safety, customer satisfaction, and community outreach initiatives.

VNG also proposes numerous revisions to its Terms and Conditions and Schedules for Supplying Gas. These include, but are not limited to, implementing a meter tampering charge, updating connection and reconnection charges, discontinuing and updating various other charges, creating a fixed bill rate design option for customers, implementing a multifamily pilot program in which builders and developers may participate, creating a program to recover investment costs for converting neighborhoods to natural gas service, and including bill-payment transaction fees into rate base.

VNG represents that a typical residential customer with average usage will experience an average increase of \$11.20 per month under the proposed rates.

The details of these and other proposals are set forth in the Company's Application. Interested persons are encouraged to review the Company's Application and supporting exhibits for the details of these proposals.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may adopt rates that differ from those appearing in the Company's Application and supporting documents and may apportion revenues among customer classes and/or design rates in a manner differing from that shown in the Application and supporting documents.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things, suspends the Company's proposed rates for the maximum period allowed by law, given the COVID-19 pandemic, and permits the Company to place its proposed rates, charges, and terms and conditions of service into effect on an interim basis, subject to refund, effective October 29, 2020, or alternatively on November 1, 2020, as requested by the Company.

The Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing scheduled a public hearing at 10 a.m. on May 11, 2021, to receive the testimony of public witnesses and the evidence of the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff. Further details on the hearing will be provided by subsequent Commission Order or Hearing Examiner's Ruling.

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health emergency related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19, and the declarations of emergency issued at both the state and federal levels. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter should be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"). Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. For the duration of the COVID-19 emergency, any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and the Commission's Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Please refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

Interested persons may download unofficial copies of the Application from the Commission's website: <https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information>. Copies of these documents also may be obtained, at no charge, by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company: Joseph K. Reid, Esquire, McGuireWoods LLP, Gateway Plaza, 800 East Canal Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, jreid@mcguirewoods.com.

On or before April 27, 2021, any interested person may file written comments on the Application with the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118, or <https://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments>. Compact discs or any other form of electronic storage medium may not be filed with the comments. All such comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2020-00095.

Any person or entity may participate as a respondent in this proceeding by filing a notice of participation on or before September 14, 2020. If not filed electronically, an original and fifteen (15) copies of a notice of participation shall be filed with the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth above. A copy of the notice of participation shall be sent to counsel for VNG at the address set forth above. Pursuant to Rule 5 VAC 5-20-80, Participation as a respondent, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent shall be represented by counsel as required by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2020-00095. For additional information about participation as a respondent, any person or entity should obtain a copy of the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing.

On or before February 15, 2021, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, and serve on the Commission's Staff, the Company, and all other respondents, any testimony and

exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case, and each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. If not filed electronically, an original and fifteen (15) copies of such testimony and exhibits shall be submitted to the Clerk of the Commission at the address above. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, including 5 VAC 5-20-140, Filing and service, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2019-00095.

All documents filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice

The Company's Application, the Commission's Rules of Practice, and the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment may be viewed at: <https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information>.

VIRGINIA NATURAL GAS, INC.

(10) On or before July 24, 2020, VNG shall serve a copy of this Order for Notice and Hearing on the following local officials, to the extent the position exists, in each county, city, and town in which the Company provides service in the Commonwealth of Virginia: the chairman of the board of supervisors and county attorney of each county, and the mayor or manager (or equivalent official) and city or town attorney of every city and town. Service shall be made electronically where possible; if electronic service is not possible, service shall be made by either personal delivery or first class mail to the customary place of business or residence of the person served.

(11) On or before August 7, 2020, VNG shall file proof of the notice and service required by Ordering Paragraphs (9) and (10), including the name, title, and address of each official served, with the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118.

(12) On or before April 27, 2021, any interested person may file written comments on the Application with the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth in Ordering Paragraph (11). Any interested person desiring to file comments electronically may do so on or before April 27, 2021, by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: <https://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments>. Compact disks or any other form of electronic storage medium cannot be filed with the comments. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2020-00095.

(13) On or before September 14, 2020, any person or entity may participate as a respondent in this proceeding by filing a notice of participation. If not filed electronically, an original and fifteen (15) copies of a notice of participation shall be filed with the Clerk of the Commission at the address in Ordering Paragraph (11), and each respondent shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to VNG at the electronic mail address set forth in Ordering Paragraph (8). Pursuant to Rule 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent shall be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2020-00095.

(14) Within five (5) business days of receipt of a notice of participation as a respondent, the Company shall serve upon the respondent a copy of this Order for Notice and Hearing, a copy of the Application, and all materials filed by the Company with the Commission, unless these materials already have been provided to the respondent.

(15) On or before February 15, 2021, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission and serve on the Staff, the Company, and all other respondents, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case, and each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. If not filed electronically, an original and fifteen (15) copies of such testimony and exhibits shall be filed with the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth in Ordering Paragraph (11). In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, including, but not limited to: 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2020-00095.

(16) The Staff shall investigate the Application. On or before March 31, 2021, the Staff shall file with the Clerk of the Commission an original and fifteen (15) copies of testimony and exhibits concerning the Application, and each Staff witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. The Staff shall serve a copy thereof on counsel to the Company and all respondents.

(17) On or before April 14, 2021, VNG shall file with the Clerk of the Commission any rebuttal testimony and exhibits that it expects to offer, and each rebuttal witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. The Company shall serve a copy thereof on the Staff and all respondents. If not filed electronically, an original and fifteen (15) copies of such rebuttal testimony and exhibits shall be filed with the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth in Ordering Paragraph (11).

(18) All documents filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

(19) The Commission's Rule of Practice 5 VAC 5-20-260, *Interrogatories to parties or requests for production of documents and things*, shall be modified for this proceeding as follows: responses and objections to written interrogatories and requests for production of documents shall be served within seven (7) business days after receipt of the same. In addition to the service requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-260 of the Rules of Practice, on the day that copies are filed with the Clerk of the Commission, a copy of the interrogatory or request for production shall be served electronically on the party to whom the interrogatory or request for production is directed or the assigned Staff attorney, if the interrogatory or request for production is directed to the Staff.¹⁷ Except as modified above, discovery shall be in accordance with Part IV of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 5 VAC 5-20-240 *et seq.*

(20) This case is continued.

A COPY hereof shall be sent electronically by the Clerk of the Commission to:

Joseph K. Reid III, Esquire, Elaine S. Ryan, Esquire, and Tim Patterson, Esquire,
McGuireWoods LLP, Gateway Plaza, 800 East Canal Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219-3916,
jreid@mcguirewoods.com, eryan@mcguirewoods.com, and tpatterson@mcguirewoods.com;
and C. Meade Browder, Jr., Senior Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General,
Division of Consumer Counsel, 202 N. 9th Street, 8th Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23219-3424,
MBrowder@oag.state.va.us.

¹⁷ The assigned Staff attorney is identified on the Commission's website, <https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information> by clicking "Docket Search," then clicking "Search by Case Information," and entering the case number, PUR-2020-00095, in the appropriate box.