

Data Center Load Technical Conference

Case No. PUR-2024-00144

December 16, 2024

1300 E. Main St., Richmond, Virginia – 2nd Floor Courtroom

Agenda and Speakers

9:15 a.m. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

9:30 a.m. **Panel 1 – The problem statement**

This panel will serve as a framework for the discussions in Panels 2 and 3. Specifically, panelists will provide an overview of the current state-of-play for serving new large-load customers, including a discussion of existing processes and mechanisms for providing service to these customers. This panel will discuss emerging issues related to interconnecting and serving large-load customers, including transmission and resource adequacy planning for the unprecedented amount of forecasted load growth primarily driven by data center projects. In particular, this panel will focus on if and how the potentially speculative nature of these large load requests is currently accounted for in utility system planning. Finally, the panel will further address the implications of the forecasted load growth on Virginia’s renewable energy portfolio standard requirements.

Panelists

John Hewa, *Rappahannock Electric Cooperative*, President and CEO

Stan Blackwell, *Dominion Energy*, Director – Data Center Practice

Aaron Tinjun, *Data Center Coalition*, Director, Energy Policy and Regulatory Affairs

Laura Gonzalez-Guerrero, *Clean Virginia*, Director – Energy and Regulatory Policy

Gaurav Karandikar, *SERC Reliability Corporation*, Senior Manager – Reliability Assessment and Performance Analysis

11:30 a.m. **Lunch Break**

12:30 p.m. **Panel 2 – Characteristics of new forecasted load and implications for cost allocation**

This panel will discuss the status quo for cost allocation of generation, transmission, and distribution related investments in Virginia. This will include a discussion around the costs, benefits, and risks associated with continuing existing cost allocation methods for new investments driven by the amount of new load

forecasted to interconnect. The panel will explore potential alternatives to current rate design and cost allocation and how such alternatives would impact existing and future users of electricity, including a discussion on Virginia's economic competitiveness. The panel will address equitable pathways for allocating any incremental costs of new infrastructure driven by new data center loads.

Panelists

Scott Gaskill, *Dominion Energy Virginia*, Vice President – Regulatory Affairs

Brian George, *Google, LLC*, Global Energy Market Development and Policy, US Federal Lead

James Wilson, *Wilson Energy Economics*, Principal – Economist and Consultant

Cliona Robb, *Virginia Manufacturers Association*, Attorney

Jack Robb, *Old Dominion Electric Cooperative*, Sr. Vice President – Chief Legal Officer

Joe Kroboth, *Loudoun County*, Deputy County Administrator

2:30 p.m. **Afternoon Break**

3:00 p.m. **Panel 3 – Other tools to address challenges**

Beyond the issue of cost allocation, other potential tools may exist for the Commission to address equitably the challenges posed by interconnecting the amount of forecasted load growth from data centers. Such potential tools include line extension policies, minimum usage policies, and other tariff provisions that may mitigate the risk of stranded investment for existing customers. A related topic, co-location of electric generation facilities, will be discussed as yet another tool that may alleviate risks to the existing system.

Panelists

Alex Vaughan, *American Electric Power*, Managing Director of Regulated Pricing

Gilbert Jamarillo, *NOVEC*, Vice President – Power Supply

Brian George, *Google, LLC*, Global Energy Market Development and Policy, US Federal Lead

Brandon Smith, *Tract*, Vice President – Utility Development

Walter Crenshaw, *AES Corporation*, Senior Director

5:00 p.m. **Closing Remarks**