

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, FEBRUARY 10, 2025

*State Corporation Commission
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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, *ex rel.*

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

CASE NO. PUR-2025-00028

Ex Parte: In the matter of future minimum
bill proceedings of Appalachian Power
Company pursuant to Code § 56-594.4

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, *ex rel.*

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

CASE NO. PUR-2025-00031

Ex Parte: In the matter of future minimum
bill proceedings of Virginia Electric and
Power Company pursuant to Code
§ 56-594.3

ORDER INITIATING PROCEEDINGS

During its 2024 Session, the Virginia General Assembly enacted Chapters 715, 716, 763 and 765 of the 2024 Virginia Acts of Assembly. These Acts of Assembly amend the Code of Virginia ("Code") by revising section 56-594.3 and adding a section numbered 56-594.4, effective July 1, 2024. Code § 56-594.3, which is applicable to Virginia Electric and Power Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Virginia ("Dominion"), requires the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") to "establish by regulation a shared solar program that complies with the provisions of subsections B, C, D, and E by March 1, 2025, and shall require each utility to file any tariffs, agreements, or forms necessary for implementation of the program by December 1, 2025." Code § 56-594.4, which is applicable to Appalachian Power Company ("APCo"), requires the Commission to "establish by regulation a shared solar program that complies with the provisions of subsections B, C, D, and E by January 1, 2025, and shall require

each utility to file any tariffs, agreements, or forms necessary for implementation of the program by July 1, 2025."

On November 25, 2024, in Case No. PUR-2024-00122, the Commission entered an Order Adopting Regulations pursuant to the statutory declarations in Code §§ 56-594.3 and 56-594.4. On December 12, 2024, the Coalition for Community Solar Access filed a Petition for Reconsideration and Clarification ("Petition"). On December 13, 2024, the Commission issued an Order Granting Reconsideration that: (1) continued jurisdiction over this matter to consider the Petition; and (2) suspended the Order Adopting Regulations pending the Commission's reconsideration. Concurrently with this Order, the Commission is issuing an Order on Reconsideration in Case No. PUR-2024-00122 that unsuspends the Order Adopting Regulations, thus finalizing the new shared solar rules, effective February 14, 2025.

Pursuant to Code § 56-594.3 D, the Commission must establish a minimum bill for Dominion, which shall:

include the costs of all utility infrastructure and services used to provide electric service and administrative costs of the shared solar program. The Commission may modify the minimum bill over time. In establishing the minimum bill, the Commission shall (i) consider further costs the Commission deems relevant to ensure subscribing customers pay a fair share of the costs of providing electric services and generation sufficient to meet customer needs at all times, (ii) minimize the costs shifted to customers not in a shared solar program, and (iii) calculate the benefits of shared solar to the electric grid and to the Commonwealth and deduct such benefits from other costs.

Pursuant to Code § 56-594.4 D, the Commission must establish a minimum bill for APCo, which shall:

include the costs of all utility infrastructure and services used to provide electric service and administrative costs of the shared solar program. The Commission may modify the minimum bill over time. In establishing the minimum bill, the Commission shall (i) consider further costs the Commission deems relevant to ensure subscribing customers pay a fair share of the costs of providing electric services, (ii) minimize the costs shifted to customers not in a shared solar program,

and (iii) calculate the benefits of shared solar to the electric grid and to the Commonwealth and deduct such benefits from other costs.

NOW THE COMMISSION, having considered this matter, is of the opinion and finds that it is reasonable to establish proceedings in which APCo and Dominion shall file their respective minimum bill proposals with the Commission, which are assigned separate case numbers. The Commission further finds that such filings shall address, analyze, and provide prefiled testimony and data to support the following as they relate to the minimum bill, consistent with the requirements of Code §§ 56-594.3 and 56-594.4 quoted above:

- The costs of all utility infrastructure and services used to provide electric service;
- The administrative costs necessary for operation of the shared solar program;
- Any other costs necessary to ensure subscribing customers pay a fair share of the costs of providing electric services;
- A quantification of the benefits of shared solar to the electric grid and to the Commonwealth; and
- An explanation of how the minimum bill proposed ensures that the costs shifted to customers not in a shared solar program are minimized.

This information will assist in the development of robust records and serve judicial economy in recognition that the time periods for the Commission's review are limited by statute. This information will also provide the Commission with information important to its evaluation in these proceedings.

Following the filing of each minimum bill proposal, the Commission will issue procedural orders setting forth appropriate procedures as required under Code §§ 56-594.3 and

56-594.4, including the scheduling of hearings and the opportunity for interested parties to participate in the proceedings or to file public comments.¹

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) APCo shall file its minimum bill proposal on or before April 1, 2025, and include the information set forth herein.

(2) Dominion shall file its minimum bill proposal on or before May 1, 2025, and include the information set forth herein.

(3) These matters are 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.

¹ The Commission anticipates that the hearing on APCo's proposal will be held at the end of May 2025, to accommodate the July 1, 2025 effective date specified in Code § 56-594.4.