

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JULY 27, 2017

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APPLICATION OF

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY

CASE NO. PUR-2017-00031

For a rate adjustment clause pursuant to
§ 56-585.1 A 6 of the Code of Virginia

ORDER FOR NOTICE AND HEARING

On July 5, 2017, Appalachian Power Company ("APCo" or "Company"), pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 6 of the Code of Virginia ("Code"), filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application ("Application") seeking approval of a rate adjustment clause ("Wind G-RAC") to recover costs associated with the Company's proposed acquisition of the Beech Ridge II and Hardin wind generation facilities (collectively, "Wind Facilities").

Beech Ridge II is a 50 megawatt ("MW") wind generation facility that is being constructed in Greenbrier County, West Virginia. Hardin is a 175 MW wind generation facility that is being constructed in Hardin County, Ohio. According to the Company, the Wind Facilities are expected to be commercially operational in mid-2019. APCo states that it will acquire ownership of the Wind Facilities at or near their commercial operation dates by acquiring 100% equity interests in the companies currently developing the projects ("Project Companies").¹ APCo states that it plans to acquire the Project Companies, rather than the assets comprising the Wind Facilities, to ensure the Company obtains all necessary rights, contracts, leases and permits for the ownership of the Wind Facilities.²

¹ Application at 4-5.

² *Id.* at 4, 8-9.

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The Company states that in 2016, it conducted a request for proposal for new wind projects that would be owned by the Company ("Wind RFP") within the PJM Interconnection, LLC, regional transmission organization footprint.³ Based on the results of the Wind RFP, the Company states that it selected the Wind Facilities to provide an economic source of generation that will benefit its customers.⁴ APCo states that it does not plan to use the Wind Facilities for compliance with its Renewable Portfolio Standard requirements, but it may seek to do so in the future.⁵ The Company also asserts that it does not intend to retire the renewable energy certificates ("RECs") associated with the Wind Facilities, but rather intends to monetize the RECs in order to reduce the cost of service to customers by crediting the Wind G-RAC with the proceeds of the REC sales.⁶

APCo proposes the Wind G-RAC to recover the revenue requirement associated with the Wind Facilities through a rate surcharge for service to customers. The Company proposes to adjust Wind G-RAC recoveries for any over-recovery or under-recovery of costs based on a comparison of revenues collected to costs actually incurred.⁷

According to APCo, the Company will not incur any costs that are recoverable through the Wind G-RAC until it acquires the Wind Facilities.⁸ In recognition that § 56-585.1 A 7 of the Code requires the implementation of a rate adjustment clause within 60 days of the issuance of a final order in this case, the Company proposes to implement a zero rate under the Wind G-RAC

³ *Id.* at 3.

⁴ *Id.* at 5.

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ Direct Testimony of William K. Castle at 7.

⁷ Application at 6.

⁸ *See, e.g.*, Direct Testimony of Katharine I. Walsh at 7.

until its acquisition of the Wind Facilities is complete and the facilities become commercially operational. For the 12 months following the acquisition and commercial operation date, APCo estimates that the Wind G-RAC will recover a revenue requirement of approximately \$11.5 million.⁹ According to the Company, this revenue requirement includes the following types of costs: (i) a return of and a return on the Company's capital investment in the Wind Facilities, net of accumulated depreciation and accumulated deferred income taxes; (ii) various operational and maintenance expenses; (iii) administrative and general costs, such as salaries, benefits, and property insurance; and (iv) real and personal property taxes and employment taxes.¹⁰ To develop the revenue requirement, APCo used the 9.4% rate of return on equity approved by the Commission in Case No. PUE-2016-00038.¹¹

According to APCo, if the proposed Wind G-RAC is approved, there will not be any impact to customers prior to the Company's acquisition of the Wind Facilities, which is anticipated to occur in mid-2019.¹² Following APCo's acquisition of the Wind Facilities, the impact on customer bills would depend on the customer's rate schedule and usage. The Company estimates that after it acquires the Wind Facilities and begins to recover costs through the Wind G-RAC, the monthly bill for a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month would increase by approximately \$0.90 when compared to rates effective on

⁹ Application at 6-7. APCo intends to update the Wind G-RAC revenue requirement and set the going-forward rate prior to the date of commercial operation. *Id.* at 7.

¹⁰ Direct Testimony of A. Wayne Allen at 3.

¹¹ See Direct Testimony of William K. Castle at 10; *Application of Appalachian Power Company, For the determination of the fair rate of return on common equity to be applied to its rate adjustment clauses*, Case No. PUE-2016-00038, 2016 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 393, Final Order (Oct. 6, 2016).

¹² Direct Testimony of Katharine I. Walsh at 7.

June 1, 2017.¹³ The Company states that the bill impacts of the Wind G-RAC are expected to be offset to some extent by decreases in the fuel factor, depending on actual PJM prices, actual output of the turbines, the value of RECs, and other factors.¹⁴

APCo proposes to allocate the costs of the Wind Facilities among its classes of customers using a new methodology that differs from the methodology historically used to allocate the costs of other generation units. APCo asserts that whereas typically generation fixed costs are allocated based on demand, wind projects provide primarily energy-related benefits with no associated fuel cost. To address this imbalance, the Company states that it proposes to allocate costs among its classes so that costs are recovered on the bases of both demand and energy.¹⁵

APCo states that following the acquisition of the Project Companies, it plans to enter into an agreement and a plan of merger with the Project Companies, and will merge the Project Companies with and into APCo, with APCo being the surviving entity. APCo asserts that at the time it merges with the Project Companies, the Project Companies will be considered affiliated interests pursuant to the Code, and therefore the agreements and plans of merger will require Commission approval. Accordingly, APCo states that it intends to seek approval of the agreements and plans of merger at a later date during the course of the Commission's consideration of this Application.¹⁶

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ Direct Testimony of William K. Castle at 7-8.

¹⁵ *Id.* at 9.

¹⁶ Application at 8-9.

APCo also requests a waiver of Rules 20 VAC 5-201-60 ("Rule 60") and 20 VAC 5-201-90 ("Rule 90") of the Rules Governing Utility Rate Applications and Annual Informational Filings ("Rate Case Rules")¹⁷ with respect to Schedule 45. Rule 60 of the Rate Case Rules requires that an application filed pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 6 of the Code include Schedule 45, "Return on Equity Peer Group Benchmark," with the utility's direct testimony. Rule 90 of the Rate Case Rules states that Schedule 45 must include "documentation supporting the return on equity benchmark proposed pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 2 a and b of the Code" In support of its request for waiver of Schedule 45, APCo states that the Commission determined the fair rate of return on common equity to be used as the general rate of return applicable to rate adjustment clauses filed by the Company pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 6 of the Code in Case No. PUE-2016-00038.¹⁸

In addition, the Company requests a waiver of 5-VAC 5-20-150 ("Rule 150") of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice").¹⁹ Rule 150 requires parties to file an original and 15 copies of "[a]pplications, petitions, motions, responsive pleadings, briefs, and other documents. . . ." In its Application, APCo requests permission to provide the extraordinarily sensitive versions of the purchase and sale agreements for the Wind Facilities directly to Staff on a compact disc, accompanied by one printout of the documents, on the basis that the documents are exceedingly voluminous.²⁰

¹⁷ 20 VAC 5-201-10 *et seq.*

¹⁸ *Id.* at 9.

¹⁹ 5 VAC 5-20-10 *et seq.*

²⁰ Application at 9-10. The Company notes that the Commission has granted similar requests in prior proceedings. See, e.g., *Petition of Appalachian Power Company, For revision of a rate adjustment clause pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 6 of the Code of Virginia with respect to the Dresden Generating Plant*, Case No. PUE-2013-00009, Doc. Con. Cen. No. 130440194, Order for Notice and Hearing at 6, n.22 (Apr. 26, 2013).

Finally, in conjunction with the filing of its Application on July 5, 2017, APCo filed a motion for entry of a protective ruling and for additional protective treatment for extraordinarily sensitive information ("Motion for Protective Ruling") and a proposed protective ruling that establishes procedures governing the use of confidential and extraordinarily sensitive information in this proceeding.

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of this matter, is of the opinion and finds that this matter should be docketed; that APCo should provide public notice of its Application; that a public hearing should be scheduled for the purpose of receiving testimony and evidence on the Application; that interested persons should have an opportunity to file comments on the Application or participate as a respondent in this proceeding; and that the Commission's Staff ("Staff") should be directed to investigate the Application and file testimony and exhibits containing its findings and recommendations thereon.

Further, we find that a Hearing Examiner should be appointed to rule on all discovery matters that arise during the course of this proceeding, including the Company's Motion for Protective Ruling.

Finally, we grant APCo's request to waive the filing of Schedule 45 for purposes of making the Application complete and commencing this proceeding. The Commission also will grant a limited waiver to Rule 150 of the Commission's Rules of Practice to permit APCo to provide one printout and compact discs of the extraordinarily sensitive versions of the purchase and sale agreements for the Wind Facilities.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- (1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUR-2017-00031.

(2) As provided by § 12.1-31 of the Code and Rule 5 VAC 5-20-120, *Procedure before Hearing Examiners*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, a Hearing Examiner is appointed to rule on any discovery matter that may arise during the course of this proceeding, including the Company's Motion for Protective Ruling.

(3) A public hearing on the Application shall be convened on February 6, 2018, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, to receive the testimony of public witnesses and the evidence of the Company, any respondents, and the Staff. Any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness at this hearing should appear in the Commission's courtroom fifteen (15) minutes prior to the starting time of the hearing and identify himself or herself to the Commission's Bailiff.

(4) The Company shall make copies of the public version of its Application, as well as a copy of this Order for Notice and Hearing, available for public inspection during regular business hours at each of the Company's business offices in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Copies also may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Noelle J. Coates, Esquire, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 3 James Center, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219. If acceptable to the requesting party, the Company may provide the documents by electronic means. Copies of the public version of all documents also shall be available for interested persons to review in the Commission's Document Control Center located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission's website: <http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case>.

(5) On or before August 25, 2017, the Company shall cause the following notice to be published as display advertising (not classified) on one occasion in newspapers of general circulation throughout the Company's service territory in Virginia:

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY
APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY,
FOR A RATE ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE PURSUANT TO
§ 56-585.1 A 6 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA
CASE NO. PUR-2017-00031

- **Appalachian Power Company ("APCo") has applied for approval of a rate adjustment clause ("Wind G-RAC") to recover costs associated with its proposed acquisition of two wind generation facilities, Beech Ridge II and Hardin (collectively, "Wind Facilities") located in West Virginia and Ohio, respectively.**
- **APCo states that it will not recover any costs through the Wind G-RAC until it acquires the Wind Facilities and they become commercially operational, which APCo estimates will occur in mid-2019.**
- **For the 12 months following the acquisition and commercial operation of the Wind Facilities in mid-2019, APCo estimates that the Wind G-RAC will recover a revenue requirement of approximately \$11.5 million. This amount would increase the bill for a typical residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month by \$0.90 when compared to rates effective on June 1, 2017.**
- **The Commission will hear the case on February 6, 2018, at 10 a.m.**
- **Further information about this case is available on the SCC website at:
<http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case>.**

On July 5, 2017, Appalachian Power Company ("APCo" or "Company"), pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 6 of the Code of Virginia ("Code"), filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application ("Application") seeking approval of a rate adjustment clause ("Wind G-RAC") to recover costs associated with the Company's proposed acquisition of the Beech Ridge II and Hardin wind generation facilities (collectively, "Wind Facilities").

Beech Ridge II is a 50 megawatt ("MW") wind generation facility that is being constructed in Greenbrier County, West Virginia. Hardin is a 175 MW wind generation facility that is being constructed in Hardin County, Ohio. According to the Company, the Wind Facilities are expected to be commercially operational in mid-2019. APCo states that it will acquire ownership of the Wind Facilities at or near their commercial operation dates by acquiring 100% equity interests in the companies currently developing the projects ("Project Companies"). APCo states that it plans to acquire the Project Companies, rather than the assets comprising the Wind Facilities, to ensure the Company obtains all necessary rights, contracts, leases and permits for the ownership of the Wind Facilities.

The Company states that in 2016, it conducted a request for proposal for new wind projects that would be owned by the Company ("Wind RFP") within the PJM Interconnection, LLC, regional transmission organization footprint. Based on the results of the Wind RFP, the Company states that it selected the Wind Facilities to provide an economic source of generation that will benefit its customers. APCo states that it does not plan to use the Wind Facilities for compliance with its Renewable Portfolio Standard requirements, but it may seek to do so in the future. The Company also asserts that it does not intend to retire the renewable energy certificates ("RECs") associated with the Wind Facilities, but rather intends to monetize the RECs in order to reduce the cost of service to customers by crediting the Wind G-RAC with the proceeds of the REC sales.

APCo proposes the Wind G-RAC to recover the revenue requirement associated with the Wind Facilities through a rate surcharge for service to customers. The Company proposes to adjust Wind G-RAC recoveries for any over-recovery or under-recovery of costs based on a comparison of revenues collected to costs actually incurred.

According to APCo, the Company will not incur any costs that are recoverable through the Wind G-RAC until it acquires the Wind Facilities. In recognition that § 56-585.1 A 7 of the Code requires the implementation of a rate adjustment clause within 60 days of the issuance of a final order in this case, the Company proposes to implement a zero rate under the Wind G-RAC until its acquisition of the Wind Facilities is complete and the facilities become commercially operational. For the 12 months following the acquisition and commercial operation date, APCo estimates that the Wind G-RAC will recover a revenue requirement of approximately \$11.5 million. According to the Company, this revenue requirement includes the following types of costs: (i) a return of and a return on the Company's capital investment in the Wind Facilities, net of accumulated depreciation and accumulated deferred income taxes; (ii) various operational and maintenance expenses; (iii) administrative and general costs, such as salaries, benefits, and property insurance; and (iv) real and personal property taxes and employment taxes. To develop the revenue requirement, APCo used the 9.4% rate of return on equity approved by the Commission in Case No. PUE-2016-00038.

According to APCo, if the proposed Wind G-RAC is approved, there will not be any impact to customers prior to the Company's acquisition of the Wind Facilities, which is anticipated to occur in mid-2019. Following APCo's acquisition of the Wind Facilities, the impact on customer bills would depend on the customer's rate schedule and usage. The Company estimates that after it acquires the Wind Facilities and begins to recover costs through the Wind G-RAC, the monthly bill for a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month would increase by approximately \$0.90 when compared to rates effective on June 1, 2017. The Company states that the bill impacts of the Wind G-RAC are expected to be offset to some extent by decreases in the fuel factor, depending on actual PJM prices, actual output of the turbines, the value of RECs, and other factors.

APCo proposes to allocate the costs of the Wind Facilities among its classes of customers using a new methodology that differs from the methodology historically used to allocate the costs of other generation units. APCo asserts that whereas typically generation fixed costs are allocated based on demand, wind projects provide primarily energy-related benefits with no associated fuel cost. To address this imbalance, the Company states that it proposes to allocate costs among its classes so that costs are recovered on the bases of both demand and energy.

APCo states that following the acquisition of the Project Companies, it plans to enter into an agreement and a plan of merger with the Project Companies, and will merge the Project Companies with and into APCo, with APCo being the surviving entity. APCo asserts that at the time it merges with the Project Companies, the Project Companies will be considered affiliated interests pursuant to the Code and therefore the agreements and plans of merger will require Commission approval. Accordingly, APCo states that it intends to seek approval of the agreements and plans of merger at a later date during the course of the Commission's consideration of this Application.

Interested persons are encouraged to review the Application and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals.

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

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things, scheduled a public hearing on February 6, 2018, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, to receive testimony from members of the public and evidence related to the Application from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff. Any person desiring to testify as a public witness at this hearing should appear fifteen (15) minutes prior to the starting time of the hearing and contact the Commission's Bailiff.

The public version of the Company's Application, as well as the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, are available for public inspection during regular business hours at each of the Company's business offices in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Copies also may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Noelle J. Coates, Esquire, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 3 James Center, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219. If acceptable to the requesting party, the Company may provide the documents by electronic means.

Copies of the public version of the Application and other documents filed in this case also are available for interested persons to review in the Commission's Document Control Center located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission's website: <http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case>.

On or before January 30, 2018, any interested person wishing to comment on the Company's Application shall file written comments on the Application with Joel H. Peck, Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. Any interested person desiring to file comments electronically may do so on or before January 30, 2018, by following the instructions on the Commission's website: <http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case>. 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-2017-00031.

On or before November 7, 2017, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation. If not filed electronically, an original and fifteen (15) copies of the notice of participation shall be submitted to the Clerk of the Commission at the address above. A copy of the notice of participation as a respondent also must be sent to counsel for the Company at the address set forth above. Pursuant to Rule 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("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. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2017-00031. 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 December 5, 2017, 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. Respondents also

shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, including: 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*; 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*; and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2017-00031.

The Commission's Rules of Practice may be viewed at <http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case>. A printed copy of the Commission's Rules of Practice and an official copy of the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing in this proceeding may be obtained from the Clerk of the Commission at the address above.

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY

(6) On or before August 25, 2017, the Company shall serve a copy of this Order for Notice and Hearing on the chairman of the board of supervisors and county attorney of each county and upon the mayor or manager (or equivalent official) and city or town attorney of every city and town in which the Company provides service in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Service shall be made by either personal delivery or first class mail to the customary place of business or residence of the person served.

(7) On or before September 15, 2017, the Company shall file with Joel H. Peck, Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118, proof of the notice and service required by Ordering Paragraphs (5) and (6), including the name, title, and address of each official served.

(8) On or before January 30, 2018, any interested person may file written comments on the Application with the Clerk of the Commission at the address shown in Ordering Paragraph (7). Any interested person desiring to submit comments electronically may do so on or before January 30, 2018, by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: <http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case>. Compact discs or any other form of electronic storage

medium may not be filed with the comments. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2017-00031.

(9) On or before November 7, 2017, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation. If not filed electronically, an original and fifteen (15) copies of the notice of participation shall be submitted to the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth in Ordering Paragraph (7). The respondent shall simultaneously serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company at the address in Ordering Paragraph (4). 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 must 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-2017-00031.

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

(11) On or before December 5, 2017, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth in Ordering Paragraph (7) 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 submitted to the Clerk of the Commission. In all filings, the respondent shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, including: 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*; 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*; and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2017-00031.

(12) The Staff shall investigate the Application. On or before December 19, 2017, the Staff shall file with the Clerk of the Commission an original and fifteen (15) copies of its testimony and exhibits, 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 APCo and all respondents.

(13) On or before January 16, 2018, APCo shall file with the Clerk of the Commission: (a) 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; and (b) a summary not to exceed one page of each direct witness's testimony if not previously included therewith. The Company shall simultaneously serve a copy of the testimony and exhibits on the Staff and all respondents. If not filed electronically, an original and fifteen (15) copies of such rebuttal testimony and exhibits shall be submitted to the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth in Ordering Paragraph (7).

(14) 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) calendar days after receipt of the same. In addition to the service requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-260, 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, or

by facsimile, 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.²¹ 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.*

(15) The Company's requests for waivers are granted as discussed herein.

(16) This matter is continued.

AN ATTESTED COPY hereof shall be sent by the Clerk of the Commission to: Noelle J. Coates, Esquire, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 3 James Center, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219; James R. Bacha, Esquire, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, Ohio 43215; Timothy E. Biller, Esquire, Hunton & Williams LLP, 951 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219; and C. Meade Browder, Jr., Esquire, Division of Consumer Counsel, Office of the Attorney General, 202 N. 9th Street, 8th Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23219. A copy also shall be delivered to the Commission's Office of General Counsel and Divisions of Public Utility Regulation and Utility Accounting and Finance.

²¹ The assigned Staff attorney is identified on the Commission's website, <http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case>, by clicking "Docket Search," and clicking "Search Cases," and entering the case number, PUR-2017-00031, in the appropriate box.