## **ORDER NO. 88301**

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DELMARVA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY FOR ADJUSTMENTS TO ITS RETAIL RATES FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF MARYLAND

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CASE NO. 9455

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**Issue Date: July 17, 2017** 

On July 14, 2017, the Delmarva Power & Light Company ("Delmarva" or "Company") filed an application for approval by the Public Service Commission ("Commission") to increase the Company's rates and charges for its electric distribution service ("Application"). The Company also filed supporting testimony and exhibits, which included applicable revised retail rate schedules for electric service. In its Application, the Company asks the Commission for authority to increase its Maryland distribution rates by \$27,029,794 with the proposed rates going into effect on August 14, 2017. Pursuant to the provisions of § 4-204 of the Public Utilities Article, *Annotated Code of Maryland*, the Commission concludes that all of the proposed rates and charges should be suspended for a period of 150 days from August 14, 2017. The suspension period is necessary to provide the Commission with an opportunity to determine the justness and reasonableness of the proposed rates and charges.

A prehearing conference in this matter is hereby set for Monday, August 21, 2017, in the Commission's 16<sup>th</sup> Floor Hearing Room, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6

St. Paul Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, beginning at 10 a.m. The purpose of the hearing is to set a procedural schedule for this proceeding, consider any petitions to intervene that have been filed, and consider any other preliminary matters requested by the parties. Petitions to intervene shall be filed by 5 p.m., Wednesday, August 16, 2017. Furthermore, discovery commences immediately for Delmarva, the Commission's Technical Staff ("Staff") and the Office of People's Counsel ("OPC").

**IT IS, THEREFORE**, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year Two Thousand Seventeen, by the Public Service Commission of Maryland,

**ORDERED:** (1) That proceedings as to the justness and reasonableness of the proposed rates and charges are instituted by the Commission;

- (2) That the proposed rates and charges filed by Delmarva Power & Light Company on July 14, 2017, are suspended for a period of 150 days from August 14, 2017.
  - (3) That discovery commences immediately for Delmarva, Staff, and OPC.
- (4) That Petitions to Intervene shall be filed by 5 p.m., Wednesday, August 16, 2017.
- (5) That Delmarva Power & Light Company is hereby directed to cause a display advertisement to be published in newspapers in general circulation throughout its service area at least two times prior to August 16, 2017, that includes a description of the matter on which the prehearing is being held and the time, date, place and purpose of the prehearing conference scheduled for August 21, 2017. The notice shall also advise persons who seek to intervene in this proceeding that an original and 17 copies, plus one

electronic copy,<sup>1</sup> of any petition to intervene, shall be filed with David J. Collins, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, by Wednesday, August

(6) That Delmarva Power & Light Company shall file a proof of publication on or before the date of the prehearing conference;

(7) That Delmarva Power & Light Company shall also place on its home page a notice of the prehearing conference and the date by which petitions to intervene in the matter must be filed in a manner that a customer need not click the link to determine the date, time, location and purpose of the prehearing conference or the date by which a petition to intervene must be filed; and

(8) That Delmarva Power & Light Company is directed to employ any routinelyused social media platforms, such as Twitter or Facebook, and any other means of communication at its disposal to further notify its customers of the prehearing conference, as appropriate.

By Direction of the Commission,

/s/ David J. Collins

David J. Collins
Executive Secretary

<sup>1</sup> The Commission encourages parties to use the Commission's "e-file" system for filing the electronic copy. Details of the "e-file" system are on the Commission's web page, www.psc.state.md.us. Additionally, five paper copies of the petition shall be three-hole punched.

<sup>2</sup> Persons are reminded that if the "e-file" system is used, the original and required paper copies of the filing must be delivered to the Commission's docket room by noon, the next business day after the e-filing is made to retain the filing date of the e-filed document. In the event the paper copies are received after noon of the next business day, the date on which the paper copies are received becomes the official filing date.

16, 2017;<sup>2</sup>