

additional hearing date, if necessary.”⁴ However, the Joint Applicants did indicate that given the fact that OPC has not yet filed its proposed witness’ testimony, it reserves the right to oppose the testimony’s admission, if necessary. On January 11, 2018, OPC responded to the Joint Applicant’s January 10, 2018 letter indicating that the Joint Applicant’s letter is premature argument in support of a motion to strike OPC witness testimony, although the testimony has not yet been filed.⁵

After considering this matter, the Commission hereby amends the procedural schedule and adds an additional evidentiary hearing date of February 15, 2018. Therefore, the following amended procedural schedule is hereby adopted to consider the Settlement Agreement:

Written Testimony:⁶

- Testimony by the Settling Parties was filed January 5, 2018.
- Reply Testimony by all other Parties who desire to do so shall be filed by Noon on January 29, 2018.

Settlement Evidentiary Hearings:

- Tuesday, February 6, 2018, beginning at 10:00 a.m.;
- Wednesday, February 7, 2018, beginning at 10:00 a.m.;
- Thursday, February 8, 2018, beginning at 10:00 a.m.;
- Friday, February 9, 2018, beginning at 10:00 a.m.; and
- Thursday, February 15, 2018, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The hearings will be held in the Commission’s 16th Floor Hearing Room at 6 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. The Commission reserves the right to modify the start time of the hearings and procedural schedule, as necessary.

Written Public Comments:

- Written public comments on the settlement agreement may also be filed by Friday, February 23, 2018. Original signed paper comments shall be submitted via U.S. mail to David J. Collins, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, and reference “Case No. 9449 – Public Comment.”

⁴ See ML 218471.

⁵ See ML 218495. OPC’s response also indicated that Staff Counsel is not opposed to OPC’s request for an additional hearing date.

⁶ An original and 17 paper copies, and an electronic copy, of the testimony shall be submitted to the Commission, and, five copies of all testimony shall be three-holed punched. In addition, all testimony shall be served electronically on each of the Parties to avoid delay in receipt of such testimony.

Written Briefs:

- Written Briefs from all parties shall be filed by March 1, 2018.

Discovery Period:

- Discovery requests shall be limited to the Settlement Agreement and whether it complies with § 6-105 of the Public Utilities Article, *Annotated Code of Maryland*.
- After January 5, 2018, response time for discovery requests from all parties shall be reduced from five (5) business days to three (3) business days.
- After Noon on January 29, 2018, response time for discovery requests from all parties shall be reduced to two (2) business days. However, the non-settling parties shall make their best efforts to respond within one (1) business day.

By Direction of the Commission,

/s/ David J. Collins

David J. Collins
Executive Secretary