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ML 218878

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

February 6, 2018

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In the Matter of the Petition of the Electric Vehicle Work Group for Implementation of a Statewide Electric Vehicle Portfolio

Case No. 9478

NOTICE OF INITIATING A PROCEEDING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

On January 19, 2018, the Public Conference 44 Electric Vehicle Work Group Leader filed a Petition for Implementation of a Statewide Electric Vehicle Portfolio ("Petition").¹ Specifically, the Work Group Leader recommends the Maryland Public Service Commission ("Commission") docket a proceeding to consider the Work Group's proposal to implement a Statewide electric vehicle portfolio designed to: address barriers to deployment of electric vehicles; increase the efficiency and reliability of the electric distribution system; and lower electricity use at times of high demand. The Petition also included a proposed procedural schedule to yield a Commission decision in this matter by May 18, 2018. Furthermore, the Work Group Leader acknowledged that the proposal does not constitute a consensus document from all members of the Work Group.

On January 29, 2018, the Office of People's Counsel ("OPC") filed a letter also indicating that the Work Group Proposal was not a consensus document and suggested an alternate path forward for the Commission to consider potential Utility-run electric vehicle programs in Maryland.² OPC supports the request for the Commission to docket a proceeding, but believes that a full evidentiary process, with associated discovery privileges, is necessary to thoroughly investigate and consider the approximate \$100 million expenditure associated with the proposal. OPC therefore recommends that the Commission hold a prehearing conference to establish a formal procedural schedule that, among other things, sets a date by which the Utilities must file complete electric vehicle program proposals including a supporting cost-benefit analysis and full revenue requirement breakdown and recovery mechanism for each rate class.

² See ML 218730.

¹ See ML 218613.

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The Commission hereby issues to interested parties a Notice of Initiating a Proceeding and Request for Comments regarding the Petition and OPC's Letter recommending an evidentiary process for the Commission to investigate and consider this matter. Written comments on the Petition and OPC's Letter shall be filed by Friday, March 16, 2018. An original and seventeen copies of the comments, together with an electronic copy, shall be addressed to David J. Collins, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. Five of the paper copies shall be three-holed punched. The Commission encourages the use of the Commission's "e-Filing" system for submission of the electronic copy of the filing. Details of the "e-Filing" system are on the Commission's web page, <u>www.psc.state.md.us</u>.

After receipt of the Comments, the Commission will determine a further procedural schedule as necessary.

By Direction of the Commission,

/s/ David J. Collins

David J. Collins Executive Secretary

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