

ORDER NO. 90634

Potomac Electric Power Company's *
 Application for Adjustments to its Retail Rates *
 for the Distribution of Electric Energy *
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BEFORE THE
 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
 OF MARYLAND

CASE NO. 9702

Issue Date: May 17, 2023

**ORDER INITIATING DOCKET, SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS, AND
 SCHEDULING PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

On May 16, 2023, Potomac Electric Power Company (“Pepco” or “Company”) submitted to the Commission an application for authority to adjust its retail rates for the distribution of electric energy to implement a second Multi-Year Plan (“MYP”) in its Maryland service territory pursuant to *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Public Utilities Article (“PUA”) §§ 4-203, 4-204, and 7-505(c)(1) (“Application”). In support of its Application, Pepco also filed supporting testimony, exhibits, data required by the Commission’s general filing requirements, and proposed rate schedules to be effective April 1, 2024; April 1, 2025; April 1, 2026; and April 1, 2027.

Pepco proposes a MYP covering the three-year period April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2027 – as well as a proposal to extend the MYP through December 31, 2027. The proposed MYP states that it covers cumulative electric revenue deficiencies of \$117.2 million, \$160.5 million, \$193.2, and 213.6 million for the twelve months ending March 31, 2024, 2025, and 2026, and December 31, 2027, respectively. Pepco’s proposal also includes the acceleration of remaining electric tax benefits in 2024, 2025, and 2026. After

applying the accelerated benefits, the electric revenue deficiencies become \$74.4 million for April 1, 2024, \$59.4 million for April 1, 2025, and \$59.4 million for April 1, 2026. This request would lead to an overall electric rate increase of 5 percent for year one, 3.78% for year two, 3.66% for year three, and 1.21% for the nine-month extension period.

A prehearing conference in this matter is hereby set for Wednesday, June 7, 2023, beginning 10 minutes after the conclusion of the regularly scheduled Administrative Meeting, which begins at 10:00 AM. 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. Pepco included a tentatively agreed-upon schedule and discovery rules in its proposed MYP. Petitions to intervene shall be filed by Monday, June 5, 2023. Furthermore, discovery commences immediately for Pepco, the Commission's Technical Staff, and the Maryland Office of People's Counsel.

IT IS, THEREFORE, this 17th day of May in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Three, by the Public Service Commission of Maryland, **ORDERED:**

(1) that proceedings to consider the Application and the justness and reasonableness of Potomac Electric Power Company's Multi-Year Plan, proposed rates, terms, and conditions of its tariff revisions are hereby instituted by the Commission;

(2) that, pursuant to PUA § 4-204(b)(2), the tariff revisions filed by Potomac Electric Power Company are suspended for an initial period of 270 days from May 16, 2023, with rate effective dates of April 1, 2024;¹ April 1, 2025; April 1, 2026; and April 1, 2027;

¹ In accordance with PEPCO's filing, the Commission will issue an order on the MYP by March 11, 2024.

(3) that discovery commences immediately for Potomac Electric Power Company, the Commission's Technical Staff, and the Maryland Office of People's Counsel;

(4) that interested parties shall file petitions to intervene by June 5, 2023;

(5) that Potomac Electric Power Company is hereby directed to cause a display advertisement to be published in a newspaper(s) in general circulation throughout its service area at least two times prior to June 2, 2023, that includes a description of the matter on which the prehearing conference is being held and the time, date, method, and purpose of the prehearing conference scheduled for June 7, 2023. The notice shall also advise persons who seek to intervene in this proceeding that any petition to intervene shall be filed² by June 5, 2023, with Andrew S. Johnston, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202;

(6) that Potomac Electric Power Company shall file a proof of publication on or before the date of the prehearing conference;

(7) that Potomac Electric Power Company also shall 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, method, and purpose of the prehearing conference or the date by which a petition to intervene must be filed; and

² The Commission requests that parties use the Commission's E-file system, which eliminates the need to submit paper copies. Details of the E-file system are on the Commission's web page, www.psc.state.md.us (Online Services or Tools).

(8) that Potomac Electric Power Company is directed to employ any routinely used 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/ Andrew S. Johnston

Andrew S. Johnston
Executive Secretary