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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

September 2, 2015
For Immediate Release

Maryland Public Service Commission Announces Technical Conference on Distributed Energy Resources *Topics Include Interconnection Costs, Valuation and Rate Recovery Mechanisms*

(BALTIMORE) – The Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) will host a technical conference on distributed energy resources (DER) beginning at 10:00 a.m. on October 20. The conference will feature panels on the valuation framework for DER, customer interconnection costs and alternative utility cost recovery mechanisms. Utilities, stakeholders and industry experts are expected to offer valuable insights into these timely topics as part of the one-day learning session. The conference is open to the public and will be live-streamed via the PSC website. The conference will take place at the PSC's Baltimore City offices on the 16th floor of the William Donald Schaefer Tower.

“With the recent passage of Maryland’s community solar legislation, the PSC looks forward to engaging with stakeholders to address barriers and challenges surrounding the deployment of distributed energy resources in the State,” says Commission Chairman Kevin Hughes.

To encourage private investment in distributed renewable energy resources, Maryland net energy metering laws provide that eligible customers pay only for energy that is used, netted against any generation produced by the customer. A 2014 PSC survey indicated that the total capacity of net-metered facilities operating across the State has increased from approximately 364 kW in 2007, to 143,706 kW through the end of June 2014. While the installed capacity of net-metered facilities represents only around 1 percent of all in-State generation capacity, the PSC is proactively engaging in a review of technical and financial issues relating to the deployment of DER.

More information on the October 20 technical conference, including a description of the three panels and information about how to request an invitation to present at the conference, is available on the PSC’s website, www.psc.state.md.us through the Public Conference 40 docket.

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