

## Commission Business Meeting Notes

April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

*Post-Meeting Summary Notes, Drafted and Presented by Rob Bockman*

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Thank you for joining us for today's post-meeting summary. These Commission Business Meetings are held each Wednesday at 2 p.m. and all agendas and materials are posted to the Docket Management System prior to each meeting. If you have questions about Commission business, we encourage you to reach out to us at [robert.bockman@psc.sc.gov](mailto:robert.bockman@psc.sc.gov) or via social media by following the SC Utility Consumer program on Twitter at @UtilityConsumer and on Facebook at SC Utility Consumer.

Today's business meeting started at 2:00 p.m. with item one on the supplemental agenda—pertaining to Docket No. 2019-281-S, and the parties' request for a proposed schedule for the order. Commissioner Belser noted that she does not believe the proposed schedule provides sufficient time, and moved that the Commission reject the proposed order and that the Hearing Officer in the docket contact the party to develop a suitable schedule. Commissioner Ervin noted that he shares Commissioner Belser's concerns, and asked if mediation would be a potential path. Commissioner Belser pointed out that no reason was given for potential mediation, and noted that it doesn't "behoove us to make a member of our staff available for that position when we need them." Commissioner Belser's motion carried.

First on the utilities agenda, the Commission addressed the appointment of a hearing examiner in Docket No. 2020-116-C; Commissioner Hamilton moved to appoint David Stark, which carried.

Item two was a request for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide services and for alternative and flexible regulation. Commissioner Ervin moved to grant this, and the Commission adopted the motion.

Item three was a request to approve an agreement for transportation services; Commissioner Whitfield moved to grant this, and his motion carried.

Item four was a petition to intervene in Docket No. 2020-63-E; this carried following a motion made by Commissioner Hamilton.

Item five was an issue in Docket No. 2020-41-E, which includes a request for a rate increase. Commissioner Belser noted that ORS has reviewed Dominion's petition and has filed a report; ORS has found Dominion's filings comport for the most part with Commission Orders. The other party involved—Walmart, Inc.—has stated that it has no issues or concerns with respect to the filing. Commissioner Belser then moved that the Commission approve Dominion's DSM rate rider, with rates effective for bills rendered on or after the first billing cycle of May 2020. This motion carried.

Item six involved Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.'s request to decrease its rate rider related to pension costs. Commissioner Howard noted that the "Company projects there will be an over-collection of pension costs of approximately \$11 million by April 2021 if the currently approved Pension Rider is not reduced." He noted that ORS has reviewed the request and does not object. He moved that the

Commission approve this reduction and move that Dominion field quarterly updates through April 2021. This motion carried.

Item seven was related to Docket No. 2020-2-E and Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.'s annual review of base rates for fuel costs. Commissioner Ervin provided background and moved to order a series of Commission decisions related to the docket. This motion carried, and the Commissioner noted that the full order will be posted on the Docket Management System at [www.dms.psc.sc.gov](http://www.dms.psc.sc.gov) in the near future.

Item eight was a joint motion in Docket No. 2019-388-E to withdraw the petition and provide confidential treatment of the joint motion. Commissioner Whitfield moved to grant this, and his motion carried.

Item nine was a request from Dominion Energy for an extension of time until June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to file proposed mitigation protocols. Commissioner Howard moved to approve this extension of time and to hold the Solar Business Alliance's request in abeyance until the Commission has received further comment on the matter. Commissioner Ervin noted that he was recused from this docket. The motion carried.

Item ten involved Docket No. 2018-376-E and Dominion Energy's request for approval of property transfer. Commissioner Whitfield provided background on this docket and moved to approve the request of an additional 85.4 acres and that this tract be considered non-utility property. Commissioner Belser noted that she was recused from this docket. The motion carried.

Finally, item ten was a request to withdraw as counsel—Commissioner Hamilton moved to allow this, and his motion carried.

Commissioner Belser, at this point, asked the Commission to revisit item six—specifically, she asked to clarify that the figure quoted was forty-eight cents, rather than fifty, as stated in the motion. The Commission agreed that the total was forty-eight cents.

In addition to these items, Commissioners were also briefed on thirty-five other issues related to utilities in South Carolina. The complete list of these items, as well as links to dockets and all materials, is available on the Docket Management System at [dms.psc.sc.gov](http://dms.psc.sc.gov).

Moving on to the transportation agenda: items one through three were requests for new certificates of public convenience. Commissioner Hamilton made the motion to grant these requests, and his motion carried.

Item four was a request for a class-E certificate and the approval of the use of an electronic bill of lading. Commissioner Belser noted that ORS has reviewed the third amended bill of lading in this case and that they have found the bill to be consistent with the requirements of SC Code. She then moved to grant the application and approve the third amended bill of lading, which was approved by the Commission.

Item five was a request to rescind Commission Order No. 2020-204, which Commissioner Howard moved to grant. His motion carried.

Finally, item six was a request for an extension of time until September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to comply with Commission rules and regulations; Commissioner Ervin noted that the latest extension of time in this docket was granted until April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and that June 28 would mark one year since the Commission issued an order granting the requester authority to operate. He then moved to grant an extension of time until June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and that a new application for authority to operate must be filed at that time. This motion carried.

In addition to the items discussed in detail, Commissioners were advised on six other transportation-related issues. The complete list of these, as well as links to dockets and materials, can be found on the Docket Management System at [dms.psc.sc.gov](https://dms.psc.sc.gov).

The next regular Commission Business Meeting is set for Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. You can access the livestream broadcast of that meeting by visiting our site at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov) and clicking on “livestream.” If you have questions about today’s proceedings, please follow us on social media—on Twitter at @PSCofSC and at @UtilityConsumer or on Facebook at Public Service Commission of South Carolina or SC Utility Consumer—or call the offices of the PSC at 803.896.5100. Thank you.