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277708
277707

Duke, Daphne

From: Boyd, Jocelyn
Sent: Wednesday, August 08, 2018 8:35 PM
To: Duke, Daphne
Subject: Fwd: PSC Dockets 2017-207-E; 2017-305-E; and 2017-370-E
Attachments: Op.ed--Dominion 8-1-18.doc; ATT00001.htm; Columbia Press Release 8-7-18.doc; ATT00002.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Frank Knapp" <fknapp@knappagency.com>
Date: August 8, 2018 at 4:48:09 PM EDT
To: "'Anna Crowder'" <acrowder@selcsc.org>, <abateman@regstaff.sc.gov>, <jnelson@regstaff.sc.gov>, <shudson@regstaff.sc.gov>, <jpittman@regstaff.sc.gov>, <nsedwar@regstaff.sc.gov>, <chad.burgess@scana.com>, <matthew.gissendanner@scana.com>, <bguild@mindspring.com>, <wtdowdey@gmail.com>, <TeagueLynn@gmail.com>, <seaton@spilmanlaw.com>, <mwilloughby@willoughbyhoefer.com>, <lbrandfass@spilmanlaw.com>, <DBlack@nexsenpruet.com>, <emily.w.medlyn.civ@mail.mil>, <dwilliamson@spilmanlaw.com>, <belton.zeigler@wbd-us.com>, <alex@shissiaslawfirm.com>, <DEX@smxblaw.com>, <jfwwalsh@bellsouth.net>, <james.horwood@spiegelmcd.com>, <peter.hopkins@spiegelmcd.com>, <steve.pearson@spiegelmcd.com>, <jessica.bell@spiegelmcd.com>, <jreid@mcguirewoods.com>, <eryan@mcguirewoods.com>, <eruff@mcguirewoods.com>, <rmuckenfuss@mcquirewoods.com>, <lisa.s.booth@dominionenergy.com>, <tracey.a.huang@dominionenergy.com>, <irene.scouras@dominionenergy.com>, <rtyson@sowellgray.com>, <michaelanzelmo@schouse.gov>, <fellerbe@sowellgray.com>, <jtiencken@tienckenlaw.com>, <cmcdonald@tienckenlaw.com>, <mike.couick@ecsc.org>, <chris.koon@ecsc.org>, <BCook@scag.gov>, <ESmith@scag.gov>, <sberk@scjustice.org>, <john@johncoffman.net>, <RLWhitt@AustinRogersPA.com>, <tfrogers@austinrogerspa.com>, <CASchurg@AustinRogersPA.com>, <selliott@elliottlaw.us>, <linda@elliottlaw.us>, <jim@jdavispc.com>, <mike@mikeroselawfirm.com>, <andy@austengowder.com>, <Dino.Teppara@gmail.com>, <rush.smith@nelsonmullins.com>, <matt.bogan@nelsonmullins.com>, <carmen.thomas@nelsonmullins.com>, <william.hubbard@nelsonmullins.com>, <weston.adams@nelsonmullins.com>, <cmassingill@wyche.com>, <mrichardson@wyche.com>, <wlightsey@wyche.com>, <David.Butler@psc.sc.gov>, <Jocelyn.Boyd@psc.sc.gov>
Cc: "'Blan Holman'" <bholman@selcsc.org>, "'Liz Jones'" <ejones@selcsc.org>, "'Will Cleveland'" <wcleveland@selcva.org>, "'Gudrun Thompson'" <gthompson@selcnc.org>
Subject: RE: PSC Dockets 2017-207-E; 2017-305-E; and 2017-370-E

I support the motion to bifurcate the current docket so as to have the November 1st hearing dedicated exclusively to hearing the issue of the ratepayers' responsibility for SCE&G's construction costs for the abandoned nuclear plants. Following the PSC's conclusion and ruling on that matter, only then should the PSC hold a hearing on the proposed Dominion-SCANA merger. Attached is an op.ed and press release on this matter laying out the arguments of the SC Small Business Chamber for bifurcation. Frank Knapp

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From: Anna Crowder <acrowder@selcsc.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 2:31 PM
To: 'abateman@regstaff.sc.gov' <abateman@regstaff.sc.gov>; 'jnelson@regstaff.sc.gov' <jnelson@regstaff.sc.gov>; 'shudson@regstaff.sc.gov' <shudson@regstaff.sc.gov>; 'jpittman@regstaff.sc.gov' <jpittman@regstaff.sc.gov>; 'nsedwar@regstaff.sc.gov' <nsedwar@regstaff.sc.gov>; 'chad.burgess@scana.com' <chad.burgess@scana.com>; 'matthew.gissendanner@scana.com' <matthew.gissendanner@scana.com>; 'bguild@mindspring.com' <bguild@mindspring.com>; 'wtdowdey@gmail.com' <wtdowdey@gmail.com>; 'TeagueLynn@gmail.com' <TeagueLynn@gmail.com>; 'seaton@spilmanlaw.com' <seaton@spilmanlaw.com>; 'mwilloughby@willoughbyhoefer.com' <mwilloughby@willoughbyhoefer.com>; 'lbrandfass@spilmanlaw.com' <lbrandfass@spilmanlaw.com>; 'DBlack@nexsenpruet.com' <DBlack@nexsenpruet.com>; 'emily.w.medlyn.civ@mail.mil' <emily.w.medlyn.civ@mail.mil>; 'dwilliamson@spilmanlaw.com' <dwilliamson@spilmanlaw.com>; 'belton.zeigler@wbd-us.com' <belton.zeigler@wbd-us.com>; 'alex@shissiaslawfirm.com' <alex@shissiaslawfirm.com>; 'DEX@smxblaw.com' <DEX@smxblaw.com>; 'fknapp@knappagency.com' <fknapp@knappagency.com>; 'jfwwalsh@bellsouth.net' <jfwwalsh@bellsouth.net>; 'james.horwood@spiegelmcd.com' <james.horwood@spiegelmcd.com>; 'peter.hopkins@spiegelmcd.com' <peter.hopkins@spiegelmcd.com>; 'steve.pearson@spiegelmcd.com' <steve.pearson@spiegelmcd.com>; 'jessica.bell@spiegelmcd.com' <jessica.bell@spiegelmcd.com>; 'jreid@mcguirewoods.com' <jreid@mcguirewoods.com>; 'eryan@mcguirewoods.com' <eryan@mcguirewoods.com>; 'eruff@mcguirewoods.com' <eruff@mcguirewoods.com>; 'rmuckenfuss@mcquirewoods.com' <rmuckenfuss@mcquirewoods.com>; 'lisa.s.booth@dominionenergy.com' <lisa.s.booth@dominionenergy.com>; 'tracey.a.huang@dominionenergy.com' <tracey.a.huang@dominionenergy.com>; 'irene.scouras@dominionenergy.com' <irene.scouras@dominionenergy.com>; 'rtyson@sowellgray.com' <rtyson@sowellgray.com>; 'michaelanzelmo@schouse.gov' <michaelanzelmo@schouse.gov>; 'fellerbe@sowellgray.com' <fellerbe@sowellgray.com>; 'jtiencken@tienckenlaw.com' <jtiencken@tienckenlaw.com>; 'cmcdonald@tienckenlaw.com' <cmcdonald@tienckenlaw.com>; 'mike.couick@ecsc.org' <mike.couick@ecsc.org>; 'chris.koon@ecsc.org' <chris.koon@ecsc.org>; 'BCook@scag.gov' <BCook@scag.gov>; 'ESmith@scag.gov' <ESmith@scag.gov>; 'sberk@scjustice.org' <sberk@scjustice.org>; 'john@johncoffman.net' <john@johncoffman.net>; 'RLWhitt@AustinRogersPA.com' <RLWhitt@AustinRogersPA.com>; 'tfrogers@austinrogerspa.com' <tfrogers@austinrogerspa.com>; 'CASchurg@AustinRogersPA.com' <CASchurg@AustinRogersPA.com>; 'selliott@elliottlaw.us' <selliott@elliottlaw.us>; 'linda@elliottlaw.us' <linda@elliottlaw.us>; 'jim@jdavispc.com' <jim@jdavispc.com>; 'mike@mikeroselawfirm.com' <mike@mikeroselawfirm.com>; 'andy@austengowder.com' <andy@austengowder.com>; 'Dino.Teppara@gmail.com' <Dino.Teppara@gmail.com>; 'rush.smith@nelsonmullins.com' <rush.smith@nelsonmullins.com>; 'matt.bogan@nelsonmullins.com' <matt.bogan@nelsonmullins.com>; 'carmen.thomas@nelsonmullins.com' <carmen.thomas@nelsonmullins.com>; 'william.hubbard@nelsonmullins.com' <william.hubbard@nelsonmullins.com>; 'weston.adams@nelsonmullins.com' <weston.adams@nelsonmullins.com>; 'cmassingill@wyche.com' <cmassingill@wyche.com>; 'mrichardson@wyche.com' <mrichardson@wyche.com>; 'wlightsey@wyche.com' <wlightsey@wyche.com>; 'David.Butler@psc.sc.gov' <David.Butler@psc.sc.gov>; 'Jocelyn.Boyd@psc.sc.gov' <Jocelyn.Boyd@psc.sc.gov>
Cc: Blan Holman <bholman@selcsc.org>; Liz Jones <ejones@selcsc.org>; Will Cleveland <wcleveland@selcva.org>; Gudrun Thompson <gthompson@selcnc.org>
Subject: PSC Dockets 2017-207-E; 2017-305-E; and 2017-370-E

Dear Counselors:

Please see the attached Motion to Bifurcate or, in the Alternative, to Sequence the Hearing and corresponding cover letter filed this afternoon on behalf of the South Carolina Coastal Conservation League and Southern Alliance for Clean Energy in PSC dockets 2017-207-E, 2017-305-E, and 2017-370-E.

Should you have any difficulty accessing the attachments, please do not hesitate to contact me for assistance.

Sincerely,

Anna

Anna Crowder
Legal Assistant
Southern Environmental Law Center
463 King Street, Suite B
Charleston, SC 29403-7204
Tel: 843-720-5270 ext. 210
Fax: 843-414-7039
www.SouthernEnvironment.org

Please consider the environment before printing this email. Thank you.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this communication from the sender is confidential.

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The Advocate of South Carolina Small Business
1717 Gervais Street • Columbia • SC • 29201
www.scsbc.org • (803) 252-5733

PRESS RELEASE

Date: August 7, 2018
From: South Carolina Small Business Chamber of Commerce
Subject: Dominion's Bad Deal and Undue Influence on PSC
Contact: Frank Knapp, President/CEO, 803-252-5733 (w), 803-600-6874 (c), fknapp@scsbc.org

Dominion Energy's Ad Campaign Clouds PSC Decision On SCE&G Rate Rollback

Thousands of ratepayers will not get the promised Dominion check

Columbia, SC—The South Carolina Small Business Chamber of Commerce (SCSBCC) and the Coastal Conservation League (CCL) today sounded the alarm about the inappropriateness of the SC Public Service Commission (PSC) holding one hearing later this year to decide both a permanent electricity rate cut for SCE&G customers and if Dominion Energy should be allowed to purchase SCANA/SCE&G.

The PSC has scheduled a November 1 hearing to address both issues.

The SCSBCC and CCL have called for the PSC to first hold a hearing on the SCE&G rate reduction and later hold a hearing on the Dominion acquisition of SCANA/SCE&G.

"Let's not put the cart before the horse," said Eddie Moore, Energy & Climate Program Director for the CCL. "Ratepayers deserve a clear accounting of past nuclear mismanagement costs first before moving on to the question of whether a merger is the best idea."

The SCSBCC labeled the highly touted Dominion offer to SCE&G customers for what it is—a bad deal for ratepayers and an effort to influence the PSC decision on rolling back SCE&G rates.

"Dominion clearly has spent millions in advertising trying to influence the upcoming decision of the Public Service Commission on a permanent rollback of SCE&G electricity rates," said Frank Knapp Jr., President and CEO of the SCSBCC. "To do that Dominion

has put forth what on the surface looks like a 'generous' offer to ratepayers should the utility be approved to purchase SCANA/SCE&G. Until now, that offer has not been analyzed."

Knapp pointed out numerous details of the Dominion offer that make it a bad deal for ratepayers:

1. Dominion doesn't say how it came up with the $1000 check promised to the "average" family. While most people think they are average, the reality is that most families would get less than the $1000, possibly far less. Dominion hopes that the customer's knowledge of math isn't that great.
2. Dominion does not tell the public that $1 billion of the $1.3 billion it says it will use for the residential and commercial payouts does not come from Dominion. That money comes from the Toshiba settlement that was due to go back to the ratepayers regardless of Dominion buying SCANA/SCE&G. How generous is it to take credit for giving the customers money they were already supposed to receive?
3. Dominion does not tell the public that thousands of residential and business customers will not get any check because they do not meet the utility's eligibility criteria. Current SCE&G customers who did not have an account in 2016 will not get a check. Current and previous customers who do not have an account with SCE&G in early 2019 will not get a check.
4. Dominion does not tell customers that it has the resources to offer $1530 cash back to the average family but decided not to do so because it couldn't get what it wanted from the state legislature.
5. Dominion does not tell the public that it's offer of a 7 percent electricity rate rollback is less than half of the temporary rate rollback ordered by the state legislature and approved yesterday by a federal judge. The same logic used by the legislature for a 15 percent temporary rollback will be used again in November to ask the PSC for at least a 15 percent permanent rate rollback.

"So how do we make sure that the upcoming decision of the Public Service Commission is not influenced by Dominion's advertising campaign when it rules on how much SCE&G electricity rates should be rolled back," asked Knapp.

"First, we expose the Dominion offer as a bad deal for ratepayers. Second, the Public Service Commission should separate the issues of SCE&G rate rollback from the question of the Dominion/SCANA/SCE&G merger," said Knapp.

The Southern Environmental Law Center and the Coastal Conservation League have filed a motion with the PSC to have the rate rollback issue addressed in November and hold a hearing later on the proposed Dominion purchase of SCANA/SCE&G.

"The ratepayers deserve the undivided and Dominion-free attention of the PSC when it rules on SCE& rates," said Knapp. "The "generous" Dominion offer should not influence this critically important decision by the Commissioners. Bifurcating the hearing will be a good step in achieving this goal."

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The South Carolina Small Business Chamber of Commerce is a statewide advocacy organization founded in 2000. With over 10,000 small business and entrepreneur supporters, it has successfully worked to make South Carolina more small business friendly in areas such as healthcare, taxation, regulation, worker training, energy/ conservation, workers' compensation and economic development.

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The State
August 1, 2018 Online
August 7, 2018 Print Edition

Opinion: Don't let Dominion's 'generous' offer influence ruling on SCE&G rates

By Frank Knapp Jr.

Dominion Energy has flooded TV and radio with ads. The apparent intent is to convince the public that its offer to acquire SCANA/SCE&G is the best deal for ratepayers to resolve the financial crisis of paying for the abandoned nuclear plants in Fairfield County.

SCE&G ratepayers have seen their electric bills increased by 18 percent since 2009 and collectively have shelled out about two billion dollars in higher utility rates because of this nuclear debacle.

According to the ads, Dominion promises to give the average family a check for $1000 as a rebate for past SCE&G rate hikes associated with the nuclear plant construction. In addition, Dominion promises to rollback electric rates by 5 percent, not counting an additional 2 percent from corporate tax cut savings.

However, this "generous" offer is available only if the SC Public Service Commission (PSC) approves Dominion's purchase of SCANA/SCE&G and allows the Virginia-based utility to continue charging for much of the abandoned nuclear plant construction debt.

That's what Dominion's multimillion-dollar marketing campaign is now about—influencing the seven Commissioners of the PSC.

In November, the PSC is scheduled to hold one hearing to combine two issues—how much SCE&G's electric rates should be permanently rolled back and whether Dominion should be approved for acquiring SCANA/SCE&G.

Dominion's calculation is that the PSC won't want to deprive the SCE&G customers of its "generous" cash-back and rate rollback offer if it is popular with the public. With this concern on their minds, the Commissioners might be more reluctant to roll back rates too much resulting in Dominion dropping its "generous" offer to take over SCANA/SCE&G.

But exactly how "generous" is Dominion's offer?

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Most ratepayers think that they are average and would receive the $1000 Dominion check. But depending on how "average" is calculated, most families would get less than the $1000, possibly far less. Dominion hopes your knowledge of math isn't that great.

Dominion acknowledges that $1 billion of the $1.3 billion it will use to write those customer checks is coming from a settlement with Toshiba, money that was already to be used to pay back ratepayers. How generous is it to take credit for giving the customers money they were already supposed to receive?

Thousands of SCE&G customers will not get any check because Dominion says they would not be "eligible". An "eligible" customer, according to Dominion, is one who is an SCE&G ratepayer as of the date Dominion takes over SCANA/SCE&G (sometime in 2019) and who had SCE&G electric service in 2016. So, if a ratepayer has had SCE&G service but will not have that service in five months, there will be no check. If a ratepayer in 2019 was not an SCE&G customer in 2016, there will be no check.

It also turns out that Dominion's $1000 cash-back offer was only two-thirds of what it was willing to do. According to state legislators, the utility was willing to increase the offer to $1530 for an average customer rebate if it got concessions from the General Assembly. Legislators refused to be blackmailed and Dominion took back the extra $530 per average family offer.

Then there is Dominion's offer of a 5-7 percent rollback in electric rates. This is less than half of the 15 percent temporary rollback ordered by the Legislature and approved by the PSC.

The same logic that went into the decision for this 15 percent temporary rate reduction will also be used to pursue a PSC order for a permanent 15 percent rate rollback.

But that PSC decision is in jeopardy as long the Dominion proposal to acquire SCANA/SCE&G is on the same PSC's docket as the SCE&G rate rollback.

The ratepayers deserve the undivided and Dominion-free attention of the PSC when it rules on SCE&G rates. The "generous" Dominion offer should not influence this critically important decision by the Commissioners.

The PSC rate reduction hearing and ruling should thus come first without Dominion's input as requested in a new motion by the Southern Environmental Law Center. Only then should the PSC hold a hearing on Dominion's desire to gobble up SCANA/SCE&G.

Mr. Knapp is the President and CEO of the South Carolina Small Business Chamber of Commerce; contact him at fknapp@scsbc.org.

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https://www.thestate.com/opinion/op-ed/article215880485.html

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