

# VAEEC Spring 2018 Meeting

## RESIDENTIAL UTILITY PROGRAMS

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# Grid Transformation and Security Act

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## **Energy Efficiency Components of the Investor-owned utility spending bill (SB 966)**

Investments in over \$1 billion in energy efficiency over the next decade: \$870M commitment from Dominion Energy and \$140M from Appalachian Power with a 5% carve out for low-income programs

Effectively eliminating the SCC's reliance on the RIM test, which is a poor indicator of the true energy savings of energy efficiency programs

Increases in low-income energy efficiency investments by Dominion Energy Shareholders to \$13 million per year for ten years

Creating a stakeholder process to ensure Virginia's energy efficiency portfolio is robust and well-planned for maximum savings

Improving the review process for proposed energy efficiency programs in the utilities' Integrated Resource Plans



# State Corporation Commission

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## Commissioner Re-election and Retirement

Virginia is one of a few states where utility commissioners are elected by the legislature.

During the 2018 General Assembly session, Commissioner Judith Jagdmann was re-elected for another six-year term.

In February 2018, Judge James Dimitri retired from the State Corporation Commission after nearly a decade of service. This was an early retirement so the General Assembly was tasked with electing a new Commissioner this session.

Four candidates were interviewed by a joint hearing of the House and Senate Commerce and Labor committees but the General Assembly adjourned without electing a new Commissioner.

The General Assembly reconvened for a special session on April 11<sup>th</sup> to pass a budget and are still considered "in session" although they will not meet again until May 14<sup>th</sup>. They can potentially remain in session until the June 30<sup>th</sup> budget deadline.

The Governor can appoint a Commissioner when the General Assembly is not in session.

## Program Details

APCo sought a three-year extension of the program for \$3.2M, which will be recovered through base rates.

This is an income qualifying program that provides energy efficiency measures including air sealing, insulation, low-flow showerheads, faucet aerators, programmable thermostats, as well as possible refrigerator and heater replacement, duct system repair/ replacement, electric furnace repair and heat pump tune-up/ replacement to participating households.

The State Weatherization Network will provide services, which, in some cases, allows these nonprofits to leverage federal dollars through the Weatherization Assistance Program.

APCo estimates 4.6M kWh in total energy savings over the life of the program.

The SCC approved the program in February.

The program will relaunch later this year.



# Appalachian Power Proposed Programs

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Appalachian Power Company is also seeking the extension of a residential appliance recycling program for three more years (through 2021) and approval for six new residential and commercial programs totaling \$23.7M. All programs are anticipated to start in January 2019 if approved and would be included as riders on monthly energy bills.

## ***New Programs:***

Residential E-Score

Residential Multi-Family Direct Install

Residential Bring-Your-Own-Thermostat

Commercial and Industrial Lighting

Commercial and Industrial Standard Program

Small Business Direct Install

# Appalachian Power Proposed Programs

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## New Program Details

**Residential E-Score-** allows residents to save money through an online assessment, in-home energy audit with direct install measures such as efficient light bulbs, water saving devices, hot water pipe insulation and smart thermostats as well as rebates for larger upgrades such as heat pumps, high efficiency fans, air sealing and insulation.

**Residential Multi-Family Direct Install-** provides a variety of products and services for residents in multi-family dwellings including LED light bulbs, water saving devices, hot water pipe insulation and refrigerator thermometers.

**Residential Bring-Your-Own-Thermostat-** enrollment program for consumers with qualifying wifi thermostats that allows the company to cycle their HVAC unit or control the temperature during a load management events

**Commercial and Industrial Lighting-** rebate program for high-efficiency lighting upgrades

**Commercial and Industrial Standard Program-** pre-approved mail-in rebate program for high-efficiency non-lighting measures, including appliances, HVAC units and improvements to industrial processes

**Small Business Direct Install-** energy assessments, direct install measures and incentives for larger cost-effective measures for small businesses with a peak demand of 200 kW or less

The Final Order from the SCC for these programs is due this month.

# Dominion Energy Low-Income Program

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## Previous Program

The three-year program ended in 2017 with a cost cap of \$15M and served nearly 16,000 homes with a participation rate of 174%. The program achieved the stated net energy savings goal by 130%.

The State Weatherization Network was used to provide services, which, in some cases, allowed these nonprofit providers to leverage federal dollars through the Weatherization Assistance Program to provide deeper savings for the households they served.

## New Program Details

Dominion Energy is seeking a five-year extension of the program for nearly \$25M.

This is an age and income qualifying program that provides a home energy assessment and much needed weatherization upgrades for qualifying households, including LED light bulbs, low-flow showerheads, faucet aerators, water heater pipe insulation and attic insulation.

If the program is approved, it will relaunch in late summer 2018. The Final Order from the SCC is due this month.