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**T. Borden Ellis** 

Assistant General Counsel Legal

## VIA ELECTRONIC OR FIRST CLASS MAIL

June 14, 2022

To: Chairmen of Boards of Supervisors County Attorneys Mayors or City Managers Equivalent Officials in Cities, Towns or Counties Having Alternate Forms of Government

# **RE:** Application of Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc., For authority to increase rates and charges and to revise the terms and conditions applicable to gas service Case No. PUR-2022-00036

To Whom It May Concern:

Attached is a copy of the June 2, 2022 Order for Notice and Hearing ("Order") in the above referenced proceeding before the Virginia State Corporation Commission ("Commission") as required by Ordering Paragraph (9) of the Order. Please **TAKE NOTICE** of the contents of this Order.

Sincerely,

/s/ T. Borden Ellis

TBE/kam

Enclosure

## COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

## STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JUNE 2, 2022

## APPLICATION OF

CASE NO. PUR-2022-00036

SCO-CLERK'S OFFICE

2022 JUN - 2 P 4: 31

For authority to increase rates and charges and to revise the terms and conditions applicable to gas service

COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC.

## ORDER FOR NOTICE AND HEARING

On April 29, 2022, Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc. ("CVA" or "Company"), filed an application with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Chapter 10 of Title 56 (§ 56-232 *et seq.*) of the Code of Virginia ("Code") and the Commission's Rules Governing Utility Rate Applications and Annual Informational Filings of Investor-owned Gas and Water Utilities,<sup>1</sup> requesting authority to increase its rates and charges, effective for the first billing unit of October 2022, and to revise other terms and conditions applicable to gas service ("Application"). In its Application, CVA indicates that the proposed rates and charges are designed to increase the Company's non-gas base revenues by approximately \$58.2 million per year.<sup>2</sup> The Application states the requested increase includes approximately \$17.7 million of revenues associated with its Steps to Advance Virginia's Energy ("SAVE") Plan pursuant to Code § 56-603 *et seq.* ("SAVE Act").<sup>3</sup> CVA states that it is proposing to include recovery of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 20 VAC 5-201-10 et seq. ("Rate Case Rules").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Application at 1.

costs associated with approximately \$154.4 million of net rate base SAVE investments as of September 30, 2022, in base rates, as permitted by the SAVE Act.<sup>4</sup>

CVA states that the requested increase in annual non-gas base revenues reflects (i) its costs and revenues for the test year ended December 31, 2021; (ii) the increase in the Company's rate base since its last base rate increase in 2018;<sup>5</sup> (iii) an updated capital structure and requested return on equity of 10.75%; and (iv) certain rate year adjustments that "reasonably can be predicted to occur" during the 12 months ending September 30, 2023, as permitted by Code § 56-235.2.<sup>6</sup>

In the Application, CVA represents that in the time since it was last authorized to increase its rates and charges in the 2018 Rate Case, the Company has made significant capital investments to improve the overall safety, reliability, and integrity of its natural gas system for the benefit of customers and to accommodate steady customer growth.<sup>7</sup> CVA states it expects to make over \$390 million in capital investments on behalf of its customers from 2021 through 2023.<sup>8</sup>

In its Application, CVA states that, in the time since the 2018 Rate Case, the Company has also continued to enhance pipeline safety and reliability through its formal integrity management program for its distribution system ("DIMP") by identifying, prioritizing, and

<sup>7</sup> Id. at 3-4.

<sup>8</sup> Id. at 4.

⁴ Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Application of Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc., For authority to increase rates and to revise the terms and conditions applicable to gas service, Case No. PUR-2018-00131, 2019 S.C.C. Ann. Rept. 255, Final Order (June 12, 2019) ("2018 Rate Case").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Application at 2-5.

reducing gas distribution pipeline integrity risks.<sup>9</sup> CVA indicates that, apart from DIMP initiatives, the Company conducts other operations and maintenance activities focused on further enhancing the safety of CVA's infrastructure.<sup>10</sup>

The Company also proposes modifications to its currently effective Rate Schedules, General Terms and Conditions, and Form of Service Agreements. First, the Company proposes a three-month bill credit to return certain tax savings to customers associated with the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 ("TCJA").<sup>11</sup> Second, CVA proposes a new voluntary companion tariff, designated Rate Schedule GPS, that will enable residential and small general service customers to opt in to offset the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the natural gas they receive from the Company by either 50 percent or 100 percent using environmental attributes.<sup>12</sup> Finally, the Company requests approval of modifications to its existing line extension policy.<sup>13</sup>

CVA requests that implementation of the rate and tariff modifications proposed in its Application be authorized on an interim basis subject to refund, effective for the first billing unit of October 2022.<sup>14</sup> The Company asserts that, effective with the first billing unit of October 2022, the base rate increase and the implementation of the three-month TCJA-related bill credit will increase the average monthly bill of a typical residential customer using 5.4

- <sup>10</sup> Id.
- <sup>11</sup> Id. at 5-6.
- <sup>12</sup> Id. at 6-7.

<sup>13</sup> Id. at 7.

14 Id. at 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Id. at 3.

dekatherms from approximately \$79.54 to approximately \$88.53, or by 11.30%.<sup>15</sup> The Company further asserts that after the three-month bill credit expires, the Company's proposed rates will result in an increase to the typical monthly bill for a residential customer using 5.4 dekatherms to approximately \$89.38.<sup>16</sup>

CVA requests that the Commission waive, in part, the requirements under Rules 20 VAC 5-201-20 and 20 VAC 5-201-90 of the Rate Case Rules with respect to Schedule 6, which requires an applicant to provide copies of the most recent public financial reports.<sup>17</sup> In support of its request for waiver of Schedule 6, CVA states that "[i]n 2020, the Commission revised Schedule 6 as it relates to electric utilities to permit 'a link to where such copies can be found on the internet' instead of hard copies of these voluminous reports.<sup>18</sup> CVA requests that the Commission waive the requirement to submit hard copies of its public financial reports, and instead permit CVA to provide a link to where those reports can be found on the internet.<sup>19</sup>

Finally, in conjunction with the filing of its Application on April 29, 2022, the Company filed the Motion of Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc. for Entry of a Protective Order ("Motion for Protective Ruling") and a proposed Protective Order that establishes procedures governing the use of confidential information in this proceeding.

<sup>16</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Direct Testimony of Candice Lash at 9-11, Attachment CL-3 at 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Application at 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Id.; Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: In the matter of adopting new rules of the State Corporation Commission governing utility rate applications by investor-owned electric utilities, Case No. PUR-2020-00022, 2020 S.C.C. Ann. Rep. 439, Order Adopting Regulations (Nov. 23, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Application at 9.

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of this matter, finds that CVA should provide public notice of its Application; public hearings should be scheduled for the purpose of receiving testimony and evidence on the Application; interested persons should have an opportunity to file comments on the Application and participate as a respondent in this proceeding; and the Commission's Staff ("Staff") should be directed to investigate the Application and file testimony and exhibits containing its findings and recommendations thereon. We also find that a Hearing Examiner should be assigned to conduct all further proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Commission, including ruling on the Company's Motion for Protective Ruling and filing a final report containing the Hearing Examiner's findings and recommendations. Further, for purposes of making the Application complete, we grant CVA's request to waive, in part, the requirements of Rules 20 and 90 of the Rate Case Rules with respect to Schedule 6 filing requirements.

The Commission further finds that CVA may implement the proposed rate and tariff modifications on an interim basis, subject to refund, effective for the first billing unit of October 2022, including the three-month bill credit associated with the TCJA.

The Commission takes judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. The Commission has taken certain actions, and may

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take additional actions going forward, which could impact the procedures in this proceeding.<sup>20</sup> Consistent with these actions, in regard to the terms of the procedural framework established below, the Commission will, among other things, direct the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings unless they contain confidential information, and require electronic service on parties to this proceeding.

We note that the Application, if approved, would result in an increase to customer bills. We realize that the ongoing COVID-19 public health issues have caused devastating economic effects that impact utility customers. We have responded to this economic emergency by, among other actions, directing Virginia utilities to offer extended payment plans, without late fees for those who are current on such plans, to protect customers from service disconnection. We are sensitive to the effects of rate increases, especially in times such as these. The Commission, however, must and will follow the laws applicable to this case, as well as the findings of fact supported by evidence in the record.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) This matter hereby is docketed and assigned Case No. PUR-2022-00036.

(2) All pleadings in this matter should be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> See, e.g., Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Electronic Service of Commission Orders, Case No. CLK-2020-00004, Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200330035, Order Concerning Electronic Service of Commission Orders (Mar. 19, 2020), extended by Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200520105, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (May 11, 2020); Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel., State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency, Case No. CLK-2020-00005, Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200330042, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (Mar. 19, 2020), extended by Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200520105, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (Mar. 19, 2020), extended by Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200520105, Order Regarding the State Corporation Commission's Revised Operating Procedures During COVID-19 Emergency (May 11, 2020); Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. State Corporation Commission, Ex Parte: Electronic service among parties during COVID-19 emergency, Case No. CLK-2020-00007, Doc. Con. Cen. No. 200410009, Order Requiring Electronic Service (Apr. 1, 2020).

Procedure ("Rules of Practice"). Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.<sup>21</sup>

(3) Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission directs that service on parties and the Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information, parties and the Staff are instructed to work together to agree upon the manner in which documents containing such information shall be served upon one another, to the extent practicable, in an electronically protected manner, even if such information is unable to be filed in the Office of the Clerk, so that no party or the Staff is impeded from preparing its case.

(4) As provided by Code § 12.1-31 and Rule 5 VAC 5-20-120, *Procedure before hearing examiners*, of the Rules of Practice, a Hearing Examiner is appointed to conduct all further proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Commission, including ruling on the Company's Motion for Protective Ruling.

(5) The Commission hereby schedules a telephonic hearing for the receipt of testimony from public witnesses on the Application, as follows:

(a) A hearing for the receipt of testimony from public witnesses on the Application shall be convened telephonically at 10 a.m., on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> As noted in the Revised Operating Procedures Order, submissions to the Commission's Clerk's Office via U.S. mail or commercial mail equivalents may be subject to delayed processing due to the COVID-19 public health issues.

December 13, 2022, with no public witness present in the Commission's courtroom.<sup>22</sup>

- (b) To promote fairness for all public witnesses, each witness will be allotted five minutes to provide testimony.
- (c) On or before December 7, 2022, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at <u>scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting;</u> (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to <u>SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov;</u> or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141.
- (d) Beginning at 10 a.m., on December 13, 2022, the Hearing Examiner will telephone sequentially each person who has signed up to testify as provided above. This hearing will not be convened, and the parties will be notified of such, if no person signs up to testify as a public witness.
- (e) This public witness hearing will be webcast at <u>scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting</u>.

(6) A hearing on the Application shall be convened at 10 a.m., on December 14, 2022, in

the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street,

Richmond, Virginia 23219, to receive the testimony and evidence of the Company, any

respondents, and the Staff.

(7) An electronic copy of the public version of the Company's Application may be

obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Vishwa B. Link, Esquire,

McGuireWoods LLP, Gateway Plaza, 800 East Canal Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or

vlink@mcguirewoods.com. Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the

Commission's website: <u>scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> The Hearing Examiner will convene counsel of record in this proceeding to attend the public witness hearing virtually.

(8) On or before July 13, 2022, the Company shall cause the following notice to be

published as display advertising (not classified) on one (1) occasion in newspapers of general

circulation throughout the Company's service territory within Virginia:

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC., FOR AUTHORITY TO INCREASE RATES AND CHARGES AND TO REVISE THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO GAS SERVICE <u>CASE NO. PUR-2022-00036</u>

- Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc. ("CVA") has applied for authority for an increase in rates and charges and to revise the terms and conditions applicable to gas service.
- CVA requests an increase to its total revenue requirement of \$58.2 million.
- The Hearing Examiner appointed to this case will hold a telephonic hearing in this case on December 13, 2022, to receive public witness testimony.
- The Hearing Examiner will hold an evidentiary hearing in the case on December 14, 2022.
- Further information about this case is available on the State Corporation Commission's website at: <u>scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information</u>

On April 29, 2022, Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc. ("CVA" or "Company"), filed an application with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Chapter 10 of Title 56 (§ 56-232 *et seq.*) of the Code of Virginia ("Code") and the Commission's Rules Governing Utility Rate Applications and Annual Informational Filings of Investor-owned Gas and Water Utilities, requesting authority to increase its rates and charges, effective for the first billing unit of October 2022, and to revise other terms and conditions applicable to gas service ("Application"). In its Application, CVA indicates that the proposed rates and charges are designed to increase the Company's non-gas base revenues by approximately \$58.2 million per year. The Application states that the requested increase includes approximately \$17.7 million of revenues associated with its Steps to Advance Virginia's Energy ("SAVE") Plan pursuant to Code § 56-603 *et seq*. ("SAVE Act"). CVA states that it is proposing to include recovery of the costs associated with approximately \$154.4 million of net rate base SAVE investments as of September 30, 2022, in base rates, as permitted by the SAVE Act.

CVA states that the requested increase in annual non-gas base revenues reflects (i) its costs and revenues for the test year ended December 31, 2021; (ii) the increase in the Company's rate base since its last base rate increase in 2018, Case No. PUR-2018-00131 ("2018 Rate Case"); (iii) an updated capital structure and requested return on equity of 10.75%; and (iv) certain rate year adjustments that "reasonably can be predicted to occur" during the 12 months ending September 30, 2023, as permitted by Code § 56-235.2.

In the Application, CVA represents that in the time since it was last authorized to increase its rates and charges in the 2018 Rate Case, the Company has made significant capital investments to improve the overall safety, reliability, and integrity of its natural gas system for the benefit of customers and to accommodate steady customer growth. CVA states it expects to make over \$390 million in capital investments on behalf of its customers from 2021 through 2023.

In its Application, CVA states that, in the time since the 2018 Rate Case, the Company has also continued to enhance pipeline safety and reliability through its formal integrity management program for its distribution system ("DIMP") by identifying, prioritizing, and reducing gas distribution pipeline integrity risks. CVA indicates that, apart from DIMP initiatives, the Company conducts other operations and maintenance activities focused on further enhancing the safety of CVA's infrastructure.

The Company also proposes modifications to its currently effective Rate Schedules, General Terms and Conditions, and Form of Service Agreements. First, the Company proposes a three-month bill credit to return certain tax savings to customers associated with the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 ("TCJA"). Second, CVA proposes a new voluntary companion tariff, designated Rate Schedule GPS, that will enable residential and small general service customers to opt in to offset the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the natural gas they receive from the Company by either 50 percent or 100 percent using environmental attributes. Finally, the Company requests approval of modifications to its existing line extension policy.

CVA requests that implementation of the rate and tariff modifications proposed in its Application be authorized on an interim basis subject to refund, effective for the first billing unit of October 2022. The Company asserts that, effective with the first billing unit of October 2022, the base rate increase and the implementation of the three-month TCJA-related bill credit will increase the average monthly bill of a typical residential customer using 5.4 dekatherms from approximately \$79.54 to approximately \$88.53, or by 11.30%. The Company further asserts that after the three-month bill credit expires, the Company's proposed rates will result in an increase to the typical monthly bill for a residential customer using 5.4 dekatherms to approximately \$89.38.

Interested persons are encouraged to review the Application and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may apportion revenues among customer classes and/or design rates in a manner differing from that shown in the Application and supporting documents and thus may adopt rates that differ from those appearing in the Company's Application and supporting documents.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on CVA's Application and permitted the proposed rate and tariff modifications to be placed into effect, on an interim basis subject to refund, effective for the first billing unit of October 2022.

On December 13, 2022, at 10 a.m., the Hearing Examiner assigned to the case will hold a telephonic hearing, with no witness present in the Commission's courtroom, for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before December 7, 2022, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at <u>scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting</u>; (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to <u>SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov</u>; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at <u>scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting</u>.

On December 14, 2022, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, the Hearing Examiner will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence related to the Application from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff.

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter should be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"). Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and the Commission's Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Please refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

An electronic copy of the public version of the Company's Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Vishwa B. Link, Esquire, McGuireWoods LLP, Gateway Plaza, 800 East Canal Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or <u>vlink@mcguirewoods.com</u>. Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission's website: <u>scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information</u>.

On or before December 7, 2022, any interested person may file comments on the Application by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: <u>scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments</u>. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file comments electronically may

file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00036.

On or before September 14, 2022, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation with the Clerk of the Commission at: scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to Rule 5 VAC 5-20-80 B. Participation as a respondent, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-30, Counsel, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00036.

On or before October 12, 2022, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission and serve on the Staff, the Company, and all other respondents, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case, and each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, including 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*; and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00036.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

The public version of the Company's Application, the Commission's Rules of Practice and the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing may be viewed at: <u>scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information</u>.

#### COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC.

(9) On or before July 13, 2022, the Company shall serve a copy of this Order for Notice and Hearing on the following officials, to the extent the position exists, in each county, city, and town in which the Company provides service in the Commonwealth of Virginia: the chairman of the board of supervisors of each county; the mayor or manager (or equivalent official) of every city and town; and the county, city, or town attorney. Service shall be made electronically where possible; if electronic service is not possible, service shall be made by either personal delivery or first-class mail to the customary place of business or residence of the person served.

(10) On or before August 12, 2022, the Company shall file proof of the notice and service required by Ordering Paragraphs (8) and (9), including the name, title, address, and electronic mail address (if applicable) of each official served, with the Clerk of the Commission at <u>scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/</u>.

(11) On or before December 7, 2022, any interested person may submit written comments on the Application by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: <u>scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments</u>. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00036.

(12) On or before September 14, 2022, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation at <u>scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling</u>. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or

their counsel, if available. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00036.

(13) Within three (3) business days of receipt of a notice of participation as a respondent, the Company shall serve a copy of the public version of its Application on the respondent unless these materials already have been provided to the respondent.

(14) On or before October 12, 2022, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at <u>scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling</u>, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on the Staff, the Joint Applicants, and all other respondents simultaneous with its filing. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Rules of Practice, as modified herein, including, but not limited to: 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00036.

(15) On or before November 9, 2022, the Staff shall investigate the Application and file with the Clerk of the Commission its testimony and exhibits concerning the Application, and

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each Staff witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. A copy thereof shall be served on counsel to the Company and all respondents.

(16) On or before November 30, 2022, the Company shall file with the Clerk of the Commission any rebuttal testimony and exhibits that it expects to offer, and each rebuttal witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. The Company shall serve a copy of its rebuttal testimony and exhibits on the Staff and all respondents.

(17) Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified herein, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Rules of Practice.

(18) The Commission's Rule of Practice 5 VAC 5-20-260, *Interrogatories to parties or requests for production of documents and things*, shall be modified for this proceeding as follows: responses and objections to written interrogatories and requests for production of documents shall be served within seven (7) calendar days after receipt of the same. In addition to the service requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-260 of the Rules of Practice, on the day that copies are filed with the Clerk of the Commission, a copy of the interrogatory or request for production is directed or the assigned Staff attorney, if the interrogatory or request for production is directed to the Staff.<sup>23</sup> Except as modified herein, discovery shall be in accordance with Part IV of the Rules of Practice, 5 VAC 5-20-240 *et seq*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> The assigned Staff attorney is identified on the Commission's website, <u>scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information</u>, by clicking "Docket Search," then clicking "Search by Case Information," and entering the case number, PUR-2022-00036 in the appropriate box.

(19) CVA may place its proposed rates into effect on an interim basis, subject to refund with interest, effective for the first billing unit of October 2022, including the three-month bill credit associated with the TCJA.

(20) CVA's requested waiver of Rules 20 VAC 5-201-20 and 20 VAC 5-201-90 of the Rate Case Rules with respect to Schedule 6 is granted.

(21) On or before October 1, 2022, CVA shall file a bond with the Commission in the amount of \$58.2 million payable to the Commission and conditioned to ensure the prompt refund by the Company to those entitled thereto of all amounts that the Company shall collect in excess of such rates and charges as the Commission may finally fix and determine.

(22) This matter is continued.

A COPY hereof shall be sent electronically by the Clerk of the Commission to all persons on the official Service List in this matter. The Service List is available from the Clerk of the Commission.