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Oct 13 2021

October 13, 2021

**VIA Electronic Filing**

Ms. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk  
North Carolina Utilities Commission  
Dobbs Building  
430 North Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

*Re: Motion for Expedited Approval of Notice and Undertaking Required by  
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-135(c) to Implement Temporary Rates, Subject to  
Refund  
Docket Nos. G-5, Sub 632 and G-5, Sub 634*

Dear Ms. Dunston:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced proceedings is Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc., d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina's *Motion for Expedited Approval of Notice and Undertaking Required by N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-135(c) to Implement Temporary Rates, Subject to Refund.*

Thank you for your assistance with this matter. If you have any questions regarding this filing, you may reach me at the number shown above.

Sincerely,

*/s/Mary Lynne Grigg*

MLG:kjg

Enclosure

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION  
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 632  
DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 634

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 632	)	
	)	
In the Matter of	)	
Application of Public Service Company of	)	MOTION FOR EXPEDITED
North Carolina, Inc. for a General Increase	)	APPROVAL OF NOTICE AND
in its Rates and Charges	)	UNDERTAKING REQUIRED BY
	)	N.C. GEN. STAT. § 62-135(c) TO
DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 634	)	IMPLEMENT TEMPORARY RATES,
	)	SUBJECT TO REFUND
In the Matter of	)	
Application for Approval to Modify	)	
Existing Conservation Programs and	)	
Implement New Conservation Programs	)	

NOW COMES Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc., d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina (“PSNC” or the “Company”), pursuant to North Carolina General Statute (“N.C. Gen. Stat.”) § 62-135 and Rule R1-7 of the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina Utilities Commission (“Commission”), and requests the Commission issue an Order approving the Company’s proposed notice to customers via publication (the “Notice”) included as Attachment A, approving the form of undertaking included as Attachment B (“Undertaking”), and granting any other relief the Commission determines necessary for PSNC to implement temporary rates.

Commission approval of the Company’s Undertaking, notice to the Commission of the Company’s intent to place temporary rates into effect, and Notice to the Company’s customers via publication, respectively, satisfy the procedural requirements of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-135 to implement temporary rates. The Company hereby submits its Notice and

Undertaking for approval and gives notice to the Commission that the Company intends to implement the rates and charges resulting from the settlement in principle the Company has reached with the Public Staff—North Carolina Utilities Commission (“Public Staff”), on a temporary basis and subject to refund effective November 1, 2021.

PSNC respectfully requests the Commission expeditiously approve the Notice and Undertaking on or before October 15, 2021, in order for the Company to timely provide the Notice to the various newspapers for circulation, in order to provide timely notice to customers. In support of this Motion, PSNC states the following:

1. On April 1, 2021, PSNC filed an application with the Commission pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 62-133 and 62-134 requesting authority to adjust and increase its retail natural gas rates and charges in North Carolina, effective May 1, 2021 (“Application”). The Application requested approval of an increase in revenue of \$53,145,476. Presuming that the Commission would suspend the proposed rates, PSNC requested that the Commission establish a procedural schedule that would permit the proposed rates to become effective November 1, 2021.

2. The Commission issued orders on April 27, 2021, and June 11, 2021, which, among other things, declared this proceeding to be a general rate case, suspended the proposed new rates for up to 270 days, and established a procedural schedule for this docket. The June 11, 2021 order required public notice to be published in newspapers of general circulation in the Company’s service territory and mailed to customers.

3. On August 10, 2021, PSNC filed supplemental testimony in this proceeding. PSNC’s supplemental testimony used the known actuals at June 30, 2021, to update: 1) the pro forma utility rate base adjustments in the Company’s Application that

were developed based on then-estimated June 30, 2021 figures and amounts; 2) certain pro forma expense adjustments in the Company's Application that were developed based on then-estimated June 30, 2021 figures and amounts; and 3) the pro forma adjustment to utility gas sales and transportation revenue in the Company's Application that was developed based on then-present Commission approved customer billing rates, which were since reset by the Commission.

4. On October 7, 2021, the Company filed its rebuttal testimony, which responded to testimony filed by the Public Staff and other parties.

5. The Company and the Public Staff have reached a settlement in principle, and the Company desires to place into effect on a temporary basis the rates resulting from the settlement in principle.

6. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-135(a) authorizes a public utility to place proposed rates into effect on a temporary basis, upon the expiration of six months after the date when such rates would have become effective, if not so suspended.<sup>1</sup> The temporary rate authority granted to public utilities in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-135 is subject to the approvals, parameters, and requirements of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-135(a)-(d).

7. Section 62-135(a) requires the utility to notify the Commission and its consumers not less than 10 days prior to the day when proposed temporary rates shall be placed in effect. In order to assure compliance with the statutory requirements of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-135(a), PSNC provides notice to the Commission of its intent to place its increased rates and charges into effect on a temporary basis on November 1, 2021. PSNC

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<sup>1</sup> November 1, 2021, is six months after May 1, 2021, which is the date that PSNC proposed its new rates and charges would become effective, unless suspended by the Commission.

will also notify customers by publishing the Notice in newspapers of general circulation in its service territory.

8. The proposed temporary rates to be made effective November 1, 2021, will not result in an increase of twenty percent (20%) or more for any single-rate classification as required by N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-135(b). The rates and charges planned to be made effective November 1, 2021, for each customer class result from the settlement in principle with the Public Staff. The Company plans to file tariffs with the Commission on or before November 1, 2021, identifying the rates and charges that the Company plans to begin billing for usage on and after November 1, 2021, on a temporary basis, subject to refund.

9. The Company's Undertaking committing to make refund of any over-recovery received under temporary rates complies with N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-135(c) and is consistent with the form of undertaking approved by the Commission's *Order Approving Financial Undertaking*, issued October 18, 2019, in Docket No. E-22, Sub 562. If the temporary rates are determined to be excessive, in compliance with N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-135(d) the Company's Undertaking commits to make refund of the excess plus interest to its customers, consistent with terms and conditions required by the Commission's final Order in this case.

10. Included as Attachment C to this Motion is a Proposed Order Approving Public Notice of Temporary Rates Subject to Refund and Financial Undertaking.

WHEREFORE, Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc. respectfully requests that the Commission approve the Company's Notice included as Attachment A, and approve the Undertaking included as Attachment B to this Motion, on or before October 15, 2021, and provide any further relief the Commission deems necessary and appropriate for the Company to implement temporary rates on November 1, 2021.

Respectfully submitted, this the 13<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF  
NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

By:

/s/Mary Lynne Grigg

Mary Lynne Grigg

McGuireWoods LLP

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION  
RALEIGH**

**DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 632  
DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 634**

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 632

In the Matter of )  
Application of Public Service Company of )  
North Carolina, Inc. for a General )  
Increase in its Rates and Charges )

DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 634

In the Matter of )  
Application for Approval to Modify Existing )  
Conservation Programs and Implement )  
New Conservation Programs )

) PUBLIC NOTICE OF  
) TEMPORARY RATES  
) EFFECTIVE ON  
) NOVEMBER 1, 2021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that increased rates and charges of Public Service Company, Inc. d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina (PSNC or the Company) shall become effective on a temporary basis, subject to refund, pursuant to authority granted to the Company in G.S. § 62-135. The temporary increase will reflect an increase in revenues of \$29,464,353.

On April 1, 2021, PSNC filed an application with the Commission pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 62-133 and 62-134 requesting authority to adjust and increase its retail natural gas rates and charges in North Carolina, effective May 1, 2021 (“Application”). The Application requested approval of an increase in revenue of \$53,145,476. Presuming that the Commission would suspend the proposed rates, PSNC requested that the Commission establish a procedural schedule that would permit the proposed rates to become effective November 1, 2021.

On August 10, 2021, PSNC filed supplemental testimony in this proceeding. PSNC’s supplemental testimony used the known actuals at June 30, 2021 to update: 1) the pro forma utility rate base adjustments in the Company’s Application that were developed based on then-estimated June 30, 2021 figures and amounts; 2) certain pro forma expense adjustments in the Company’s Application that were developed based on then-estimated June 30, 2021 figures and amounts; and 3) the pro forma adjustment to utility gas sales

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and transportation revenue in the Company's Application that was developed based on then-present Commission approved customer billing rates, which were since reset by the Commission.

On October 7, 2021, the Company filed its rebuttal testimony, which responded to testimony filed by the Public Staff and other parties.

The Company and the Public Staff have reached a settlement in principle, and the Company desires to place into effect on a temporary basis the rates resulting from the settlement in principle.

The November 1 Temporary Rate Changes are not final rates, and remain subject to the Commission's final determination of the just and reasonable rates to be charged by PSNC on a permanent basis. On October 15, 2021, the Commission issued an Order approving PSNC's financial undertaking to make refund to customers of any amount of temporary rates determined by the Commission in its final Order to be excessive.

#### EFFECT OF TEMPORARY RATE CHANGE

Below is a table with the proposed percentage changes in North Carolina retail revenues by customer classes that will result from temporary rates implemented in the November 1 Temporary Rate Change:

<b>Customer Class</b>	<b>Present Revenues</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Proposed Revenue</b>	<b>Percentage Change</b>
Residential Service	\$359,967,140	\$20,868,831	\$380,835,970	5.80%
Small General Service	\$103,434,688	\$4,641,701	\$108,076,389	4.49%
Medium General Service	\$22,325,997	\$472,781	\$22,798,779	2.12%
Outdoor Gas Light Service	\$61,723	\$5,511	\$67,234	8.93%
Natural Gas Vehicles	\$115,477	-	\$115,477	0.00%
Large Quantity Firm General Service	\$41,748,107	\$2,647,833	\$44,395,941	6.34%
Large Quantity Interruptible Service	\$11,739,530	\$827,696	\$12,567,227	7.05%
Special Contracts	\$34,239,341	-	\$ 4,239,341	0.00%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$1,462,442	-	\$1,462,442	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$575,094,446</b>	<b>\$29,464,353</b>	<b>\$604,558,799</b>	<b>5.12%</b>

The proposed temporary rates would increase the average monthly bill (excluding state sales tax) of a residential customer by \$3.05, which is a 5.80% increase. The change in average bill will vary with each customer's level of natural gas usage.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A list of present rates, together with details of the November 1 Temporary Rate Change, can be obtained at the business offices of PSNC or at the Office of the Chief Clerk of the North Carolina Utilities Commission, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina, where a copy of the application is available for review. These materials, as well as pleadings, the pre-filed testimony and exhibits of all parties, the transcripts of all hearings, briefs, and proposed orders, may be viewed as they become available on the Commission's web site at [www.ncuc.net](http://www.ncuc.net). Click on "Docket Search" and type in the docket number G-5 and sub number 532.

Persons desiring to send written statements to inform the Commission of their positions in the matter should address their statements to the North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4325 and reference Docket No. G-5, Sub 532.

The Public Staff is authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Written statements to the Public Staff should include any information which the writers wish to be considered by the Public Staff in its investigation of the matter. Such statements should be addressed to:

Mr. Christopher J. Ayers  
Executive Director  
Public Staff - NC Utilities Commission  
4326 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300

The Attorney General is also authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to:

The Honorable Joshua Stein  
Attorney General of North Carolina  
c/o Utilities Division  
9001 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-9001

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

This the 15th day of October, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

Chief Clerk

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION  
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 632  
DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 634

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

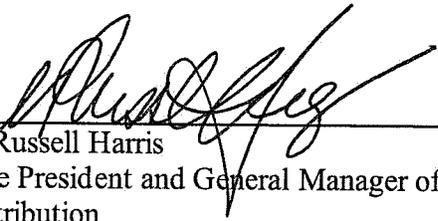
DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 632	)	
	)	
In the Matter of	)	
Application of Public Service Company of North	)	
Carolina, Inc. for a General Increase in its Rates	)	
and Charges	)	UNDERTAKING OF PUBLIC
	)	SERVICE COMPANY OF
DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 634	)	NORTH CAROLINA, INC.
	)	
In the Matter of	)	
Application for Approval to Modify Existing	)	
Conservation Programs and Implement New	)	
Conservation Programs	)	

NOW COMES Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc. d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina (“Applicant”), and files this Undertaking as follows:

**UNDERTAKING**

The Applicant, by and through its undersigned executive officer, makes its written undertaking to the North Carolina Utilities Commission that it will refund to its customers any amount of temporary rates made effective on and after November 1, 2021 pursuant to G.S. § 62-135, plus 10% interest per annum, that may be finally determined by the Commission to be excessive and is required by Final Order of the Commission in these dockets. Such refund will be made consistent with any terms and conditions requested by the Commission’s Final Order.

This 3<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
D. Russell Harris  
Vice President and General Manager of Southern  
Distribution

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA            )  
  )  
County of Gaston                            )

I certify that the following person personally appeared before me this day,  
acknowledging to me that he signed the foregoing document.

D. Russell Harris  
*Name of principal*

Date: 10/13/21

(Official Seal)

KISHA R. HAYES  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
Mecklenburg County  
North Carolina  
My Commission Expires 10/2/2024

Kisha R. Hayes  
*Signature of Notary*

Kisha R. Hayes Notary Public  
*Notary's Printed Name*

My commission expires: 10/2/2024

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION  
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 632  
DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 634

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 632	)	
	)	
In the Matter of	)	
Application of Public Service Company of	)	
North Carolina, Inc. for a General Increase	)	
in its Rates and Charges	)	PROPOSED ORDER
	)	APPROVING PUBLICNOTICE
DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 634	)	OF TEMPORARY RATES
	)	SUBJECT TO REFUND AND
	)	FINANCIAL UNDERTAKING
In the Matter of	)	
Application for Approval to Modify Existing	)	
Conservation Programs and Implement	)	
New Conservation Programs	)	

BY THE COMMISSION: On April 1, 2021, Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc. d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina (PSNC) filed an application for a general rate case in Docket No. G-5, Sub 632. On April 27, 2021, the Commission issued its Order Establishing General Rate Case and Suspending Rates, which declared this proceeding to be a general rate case and suspended the proposed rates for up to 270 days.

On October 13, 2021, PSNC filed a Motion for Expedited Approval of Notice and Undertaking Required by N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-135(c) to Implement Temporary Rates, Subject to Refund (Temporary Rates Motion). In summary, the motion stated that PSNC intends to exercise its statutory right under N.C.G.S. § 62-135 to place into effect temporary rates pending a final order by the Commission approving permanent rates. PSNC further stated that the temporary rates sought to be recovered, subject to refund, are based on and consistent with the stipulation in principle that PSNC has reached with the Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission. In order to implement temporary rates on November 1, 2021, notice must be provided to the Commission and customers pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-135(a). To ensure compliance with the statute, PSNC stated that it was providing notice to the Commission of its intent to place its increased rates and charges into effect on a temporary basis on or after November 1, 2021. Further, PSNC stated that it will notify customers by publishing a Public Notice of Temporary Rates (Public Notice) in newspapers of general circulation in its service territory ten days prior to the effective date of the temporary rates.

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Along with the Temporary Rates Motion, PSNC also filed an Undertaking of Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc. In summary, PSNC stated that the financial undertaking attached to its filing is intended to secure the obligation of PSNC to refund to its customers any amount of temporary rates that may be finally determined by the Commission to be excessive, plus interest at the rate of 10% per annum. In addition, PSNC stated that the financial undertaking also secures the obligation of PSNC to make refunds in a manner consistent with any terms and conditions imposed by the Commission.

PSNC requested approval of its proposed Public Notice and Undertaking on or before October 15, 2021, in order to allow time for PSNC to secure timely publication of the Public Notice.

Based on the record in these dockets and PSNC's motion, Public Notice, and financial undertaking, the Commission finds good cause to approve PSNC's Public Notice and PSNC's financial undertaking.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That the financial undertaking filed by PSNC on October 13, 2020, shall be, and is hereby, approved;
2. That PSNC shall be, and is hereby, obligated to refund to its customers any amount of temporary rates made effective on or after the date of this Order that are finally determined by the Commission to be excessive, plus 10% interest per annum, and to make any refunds in a manner consistent with any additional terms and conditions imposed by the Commission in subsequent orders; and
3. That the Public Notice of Temporary Rates shall be, and is hereby, approved in the form attached hereto as Attachment A.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing Motion for Expedited Approval of Notice and Undertaking Required by N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-135(c) to Implement Temporary Rates, Subject to Refund, as filed in Docket Nos. G-5, Sub 632 and G-5, Sub 634, were served electronically or via U.S. mail, first-class, postage prepaid, upon all parties of record.

This, the 13<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

/s/Mary Lynne Grigg  
Mary Lynne Grigg  
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*Attorney for Public Service Company of  
North Carolina, Inc., d/b/a Dominion  
Energy North Carolina*