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January 11, 2021

## VIA Electronic Mail

Ms. Charlotte A. Mitchell, Chair Dobbs Building 430 North Salisbury Street Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

and

Counsel of Record

Re: Virginia Electric and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North

Carolina 2019 Rate Case, Docket No. E-22, Sub 562

(North Carolina Utilities Commission)

## Dear Counsel:

Former Chief Justice Cheri L. Beasley joined McGuireWoods LLP as a partner effective January 1, 2021. During her service on the North Carolina Supreme Court, she participated in the decision of the appeals of the 2019 Rate Case captioned above.

Out of an abundance of caution and consistent with Rule 1.12 and Rule 1.0(l) of the North Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct, McGuireWoods has screened former Chief Justice Beasley from any participation in the 2019 Rate Case or its subsequent appeal which is currently pending before the North Carolina Supreme Court.

The ethics screen notice was disseminated on January 7, 2021, and was implemented electronically then as well. The ethics screen instructs and prohibits former Chief Justice Beasley from discussing any work she may have done or discussions she may have had, if any, regarding the 2019 Rate Case and its appeal in her position as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court with any McGuireWoods lawyers or staff. The ethics screen instructs and prohibits other McGuireWoods lawyers and staff from discussing with former Chief Justice Beasley, or in her presence, any aspect of the 2019 Rate Case, its appeal, and/or any subsequent proceedings on remand. The ethics screen prohibits former Chief Justice Beasley from accessing any McGuireWoods hard copy files, network-based files, and data base relating to the 2019 Rate Case, and her access to any electronically-preserved files or other data is automatically prevented by system access restrictions.

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We are satisfied that these screening procedures comply with the definition of "screened" in Rule 1.0(1) of the Rules of Professional Conduct. Former Chief Justice Beasley has of course agreed to abide by the ethics screen and Rule 1.12 of the North Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct.

Rule 1.12(c)(2) requires notice to be promptly given to the parties and to "any appropriate tribunal." At this time, given the procedural status of the case, we believe that the "appropriate tribunal" is the North Carolina Utilities Commission, and a copy of this letter is therefore being provided to Commission Staff, including Chair Mitchell and Sam Watson.

Very truly yours,

MCGUIREWOODS LLP

/s/Mary Lynne Grigg

cc: Samuel S. Watson, Jr.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing <u>Letter Disclosing Cheri L. Beasley</u>

<u>Screen</u>, as filed in Docket No. E-22, Sub 562, were served via electronic delivery or

mailed, first-class, postage prepaid, to the parties of record as follows:

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This, the 11<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021.

/s/Mary Lynne Grigg

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