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1 PLACE: Dobbs Building, Raleigh, North Carolina
2 DATE: Thursday, November 8, 2018 **FILED**
3 TIME: 9:30 a.m. - 9:39 a.m. **NOV 21 2018**
4 DOCKET NO: E-22, Sub 558
5 BEFORE: Chairman Edward S. Finley, Jr., Presiding **Clerk's Office**
6 Commissioner ToNola D. Brown-Bland **N.C. Utilities Commission**
7 Commissioner Jerry C. Dockham
8 Commissioner James G. Patterson
9 Commissioner Lyons Gray
10 Commissioner Daniel G. Clodfelter
11 Commissioner Charlotte A. Mitchell

12
13 **IN THE MATTER OF:**

14 Application by Virginia Electric and Power Company,
15 d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina
16 Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133.2 and NCUC Rule R8-55
17 Regarding Fuel and Fuel-Related Charge Adjustments for
18 Electric Utilities

19 Volume 2
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1	T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S	
2	E X A M I N A T I O N S	
3	D I R E C T T E S T I M O N Y a n d A P P E N D I X A O F	
4	BRUCE E. PETRIE.....	12
5	D I R E C T T E S T I M O N Y a n d A P P E N D I X A O F	
6	RONNIE T. CAMPBELL.....	26
7	D I R E C T T E S T I M O N Y a n d A P P E N D I X A O F	
8	GREGORY A. WORKMAN.....	34
9	D I R E C T T E S T I M O N Y a n d A P P E N D I X A O F	
10	TOM A. BROOKMIRE.....	42
11	D I R E C T T E S T I M O N Y a n d A P P E N D I X A O F	
12	GEORGE A. BEASLEY.....	52
13	R E B U T T A L T E S T I M O N Y O F	
14	BRUCE E. PETRIE.....	66
15	R E B U T T A L T E S T I M O N Y O F	
16	GEORGE G. BEASLEY.....	70
17	D I R E C T T E S T I M O N Y a n d A P P E N D I X A O F	
18	NICHOLAS PHILLIPS, JR.....	77
19	D I R E C T T E S T I M O N Y a n d A P P E N D I X A O F	
20	PAUL J. WIELGUS.....	90
21	D I R E C T T E S T I M O N Y a n d A P P E N D I X A O F	
22	DUSTIN R. METZ.....	95
23		
24		

1 E X A M I N A T I O N S Cont'd.:

2 CONFIDENTIAL DIRECT TESTIMONY and

3 APPENDIX A OF DARLENE P. PEEDIN..... 109

4 (Direct Testimony Filed Under Seal)

5 DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

6 MICHELLE M. BOSWELL..... 121

E X H I B I T S

IDENTIFIED/ADMITTED

12 DENC Exhibits 1 and 2..... --/10

13 Company Exhibit BEP-1, Schedules 1 - 4... 12/12

14 Company Exhibit RTC-1, Schedules 1 - 5... 26/26

15 Company Exhibit GAW-1, Schedule 1..... 34/34

16 Company Exhibit GGB-1, Schedules 1 - 11.. 52/52

17 Company Exhibit GGB-1,

18 Rebuttal Schedules 1 and 2..... 70/70

19 Exhibit PJW-1..... 90/90

20 Confidential Peedin Exhibit 1.....109/109

(Filed under seal)

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Good morning. Let's come
3 to order and please go on the record. My name is
4 Edward Finley and with me this morning are
5 Commissioners ToNola D. Brown-Bland, Jerry C. Dockham,
6 James G. Patterson, Lyons Gray and Daniel G.
7 Clodfelter, and Charlotte A. Mitchell.

8 I now call for hearing Docket Number E-22,
9 Sub 558, which is the Application by Virginia Electric
10 and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North
11 Carolina for Authority to Adjust Its Electric Rates
12 and Charges and Revise Its Fuel Factor Pursuant to
13 N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.2 and NCUC Rule R8-55.

14 On August 30, 2018, Dominion filed its
15 Application for a change in fuel component of the
16 electric rates with the direct testimony and exhibits
17 of Bruce E. Petrie, Ronnie T. Campbell, Gregory A.
18 Workman, Tom A. Brookmire and George G. Beasley.

19 On September 7, 2018, the Commission issued
20 its Order Scheduling Hearing, Requiring Filing of
21 Testimony, Establishing Discovery Guidelines and
22 Requiring Public Notice.

23 On October 2, 2018, among other things, the
24 Commission issued an Order rescheduling the expert

1 witness testimony to today. The public witness
2 hearing in this matter remained scheduled for this
3 date and time.

4 Petitions to Intervene have been filed by
5 and granted to Carolina Industrial Group for Fair
6 Utility Rates and Nucor Steel-Hertford.

7 On October 26, 2018, the Public Staff filed
8 the testimony of Witnesses Dustin Metz, Darlene Peedin
9 and Michelle Boswell.

10 Also on October 26th, the Intervenor CIGFUR
11 filed the direct testimony of Nicholas Phillips, Jr.
12 And Nucor Steel-Hertford filed the direct testimony of
13 Paul A. Wielgus; I think that's right.

14 On October 29, 2018, Dominion filed
15 Affidavits of Publication verifying that newspaper
16 notice of the public hearings had been published.

17 On November 5, 2018, Dominion filed the
18 rebuttal testimony of Witnesses Bruce Petrie and
19 George Beasley.

20 On November 6, 2018, the Public Staff filed
21 a Joint Motion on behalf of the parties to excuse
22 witnesses in this proceeding unless the Commission has
23 questions for them. The Commission has granted that
24 motion excusing the witnesses from attending this

1 hearing and accepting their prefiled testimony and
2 exhibits into evidence.

3 Pursuant to the State Ethics Act, I remind
4 all members of the Commission of their duty to avoid
5 conflicts of interest, and inquire whether any member
6 of the Commission has a known conflict of interest
7 with regard to the matters coming before the
8 Commission this morning?

9 (No response)

10 Let the record reflect that there are no
11 conflicts of interest noted.

12 And I will now call upon the parties to
13 announce their appearances beginning with the
14 Applicant, Dominion.

15 MS. GRIGG: Good morning, Chairman Finley.
16 Members of the Commission, I'm Mary Lynne Grigg with
17 the Law Firm of McGuireWoods appearing on behalf of
18 the Company. Also appearing on behalf of the Company
19 is Ms. Andrea Kells.

20 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Mr. McDonald, if you'll
21 note your appearance, please.

22 MR. McDONALD: Good morning. I'm Ralph
23 McDonald for the Carolina Industrial Group for Fair
24 Utility Rates.

1 MR. BLAKE: Good morning, Chairman Finley.
2 Members of the Commission, I'm Chris Blake here on
3 behalf of Nucor Steel-Hertford.

4 MS. EDMONDSON: Good morning. I'm Lucy
5 Edmondson with the Public Staff on behalf of the Using
6 and Consuming Public.

7 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Are there any preliminary
8 matters we must take up before we begin the hearing?

9 MS. GRIGG: No, sir.

10 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Ms. Edmondson, have you
11 identified any public witnesses that we need to note
12 and hear from?

13 MS. EDMONDSON: I have not.

14 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Let the record so reflect
15 that the Commission identifies folks in the audience
16 and determines that none of those are public
17 witnesses.

18 So we'll turn the matter over to the
19 Company.

20 MS. GRIGG: Thank you, Chairman Finley. I'd
21 first like to identify the Company's Application which
22 was filed on August 30, 2018, as DENC Exhibit 1, and
23 the information and workpapers that were filed with
24 that Application be identified as DENC Exhibit 2, and

1 request that they be included in the record in this
2 case and received into evidence.

3 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: The Company's Application
4 is received as Exhibit 1 and the workpapers are
5 received as Exhibit 2.

6 (WHEREUPON, DENC Exhibits 1 and 2
7 are admitted into evidence.)

8 MS. GRIGG: Thank you. And now, if it
9 pleases the Commission, I'll go through the
10 testimonies and exhibits of the Company witnesses who
11 have been excused from the hearing today, and will ask
12 that those be copied into the record as if given
13 orally from the stand.

14 First, in support of the Application, the
15 Company prefiled the direct testimony of Bruce E.
16 Petrie consisting of 12 typed pages of questions and
17 answers, an Appendix A and an exhibit, one exhibit
18 consisting of four schedules.

19 The Company also prefiled the direct
20 testimony of Ronnie T. Campbell consisting of six
21 typed pages of questions and answers, and an Appendix
22 A, and one exhibit consisting of five schedules.

23 The Company prefiled the direct testimony of
24 Gregory A. Workman consisting of six typed pages of.

1 questions and answers, and an Appendix A, and one
2 exhibit.

3 The Company prefiled the direct testimony of
4 Tom A. Brookmire consisting of eight typed pages of
5 questions and answers and an Appendix A.

6 The Company prefiled the direct testimony of
7 George G. Beasley consisting of 12 typed pages of
8 questions and answers, an Appendix A, and one exhibit
9 consisting of 11 schedules.

10 On November 5, 2018, the Company prefiled
11 the rebuttal testimony of Bruce E. Petrie consisting
12 of three pages of questions of answers. Finally, on
13 that same date, the Company filed the rebuttal
14 testimony of George G. Beasley consisting of six pages
15 and one exhibit consisting of two schedules.

16 That concludes the Company's case and I
17 request that the testimony be copied into the record
18 and all of the supporting exhibits be accepted into
19 evidence at this time.

20 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Very well, the testimony
21 and exhibits of direct witnesses and the rebuttal
22 witnesses as outlined by Ms. Grigg - Bruce Petrie,
23 Donnie (sic) Campbell, Gregory Workman, Tom Brookmire,
24 George Beasley - are copied into the record as though

1 given orally from the stand and the exhibits -- the
2 Appendices are also copied into the record as though
3 given orally from the stand. And the exhibits as she
4 outlined of those witnesses are marked for
5 identification as premarked in the filing and received
6 into evidence.

7 MS. GRIGG: Thank you, sir. That concludes
8 our case.

9 (WHEREUPON, Company Exhibit BEP-1,
10 Schedules 1 - 4, is marked for
11 identification as prefiled and
12 received into evidence.)

13 (WHEREUPON, the prefiled direct
14 testimony and Appendix A of BRUCE
15 E. PETRIE is copied into the
16 record as if given orally from the
17 stand.)

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY
OF
BRUCE E. PETRIE
ON BEHALF OF
DOMINION ENERGY NORTH CAROLINA
BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 558**

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address, and position of employment.**

2 A. My name is Bruce E. Petrie, and my business address is 5000 Dominion
3 Boulevard, Glen Allen, Virginia 23060. I am Manager of Generation System
4 Planning for Virginia Electric and Power Company, which operates in North
5 Carolina as Dominion Energy North Carolina (the "Company"). I am
6 responsible for forecasting the Company's system energy supply mix, and
7 total system fuel and purchased power expenses. A statement of my
8 background and qualifications is attached as Appendix A.

9 **Q. What is the purpose of your direct testimony in this proceeding?**

10 A. The purpose of my testimony is to present the Company's nuclear and major
11 coal-fired generating unit actual performance, the Company's level of power
12 purchases, and the generation mix for the Company's 12-month test period
13 ended June 30, 2018 ("Test Period"). My testimony describes drivers that
14 affected system fuel expense and the normalization adjustments that impact
15 the expected system fuel expense. I will present the system fuel expenses for
16 the Test Period, and the normalized system fuel expense projected for the rate
17 period February 2019 through January 2020.

1 **Q. Why is the Company proposing to use a different rate period than in**
2 **previous fuel rider proceedings?**

3 A. In previous years, the Company has proposed Rider A and Rider B rates to be
4 effective for a calendar year rate period. Based on discussions with the Public
5 Staff following the conclusion of the Company's 2017 rider proceedings, the
6 Company is proposing for its updated fuel riders to be effective for a February
7 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020 Rate Period. The Company is requesting
8 this adjustment to the annual Rate Period in order to extend the time for the
9 Commission to issue orders in the Company's three annual rider proceedings
10 filed pursuant to NCUC Rules R8-55, R8-67, and R8-69, respectively, and to
11 then allow the Company additional time to finalize rates and customer notices
12 (including allowing reasonable time for Public Staff review) prior to the
13 updated annual riders' effective date. The Company intends to continue to
14 use a February 1 through January 31 rate period in future rider cases.

15 **Q. During the course of your testimony, will you introduce an exhibit?**

16 A. Yes. Company Exhibit BEP-1, which consists of four schedules, has been
17 prepared under my supervision and is accurate and complete to the best of my
18 knowledge.

19 **Q. Please review the performance of the Company's major generating units**
20 **for the Test Period.**

21 A. Schedules 1 and 2 of Company Exhibit BEP-1 show the actual monthly and
22 12-month period ending June 30, 2018 average Equivalent Availability

1 (“EA”) and Capacity Factors (“CF”) for the Company’s nuclear units and
 2 large coal-fired units during the Test Period.

3 During the Test Period, the Company’s coal units generated 13,544 GWh of
 4 energy. Mt. Storm Units 1-3 performed at EA factors of 73.2%, 69.8%, and
 5 72.8%, respectively. Chesterfield Units 5 – 6 had EA factors of 61.4% and
 6 47.2%, respectively. Virginia City Hybrid Energy Center (“VCHEC”) had an
 7 EA of 66.0% during the Test Period.

8 In regards to what constitutes reasonable nuclear unit performance,
 9 Commission Rule R8-55(k) requires that the Company’s actual system-wide
 10 nuclear capacity factor in the Test Period must exceed the national average
 11 capacity factor for nuclear production facilities based on the most recent five-
 12 year period available as reflected by the North American Electric Reliability
 13 Corporation (“NERC”), appropriately weighted for size and type of plant.
 14 The NERC 2012-2016 five-year industry average net capacity factor for
 15 Pressurized Water Reactors, which is the most recent available NERC
 16 average, is 89.8% for 800-999 MW units. The net capacity factors during the
 17 historic Test Period for the Company’s nuclear units are shown below.

18	N. Anna 1	91.4%
19	N. Anna 2	92.7%
20	Surry 1	90.3%
21	Surry 2	102.7%

1 The aggregate capacity factor was 94.2% for the Company’s nuclear units for
 2 the Test Period. This is based on the weighted average of the four units at
 3 100% of capacity. Based on these figures, the Company’s nuclear fleet
 4 performance during the Test Period was clearly better than the industry five-
 5 year average for comparable units.

6 In addition, for the same five-year period, the Company’s net capacity factor
 7 was 93.5% compared to the national average of 89.8%. Nuclear net capacity
 8 factor is the best measure for reliable baseload performance and related
 9 operating efficiency and is the predominant standard recognized in the energy
 10 arena when evaluating nuclear power plant performance. A high net capacity
 11 factor reflects an excellent level of reliable baseload operations, which
 12 translates to many customer benefits in terms of reduced system fuel cost and
 13 consistency in availability. Maximizing generation from this baseload
 14 resource reflects good operating efficiency and results in overall lower energy
 15 costs to customers.

16 **Q. What is the expected performance of the Company’s nuclear generating**
 17 **units for the 12-month rate period ending January 31, 2020?**

18 **A.** The projected capacity factors for both North Anna and Surry are expected to
 19 be above the most recent NERC five-year average capacity factors of 89.8%.
 20 The projected capacity factors are shown below.

21	N. Anna 1	93.9%
22	N. Anna 2	90.3%

1	Surry 1	91.8%
2	Surry 2	100.2%

3 **Q. What was the Company's generation mix during the Test Period?**

4 A. The generation mix during the Test Period is shown on Schedule 3 of
5 Company Exhibit BEP-1. Nuclear generation supplied 30.9%; coal-fired
6 generation supplied 15.1%; combined cycle and combustion turbine
7 generation supplied 32.9%; and power transactions (net) supplied 19.1%.
8 These four energy sources accounted for 98.0% of the total energy supply.
9 Natural gas-steam, oil, biomass, solar, and hydro generation provided the
10 remaining 2.0% (net) of the energy supplied.

11 **Q. Please describe the major drivers that affected the \$/MWh average fuel
12 expense during the Test Period.**

13 A. As stated by Company Witness Ronnie T. Campbell, the Company
14 experienced an under-recovery of fuel expenses during the test year. This fuel
15 under-recovery was primarily driven by cold winter weather and higher
16 commodity prices. The energy use in January reached a peak of 21,232 MW,
17 which is close to the all-time peak experienced in the winter of 2015. The fuel
18 expense created by the extended period of cold weather in January was a
19 major factor in the amount of the Experience Modification Factor. The
20 Company offset the higher market fuel prices by optimizing its diverse fleet of
21 generating assets to reduce system fuel expense.

1 **Q. Does the Company propose to normalize nuclear capacity factor levels in**
2 **determining an appropriate fuel factor in this proceeding?**

3 A. Yes. Since the Company's projected nuclear generation during the upcoming
4 rate year is expected to be slightly lower than the actual generation during the
5 Test Period, we have normalized expected nuclear generation and fuel
6 expenses using the expected nuclear capacity factors shown above for the 12-
7 month period ending January 31, 2020, in developing the proposed fuel cost
8 rider in this proceeding.

9 **Q. Please describe the Company's normalization of system fuel expenses.**

10 A. Schedule 4 of Company Exhibit BEP-1 illustrates an expense normalization
11 methodology that has been used by the Company and approved in previous
12 North Carolina annual fuel factor proceedings. The first step in computing
13 normalized system fuel expenses is to calculate nuclear generation based on
14 the expected future operating parameters for each unit. The expected
15 generation from the nuclear units was calculated for the 12-month period
16 ending January 2020. Other sources of generation were then normalized for
17 the Test Period. The total of coal, heavy oil, combustion turbine and
18 combined cycle, non-utility generation ("NUG"), and purchased energy
19 during the Test Period was then calculated. A percentage of this total was
20 then calculated for each of the above resources. Normalized generation was
21 computed by applying these percentages to a new total, which includes an
22 adjustment for weather, customer growth, increased usage, and the net change
23 in nuclear generation. This methodology for normalizing the Test Period

1 generation resulted in adjusted annual system energy requirements of
2 88,445,965 MWh, a decrease of 1,138,692 MWhs from the actual energy
3 requirements for the 12 months ended June 30, 2018.

4 **Q. Please describe any major changes to the generation fleet or regulatory**
5 **changes that will impact the system fuel expense.**

6 A. The addition of the 1,588 MW Greenville County natural gas-fired combined
7 cycle power station in December 2018 will provide a benefit to the system
8 fuel expense. For this case, the system fuel expense was adjusted to reflect
9 the expected fuel benefits related to the Greenville County power station.
10 The system fuel savings, calculated using the PROMOD production cost
11 model, are forecasted to be approximately \$90.7 million in 2019.

12 The Company also continues to evaluate the customer benefits versus
13 expenses of the units in the Company's generation fleet. As part of this effort,
14 the Company will place 10 generating units into "cold reserve" in 2018.
15 "Cold reserve" does not mean permanent retirement. These units, which are a
16 combination of older, less efficient coal, biomass, and natural gas units
17 totaling 1,292 MW of generation, can be reactivated in approximately six
18 months if system needs and market conditions dictate. These units are
19 currently planned to remain in cold reserve until 2021. The Company does
20 not anticipate a significant impact to system fuel expense from these changes.

21 In addition, due to the enactment of North Carolina House Bill 589 on July 27,
22 2017, and House Bill 374 on June 27, 2018, the Company can now recover

1 the total delivered costs, including capacity and non-capacity costs, associated
2 with certain purchases of power from qualifying facilities (“QFs”) under
3 PURPA that are not subject to economic dispatch or curtailment. Reflecting
4 these costs will increase system fuel expense by approximately \$29.4 million.

5 **Q. Please describe the other fuel expense normalization items.**

6 **A.** The following normalization adjustments were made in Schedule 4.

7 (1) The \$/MWh expense rates for nuclear, coal, oil, purchases, and NUGs are
8 based on the actual 12-month average expense rates incurred during the Test
9 Period. Using the 12-month average rate for these commodities is consistent
10 with the methodology used in the 2008 – 2017 fuel cases, and is a fair
11 representation of the expected expense rates during the February 2019 –
12 January 2020 rate period.

13 (2) The NUG expense is adjusted higher to account for the new legislation.

14 (3) The natural gas expense rate is lower to account for a return to normal
15 weather during the rate period.

16 **Q. Please comment on the changes in the expenses included for PJM market
17 purchases, NUG energy purchases, and off-system sales.**

18 **A.** Schedule 4 shows the PJM market purchases during the Test Period including
19 the firm transmission right (“FTR”) net revenues, as well as off-system sales
20 and NUG purchases made with the marketer percentage applied to these

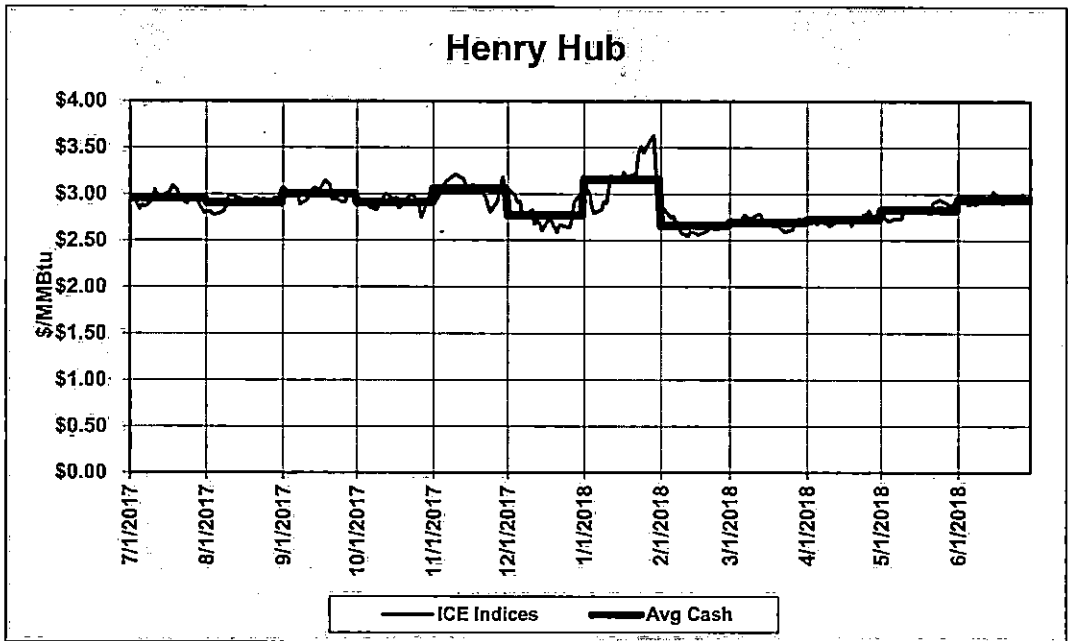
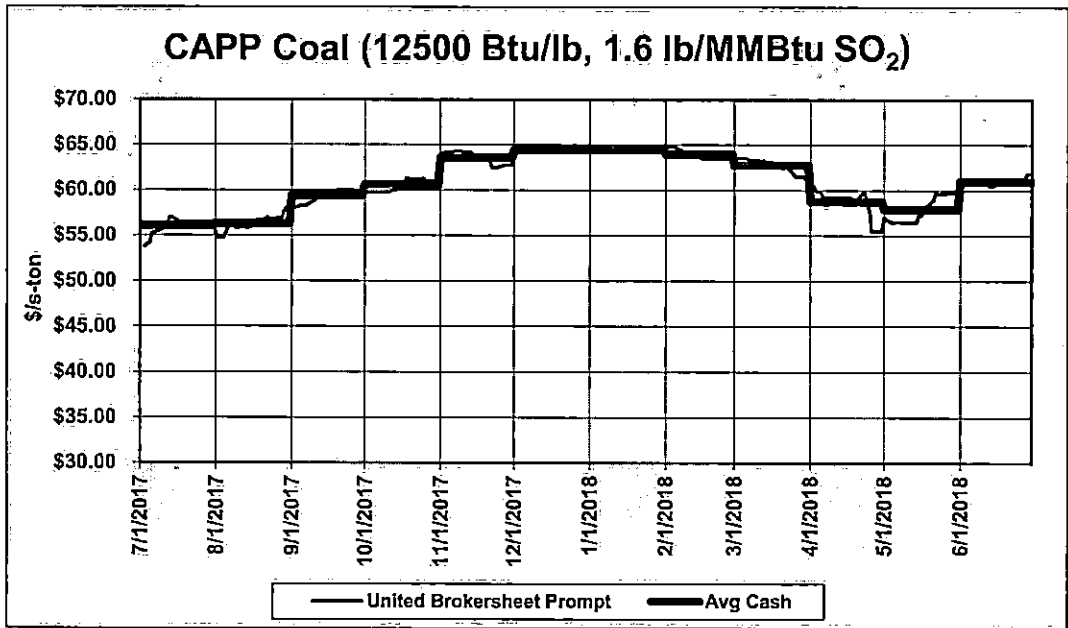
1 expenses at the appropriate level. The Company believes that this percentage
2 is reasonable and does not propose a change at this time.

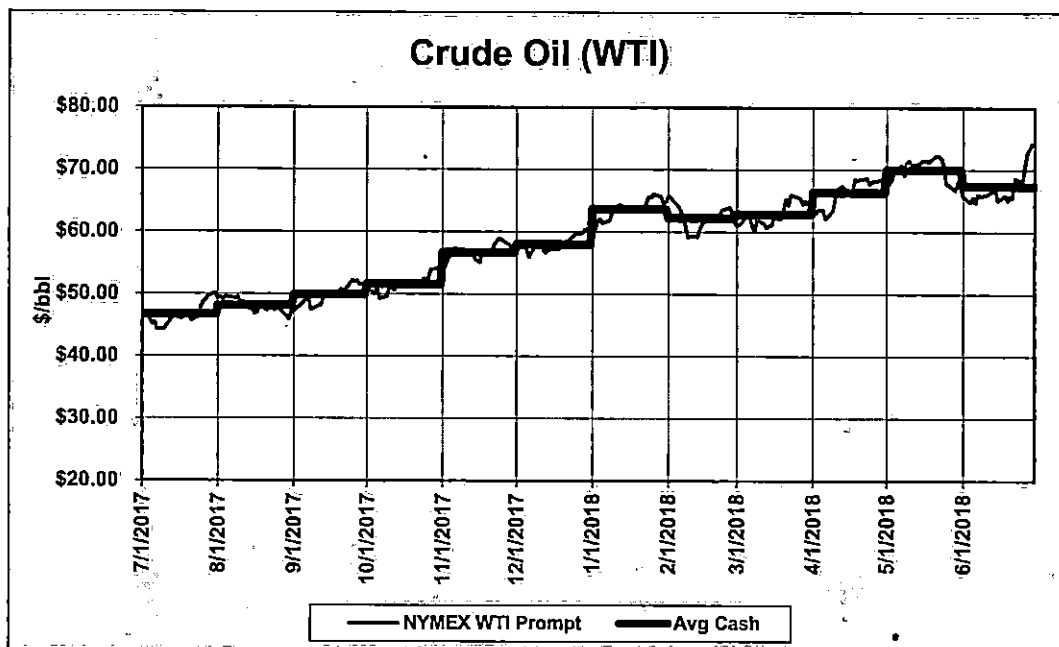
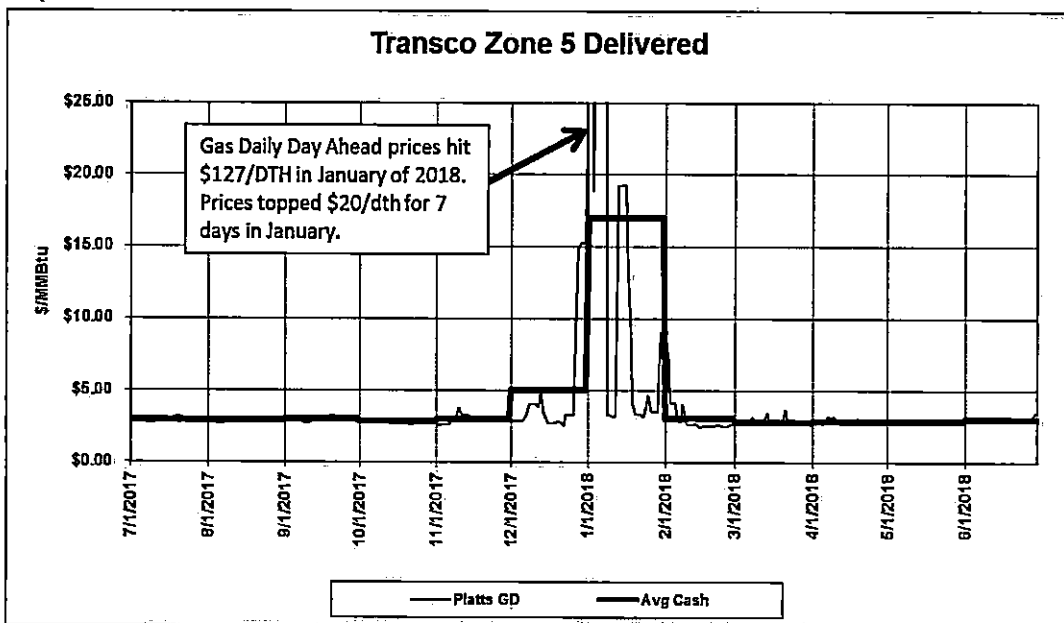
3 **Q. What is the resulting normalized system fuel expense?**

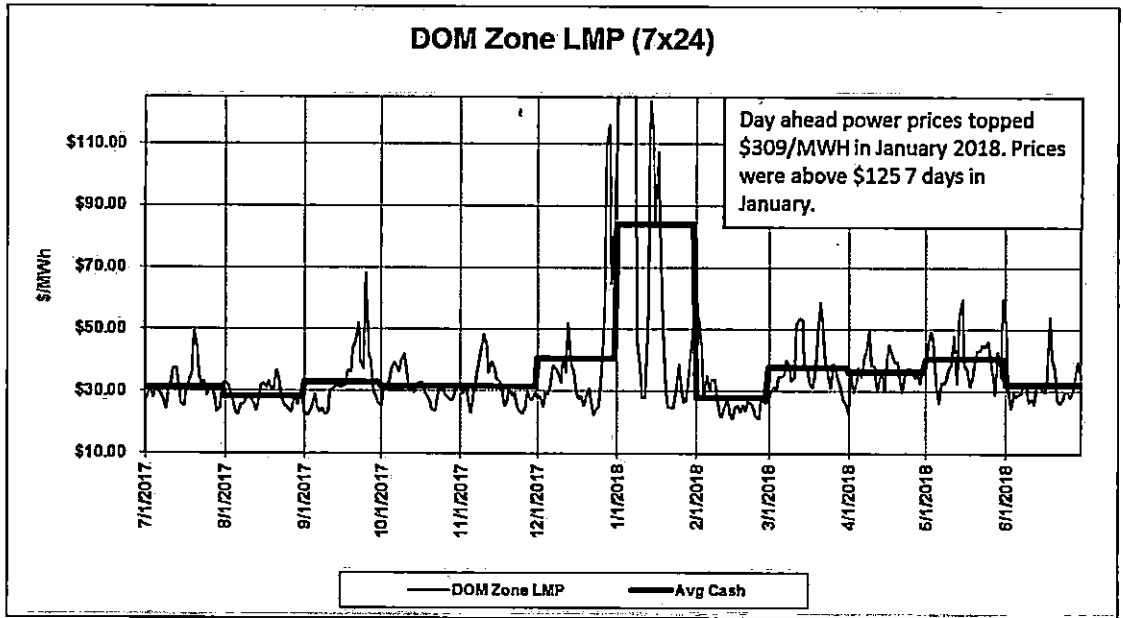
4 A. As shown by Schedule 4, which also presents the detailed calculations in
5 support, the resulting normalized system fuel expense is approximately \$1.82
6 billion.

7 **Q. Please summarize how commodity prices varied over the Test Period.**

8 A. The graphs below show the actual spot commodity prices during the Test
9 Period. Spot coal prices trended upward during the Test Period. Natural gas
10 spot prices trended upward slightly during the Test Period with volatility
11 during January 2018 with the cold weather that was experienced. Company
12 Witness Gregory A. Workman describes the Company's coal and natural gas
13 buying practices, which determine the actual coal and natural gas expenses.
14 Spot power prices showed relatively moderate prices and volatility during the
15 Test Period, with the exception of January 2018.







- 1 Q. Mr. Petrie, does this conclude your direct testimony?
- 2 A. Yes, it does.

**BACKGROUND AND QUALIFICATIONS
OF
BRUCE E. PETRIE**

Bruce E. Petrie graduated from Clarkson University in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. From 1983 to 1986 he worked for Babcock and Wilcox designing tools for nuclear power plant maintenance. In 1988 he earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Virginia Tech.

Mr. Petrie worked for Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation from 1988 through 1998 in generation planning, fuel procurement, and wholesale power marketing, and then at Old Dominion Electric Cooperative from 1998 until 2001 as a power supply analyst. He joined the Company in April 2001 as an electric pricing and structuring analyst. His responsibilities included the pricing and structuring of wholesale electric transactions, project financial analysis, and analytical support to the Energy Supply group.

In October 2007, Mr. Petrie was promoted to Manager of Generation System Planning. He is currently responsible for the Company's mid-term operational forecast (PROMOD model).

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(WHEREUPON, Company Exhibit RTC-1, Schedules 1 - 5, is marked for identification as prefiled and received into evidence.)

(WHEREUPON, the prefiled direct testimony and Appendix A of RONNIE T. CAMPBELL is copied into the record as if given orally from the stand.)

**DIRECT TESTIMONY
OF
RONNIE T. CAMPBELL
ON BEHALF OF
DOMINION ENERGY NORTH CAROLINA
BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 558**

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address, and position of employment.**

2 A. My name is Ronnie T. Campbell, and my business address is 120 Tredegar
3 Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. I am a Supervisor of Accounting for the
4 Power Generation and Power Delivery Groups, which includes responsibility
5 for Virginia Electric and Power Company, which operates in North Carolina
6 as Dominion Energy North Carolina ("Company"). My responsibilities
7 include overseeing personnel responsible for recording the Company's actual
8 fuel and purchased power expenses, as well as any under-/over-recovery of
9 such expenses through the fuel deferral mechanism, operation and
10 maintenance accounting activities, reserve analysis, and joint owner billings.
11 A statement of my background and qualifications is attached as Appendix A.

12 **Q. Mr. Campbell, what is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?**

13 A. My testimony presents: 1) the Company's actual system fuel expenses for the
14 twelve months ended June 30, 2018 ("test period"); 2) the Company's North
15 Carolina recovery experience as of June 30, 2018; and 3) the accounting
16 treatment for non-utility generators ("NUGs").

1 **Q. In the course of your testimony will you introduce any exhibits?**

2 A. Yes. Company Exhibit RTC-1 has been prepared under my direction and
3 supervision and is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and
4 belief. Exhibit RTC-1 consists of the following five schedules, as prescribed
5 by North Carolina Utilities Commission ("Commission") Rule R8-55:
6 Schedule 1: Actual System Fuel and Purchased Power Expenses
7 Schedule 2: North Carolina Recovery Experience
8 Schedule 3: Actual Kilowatt-hour Sales
9 Schedule 4: Actual Fuel-Related Revenues
10 Schedule 5: Inventories of Fuel Burned

11 **Q. Please provide the Company's actual fuel expenses incurred for the test**
12 **period and the Company's North Carolina recovery position as of June**
13 **30, 2018.**

14 A. Based on the North Carolina jurisdictional fuel factor methodology approved
15 by the Commission, the actual system fuel expenses incurred by the Company
16 during the test period totaled \$2,106,053,828. The Company was in a fuel
17 cost under-recovery position of \$16,162,154 on a North Carolina
18 jurisdictional basis as of June 30, 2018. Details regarding fuel expenses and
19 the calculation of this under-recovery position, also referred to as the
20 Experience Modification Factor ("EMF"), are provided in Exhibit RTC-1 and
21 are discussed later in my testimony.

1 **Q. How did the Company account for NUG energy costs?**

2 A. The Company continues to include in the EMF calculation the actual fuel
3 costs provided by dispatchable NUGs (Birchwood and Spruance Genco,
4 LLC). The contract with Spruance Genco, LLC expired July 31, 2017. For
5 dispatchable NUGs that do not provide actual fuel costs (ROVA I and ROVA
6 II), the Company continued to include 78% of the reasonable and prudent
7 energy costs in the EMF calculation. Additionally, to the extent a
8 dispatchable NUG provides market-based energy rather than dispatching its
9 facility, the Company included 78% of the reasonable and prudent energy
10 costs for such market-based energy in the EMF calculation. Use of the 78%
11 “marketer’s percentage” was agreed to between the Company and the Public
12 Staff and approved by the Commission in the Company’s 2016 fuel factor
13 proceeding, Docket No. E-22, Sub 534.

14 **Q. Please provide an explanation of the six schedules presented in Company**
15 **Exhibit RTC-1.**

16 A. Schedule 1, Column 1 presents the system fuel and purchased power expenses
17 incurred by the Company during the test period totaling \$2,550,628,864. Of
18 that amount, \$2,106,053,828 was included in the EMF calculation based on
19 the North Carolina jurisdictional fuel factor methodology approved by the
20 Commission, as shown by month in Column 2.

1 **Q. Please explain the adjustments that cause the amounts in Schedule 1,**
2 **Column 1 to differ from those in Schedule 1, Column 2.**

3 A. The following adjustments are necessary to comply with Commission Rule
4 R8-55 and its orders pertaining to fuel expenses.

5 1. Nuclear (page 1 of Schedule 1)

6 Column 2 excludes costs related to the interim storage of spent nuclear
7 fuel.

8 2. Purchased Power (page 2 of Schedule 1)

9 Column 2 excludes (1) capacity costs; (2) the non-fuel portion of
10 purchases from dispatchable NUGs; (3) actual energy costs for non-
11 dispatchable NUGs; and (4) the non-fuel portion of purchases from
12 PJM.

13 **Q. Schedule 2 shows that the EMF calculation resulted in an under-recovery**
14 **of \$16,162,154. Please provide further explanation of this schedule.**

15 A. Schedule 2 presents the North Carolina jurisdictional recovery experience by
16 month for the test period. Schedule 2 is presented in three parts. Part I shows
17 the total North Carolina system fuel and purchased power costs excluding the
18 system allowance for funds used during construction ("AFUDC"). Part II
19 shows the North Carolina jurisdictional fuel and purchased power costs
20 including credit adjustments for the fuel cost from non-requirements sales and
21 PJM off-system sales, and other fuel-related adjustments. Part III presents, by

1 month, the North Carolina jurisdictional fuel revenues and the North Carolina
2 jurisdictional monthly and cumulative recovery experience.

3 **Q. What were the total fuel costs and fuel revenues for North Carolina**
4 **jurisdictional customers?**

5 A. The fuel costs allocated to North Carolina jurisdictional customers totaled
6 \$104,925,682. The Company received fuel revenues totaling \$88,763,528.
7 The difference between the fuel costs and the fuel revenues resulted in an
8 under-recovery of \$16,162,154 for the test period.

9 **Q. Please describe the information contained in Schedules 3 - 5 presented in**
10 **Company Exhibit RTC-1.**

11 A. Schedule 3 provides the actual kilowatt-hour sales at a system level and at the
12 North Carolina jurisdictional customer level for the test period. Schedule 4
13 provides actual fuel revenues recorded for the test period. Column 1 of
14 Schedule 4 provides the system fuel revenue, Column 2 provides the revenue
15 received from North Carolina jurisdictional customers for the current fuel test
16 period, and Column 3 provides the revenue received from North Carolina
17 jurisdictional customers for Rider B. Schedule 5 provides inventory values of
18 fuels burned in the production of electricity. Inventory values are recorded on
19 the books of Virginia Electric and Power Company and its subsidiary,
20 Virginia Power Services Energy Corp, Inc.

1 Q. Mr. Campbell, does this conclude your direct testimony?

2 A. Yes, it does.

**BACKGROUND AND QUALIFICATIONS
OF
RONNIE T. CAMPBELL, CPA**

Ronnie T. Campbell graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. Mr. Campbell received his Certified Public Accountant license in 1998. He was controller at World Access Service Corporation (Allianz Global Assistance) prior to joining Dominion Energy Services, Inc. in 2007. His accounting experience includes retail, non-utility generation, petroleum and insurance industries. He has held several supervisor positions within the Dominion Energy Services, Inc. accounting organization, including merchant and non-fuel accounting. He transitioned into his current role in 2009. His current responsibilities include overseeing personnel responsible for the Company's regulated fuel and operation and maintenance accounting activities, purchased power expenses, deferred fuel mechanism, reserve analysis and joint owner billings.

Mr. Campbell has previously presented testimony before the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

1 (WHEREUPON, Company Exhibit GAW-1,
2 Schedule 1, is marked for
3 identification as prefiled and
4 received into evidence.)

5 (WHEREUPON, the prefiled direct
6 testimony and Appendix A of
7 GREGORY A. WORKMAN is copied into
8 the record as if given orally from
9 the stand.)

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY
OF
GREGORY A. WORKMAN
ON BEHALF OF
DOMINION ENERGY NORTH CAROLINA
BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 558**

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address, and position of employment.**

2 A. My name is Gregory A. Workman, and my business address is 120 Tredegar
3 Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. I am the Director-Fuels and have the
4 responsibility of fossil fuel procurement for Virginia Electric and Power
5 Company, which operates in North Carolina as Dominion Energy North
6 Carolina (the "Company"). The Dominion Energy Fuels group handles the
7 procurement, scheduling, transportation, and inventory management for
8 natural gas, coal, biomass, and oil consumed at the Company's power stations.
9 A statement of my background and qualifications is attached as Appendix A.

10 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?**

11 A. I will discuss the Company's fossil fuel procurement practices, including any
12 recent changes to those practices, for the delivery of fuels to the Company's
13 fossil generation fleet during the test period of July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018
14 ("Test Period"), in compliance with Rule 8-55(e)(5).

15 **Q. Are you sponsoring any exhibits?**

16 A. Yes. Company Exhibit GAW-1, consisting of one schedule, was prepared
17 under my direction and is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

1 Exhibit GAW-1 is the Dominion Energy North Carolina Summary Report of
2 Fuel Transactions with Affiliates during the Test Period.

3 **SECTION I**
4 **FUEL COMMODITY MARKETS**

5 **Q. Please discuss the trends that affected fuel commodity markets during the**
6 **period of July 2017 through June 2018.**

7 A. During the Test Period of July 2017 through June 2018, domestic natural gas
8 production increased, a result of rising global oil prices, natural gas exports,
9 and an increase in domestic natural gas demand, particularly in the residential
10 and industrial sectors. This increasing demand for natural gas, combined with
11 waves of sustained, colder-than-normal winter weather in most parts of the
12 eastern United States, led to short-term spikes in prices at Henry Hub and
13 other locations. For example, on January 5, 2018, the price of Transco Z5
14 natural gas was over \$120/million British thermal units ("MMBtu").

15 While this daily data point illustrates the volatility in the natural gas market,
16 the January 2018 average monthly price was still quite high at about
17 \$17/MMBtu. Coal prices rose due to thermal coal exports and the continued
18 rise of global coking coal prices. Oil prices also rose, with an average West
19 Texas Intermediate ("WTI") price of around \$59/barrel.

SECTION II
FUEL PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

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3 **Q. Please briefly describe the Company's fuel procurement policy.**

4 A. The Company continues to follow the same procurement policy as it has in the
5 past in accordance with the Company's Fuel Procurement Practices Report
6 ("Dominion Fuel Policy"), a copy of which was filed with the Commission on
7 December 30, 2013, in Docket No. E-100, Sub 47A. The Dominion Fuel
8 Policy addresses the physical procurement of fossil and nuclear fuels.

9 **Q. Does the Company currently have a price hedging program?**

10 A. Yes, the Company has a price hedging program under which the Company
11 price hedges commodities needed for power generation using a range of
12 volume targets, which gradually decrease over a three-year period. The
13 Company's fuel price hedging program is discussed in greater detail in the
14 Fuel Procurement Strategy Report filed with the State Corporation
15 Commission of Virginia on January 31, 2018, in Case No. PUR-2017-00058
16 (the "Report"). In summary, as that Report describes, through competitive
17 fuel supply solicitations and other market purchases, the Company maintains a
18 reliable supply of fuel specifically designed for combustion in the Company's
19 generation stations. The duration of these physical procurement agreements is
20 staggered (*i.e.*, different contract lengths) and can also include a fixed price
21 component, the inclusion of which creates a price hedge. Managing price
22 volatility is an important aspect of the Company's price hedging program and
23 can be further supported, as needed, by the use of financial transactions.

SECTION III
NATURAL GAS PROCUREMENT

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Q. Please discuss the Company's gas procurement practices.

A. The Company employs a disciplined natural gas procurement plan to ensure a reliable supply of natural gas at competitive prices. Through periodic solicitations and the open market, the Company serves its gas-fired fleet using a combination of day-ahead, monthly, seasonal, and multiyear physical gas supply purchases.

In addition to managing its natural gas supply portfolio, the Company evaluates the diverse portfolio of pipeline and storage contracts to determine the most reliable and economical delivered fuel options for each power station. This portfolio of natural gas transportation contracts provides access to multiple natural gas supply and trading points from the Marcellus shale region to the southeast region. Further, the Company actively participates in the interstate pipeline capacity release and physical supply markets, as well as longer-term, pipeline expansion projects that will augment its transportation portfolio and enhance reliability at a reasonable cost.

Q. Please discuss any changes to the Company's gas-fired fleet.

A. The Company continues to utilize more natural gas to serve the electricity needs of its customers. In fact, during the Test Period, energy production at the Company's gas-fired power stations accounted for about 33% of the electricity generated for the Company's customers.

1 In late 2018, the Company will add the Greenville County Power Station
2 ("Greenville") to its regulated fleet. Greenville will be a gas-fired combined
3 cycle power station with a generating capacity of 1,588 MW.

4 **SECTION IV**
5 **COAL PROCUREMENT**

6 **Q. Please discuss the Company's coal procurement practices.**

7 A. The Company employs a multiyear physical procurement plan to ensure a
8 reliable supply of coal, delivered to its generating stations by truck or rail, at
9 competitive prices. This is accomplished by procuring the Company's long-
10 term coal requirements primarily through periodic solicitations and
11 secondarily on the open market for short-term or spot needs. The effect of
12 procuring both long- and short-term coal supplies provides a layering-in of
13 contracts with staggered terms and blended prices. This ensures a reliable
14 supply of fuel with limited exposure to potential dramatic market price
15 swings. This blend of contract terms creates a diverse coal fuel portfolio and
16 allows the Company to proactively manage its fuel procurement strategy,
17 contingency plans and any risk of supplier non-performance.

18 **SECTION V**
19 **BIOMASS PROCUREMENT**

20 **Q. Please discuss the Company's biomass procurement practices.**

21 A. The Company has a varied procurement strategy for its biomass stations
22 depending on the geographical region of the power station. Hopewell and
23 Southampton Power Stations continue to be served by multiple suppliers
24 under long-term agreements, enabling the Company to increase the reliability

1 of its biomass supply by diversifying its supplier base. The Company
2 continues to purchase long-term fuel supply through one primary supplier at
3 its Altavista Power Station. Procurement for the Company's biomass needs at
4 its co-fired Virginia City Hybrid Energy Center facility continues to be
5 conducted via short-term contracts with various suppliers. All four biomass-
6 consuming plants receive wood deliveries via truck.

7 **SECTION VI**
8 **OIL PROCUREMENT**

9 **Q. Please discuss the Company's oil procurement practices.**

10 A. The Company purchases its No. 2 fuel oil and No. 6 fuel oil requirements on
11 the spot market and optimizes its inventory, storage, and transportation to
12 ensure reliable supply to its power generating facilities. Trucks, vessels,
13 barges, and pipelines are employed to transport oil to the Company's stations
14 and third-party storage locations, ensuring a reliable supply of oil and
15 mitigating the price risk associated with potentially volatile prices for these
16 products.

17 **Q. Does this conclude your pre-filed direct testimony?**

18 A. Yes, it does.

**BACKGROUND AND QUALIFICATIONS
OF
GREGORY A. WORKMAN**

Gregory A. Workman graduated from Fairmont State College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and received a Master of Business Administration degree from West Virginia University. He became an employee of Dominion Energy in 2001 and has held various positions within the following departments: Business Development and Acquisitions, Fossil and Hydro Merchant Operations, and Technical Services. In October 2007, Mr. Workman assumed his current role as Director-Fuels. He currently serves as the Vice-Chairman of the National Coal Council, a federal advisory committee to the U.S. Secretary of Energy.

Prior to joining Dominion Energy, Mr. Workman worked for Norfolk Southern Corporation from 1990 to 2001. He served in various capacities at Norfolk Southern including Finance, Operations, Coal Marketing, and Strategic Planning. Prior to Norfolk Southern, he worked as a Financial Consultant for American Express.

Mr. Workman has previously presented testimony before the State Corporation Commission of Virginia, the North Carolina Utilities Commission, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

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(WHEREUPON, the prefiled direct testimony and Appendix A of TOM A. BROOKMIRE is copied into the record as if given orally from the stand.)

**DIRECT TESTIMONY
OF
TOM A. BROOKMIRE
ON BEHALF OF
DOMINION ENERGY NORTH CAROLINA
BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 558**

1 **Q. Please state your name, position, business address, and responsibilities.**

2 A. My name is Tom A. Brookmire, and I am the Manager of Nuclear Fuel
3 Procurement. My business address is Innsbrook Technical Center, 5000
4 Dominion Boulevard, Glen Allen, Virginia 23060. I am responsible for
5 nuclear fuel procurement; fuel-related project management, long-term nuclear
6 spent fuel disposal, and nuclear fuel price forecasting and budgeting used by
7 Virginia Electric and Power Company, which operates in North Carolina as
8 Dominion Energy North Carolina (the "Company"). A statement of my
9 background and qualifications is attached hereto as Appendix A.

10 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

11 A. The purpose of my testimony is to discuss the nuclear fuel market and any
12 significant impact of the market on nuclear fuel costs during the test period of
13 July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018 ("Test Period"), in compliance with Rule
14 8-55(e)(5). Section I of my testimony will discuss the market and components
15 of the Company's nuclear fuel costs. Section II will discuss how the
16 Company's nuclear fuel expense rates are calculated.

1 **Q. Please briefly describe the Company's nuclear fuel procurement policy.**

2 A. The Company continues to follow the same procurement practices as it has in
3 the past in accordance with its procedures, a copy of which has been
4 previously provided to this Commission in Docket No. E-100, Sub 47A.
5 These procedures not only cover nuclear fuel procurement, but also the
6 procurement of natural gas, coal, biomass, and oil.

7 **SECTION I**
8 **NUCLEAR FUEL MARKET AND COMPONENTS**

9 **Q. What are the major components of nuclear fuel expenses?**

10 A. Nuclear fuel expenses include the amortized value of the cost for uranium,
11 along with required conversion, enrichment, and fabrication services
12 (collectively the "front-end components"). In addition, there is the
13 amortization of the Allowance for Funds Used During Construction
14 ("AFUDC") and the federal government's fee for the disposal of spent nuclear
15 fuel. I will discuss the current status of the disposal fee in Section II of my
16 testimony.

17 **Q. Please describe any changes in the market conditions for the front-end**
18 **components since the last fuel proceeding.**

19 A. The nuclear fuel market has softened considerably in the past six to seven
20 years with uranium, conversion, and enrichment markets all showing varying
21 levels of decreased prices. This is largely due to the devastating Japanese
22 earthquake and tsunami of March 2011, which has been discussed in prior
23 North Carolina fuel cases. But there have been other factors influencing this

1 trend as well such as clear reductions in demand (*e.g.*, Germany's decision to
2 permanently shut down eight reactors, a pause in the pace of Chinese reactor
3 builds, and the closing and announced closings of several U.S. reactors).
4 There have also been reductions in supply (*e.g.*, postponement and deferral of
5 new mines and mine capacity expansions, shutdowns and reduction in
6 production at some existing mines (most notably Cameco's Rabbit Lake and
7 McArthur River/Key Lake operations), the idling of a U.S.-based uranium
8 conversion plant, along with delays in planned increases in uranium
9 enrichment capacity) which have, in part, offset some of the downward trend
10 in demand. However, secondary sources of production (especially using
11 excess enrichment capacity to conserve uranium and re-enrichment of tails)
12 and high global inventory levels continue to mitigate some of these
13 reductions. The uranium market prices have continued to be depressed though
14 they were relatively stable during the current period.

15 The price for conversion services has also dropped significantly on the spot
16 market due to reduced near-term demand, while long-term prices have
17 remained higher due to concern over the lack of investment in new conversion
18 production facilities, and the possibility for shortfalls in capacity longer-term.
19 For example, the operator of the sole U.S. uranium conversion facility
20 announced in January 2017 its intention to scale back its capacity to be in
21 better alignment with a projected decrease in future demand. However, in
22 December 2017 the same facility announced a full shutdown of production
23 that will depend upon the market to improve before a restart is likely.

1 The cost for enrichment services has declined slightly after appearing to have
2 stabilized during the last fuel factor period. The decline is due to reduced
3 demand and the addition of new centrifuge capacity in Europe in recent years.

4 The price trend in the U.S. domestic nuclear fuel fabrication industry
5 continues to be difficult to measure because there is no active spot market, but
6 the general consensus is that costs will continue to increase due to regulatory
7 requirements, reduced competition, and new reactor demand both in the U.S.
8 and abroad. Additionally, the parent companies for both U.S. nuclear fuel
9 fabricators (Westinghouse Electric Corporation (“Westinghouse”) and former
10 Areva (now Framatome after restructuring)) have experienced financial
11 distress, which is likely to put upward pressure on fabrication costs and
12 nuclear fuel engineering services.

13 Calendar year 2018 may mark the restart of several more reactors in Japan,
14 which may have some short-term price lift on front-end components. Five
15 reactors have met new standards and have been restarted, and an additional 19
16 have submitted applications to restart. The timing and extent of other reactor
17 restarts in Japan remains uncertain at this time. China continues to have an
18 aggressive nuclear energy program. It currently has 39 reactors in operation,
19 18 plants under construction, and others in planning, with a planned doubling
20 of nuclear generating capacity by the early 2020s.

1 **Q. Have these changes in market costs impacted the Company's projected**
2 **near-term costs?**

3 A. Yes, but not significantly. The Company's current mix of longer-term front-
4 end component contracts has reduced its exposure to market volatility that has
5 occurred over the past several years. In addition, because the Company's
6 nuclear plants replace about one-third of their fuel on an 18-month schedule,
7 there is a delay before the full effect of any significant changes in a
8 component price is seen in the plant operating costs. Finally, the Company
9 has been active in the market and has executed some market-based and fixed
10 price contracts, allowing us to take advantage of current lower prices for the
11 benefit of customers.

12 **Q. Westinghouse filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in March 2017.**
13 **How will this potentially affect the Company's nuclear fuel supply?**

14 A. At this point, the Company does not anticipate any significant effect. Our
15 principal business relationship with Westinghouse pertains to its fuel analyses
16 and fuel and core component manufacturing businesses. We communicate
17 with the Westinghouse fuel fabrication and nuclear services organizations on a
18 frequent basis. To date there has been no interruption in their fuel fabrication
19 activities stemming from Westinghouse's bankruptcy, and the Company has
20 no indication that there will be any such interruption. Westinghouse's public
21 communications, as well as their comments to the Company, have indicated
22 that Westinghouse intends to maintain these profitable business activities
23 moving forward.

1 Q. Two U.S. miners filed a “Section 232” petition in January 2018. What
2 does this mean and how will this potentially affect the Company’s fuel
3 supply?

4 A. As explained by the U.S. Department of Commerce,¹ Section 232 of the Trade
5 Expansion Act of 1962, as amended, gives the executive branch the ability to
6 conduct investigations to “determine the effects on the national security of
7 imports.” Within 270 days of initiating any investigation, the Commerce
8 Department issues a report to the President with the investigation’s findings,
9 including whether certain imports threaten to impair America’s national
10 security. The President has 90 days to determine whether he concurs with the
11 findings and, if so, to use his statutory authority under Section 232 “to adjust
12 the imports” as necessary, including through tariffs or quotas.

13 At this point, the outcome of this petition is uncertain. The petition is asking
14 the federal government, specifically, the Department of Commerce, for relief
15 for the domestic uranium mining sector as a matter of national security. The
16 petition was signed by the two U.S. miners in January 2018 and on July 18,
17 2018, the Department of Commerce officially opened an investigation into the
18 matter. We expect to hear the results of this investigation by this time next
19 year. While there are some proposed remedies in the petition, it is difficult to
20 predict what steps will be taken resulting from the Department of Commerce’s
21 investigation. Steps taken that would restrict access or impose tariffs on

¹ See <https://www.commerce.gov/news/blog/2018/03/what-you-need-know-about-section-232-investigations-and-tariffs>.

1 global supply sources could increase nuclear fuel costs, but the degree of any
2 such impacts is uncertain at this time.

3 **SECTION II**
4 **NUCLEAR FUEL EXPENSE RATES**

5 **Q. Would you please describe how the Company’s nuclear fuel expense rates**
6 **are developed?**

7 A. The calculation of nuclear fuel expense rates, expressed in mills per kilowatt-
8 hour (“mills/kWh”), is based on expected plant operating cycles and the
9 overall cost of nuclear fuel. As I stated above, front-end component costs
10 include uranium, conversion, enrichment, and fabrication services. These
11 costs, along with AFUDC, are amortized over the energy production life of
12 the nuclear fuel. The federal government’s fee, applied to net nuclear
13 generation sold, would also typically be included in the expense rate. This
14 cost, applied to all U.S. nuclear generation companies, is intended to cover the
15 eventual disposal cost of spent nuclear fuel in a federal repository. However,
16 the fee, which historically has been one mill/kWh of net nuclear generation, is
17 currently set to zero mills/kWh and is not collected.

18 **Q. You stated earlier in your testimony that you would discuss the status of**
19 **the fee charged by the federal government for spent nuclear fuel disposal.**
20 **Please provide an update regarding the status of this fee.**

21 A. As discussed in my direct testimony in the Company’s 2017 fuel factor
22 adjustment proceeding, in 2014, following a federal court decision, the U.S.
23 Department of Energy (“DOE”) submitted a proposal to Congress to change

1 this one mill/kWh fee to zero. This relief is industry-wide and applies to all
2 operating reactors, including the Company's operating reactors at Surry and
3 North Anna. The processes specified in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act for
4 adjustment of the fee have now been completed, and as of May 16, 2014, the
5 Company is no longer required to pay the waste fee.

6 **Q. Can the waste fee collected by the federal government be reinstated?**

7 A. Yes, it can. As I explained in my direct testimony in the Company's 2017
8 fuel factor adjustment proceeding, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act allows the
9 Secretary of Energy to review fee adequacy on an annual basis. It is likely
10 that at some point in the future when a viable waste disposal program is
11 established by DOE, the Secretary will develop an adjustment to the waste fee
12 that ensures full cost recovery for the life cycle of such a program. Any
13 proposed adjustment to the fee will again need to be submitted to Congress for
14 review. If and when a fee adjustment becomes effective, the Company will
15 again become obligated to make the fee payment, and will again seek to
16 recover payments for the assessed fee in its fuel factor.

17 **Q. What was the fuel expense rate for the Test Period?**

18 A. The fuel expense rate is provided in Company Exhibit BEP-1 to the Direct
19 Testimony of Company Witness Bruce E. Petrie.

20 **Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

21 A. Yes, it does.

**BACKGROUND AND QUALIFICATIONS
OF
TOM A. BROOKMIRE**

Tom A. Brookmire is a graduate of Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nuclear Science (1983), and a Master's degree in Engineering in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Virginia (1988). He is a registered professional engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Mr. Brookmire joined with Virginia Electric and Power Company in 1983, and has worked since then in staff and management positions involving nuclear fuel. His current responsibilities include procurement of nuclear fuel and related services, nuclear fuel-related project management, long-term disposal of spent nuclear fuel, and the projection of nuclear prices and related capital costs and expense rates.

1 (WHEREUPON, Company Exhibit GGB-1,
2 Schedules 1 - 11, is marked for
3 identification as prefiled and
4 received into evidence.)

5 (WHEREUPON, the prefiled direct
6 testimony and Appendix A of GEORGE
7 G. BEASLEY is copied into the
8 record as if given orally from the
9 stand.)

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY
OF
GEORGE G. BEASLEY
ON BEHALF OF
DOMINION ENERGY NORTH CAROLINA
BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 558**

1 **Q.** Please state your name, business address, and position of employment.

2 **A.** My name is George G. Beasley. My business address is 701 East Cary Street,
3 Richmond, Virginia 23219. My title is Regulatory Specialist for Virginia
4 Electric and Power Company, which operates in North Carolina as Dominion
5 Energy North Carolina (“the Company”). A statement of my background and
6 qualifications is attached as Appendix A.

7 **Q.** **Mr. Beasley, what is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?**

8 **A.** The purpose of my testimony is to present the Company’s derivation of the
9 proposed Fuel Cost Rider A and the proposed Experience Modification Factor
10 (“EMF”) Rider B, for the North Carolina jurisdiction and for each customer
11 class based on the twelve months ended June 30, 2018 (the “Test Period”), to
12 become effective on February 1, 2019. I will then describe an alternative
13 proposal by the Company and present calculations to mitigate the impact of
14 the increase in the total fuel factor through an alternative voluntary agreement
15 to recover the accumulated fuel deferral balance over two rate periods, rather
16 than one, with a true-up, without incremental costs to customers (“mitigation
17 alternative”). I am also sponsoring the calculation of the adjustment to total

1 system sales (kWh) for the twelve months ended June 30, 2018, due to change
2 in usage, weather normalization, and customer growth.

3 **Q. In the course of your testimony will you introduce an exhibit?**

4 A. Yes. Company Exhibit GGB-1, consisting of eleven schedules, was prepared
5 under my direction and is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge
6 and belief.

7 **Q. Mr. Beasley, are you proposing any changes to the methodology of rate
8 design in this case?**

9 A. Yes. The Company is proposing to adjust by one month the implementation
10 of new rates for the proposed Fuel Charge Rider A and EMF Rider B. In
11 previous years, the Company has proposed Rider A and Rider B rates to be
12 effective for a calendar year Rate Period. Based on discussions with the
13 Public Staff following the conclusion of the Company's 2017 rider
14 proceedings, the Company is proposing for its updated fuel riders to be
15 effective for a February 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020 Rate Period. The
16 Company is requesting this adjustment to the annual Rate Period in order to
17 extend the time for the Commission to issue orders in the Company's three
18 annual rider proceedings filed pursuant to NCUC Rules R8-55, R8-67, and
19 R8-69, respectively, and to then allow the Company additional time to finalize
20 rates and customer notices (including allowing reasonable time for Public
21 Staff review) prior to the updated annual riders' effective date. The Company

1 intends to continue to use a February 1 through January 31 rate period in
2 future rider cases.

3 In this case, the Company therefore is seeking for its Rider A and Rider B
4 tariffs to become effective on February 1, 2019. Since the existing tariffs
5 approved in Docket No. E-22, Sub 546 will expire on December 31, 2018, the
6 Company is proposing interim tariffs for January 2019 showing Riders A and
7 B both set to zero, and Rate Period tariffs for February 2019 through January
8 2020 with updated rates.

9 **Q. What is the total fuel factor that the Company is requesting in this case to
10 become effective February 1, 2019?**

11 **A.** I have calculated the average fuel factor equal to the combined base fuel and
12 Fuel Cost Rider A, excluding Rider B (the Experience Modification Factor)
13 ("EMF"), applicable to the North Carolina jurisdiction for the Test Period to
14 be \$0.02142/kWh.

15 The deferral balance for the Test Period applicable to the North Carolina
16 jurisdiction is \$16,162,154, presented by Company Witness Ronnie T.
17 Campbell. This substantial under-recovery is largely due to cold winter
18 weather and higher commodity prices, specifically for an extended period in
19 January as discussed by Company Witness Bruce E. Petrie. If the entire
20 under-recovery amount is to be recovered during the upcoming Rate Period,
21 the average prior period EMF will be \$0.00388/kWh, which then results in a

1 total full recovery fuel factor of \$0.02530 kWh. This is an increase of
2 \$0.00582/kWh, when compared to the average total fuel factor presently in
3 effect of \$0.01948/kWh for the North Carolina jurisdiction.

4 The Company requests the Commission approve and implement the full
5 recovery rates scheduling recovery of 100% of the June 30, 2018, fuel deferral
6 account balance of \$16,162,154 over the February 1, 2019 – January 31, 2020,
7 Rate Period.

8 However, while North Carolina General Statutes § 62-133 allows prompt
9 recovery of these expenses, we also recognize the impact of such an increase
10 in fuel rates on the Company's customers. Therefore, as an alternative to the
11 full recovery rate, the Company is voluntarily proposing a mitigation
12 alternative that would help mitigate the increase, should the Commission find
13 it to be in the public interest and so approve. Under the mitigation alternative,
14 the Company would waive its right to recovery of the full deferral balance
15 over the upcoming Rate Period in favor of recovering the deferral balance on
16 a dollar-for-dollar basis over the next two rate periods, with a final true-up to
17 be recovered or refunded during the rate period commencing on February 1,
18 2022. That is, under the mitigation alternative, the Company proposes to
19 establish rates in this proceeding to recover 50% of the deferral balance in
20 upcoming Rate Period and establish rates in the 2019 fuel proceeding to
21 recover the other 50% of the deferral balance in the February 1, 2020
22 – January 31, 2021 rate period. Lastly, in the 2021 fuel proceeding,

the

1 Company will establish rates to recover or refund during the February 1, 2022
2 – January 31, 2023 rate period any final over or under recovery of this original
3 deferred balance.

4 If the Commission declines to approve the Company's full recovery request
5 and to approve the mitigation alternative, the Company will further agree to
6 ensure that its customers will see no incremental cost associated with
7 financing the deferral balance over this extended period.

8 Implementing the mitigation alternative would result in a prior period EMF of
9 \$0.00194/kWh, and an average total fuel factor of \$0.02336/kWh for the
10 jurisdiction. This is an increase of \$0.00398/kWh, when compared to the
11 average total fuel factor presently in effect of \$0.01938/kWh for the
12 jurisdiction, \$0.00194/kWh less than the full recovery rate.

13 The fuel factor calculations and typical bill impacts for both the full recovery
14 and mitigation alternative are presented later in my testimony.

15 **Q. Mr. Beasley, please explain Schedule 1.**

16 **A.** Schedule 1 of Company Exhibit GGB-1 provides a summary of jurisdictional
17 and total system kWh sales for the twelve months ended June 30, 2018,
18 adjusted for change in usage, weather normalization, and customer growth.
19 Line 1 of Schedule 1 shows the adjustment to sales for the North Carolina
20 Jurisdiction of (102,723,711) kWh. The adjustment to total system kWh at
21 sales level is (993,601,325) kWh. This adjustment is consistent with the

1. methodology used in the Company's last general rate case (Docket No. E-22,
2 Sub 532) and the last fuel charge adjustment case (Docket No. E-22, Sub
3 546). The workpapers supporting the change in usage, weather normalization,
4 and customer growth calculation are provided in response to Rule
5 R8-55(e)(2).

6 **Q. Have you calculated the proposed Fuel Cost Rider A for the North**
7 **Carolina jurisdiction and each customer class?**

8 A. Yes. Schedule 2 of Company Exhibit GGB-1 presents the calculation of the
9 proposed System Average Fuel Factor for the North Carolina jurisdiction and
10 for each customer class. On Schedule 2, Page 1, a system fuel expense level
11 of \$1,824,035,658 (as provided in Schedule 4 of Exhibit BEP-1) is divided by
12 system sales of 85,266,747,633 kWh that reflect the normalization
13 adjustments for change in usage, weather, and customer growth, and adjusted
14 for the North Carolina regulatory fee. The result is a normalized system
15 average fuel factor of \$0.02142/kWh, applicable to the North Carolina
16 jurisdiction. The calculations used to differentiate the jurisdictional Base Fuel
17 Component by voltage to determine the class fuel factors are shown on
18 Schedule 2, Page 2. They are consistent with the methodology used in the
19 Company's most recent fuel case (Docket No. E-22, Sub 546). The Base Fuel
20 Component for each class determined in Docket No. E-22, Sub 532 is shown
21 in Column 8 of Schedule 2, Page 2. Fuel Cost Rider A is calculated in
22 Column 9 of Schedule 2, Page 2.

1 **Q. Please describe the Experience Modification Factor, Rider B, applicable**
2 **to the North Carolina jurisdiction, for the full recovery scenario.**

3 A. Schedule 3 of Company Exhibit GGB-1 presents the calculation of the
4 proposed EMF Rider B applicable to the North Carolina jurisdiction and the
5 resulting factors for each customer class based upon full recovery of the
6 deferred fuel balance. Schedule 3, Page 1, shows the calculation of the
7 proposed uniform EMF applicable to the North Carolina jurisdiction. The
8 total under recovered fuel expense, for the period July 1, 2017 through June
9 30, 2018, was \$16,162,154 as provided in Schedule 2 of Company Exhibit
10 RTC-1. This total balance was then divided by North Carolina test year sales
11 of 4,175,472,287 kWh, which have been adjusted for change in usage,
12 weather, and customer growth. After being adjusted for the North Carolina
13 regulatory fee, the result is a uniform EMF of \$0.00388/kWh, applicable to
14 the North Carolina jurisdiction. The calculations used to differentiate the
15 uniform factor by voltage to determine the class factors are shown on
16 Schedule 3, Page 2. The resulting EMF for each class is shown in Column 7
17 of Schedule 3, Page 2.

18 **Q. Please describe the Experience Modification Factor, Rider B, applicable**
19 **to the North Carolina jurisdiction, for the mitigation alternative.**

20 A. Schedule 4 of Company Exhibit GGB-1 presents the calculation of the
21 proposed EMF Rider B applicable to the North Carolina jurisdiction and the
22 resulting factors for each customer class under the mitigation alternative.
23 Schedule 4, Page 1, shows the calculation of the proposed uniform EMF

1 applicable to the North Carolina jurisdiction. The total under recovered fuel
2 expense, for the period July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, is \$16,162,154 as
3 provided in Schedule 2 of Company Exhibit RTC-1. Multiplying this amount
4 by 50% equals a net balance of \$8,081,077. This net balance was then
5 divided by North Carolina test year sales of 4,175,472,287 kWh, which have
6 been adjusted for change in usage, weather, and customer growth. After being
7 adjusted for the North Carolina regulatory fee, the result is a uniform EMF of
8 \$0.00194/kWh, applicable to the North Carolina jurisdiction. The calculations
9 used to differentiate the uniform factor by voltage to determine the class
10 factors are shown on Schedule 4, Page 2. The resulting EMF for each class is
11 shown in Column 7 of Schedule 4, Page 2.

12 **Q. Please provide a summary of the total fuel factors that the Company is**
13 **requesting in this case for each class to become effective February 1,**
14 **2019.**

15 **A.** As explained earlier in my testimony, the Company requests Commission
16 approval of the full recovery proposal. However, should the Commission not
17 approve the full recovery proposal, the Company requests that the
18 Commission approve and implement the mitigation alternative, and permit the
19 Company to (1) recover 50% of the deferral balance in the February 1, 2019 –
20 January 31, 2020 Rate Period, (2) establish rates in the 2019 fuel proceeding
21 to recover the other 50% of the deferral balance in the following rate period,
22 and (3) in the 2021 fuel proceeding, establish rates to recover or refund during

1 the rate period commencing on February 1, 2022 any final over or under
2 recovery of this original deferred balance.

3 The total proposed fuel rates (\$/kWh) for each class, depending on the
4 Commission's determination to approve full recovery or the mitigation
5 alternative, are as follows:

<u>Customer Class</u>	<u>Full Recovery</u>	<u>Mitigation Alternative</u>
Residential	\$0.02558	\$0.02363
SGS & PA	\$0.02556	\$0.02361
LGS	\$0.02536	\$0.02342
Schedule NS	\$0.02459	\$0.02271
6VP	\$0.02495	\$0.02304
Outdoor Lighting	\$0.02558	\$0.02363
Traffic	\$0.02558	\$0.02363

6 A comparison of the present and proposed total rates for each class is shown
7 on my Company Exhibit GGB-1, Schedule 5 for full recovery and Schedule 6
8 for the mitigation alternative.

9 **Q. Do you have a schedule that shows the total fuel revenue recovery by**
10 **class and for the North Carolina jurisdiction for the upcoming Rate**
11 **Period if the full recovery rates are approved?**

12 **A.** Yes. Schedule 7 of Company Exhibit GGB-1 shows the total fuel revenue
13 recovery by class and for the North Carolina jurisdiction for the upcoming
14 Rate Period if the full recovery rates are approved. For the North Carolina
15 jurisdiction, the proposed jurisdictional fuel cost levels result in a total fuel
16 recovery increase of \$24,301,249.

1 **Q. Do you have a schedule that shows the total fuel revenue recovery by**
2 **class and for the North Carolina jurisdiction for the upcoming Rate**
3 **Period if the mitigation alternative is approved?**

4 A. Yes. Schedule 8 of Exhibit GGB-1 shows the total fuel revenue recovery by
5 class and for the North Carolina jurisdiction for the upcoming Rate Period if
6 the mitigation alternative is approved. For the North Carolina jurisdiction, the
7 proposed jurisdictional fuel cost levels result in a total fuel recovery increase
8 of \$16,200,832.

9 **Q. Mr. Beasley, would you explain how these proposed changes in the fuel**
10 **factor assuming full recovery of the deferral balance in the upcoming**
11 **Rate Period will affect customers' bills? Use bill amounts as of August 1,**
12 **2018 as a point of reference.**

13 A. For Rate Schedule 1 (residential), for a customer using 1,000 kWh per month,
14 the weighted monthly residential bill (4 summer months and 8 base months)
15 would increase by \$5.87 from \$108.96 to \$114.83, or by 5.4%. For Rate
16 Schedule 5 (small general service), for a customer using 12,500 kWh per
17 month and 50 kW of demand, the weighted monthly bill (4 summer months
18 and 8 base months) would increase by \$73.38 from \$1,066.62 to \$1,140.00, or
19 by 6.9%. For Rate Schedule 6P (large general service), for a customer using
20 576,000 kWh (259,200 kWh on-peak and 316,800 kWh off-peak) per month
21 and 1,000 kW of demand, the monthly bill would increase by \$3,363.84 from
22 \$37,323.05 to \$40,686.89, or by 9.0%.

- 1 **Q. Mr. Beasley, would you explain how these proposed changes in the fuel**
2 **factor under the mitigation alternative will affect customers' bills? Use**
3 **bill amounts as of August 1, 2018, as a point of reference.**
- 4 A. For Rate Schedule 1 (residential), for a customer using 1,000 kWh per month,
5 the weighted monthly residential bill (4 summer months and 8 base months)
6 would increase by \$3.92 from \$108.96 to \$112.88, or by 3.6%. For Rate
7 Schedule 5 (small general service), for a customer using 12,500 kWh per
8 month and 50 kW of demand, the weighted monthly bill (4 summer months
9 and 8 base months) would increase by \$49.00 from \$1,066.62 to \$1,115.62, or
10 by 4.6%. For Rate Schedule 6P (large general service), for a customer using
11 576,000 kWh (259,200 kWh on-peak and 316,800 kWh off-peak) per month
12 and 1,000 kW of demand, the monthly bill would increase by \$2,246.40 from
13 \$37,323.05 to \$39,569.45, or by 6.0%.
- 14 **Q. Have you included in your exhibit a revision to the Fuel Cost Rider A and**
15 **EMF Rider B to reflect the Company's proposed total fuel factors, to be**
16 **effective January 1, 2019?**
- 17 A. Yes. Schedule 9, Pages 1 and 2 provide the revised fuel charge Rider A and
18 EMF Rider B that the Company proposes to become effective on and after
19 January 1, 2019 for one month only.

1 **Q. Have you included in your exhibit a revision to the Fuel Cost Rider A and**
2 **EMF Rider B which will reflect the Company's proposed total fuel**
3 **factors to be effective February 1, 2019, based upon full recovery of the**
4 **deferred fuel balance of \$16,162,154 and based on the mitigation**
5 **alternative?**

6 **A. Yes. Schedule 10, Pages 1 and 2 of Company Exhibit GGB-1 provide the**
7 **revised Fuel Charge Rider A and EMF Rider B under the full recovery**
8 **proposal, which would be applicable for usage on and after February 1, 2019.**
9 **Schedule 11, Pages 1 and 2 provide the revised Fuel charge Rider A and the**
10 **EMF Rider B under the mitigation alternative, which likewise would be**
11 **applicable for usage on and after February 1, 2019.**

12 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

13 **A. Yes, it does.**

**BACKGROUND AND QUALIFICATIONS
OF
GEORGE G. BEASLEY**

George G. Beasley received a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1996. Mr. Beasley started his career with the Company in 2008 as a Sr. Business Performance Analyst. In 2011 Mr. Beasley was promoted to Supervisor Customer Revenue Management Planning and Analysis where he was responsible for the analytical support of our electric Credit and Billing functions. In 2015 Mr. Beasley took over the Customer Billing Compliance and Quality Control Manager position and was responsible for the auditing and quality control of changes implemented into the Billing system including rate and regulatory changes. In 2017, Mr. Beasley joined the Rate Department as a Regulatory Specialist to work in the Rate Design section, where he assists with regulatory filings, the design of rates, and performing analysis related to the Company's Virginia and North Carolina service territories.

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(WHEREUPON, the prefiled rebuttal testimony of BRUCE E. PETRIE is copied into the record as if given orally from the stand.)

**REBUTTAL TESTIMONY
OF
BRUCE E. PETRIE
ON BEHALF OF
DOMINION ENERGY NORTH CAROLINA
BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
DOCKET NO. E-22 SUB 558**

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address, and position of employment.**

2 A. My name is Bruce E. Petrie, and my business address is 5000 Dominion
3 Boulevard, Glen Allen, Virginia 23060. I am the Manager of Generation
4 System Planning for Dominion Energy North Carolina ("DENC" or the
5 "Company"). My responsibilities include forecasting total system fuel and
6 purchased power expenses. A statement of my background and qualifications
7 is attached as Appendix A in my Direct Testimony.

8 **Q. Have you previously filed testimony in this proceeding?**

9 A. Yes. I prepared direct testimony in this case, and have also participated in
10 responding to data requests in this proceeding.

11 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?**

12 A. First, I will address Public Staff Witness Metz's testimony regarding the
13 calculation of the adjustment in system fuel and purchased energy costs for the
14 addition of the Greensville Power Station. Second, I will address the change in
15 the marketers' percentage as proposed by Public Staff Witnesses Peedin and
16 Boswell.

1 **Q. What is the Company's position regarding Public Staff Witness Metz's**
2 **contention that the capacity factor used for the Greenville Power Station is**
3 **likely higher than should be reasonably expected and that the marketer**
4 **percentage should be applied to the Greenville Power Station if the**
5 **Commission adopts the mitigation alternative?**

6 **A.** The Company believes it reasonably estimated the expected fuel and purchased
7 energy savings from the addition of the Greenville Power Station to the fleet.
8 The adjustment as-filed assumed a high level of availability and performance
9 during the future rate period, and includes two planned outages.

10 However, in the event that the Commission decides the Company should
11 implement the rate mitigation alternative, the Company agrees to work with the
12 Public Staff in the required timeframe to revise the Greenville Power Station
13 adjustment to account for a lower initial capacity factor, and to apply the
14 marketer percentage to the Greenville Power Station savings estimate.

15 **Q. Do you agree with Public Staff Witness Peedin's general recommendation**
16 **that a marketer percentage of 75% should be used effective February 1,**
17 **2019?**

18 **A.** No. The Company believes that this adjustment is improper because it will
19 deny the Company the opportunity to recover the full dollar amount of
20 prudently incurred PJM purchased energy costs. Any change in the marketer
21 percentage should be made in coordination with the Company's next base rate
22 case to keep the recovery of purchased power costs consistent across both
23 aspects of purchased energy expense recovery. The 78% marketer percentage

1 endorsed by the Company is a better representation of the fuel-related costs,
2 and is consistent with the Company's method that was used in the 2016 base
3 rate case. The Company believes the proper level of the marketer percentage
4 should be further reviewed in the Company's next general base rate case.

5 **Q. Does this conclude your pre-filed rebuttal testimony?**

6 **A. Yes.**

1 (WHEREUPON, Company Exhibit GGB-1,
2 Rebuttal Schedules 1 and 2, is
3 marked for identification as
4 prefiled.)

5 (WHEREUPON, the prefiled rebuttal
6 testimony of GEORGE G. BEASLEY is
7 copied into the record as if given
8 orally from the stand.)

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REBUTTAL TESTIMONY
OF
GEORGE G. BEASLEY
ON BEHALF OF
DOMINION ENERGY NORTH CAROLINA
BEFORE THE
NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 558

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address, and position of employment.**

2 A. My name is George G. Beasley. My business address is 701 East Cary Street,
3 Richmond, Virginia 23219. My title is Regulatory Specialist for Virginia
4 Electric and Power Company, which operates in North Carolina as Dominion
5 Energy North Carolina ("the Company").

6 **Q. Have you previously filed testimony in this proceeding?**

7 A. Yes. I am the same George G. Beasley who filed direct testimony in this case
8 on August 30, 2018.

9 **Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?**

10 A. The purpose of my rebuttal testimony is to comment on and further clarify the
11 Company's position regarding the proposed full recovery and mitigation
12 alternative scenarios.

13 **Q. Have there been any developments since you filed your direct testimony**
14 **that will affect the rate impact to customers' bills?**

15 A. Yes. Rider EDIT (credit rider) expired on October 31, 2018. In my Exhibit
16 GGB-1, Rebuttal Schedule 1, I show an updated impact for typical bills for
17 the full recovery and mitigation alternative. Also, in Docket No. M-100, Sub

1 148, in its October 5, 2018 order, the Commission ordered the Company “to
2 adjust their base rates to reflect the reduction in the federal corporate income
3 tax rate to 21% for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, as
4 outlined in the Tax Act.” On October 25, 2018, the Company made a filing in
5 Docket No. E-22, Sub 560 to reduce the non-fuel base rates as directed by the
6 Commission. Note, this is a proposed reduction in non-fuel base rates that has
7 not been approved by the Commission.

8 **Q. Have you prepared a schedule showing the impact on typical customer**
9 **bills of both 1) the full recovery of fuel combined with the proposed Tax**
10 **Act reduction; and 2) the mitigation alternative combined with the**
11 **proposed Tax Act reduction?**

12 **A.** Yes. This is presented in my Rebuttal Schedule 1 at the bottom of the page.
13 The impact of the proposed reduction in rates due to the Tax Act serves to
14 offset in part the bill impact of the increases for both the full recovery of fuel
15 expense and the mitigation alternative.

16 As shown in Rebuttal Schedule 1 for a typical residential customer using
17 1,000 kWh, the impact on the bill of the full recovery of fuel expenses is an
18 increase of 5.24% while the impact of the mitigation alternative is an increase
19 of 3.50%. When combined with the Tax Act reduction, the full recovery
20 impact is an increase of 1.09% and the mitigation alternative impact is a
21 decrease of 0.65%.

1 As shown in Rebuttal Schedule 1 for a typical 6P customer, the impact of the
2 bill of the full recovery expense is an increase of 8.80% while the impact of
3 the mitigation alternative is an increase of 5.88%. When combined with the
4 Tax Act reduction, the full recovery impact is an increase of 5.27% and the
5 mitigation alternative is an increase of 2.35%.

6 Similar typical bill impacts are provided in Rebuttal Schedule 1 for
7 Schedule 5 and Schedule 6L customers.

8 **Q. Have you reviewed the testimony from CIGFUR and Nucor?**

9 A. Yes. The Company recognizes and is sensitive to the concerns of large
10 industrial customers expressed by CIGUR Witness Nicholas Phillips, Jr. and
11 Nucor Witness Paul J. Wiegus who both characterized the full recovery
12 impact using the term, "rate shock."

13 **Q. Have you prepared information to show the impact of the full recovery
14 and mitigation alternative for the Schedule 6VP and Schedule NS classes?**

15 A. Yes. In my Rebuttal Schedule 2, Page 1, I present the bill impact for the 6VP
16 class of both the full recovery and mitigation alternatives. I present the same
17 information for the NS class in my Rebuttal Schedule 2, page 2.

1 **Q. Have you prepared information showing the impact on the 6VP and NS**
2 **classes of both 1) the full recovery of fuel expenses combined with the Tax**
3 **Act reduction; and 2) the mitigation alternative combined with the Tax**
4 **Act reduction?**

5 **A. Yes. For the 6VP class, I show these impacts in my Rebuttal Schedule 2, page**
6 **1 at the bottom half of the page. For the NS class, I show these impacts in my**
7 **Rebuttal Schedule 2, page 2 at the bottom half of the page.**

8 I note that even when the proposed Tax Act Reduction is considered, the
9 impact of the full recovery of fuel expense on these customer classes results in
10 a substantial increase.

11 **Q. Please clarify the Company's position on the full recovery and mitigation**
12 **alternative scenarios.**

13 **A. The Company's original request to the Commission was to approve and**
14 **implement the full recovery rates recovering 100% of the June 30, 2018 fuel**
15 **deferral account balance of \$16,162,154 over the 2019 fuel year. Recognizing**
16 **the significant amount of under-recovery in the fuel deferral account balance**
17 **and considering the impact of recovering 100% of that amount over the 2019**
18 **fuel year led the Company to proposing the alternative mitigation plan in its**
19 **August 30, 2018 filing. At that point in time, the Company had not been**
20 **directed to make the filing in Docket E-22, Sub 560 to reduce the non-fuel**
21 **base rates due to the provisions of the Tax Act. This proposed reduction will**
22 **help offset, in part, the impact of the fuel increase on customers. In addition,**
23 **in its filing in Docket No. E-22, Sub 560, the Company has proposed a re-**

1 billing back to January 1, 2018, of the final approved rates in that proceeding.
2 If approved, this will provide a one-time credit to customers. Assuming a
3 Commission Order in Docket No. E-22, Sub 560 in December 2018 and based
4 on the anticipated time to implement the re-billing of approximately 60 days,
5 the Company believes that customers may be receiving this one-time credit
6 soon after the new fuel recovery rates are scheduled to take effect on February
7 1, 2019.

8 However, while the proposed reduction due to the Tax Act now serves to help
9 offset, in part, the fuel increase based upon full recovery of the deferral
10 balance, the Company still recognizes that such an increase is still high for
11 large high load factor customers served under rate schedules such as Schedule
12 6P and 6L and in the 6VP and NS classes. The estimates of the net impact for
13 typical customers presented in my Rebuttal Schedule 1 and for the 6VP and
14 NS classes presented in my Rebuttal Schedule 2 do not include the impact of
15 the re-billing credit that I discussed earlier.

16 In conclusion, the Company recognizes that the impact of the increase in fuel
17 rates based on full recovery of the deferral will be offset, in part, if the
18 Commission approves the proposed reduction in non-fuel base rates filed in
19 the Tax Act proceeding.

20 However, given that substantial increases will remain for large high load
21 factor customers if full recovery of fuel expenses is approved, the Company
22 continues to offer the mitigation alternative.

1 Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?

2 A. Yes.

1 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Mr. McDonald.

2 MR. McDONALD: Yes, sir. CIGFUR, the
3 Carolina Industrial Group, prefiled the testimony of
4 Nicholas Phillips on October 26th; there's nine pages
5 and one exhibit (sic). We ask that that be admitted
6 into the record.

7 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: As outlined by
8 Mr. McDonald, the testimony of Mr. Phillips plus his
9 Appendix is copied into the record as though given
10 orally from the stand.

11 (WHEREUPON, the prefiled direct
12 testimony and Appendix A of
13 NICHOLAS PHILLIPS, JR., is copied
14 into the record as if given orally
15 from the stand.)

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1 Q ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU APPEARING IN THIS PROCEEDING?

2 A I am testifying on behalf of a group of intervenors designated as the Carolina Industrial
3 Group for Fair Utility Rates I ("CIGFUR"),¹ a group of large industrial customers that
4 purchase power from Dominion Energy North Carolina ("DENC" or "Company").
5 CIGFUR's members receive service from Dominion under Rate Schedules 6VP and
6 6P.

7 Q HAVE YOU PRESENTED TESTIMONY IN PRIOR PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE
8 NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION ("COMMISSION")?

9 A Yes. I have been involved in numerous of prior proceedings before this Commission
10 and have presented testimony in many of those proceedings. I have been involved
11 with matters involving DENC for decades, including DENC's previous base rate and
12 other proceedings.

13 Q WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

14 A CIGFUR is filing testimony to urge the Commission to approve the Company's
15 mitigation alternative, which is discussed in Paragraphs 11-12 of its Application for a
16 Change in Fuel Component of Electric Rates ("Fuel Application"), as the mitigation
17 alternative will result in less rate shock to DENC's customers, particularly its declining
18 industrial base, for the reasons described herein.

¹CIGFUR I members are: Cummins RMEP, Domtar Paper Company, LLC, Pfizer Inc., and Kapstone Kraft Paper Corporation.

1 Q DOES YOUR TESTIMONY ADDRESS DENC'S NEED FOR AN INCREASE IN FUEL
2 RATES?

3 A No. In order to make my presentation consistent with the revenue levels requested by
4 DENC, I have, in many instances, used its proposed figures for fuel cost. Use of these
5 numbers should not be interpreted as an endorsement of them for purposes of
6 determining the total dollar amount of fuel increase to which DENC may be entitled.

7 Q PLEASE DESCRIBE DENC'S PENDING FUEL APPLICATION.

8 A The Company requests an increase for the February 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020
9 Rate Period of \$24,301,249.00, which includes a fuel recovery increase of
10 \$16,200,832.00. As explained by DENC, the fuel under-recovery was largely driven by
11 abnormally cold weather for an extended period and high commodity prices that
12 occurred in January 2018. For the North Carolina jurisdiction, this results in the
13 following change over current total average rates:

	Current (\$/kWh)	Proposed (\$/kWh)	Change (\$/kWh)
Base Non-Fuel	\$0.06321	\$0.06321	\$0.00000
Base Fuel	\$0.02073	\$0.02073	\$0.00000
Rider A	\$0.00004	\$0.00069	\$0.00065
Rider B EMF	(\$0.00139)	\$0.00388	\$0.00527
Rider B2 EMF	\$0.00010	\$0.00000	(\$0.00010)
Total	\$0.08269	\$0.08851	\$0.00582
% Change	7.04%		

14 The increase in the fuel rate is shown as \$0.00582/kWh and amounts to a 29.9%
15 increase over the current fuel rate of \$0.01948/kWh. The proposed increase is
16 significant and, if approved in its entirety, will have a detrimental impact on customers,
17 including but not limited to rate shock.

1 Q WHAT IS RATE SHOCK AND WHY SHOULD IT BE AVOIDED?

2 A Rate shock refers to a large increase, particularly when it is unexpected. For reference,
3 in Docket No. E-22, Sub 515, DENC 2014 Fuel Adjustment proceeding, the Company
4 requested a large increase which would increase residential rates by 5.3% and Rate
5 6VP by 8.5%. The Public Staff referenced that level of increase as rate shock and
6 approved DENC's mitigation plan (Commission Order E-22, Sub 515, December 18,
7 2014, page 26). In this proceeding, DENC's full increase would result in a residential
8 increase of 5.4% and a Rate 6VP increase of 9.7%. If the 2014 fuel increase was rate
9 shock, the larger fuel increase in this case must be considered as rate shock. Rate
10 shock constitutes a large level of increase, not included in budgets, which can cause a
11 harmful impact on customers and should be avoided.

12 Q HOW WILL THE REQUESTED INCREASE IMPACT DENC'S INDUSTRIAL
13 CUSTOMERS?

14 A The Company serves major industrial facilities including CIGFUR's members and also
15 Nucor Steel. Large industrial customers use power for around-the-clock manufacturing
16 operations and operate at high load factors. A high load factor means a customer is
17 using relatively more energy in relation to the demand for power. Energy usage is a
18 much larger portion of the total bill for a large high load factor customer as compared
19 to a smaller, lower load factor customer. The increase in the fuel rate applies to energy
20 usage which translates into a higher than average increase to high load factor industrial
21 customers. DENC's Fuel Application requests that the Commission approve a
22 proposed total fuel rate (base fuel factor, Rider A, and EMF Rider B) of \$0.02495/kWh
23 for 6VP customers, which is a 9.77% increase over the current total bill and a 29.8%
24 increase over the current fuel rate. For Large General Service customers, including

1 Rate Schedule 6P, the Company proposes a total fuel rate (base fuel factor, Rider A,
2 and EMF Rider B) of \$0.02536/kWh, which is a 29.9% increase over the current total
3 fuel rate.

6VP

	Current (\$/kWh)	Proposed (\$/kWh)	Change (\$/kWh)
Base Non-Fuel	\$0.03945	\$0.03945	\$0.00000
Base Fuel	\$0.02043	\$0.02043	\$0.00000
Rider A	\$0.00006	\$0.00069	\$0.00063
Rider B EMF	(\$0.00137)	\$0.00383	\$0.00520
Rider B2 EMF	\$0.00010	\$0.00000	(\$0.00010)
Total	\$0.05867	\$0.06440	\$0.00573
% Change	9.77%		

4 The proposed fuel increase will significantly increase the cost of energy for DENC's
5 industrial base, which is essential to the manufacturing process of these customers. In
6 my opinion, the proposed increase will impose an undue burden on DENC's industrial
7 customers and constitutes rate shock.

8 **Q WHY MUST THE ABOVE-STATED HARM TO NORTH CAROLINA'S INDUSTRIAL**
9 **BASE BE AVOIDED?**

10 **A** The northeastern portion of North Carolina, which includes DENC's service area, is a
11 traditionally disadvantaged area in terms of jobs, wages and income. In its recently
12 filed 2018 Integrated Resource Plan (filed in Docket No. E-100, Sub 157 on May 1,
13 2018), DENC's Appendix 2C shows that the industrial class will decrease by 50,000
14 MWh or about 2.9% from actual 2017 to projected 2033. The industrial base in DENC's
15 service area has been shrinking in this century and is not expected to return to prior
16 levels during DENC's current planning horizon.

17 CIGFUR members constitute a significant portion of the industrial base of
18 DENC's service area. CIGFUR members are major employers in the counties where

1 they have manufacturing plants, and the jobs they provide are vital to the local
2 economies. Together, CIGFUR members provide thousands of direct jobs in the DENC
3 service area. Pfizer (formerly Hospira) is the largest employer in Nash County, followed
4 by Cummins, the fourth largest employer in that county. Domtar is likewise the largest
5 employer in its county (Washington). Kapstone is the second largest private employer
6 and fifth overall in Halifax County.² The economic effect of these jobs is of course
7 multiplied by other businesses and jobs indirectly created because of the existence of
8 CIGFUR manufacturing operations. A study performed by Dr. Julius A. Wright vividly
9 illustrated the rippling effect of industrial manufacturing jobs on the local economy in
10 North Carolina: for every new (lost) employee at an industrial facility, there are 1-3
11 additional new jobs created (lost) in the region; there is region-wide increase (loss) of
12 approximately \$500,000 per year in economic output; and there is a region-wide
13 increase (loss) of \$200,000 to \$350,000 in employee earnings.³

14 In DENC's most recent base electric case, E-22, Sub 532, Company witness
15 Paul Haynes stated at pages 10-11 of his direct testimony that the Company was
16 keenly aware of the reduction in industrial customers and industrial usage in its North
17 Carolina service territory and that the loss of industrial customers and industrial electric
18 usage can have drastic negative impacts on the economic well-being of local
19 communities and the State as a whole. Witness Hayes recognized that the loss of an
20 industrial customer often equates to the loss of jobs and can directly impact the

²Data as of the first quarter of 2016 (North Carolina Department of Commerce). Domtar's property straddles Washington and Martin counties. Its manufacturing facility is physically located in Martin County, but its administrative offices are located in Washington County. The Department of Commerce associates the facility's employment with Washington County. Upon information and belief, if the facility's employment was associated with Martin County, Domtar would be the second largest employer in that county (and the largest private employer).

³ See Julius A. Wright, *The Economic and Rate Implications from an Electric Utility's Loss of Large-Load Customers* [hereinafter, "Wright Study"], p. 3 (filed March 14, 2013 in Docket No. E-2, Sub 1023).

1 economic vitality of a locality and even an entire region of the State. Similarly, the
2 Commission twice recognized earlier this year that the continued loss of industrial jobs
3 will have a detrimental effect on this State. See *Order Accepting Stipulation, Deciding*
4 *Contested Issues and Granting Partial Rate Increase*, p. 135, February 23, 2018,
5 NCUC Docket E-2, Sub 1142, and *Order Accepting Stipulation, Deciding Contested*
6 *Issues, and Requiring Revenue Reduction*, p. 204, June 22, 2018, NCUC Docket E-7,
7 Sub 1146.

8 Especially in light of global competitive concerns—both externally for customers
9 and internally for capital—market forces increasingly dictate production and siting
10 decisions for large manufacturers. It is no surprise, then, that electricity-intensive
11 industrial customers show dramatic responses to changes in electricity prices.⁴ A
12 material change in the cost of electricity has the potential to impact employment,
13 production and investment levels for large customers such as CIGFUR members,
14 significantly impacting local communities that can least afford it.

15 **Q HAS DENC PROPOSED A SOLUTION TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT OF THE LARGE**
16 **UNDERRECOVERY ON ITS NORTH CAROLINA RATEPAYERS?**

17 **A** Yes. DENC recognizes the adverse impact on its customers of such a large increase
18 in fuel rates, as is stated in its Fuel Application and the testimony of Company witness
19 George G. Beasley. Therefore, as an alternative to full recovery of the underrecovered
20 amount over the upcoming Rate Period, the Company voluntarily proposes the
21 mitigation alternative, which offers to amortize the balance of the underrecovery over
22 two years without financing charges and with a final true-up to be implemented in the
23 2021 fuel case. The Company's proposed mitigation alternative will levelize the

⁴Wright Study, pp. 11-12.

- 1 increase and lessen rate shock when compared with full recovery of the undercollection
2 over a single rate period.

NC Jurisdiction

NC Jurisdiction	Current (\$/kWh)	Proposed (\$/kWh)	Change (\$/kWh)
Base Non-Fuel	\$0.06321	\$0.06321	\$0.00000
Base Fuel	\$0.02073	\$0.02073	\$0.00000
Rider A	\$0.00004	\$0.00069	\$0.00065
Rider B EMF	(\$0.00139)	\$0.00194	\$0.00333
Rider B2 EMF	\$0.00010	\$0.00000	(\$0.00010)
Total	\$0.08269	\$0.08657	\$0.00388
% Change	4.69%		

6VP

6VP	Current (\$/kWh)	Proposed (\$/kWh)	Change (\$/kWh)
Base Non-Fuel	\$0.03945	\$0.03945	\$0.00000
Base Fuel	\$0.02043	\$0.02043	\$0.00000
Rider A	\$0.00006	\$0.00069	\$0.00063
Rider B EMF	(\$0.00137)	\$0.00192	\$0.00329
Rider B2 EMF	\$0.00010	\$0.00000	(\$0.00010)
Total	\$0.05867	\$0.06249	\$0.00382
% Change	6.51%		

- 3 **Q SHOULD THERE BE AN AVERSION TO A DEFERRAL TO A FUTURE PERIOD?**
4 **A** No. Deferrals are often used. The Commission is now deferring the return of ratepayer
5 money associated with the over-collection of federal taxes from January 1, 2018 to
6 January 1, 2019. The return of excess deferred income taxes ("EDIT") to ratepayers is
7 also being deferred. These deferrals associated with the over-collection of federal
8 taxes can last up to three years before being returned to customers. The deferral of
9 an abnormal cost in this fuel proceeding is appropriate and will only last one year under
10 DENC's proposal as opposed to the longer deferral for revenues associated with
11 excess taxes paid by ratepayers.

1 Q HAS THE COMMISSION PREVIOUSLY APPROVED THE DEFERRAL OF A LARGE
2 FUEL EXPENSE FOR DENC?

3 A Yes. In the Company's 2014 fuel proceeding, NCUC docket E-22, Sub 515, the
4 Commission concluded that, in order to lessen rate shock to DENC's customers, it was
5 appropriate to approve a near-identical mitigation proposal by the Company, which
6 amortized a \$16,602,670.00 undercollection over two years without interest.

7 Q DOES CIGFUR RECOMMEND THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE DENC'S
8 PROPOSED MITIGATION ALTERNATIVE?

9 A Yes. The Company's proposed mitigation alternative will result in less rate shock to
10 DENC's North Carolina retail customers, particularly its declining industrial base, at no
11 additional cost to ratepayers and is therefore in the public interest.

12 Q DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?

13 A Yes.

Qualifications of Nicholas Phillips, Jr.

1 Q PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

2 A Nicholas Phillips, Jr. My business address is 16690 Swingley Ridge Road, Suite 140,
3 Chesterfield, MO 63017.

4 Q PLEASE STATE YOUR OCCUPATION.

5 A I am a consultant in the field of public utility regulation and a Managing Principal with
6 the firm of Brubaker & Associates, Inc. ("BAI"), energy, economic and regulatory
7 consultants.

8 Q PLEASE STATE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND PROFESSIONAL
9 EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE.

10 A I graduated from Lawrence Institute of Technology in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science
11 Degree in Electrical Engineering. I received a Master's of Business Administration
12 Degree from Wayne State University in 1972. Since that time I have taken many
13 Masters and Ph.D. level courses in the field of Economics at Wayne State University
14 and the University of Missouri.

15 I was employed by The Detroit Edison Company in June of 1968 in its
16 Professional Development Program. My initial assignments were in the engineering
17 and operations divisions where my responsibilities included the overhead and
18 underground design, construction, operation and specifications for transmission and
19 distribution equipment; budgeting and cost control for operations and capital
20 expenditures; equipment performance under field and laboratory conditions; and
21 emergency service restoration. I also worked in various districts, planning system
22 expansion and construction based on increased and changing loads.

1 Since 1973, I have been engaged in the preparation of studies involving
2 revenue requirements based on the cost to serve electric, steam, water and other
3 portions of utility operations.

4 Other responsibilities have included power plant studies; profitability of various
5 segments of utility operations; administration and recovery of fuel and purchased power
6 costs; sale of utility plant; rate investigations; depreciation accrual rates; economic
7 investigations; the determination of rate base, operating income, rate of return; contract
8 analysis; rate design and revenue requirements in general.

9 I held various positions at Detroit Edison, including Supervisor of Cost of
10 Service, Supervisor of Economic studies and Depreciation, Assistant Director of Load
11 Research, and was designated as Manager of various rate cases before the Michigan
12 Public Service Commission and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. I was
13 acting as Director of Revenue Requirements when I left Detroit Edison to accept a
14 position at Drazen-Brubaker & Associates, Inc., in May of 1979.

15 The firm of Drazen-Brubaker & Associates, Inc. was incorporated in 1972 and
16 has assumed the utility rate and economic consulting activities of Drazen Associates,
17 Inc., active since 1937. In April 1995, the firm of Brubaker & Associates, Inc. was
18 formed. It includes most of the former DBA principals and staff.

19 Our firm has prepared many studies involving original cost and annual
20 depreciation accrual rates relating to electric, steam, gas and water properties, as well
21 as cost of service studies in connection with rate cases and negotiation of contracts for
22 substantial quantities of gas and electricity for industrial use. In these cases, it was
23 necessary to analyze property records, depreciation accrual rates and reserves, rate
24 base determinations, operating revenues, operating expenses, cost of capital and all
25 other elements relating to cost of service.

1 In general, we are engaged in valuation and depreciation studies, rate work,
2 feasibility, economic and cost of service studies and the design of rates for utility
3 services. In addition to our main office in St. Louis, the firm also has branch offices in
4 Phoenix, Arizona and Corpus Christi, Texas.

5 **Q WHAT ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL, PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND**
6 **AFFILIATIONS HAVE YOU HAD?**

7 **A** I have completed various courses and attended many seminars concerned with rate
8 design, load research, capital recovery, depreciation, and financial evaluation. I have
9 served as an instructor of mathematics of finance at the Detroit College of Business
10 located in Dearborn, Michigan. I have also lectured on rate and revenue requirement
11 topics.

12 **Q HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY APPEARED BEFORE A REGULATORY COMMISSION?**

13 **A** Yes. I have appeared before the public utility regulatory commissions of Arkansas,
14 Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri,
15 Montana, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina,
16 South Dakota, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin, the Lansing Board of Water and
17 Light, the District of Columbia, and the Council of the City of New Orleans in numerous
18 proceedings concerning cost of service, rate base, unit costs, pro forma operating
19 income, appropriate class rates of return, adjustments to the income statement,
20 revenue requirements, rate design, integrated resource planning, power plant
21 operations, fuel cost recovery, regulatory issues, rate-making issues, environmental
22 compliance, avoided costs, cogeneration, cost recovery, economic dispatch, rate of
23 return, demand-side management, regulatory accounting and various other items.

1 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Mr. Blake.

2 MR. BLAKE: Thank you, Chairman Finley. On
3 October 26th, Nucor Steel-Hertford filed the direct
4 testimony of Paul J. Wielgus, W-I-E-L-G-U-S,
5 consisting of four pages, typed pages of questions and
6 answers, and one exhibit. And on behalf of Nucor
7 Steel-Hertford, we ask that that be admitted into the
8 record as if given from the stand.

9 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Mr. Wielgus' direct
10 testimony is copied into the record as though given
11 orally from the stand, and his exhibits (sic) are
12 marked for identification as premarked in the filing
13 and received into evidence.

14 (WHEREUPON, Exhibit PJW-1 is
15 marked for identification as
16 prefiled and received into
17 evidence.)

18 (WHEREUPON, the prefiled direct
19 testimony of PAUL J. WIELGUS is
20 copied into the record as if given
21 orally from the stand.)

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I. POSITION AND QUALIFICATIONS

1
2 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR FULL NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

3 A. My name is Paul J. Wielgus. My business address is 1850 Parkway Place, Suite 800,
4 Marietta, Georgia 30067.

5 Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED?

6 A. I am employed by GDS Associates, Inc. ("GDS") at its Marietta, Georgia headquarters.

7 Q. ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING?

8 A. Nucor Steel ("Nucor"), located in Hertford, North Carolina.

9 Q. PLEASE OUTLINE YOUR PROFESSIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL
10 QUALIFICATIONS.

11 A. I am a Managing Director with GDS. Prior to joining GDS, I was a senior energy executive
12 engaged in the development and implementation of commercial business plans. Initiatives
13 undertaken included long term energy sales and marketing arrangements, energy
14 procurement, development projects, asset expansions, asset management, mergers and
15 acquisitions, and regulatory activities. With GDS, I provide energy advisory services to
16 clients involving the above matters and perform other energy related work assignments on
17 the behalf of clients including expert testimony. I have a B.S. in Economics, an M.S. in
18 Mineral and Energy Resources, an MBA, and a JD. I am licensed to practice law in Texas.
19 My resume is attached as Exhibit PJW-1.

20 Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA
21 UTILITIES COMMISSION ("COMMISSION")?

22 A. Yes. I submitted testimony on behalf of Nucor in Docket No. E-22, Sub 451.

23 Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED IN OTHER PROCEEDINGS?

1 A. Yes.

2 **II. PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY**

3 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

4 A. I have conducted a review of the filing made by Virginia Electric and Power Company,
5 d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina (“Company”) in this Docket No. E-22, Sub 558 to
6 adjust the fuel component of its electric rates to become effective February 1, 2019, and
7 remain in effect through January 31, 2020. I will present my findings and recommendations
8 regarding the Company’s proposed full recovery request and its mitigation alternative.

9 **III. SUMMARY OF THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL**

10 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMPANY’S**
11 **PROPOSAL.**

12 A. DENC’s total fuel rate is composed of (i) a base fuel factor, (ii) Rider A, and (iii) an
13 Experience Modification Factor (EMF), Rider B. The Company is requesting the
14 Commission approve and implement “full recovery” rates, which includes scheduling
15 recovery of 100% of the fuel deferral account balance of \$16,162,154 (as of June 30, 2018)
16 over the February 1, 2019 – January 31, 2020 Rate Period.¹ However, the Company
17 recognizes the impact of such an increase in fuel rates on its customers, so the Company is
18 proposing an alternative that would help mitigate the increase (“mitigation alternative”).²

19 **Q. WHAT MITIGATION IS THE COMPANY PROPOSING?**

¹ Direct Testimony of George G. Beasley at 4, lines 4-7.

² *Id.* at 4, lines 8-13.

1 A. Under the mitigation alternative, the Company would waive its right to recovery of the full
2 deferral balance over the upcoming rate period in favor of recovering the deferral balance
3 on a dollar for dollar basis over the next two rate periods. That is, under the mitigation
4 alternative, the Company is proposing to establish rates in this proceeding to recover 50%
5 of the deferral balance in the upcoming rate period and establish rates in the 2019 fuel
6 proceeding to recover the other 50% of the deferral balance in the February 1, 2020 –
7 January 31, 2021 rate period.³

8 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY'S REASON FOR PROPOSING THIS**
9 **MITIGATION ALTERNATIVE?**

10 A. Yes. The full deferral amount is materially significant. The Company recognizes the
11 impact of such an increase in fuel rates on its customers. For example, the impact on
12 Nucor's facility in North Carolina is estimated to be almost \$300,000 per month if the
13 deferral is collected on the twelve-month basis. This would clearly exacerbate the rate
14 shock and further negatively impact the North Carolina steel mill's competitiveness.

15 **IV. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

16 **Q. BASED ON YOUR REVIEW WHAT ARE YOUR FINDINGS?**

17 A. Based on my review, my findings are as follows:

- 18 1. The Company's fuel deferral account balance of \$16,162,154 is materially significant.
- 19 2. The Company recognizes the impact of such an increase in fuel rates on its customers.
- 20 3. The impact on Nucor's North Carolina facility is estimated to be almost \$300,000 if
21 the deferral is collected on the twelve-month basis.

³ *Id.* at 4, lines 13-22.

1 4. This clearly creates tremendous rate shock for Nucor's operations, significantly
2 impacting that plant's competitiveness.

3 **Q. BASED ON YOUR FINDINGS WHAT ARE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS?**

4 A. Based on my findings, my recommendations are as follows:

5 1. The Company's proposed mitigation alternative will provide necessary relief to its
6 customers.

7 2. The Company's proposed mitigation alternative that collects the deferral amount over
8 two rate periods instead of just one is good regulatory policy and should be approved
9 by the Commission.

10 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

11 A. Yes.

1 MS. EDMONDSON: Chairman Finley, on
2 October 26th, the Public Staff filed the testimony of
3 Dustin R. Metz consisting of 10 pages and a two-page
4 appendix; the confidential testimony of Darlene P.
5 Peedin consisting of 10 pages and a one-page appendix,
6 and Confidential Exhibit 1 to her testimony; and the
7 testimony of Michelle M. Boswell consisting of six
8 pages and a two-page appendix. I would move that the
9 testimony be copied into the record as if given orally
10 from the stand, and Confidential Peedin Exhibit 1 be
11 marked and admitted, I mean, and be received into
12 evidence.

13 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: As outlined by
14 Ms. Edmondson, the direct testimony of the Public .
15 Staff Witnesses Metz, Peedin, Boswell, and those three
16 witnesses -- and the appendices are copied into the
17 record as though given orally from the stand. And the
18 one exhibit of Ms. Peedin is marked for identification
19 as premarked in the filing and received into evidence.
20 And we need to note that the Peedin testimony and
21 exhibits is confidential in the record, please.

22 (WHEREUPON, the prefiled direct
23 testimony and Appendix A of DUSTIN
24 R. METZ is copied into the record

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as if given orally from the
stand.)

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 558

In the Matter of	)	TESTIMONY OF
Application by Virginia Electric	)	DUSTIN R. METZ
and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion	)	PUBLIC STAFF – NORTH
Energy North Carolina Pursuant to	)	CAROLINA UTILITIES
N.C.G.S. § 62-133.2 and Commission	)	COMMISSION
Rule R8-55 Regarding Fuel and Fuel-)	
Related Costs Adjustments for)	
Electric Utilities)	

1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE
2 RECORD.

3 A. My name is Dustin R. Metz. My business address is 430 North
4 Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina.

5 Q. WHAT IS YOUR POSITION WITH THE PUBLIC STAFF?

6 A. I am an engineer with the Electric Division of the Public Staff
7 representing the using and consuming public.

8 Q. WOULD YOU BRIEFLY DISCUSS YOUR EDUCATION AND
9 EXPERIENCE?

10 A. A summary of my education and experience is outlined in detail in
11 Appendix A of my testimony.

12 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS
13 PROCEEDING?

14 A. The purpose of my testimony is to present the Public Staff's
15 recommendations regarding the proposed fuel and fuel-related cost
16 factors for the Residential, Small General Service and Public
17 Authority, Large General Service, Schedule NS, Schedule 6VP,
18 Outdoor Lighting, and Traffic retail customer classes of Virginia
19 Electric and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North
20 Carolina (DENC or the Company) as set forth in the Company's
21 August 30, 2018, application.

1 Q. WHAT DID YOU REVIEW IN CONDUCTING YOUR
2 INVESTIGATION OF THE COMPANY'S APPLICATION?

3 A. I reviewed the Company's application, prefiled testimony and
4 exhibits, fuel and fuel-related costs, and test period baseload power
5 plant performance reports, as well as the current coal, natural gas,
6 and nuclear fuel markets, various documents related to test year
7 power plant outages, and the costs authorized to be recovered by
8 Session Law 2017-192 (HB 589). I also reviewed the testimony of
9 Public Staff witnesses Michelle Boswell and Darlene Peedin.

10 Q. WHAT ARE THE TEST AND BILLING PERIODS FOR THIS
11 PROCEEDING?

12 A. For this proceeding, the test period is July 1, 2017, through June 30,
13 2018, and the billing period is proposed to be February 1, 2019,
14 through January 31, 2020.

15 Q. DID THE COMPANY MEET THE STANDARDS OF COMMISSION
16 RULE R8-55(K) FOR THE TEST YEAR?

17 A. For the test year, the Company met the standards of Commission
18 Rule R8-55(k) with an actual system-wide nuclear capacity factor
19 that exceeded the NERC (North American Electric Reliability
20 Corporation) weighted average nuclear capacity factor.
21 Additionally, the Company's two-year simple average of its system-
22 wide nuclear capacity factor exceeded the NERC weighted average

1 nuclear capacity factor. Had the utility not meet at least one of these
2 standards, a rebuttable presumption would have been created that
3 the utility imprudently incurred the increased fuel costs during the
4 test year.

5 **Q. WERE THERE ANY ITEMS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO THE**
6 **PUBLIC STAFF IN ITS INVESTIGATION OF THE TEST YEAR**
7 **FUEL COSTS?**

8 A. Yes. Of particular concern to the Public Staff in its investigation of
9 the test year fuel costs was the significant underrecovery that took
10 place due to the Company's greater than expected fuel costs in
11 January 2018. After reviewing discovery responses and discussing
12 the issue with the Company, the Public Staff is satisfied that the
13 January 2018 fuel costs were reasonably and prudently incurred.

14 **Q. WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF YOUR INVESTIGATION OF**
15 **PROJECTED FUEL PRICES AND THE CALCULATION OF THE**
16 **TOTAL FUEL FACTOR?**

17 A. Based upon my investigation, I have determined that the projected
18 fuel prices set forth in the testimony of Company witnesses Petrie,
19 Campbell, Workman, and Brookmire are reasonable as used in the
20 calculation of the total fuel factor. I have also concluded that the
21 total fuel factor has been calculated in accordance with the
22 requirements of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.2, with one caveat

1 regarding the Greenville County natural gas-fired combined cycle
2 station (Greenville) that I will discuss later.

3 **Q. PLEASE DISCUSS THE PUBLIC STAFF'S INVESTIGATION OF**
4 **THE CATEGORIES OF DENC'S FUEL COSTS AUTHORIZED**
5 **FOR RECOVERY IN ITS FUEL ADJUSTMENT PROCEEDINGS**
6 **BY HB 589.**

7 A. The Public Staff's investigation of the categories of DENC's fuel
8 costs authorized for recovery in its fuel adjustment proceedings by
9 HB 589 included the review of various spreadsheets provided by the
10 Company detailing Qualifying Facilities' costs for the test year.
11 Based upon this investigation, I have determined that the costs
12 authorized by HB 589 that the Company seeks to recover for the
13 test year are reasonable and are not currently being recovered
14 through base rates.

15 **Q. PLEASE DISCUSS THE PUBLIC STAFF'S INVESTIGATION OF**
16 **THE TEST PERIOD EXPERIENCE MODIFICATION FACTOR**
17 **(EMF).**

18 A. Public Staff witness Boswell describes the Public Staff's review of
19 the test period EMF in her testimony, and I have incorporated her
20 recommendations in Table 1 below.

1 Q. PLEASE DISCUSS THE ISSUE WITH GREENSVILLE TO WHICH
2 YOU ALLUDED EARLIER IN YOUR TESTIMONY.

3 A. The Greenville County natural gas-fired combined cycle station
4 (Greenville) will begin commercial operation during or just prior to
5 the upcoming billing period. The Company included a level of "cost
6 savings" in its calculation of proposed rates due to Greenville
7 displacing less efficient and more expensive generation. As part of
8 the Public Staff's investigation, it was discovered that (1) a marketer
9 percentage had not been applied to the anticipated Greenville fuel
10 savings, and (2) the capacity factor used for Greenville is likely
11 higher than should be reasonably expected for the February – June
12 2019 portion of the test period that will be included in the next fuel
13 proceeding.

14 Per NCUC Rule R8-55, prospective test periods and billing periods
15 are not the same. In other words, only some of the costs realized
16 during a particular billing period will be reflected in the immediately
17 upcoming EMF test period. The remaining billing period costs will
18 be accounted for in the subsequent EMF test period. The Company
19 anticipates Greenville being commercially operational by end of
20 calendar year 2018. However, it is not unusual, and it is even
21 expected, that when a new generation plant becomes commercially
22 available it would undergo certain tests and inspections over the first
23 six months or so to ensure proper operation. In other words, for

1 approximately the first six months of commercial operation of a new
2 generating plant, its average capacity factor will be lower than for
3 the next six months. In calculating the prospective component in
4 this fuel case, the Company did not take into account the likelihood
5 that the first six months of commercial operation would result in a
6 lower capacity factor than would be expected after that period.
7 Because the prospective factor set in this proceeding (effective
8 February 1, 2019) will affect the EMF component of the Company's
9 2019 fuel case, and because DENC's EMF test period for the 2019
10 fuel case will be July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019, the achieved
11 capacity factor for Greenville from commercial operation through
12 June 30, 2019 will have a significant impact on any over- or
13 undercollection in the 2019 fuel proceeding.

14 Had the marketer percentage been applied to Greenville, along
15 with a lower capacity factor for the first six months of operation, the
16 expected overall fuel cost savings from Greenville generation for
17 the billing period beginning February 1, 2019, would be diminished,
18 resulting in higher billing period fuel costs than included in the
19 Company's application.

20 **Q. DOES THE PUBLIC STAFF SUPPORT THE COMPANY'S**
21 **REQUEST FOR FULL RECOVERY OF THE FUEL**

1 **COMPONENTS AND FUEL FACTORS PROPOSED BY THE**
2 **COMPANY?**

3 A. Yes. The Company requested that the Commission approve and
4 implement the full recovery rates. However, the Company
5 requested that if the Commission did not approve full recovery, the
6 Commission approve a mitigation alternative with the June 30,
7 2018, deferral balance being collected over two years with no
8 incremental cost associated with financing over the extended
9 period. Public Staff witness Boswell discusses the Public Staff's
10 rationale for supporting full recovery of the deferral balance over one
11 year as opposed to two years.

12 **Q. SHOULD THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE MITIGATION**
13 **ALTERNATIVE, WHAT IS THE PUBLIC STAFF'S**
14 **RECOMMENDATION AS TO WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN**
15 **THE COMPANY'S PROPOSED RATES?**

16 A. Should the Commission adopt the Company's proposed mitigation
17 alternative, the Public Staff recommends that DENC include in this
18 year's rider: (1) the cost savings from Greensville with the marketer
19 percentage recommended by Public Staff witness Peedin applied,
20 and (2) a modification to the proposed capacity factor for the first six
21 months of commercial operation of Greensville to better align with
22 the 2019 fuel case test period. Therefore, if the mitigation
23 alternative is approved, the Public Staff requests that the

1 Commission order the Company to: (1) recalculate the proposed
2 rates by: applying (a) the marketer percentage to the fuel savings
3 calculation for the Greenville station, and (b) a more appropriate
4 capacity factor for the Greenville station; (2) consult with the Public
5 Staff and provide the respective workpapers; and (3) after
6 consulting with the Public Staff, make a filing of the alternative rates
7 within 10 days of the Commission order.

8 **Q. WHAT ARE THE FUEL COMPONENTS AND TOTAL FUEL**
9 **FACTORS THAT THE PUBLIC STAFF RECOMMENDS THAT**
10 **THE COMMISSION APPROVE?**

11 **A.** The Public Staff recommends approval of the fuel components and
12 total fuel factors (excluding the regulatory fee) shown in Table 1,
13 effective for the twelve months beginning February 1, 2019:

**TABLE 1 – Total Proposed Fuel and Fuel-Related Cost
Factors (\$ per kWh) with Full Recovery**

(includes regulatory fee, which currently has a multiplier of 1.0014)

Rate Class	Base	Rider A	Rider B	Total ¹
Residential	\$0.02095	\$0.00071	\$0.00392	\$0.02558
Small General Service & Public Authority	\$0.02093	\$0.00071	\$0.00392	\$0.02556
Large General Service	\$0.02079	\$0.00068	\$0.00389	\$0.02536
Schedule NS (Nucor Steel)	\$0.02014	\$0.00068	\$0.00377	\$0.02459
Schedule 6VP (Variable Pricing)	\$0.02043	\$0.00069	\$0.00383	\$0.02495
Outdoor Lighting	\$0.02095	\$0.00071	\$0.00392	\$0.02558
Traffic	\$0.02095	\$0.00071	\$0.00392	\$0.02558

- 1 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?
- 2 A. Yes, this concludes my testimony.

¹ Calculations reflect the application of the voltage differentiation factors used by the Company in its Application, which the Public Staff accepts.

Appendix A

Dustin R. Metz

Through the Commonwealth of Virginia Board of Contractors, I hold a current Tradesman License certification of Journeyman and Master within the electrical trade, awarded in 2008 and 2009 respectively. I graduated from Central Virginia Community College, receiving Associates of Applied Science degrees in Electronics and Electrical Technology (Magna Cum Laude) in 2011 and 2012 respectively, and an Associates of Arts in Science in General Studies (Cum Laude) in 2013. I graduated from Old Dominion University in 2014, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Technology with a major in Electrical Engineering and a minor in Engineering Management.

I have over 12 years of combined experience in engineering, electromechanical system design, troubleshooting, repair, installation, commissioning of electrical and electronic control systems in industrial and commercial nuclear facilities, project planning and management, and general construction experience, including six years with AREVA NP, where I provided onsite technical support and participated in root cause analysis teams at commercial nuclear power plants, including plants owned by both Duke and Dominion.

I joined the Public Staff in the fall of 2015. Since that time, I have worked on general rate cases, fuel cases, applications for certificates of public convenience and necessity, customer complaints, nuclear decommissioning, and power plant performance evaluations; I have also participated in multiple technical working groups and been involved in other aspects of utility regulation.

1 (WHEREUPON, Confidential Peedin
2 Exhibit 1 is marked for
3 identification as prefiled and
4 received into evidence.)
5 (WHEREUPON, the prefiled
6 confidential direct testimony and
7 Appendix A of DARLENE P. PEEDIN is
8 copied into the record as if given
9 orally from the stand.)
10 (Confidential testimony and Peedin
11 Exhibit 1 is filed under seal.)
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BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 558

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Oct 26 2018

In the Matter of

Application by Virginia Electric and)	TESTIMONY OF
Power Company, d/b/a Dominion	)	DARLENE P. PEEDIN
Energy North Carolina Pursuant to	)	PUBLIC STAFF – NORTH
N.C.G.S. § 62-133.2 and Commission	)	CAROLINA UTILITIES
Rule R8-55 Regarding Fuel and Fuel-	)	COMMISSION
Related Costs Adjustments for Electric)	
Utilities)	
)	

1 Q. PLEASE STATE FOR THE RECORD YOUR NAME, ADDRESS,
2 AND PRESENT POSITION.

3 A. My name is Darlene P. Peedin. My business address is 430 North
4 Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. I am the Accounting
5 Manager – Electric Section of the Public Staff Accounting Division.

6 Q. WHAT ARE YOUR DUTIES?

7 A. I am responsible for (1) the examination and analysis of testimony,
8 exhibits, books and records, and other data presented by electric
9 utilities and other parties involved in Commission proceedings; and
10 (2) the preparation and presentation of testimony, exhibits, and other
11 documents in proceedings that come before the Commission. I have
12 the further responsibility of supervising the examination and analysis
13 of testimony, exhibits, books and records, and other data presented
14 by electric utilities in Commission proceedings.

15 Q. PLEASE DISCUSS YOUR EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE.

16 A. A summary of my education and experience is attached as Appendix
17 A.

18 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS
19 PROCEEDING?

20 A. The purpose of my testimony is:
21 (1) to present the Public Staff's analysis and recommendations
22 concerning the appropriate Marketer Percentage to be

1 applied to power purchases for which Dominion Energy North
 2 Carolina (DENC) does not have fuel cost information to reflect
 3 the fuel costs to be recovered through the fuel factor; and
 4 (2) to recommend that the prospective factor proposed by DENC
 5 that sets forth certain components to which the Marketer
 6 Percentage should be applied, (i.e. purchases from PJM
 7 Interconnection, Inc. (PJM), certain non-utility generators
 8 (NUGS), and the Greenville Plant Credit Adjustment as
 9 discussed in the testimony of Public Staff witness Dustin
 10 Metz), be trued up in next year's EMF (test year July 2018 –
 11 June 2019), with rates effective February 1, 2019, reflecting
 12 the Public Staff's recommended Marketer Percentage.

13 **Q. WHAT IS THE MARKETER PERCENTAGE AND HOW DOES IT**
 14 **RELATE TO DENC?**

15 A. The Marketer Percentage is a proxy for the percentage of fuel costs
 16 included in overall energy costs associated with certain purchases
 17 from suppliers and power marketers who sell power to DENC. Use
 18 of the Marketer Percentage began in 1997 to enable the three North
 19 Carolina investor-owned electric utilities – DENC, Duke Energy
 20 Carolinas, LLC (DEC), and Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP), to
 21 recover in annual fuel cost proceedings under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-
 22 133.2, fuel costs associated with power purchased from marketers
 23 when the actual fuel cost of the underlying generator could not be

1 determined. At that time, the statute permitted annual fuel charge
2 adjustments only for "actual changes in the cost of fuel and the fuel
3 cost component of purchased power." The theory behind the
4 determination of the Marketer Percentage at that time was that fuel
5 costs as a percentage of total energy costs associated with power
6 generated and **sold** off system by the electric utilities was a
7 reasonable proxy for fuel costs as a percentage of total energy costs
8 associated with power generated off system and **purchased** by the
9 utilities through power marketers.

10 Amendments to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.2 enacted by the General
11 Assembly in Senate Bill 3 (Session Law 2007-397) expanded the
12 definition of costs recoverable in annual fuel cost proceedings to
13 include "fuel and fuel-related costs." Under the amended statute,
14 utilities other than DENC (i.e., DEC and DEP) are allowed to recover
15 all of the fuel and fuel-related costs identified in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-
16 133.2(a1), including "total delivered non-capacity related costs,
17 including all related transmission charges, of all purchases of electric
18 power . . . that are subject to economic dispatch or economic
19 curtailment" as provided in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 133.2 (a1)(4). Thus, it
20 is no longer necessary to determine a ratio of fuel to energy costs for
21 such purchases by DEP and DEC, and a Marketer Percentage is no
22 longer calculated for them. In contrast, costs recoverable by DENC
23 in an annual fuel proceeding are set forth in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-

1 133.2(a3), which provides that the utility may recover in annual fuel
 2 clause proceedings the costs identified in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-
 3 133.2(a3)(1), (2), (6), and (7), and (10) and "the fuel cost component,
 4 as may be modified by the Commission, of electric power purchases
 5 identified in subdivision (4) of that subsection."

6 Because DENC buys substantial amounts of purchased power in
 7 transactions where the fuel cost component of the purchased power
 8 costs is not disclosed, a Marketer Percentage has continued to be
 9 used as a proxy to determine the cost to be recovered by the
 10 Company through the fuel factor.

11 **Q. WHAT IS THE CURRENT MARKETER PERCENTAGE?**

12 **A.** The Commission approved a Stipulation between the Public Staff
 13 and DENC¹ in DENC's last general rate proceeding (Docket No. E-
 14 22, Sub 532) that provided in Section IV.A.:

15 The Stipulating Parties agree to adjust the Company's
 16 base fuel and non-fuel expenses to reflect 78% as a
 17 proxy for the fuel cost component of energy purchases
 18 for which the actual fuel cost is unknown (Marketer
 19 Percentage). This represents a reduction from the
 20 Company's current Marketer Percentage of 85%. The
 21 78% Marketer Percentage shall remain in effect until
 22 the Company's next base rate application or the
 23 Company's 2018 application to adjust its annual fuel
 24 factor, whichever occurs first.

¹ See p. 18, Finding of Fact No. 51 of Order Approving Rate Increase and Cost Deferrals and Revising PJM Regulatory Conditions, issued December 22, 2016, Docket No. E-22, Sub 532.

1 The Commission also found in the Company's last fuel adjustment
2 proceeding (Docket No. E-22, Sub 546) "that the percentage should
3 be reviewed in the context of DENC's next general rate case, or its
4 2018 fuel charge adjustment proceeding, whichever occurs first."² In
5 simple terms, 78% of the Company's test period purchased power
6 costs subject to the Marketer Percentage are being recovered
7 through DENC's fuel factor.

8 **Q. WHAT IS DENC PROPOSING AS A MARKETER PERCENTAGE**
9 **IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

10 **A.** The Company is proposing that the Marketer Percentage remain at
11 78%. DENC believes that the Marketer Percentage is reasonable
12 and does not propose a change at this time.

13 **Q. DID DENC APPLY THE MARKETER PERCENTAGE CORRECTLY**
14 **TO THE EMF?**

15 **A.** Yes. DENC correctly applied 78% as the Marketer Percentage for
16 the test year EMF.

17 **Q. DOES THE PUBLIC STAFF AGREE WITH DENC'S PROPOSAL**
18 **TO LEAVE THE MARKETER PERCENTAGE AT 78%?**

19 **A.** No.

² Order Deciding Contested Issues and Requiring Compliance Filing, p. 23, issued January 25, 2018, Docket No. E-22, Sub 546.

1 Q. WHAT DOES THE PUBLIC STAFF RECOMMEND AS AN
2 APPROPRIATE MARKETER PERCENTAGE IN THIS
3 PROCEEDING?

4 A. The Public Staff recommends that the Commission adopt a Marketer
5 Percentage of 75% to be used as a proxy for the fuel cost component
6 of purchases for which the actual fuel cost is unknown, effective
7 February 1, 2019.

8 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THE PUBLIC STAFF ARRIVED AT THIS
9 PERCENTAGE.

10 A. The Public Staff used two methods to determine an appropriate
11 Marketer Percentage; these methods were first proposed by DENC
12 in its 2008 fuel proceeding, Docket No. E-22, Sub 451, as an
13 alternative to the methodology using the off-system sales
14 traditionally applied for DEC and DEP.³ The Company's justification
15 for the different methodologies for calculating the Marketer
16 Percentage related to the fact that DENC was in a regional
17 transmission organization (RTO), unlike DEC and DEP.

18 The first methodology involved reviewing data from the 2016 and
19 2017 State of the Market reports for PJM. These reports identified
20 each fuel component of the cost of energy that is used to set the

³ In Sub 451, DENC also used a third methodology, which was based on reviewing actual contracts signed with counterparties. However, as in Sub 451, there were so few of these contracts in this case (i.e., two), that the Public Staff does not believe that this methodology would provide a reasonable result.

1 market price of energy. According to these reports, the fuel
 2 components of energy cost for calendar years 2016 and 2017 were
 3 73.3% and 69.5%, respectively. The second methodology involved
 4 reviewing data provided by the Company that blended DENC's
 5 internal data with PJM State of the Market report data for the
 6 Dominion Zone⁴ to determine an appropriate fuel to energy cost ratio
 7 for the Dominion Zone. The values provided by the Company for
 8 calendar years 2016 and 2017 are [BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL]
 9 [REDACTED] [END CONFIDENTIAL] respectively. The data
 10 used for the Dominion Zone reflect the generating units specific to
 11 the zone or geographical area. The [BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL]
 12 [REDACTED]
 13 [END CONFIDENTIAL] yields a 75% Marketer Percentage. This
 14 calculation is set forth in Confidential Peedin Exhibit 1.

15 **Q. DID THE PUBLIC STAFF COMPARE ITS RECOMMENDED**
 16 **MARKETER PERCENTAGE TO THE MARKETER PERCENTAGE**
 17 **CALCULATED USING DEC AND DEP'S OFF-SYSTEM SALES?**

18 **A.** Yes. While DEC and DEP are not part of an RTO, the Public Staff
 19 performed this calculation to serve as a test of reasonableness for
 20 its proposed Marketer Percentage. The Public Staff used the off-
 21 system sales of DEC and DEP during the twelve months ended

⁴ The Dominion Zone (DomZone) is the load zone for DENC.

1 December 31, 2016 and 2017, to determine what the Marketer
2 Percentage would have been utilizing that methodology. Under this
3 methodology, the fuel to energy cost ratio was calculated to be
4 66.19% and 55.75%, respectively.

5 **Q. WHAT DID DENC PROPOSE IN ITS PROSPECTIVE RATE**
6 **AS IT APPLIES TO PJM PURCHASES, NUGS, AND THE**
7 **GREENSVILLE CREDIT ADJUSTMENT?**

8 **A.** As set forth on Company Exhibit BEP-1, Schedule 4, the Company
9 proposed that the 78% Marketer Percentage be applied to the PJM
10 purchases and NUGS that do not provide actual fuel costs.
11 However, the Company did not reflect the Marketer Percentage in
12 the Greensville Plant Credit Adjustment, as discussed by Public Staff
13 witness Metz. Instead, DENC reflected the Greensville Plant Credit
14 Adjustment at a 100% fuel level.

15 **Q. WHAT IS THE PUBLIC STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION**
16 **REGARDING DENC'S PROPOSAL REGARDING THE**
17 **PROSPECTIVE RATE?**

18 **A.** The prospective rate in this case will be collected over the Rate
19 Period (February 1, 2019 – January 31, 2020). The Public Staff does
20 not recommend that the Company change its prospective rate in this
21 case, as it will reflect higher customer rates than what the Company
22 has recommended in this case. The Public Staff does recommend,

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1 however, that the Company true up PJM purchases, certain NUGS,
2 and the effect of the fuel savings due to the addition of the
3 Greensville Plant in next year's EMF (test year July 2018 – June
4 2019) to reflect the Public Staff's recommended Marketer
5 Percentage of 75%, effective February 1, 2019.

6 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

7 **A. Yes.**

APPENDIX A**Darlene P. Peedin**

I am a 1989 graduate of Campbell University with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Accounting. I am a Certified Public Accountant and a member of the North Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants.

Since joining the Public Staff in September 1990, I have filed testimony or affidavits in several general and fuel clause rate cases of utilities currently organized as Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, Duke Energy Progress, LLC, Virginia Electric and Power Company (Dominion Energy North Carolina), Nantahala Power & Light Company, Western Carolina University, and Shipyard Power and Light Company, as well as in several water and sewer general rate cases. I have also filed testimony or affidavits in other proceedings, including applications for certificates of public convenience and necessity for the construction of generating facilities and applications for the approval of cost recovery for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (REPS) cases.

I was promoted to Accounting Manager with responsibility for electric matters in January 2017. I have had supervisory responsibility over the Electric Section of the Accounting Division since 2009.

Prior to joining the Public Staff, I was employed by the North Carolina Office of the State Auditor. My duties included the performance of financial, compliance, and operational audits of state agencies, community colleges, and Clerks of Court.

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(WHEREUPON, the prefiled direct testimony and Appendix A of MICHELLE M. BOSWELL is copied into the record as if given orally from the stand.)

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 558

In the Matter of	)	TESTIMONY OF
Application by Virginia Electric and	)	MICHELLE M. BOSWELL
Power Company, d/b/a Dominion	)	PUBLIC STAFF – NORTH
Energy North Carolina Pursuant to	)	CAROLINA UTILITIES
N.C.G.S. § 62-133.2 and Commission	)	COMMISSION
Rule R8-55 Regarding Fuel and Fuel-)	
Related Costs Adjustments for Electric)	
Utilities)	

1 **Q. PLEASE STATE FOR THE RECORD YOUR NAME, ADDRESS,**
2 **AND PRESENT POSITION.**

3 My name is Michelle M. Boswell. My business address is 430 North
4 Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. I am a Staff Accountant
5 with the Public Staff Accounting Division.

6 **Q. PLEASE DISCUSS YOUR EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE.**

7 A. A summary of my education and experience is attached as Appendix
8 A.

9 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS**
10 **PROCEEDING?**

11 A. The purpose of my testimony is to present the Public Staff's
12 investigation of the Experience Modification Factor (EMF) rider
13 proposed by Dominion Energy North Carolina (DENC or Company)
14 in this proceeding.

15 **EXPERIENCE MODIFICATION FACTOR**

16 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE EXPERIENCE MODIFICATION**
17 **FACTOR.**

18 A. The EMF rider is utilized to "true-up" the over- or underrecovery of
19 fuel and fuel-related costs (fuel costs) experienced during the test
20 year, which is determined by comparing the revenues collected
21 during the test year to recover previously estimated fuel costs (fuel

1 revenues) to the actual amount of fuel costs incurred during the test
2 year. DENC's test year in this fuel proceeding is the twelve months
3 ended June 30, 2018.

4 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PUBLIC STAFF'S INVESTIGATION OF**
5 **THE EXPERIENCE MODIFICATION FACTOR.**

6 A. The Public Staff's investigation included procedures to evaluate
7 whether the Company properly determined its per books fuel costs
8 and fuel revenues during the test period. These procedures included
9 review of the Company's filing, prior Commission orders, the Monthly
10 Fuel Reports filed by the Company with the Commission, and other
11 Company data provided to the Public Staff. Additionally, the
12 procedures included review of certain specific types of expenditures
13 affecting the Company's test year fuel costs, payments to non-utility
14 generators (NUGs), and payments for purchases of power from the
15 markets administered by PJM Interconnection, LLC (PJM). The
16 Public Staff's procedures also included a review of source
17 documentation of fuel costs for certain selected Company generation
18 resources. Finally, the Public Staff's investigation included the
19 review of numerous responses to written and verbal data requests.

20 **Q. WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF YOUR INVESTIGATION?**

21 A. I have reviewed the calculations of the EMF provided by DENC and
22 set forth in the direct testimony and exhibits of the Company's
23 witnesses. The Public Staff has three recommendations in this fuel

1 proceeding. First, the Public Staff recommends that DENC's EMF
2 increment rider (Rider B) for each customer class be based on a net
3 underrecovery of fuel and fuel related costs of \$16,162,154 and the
4 Company's pro-forma North Carolina retail sales of 4,175,472,287
5 kWh. This produces an aggregate EMF increment rider (Rider B),
6 before class-specific voltage differentiation, of \$0.00388 per kilowatt-
7 hour (kWh), including the North Carolina regulatory fee (\$0.00387
8 per kWh, excluding the regulatory fee) for all North Carolina retail
9 customer classes.

10 Second, the Public Staff recommends that the Commission approve
11 and implement full recovery rates as opposed to the mitigation
12 alternative suggested by DENC in this proceeding. According to
13 DENC witness Beasley's calculations presented on Company Exhibit
14 GGB-1, Schedules 3 and 4, the impact of the EMF under full recovery
15 is \$3.88 on a 1,000 kWh bill, in effect for a one-year period, and the
16 mitigation alternative would defer recovery of half of that amount
17 (\$1.94 per each 1,000 kWh bill) until the annual billing period
18 beginning February 1, 2020, so that the underrecovery is recovered
19 over a two-year period. The Company states in its application and
20 throughout witness testimony that the underrecovery was primarily
21 driven by cold weather and higher commodity prices. The increased
22 fuel expenses due to periods of cold weather are not new to the
23 region or DENC, and are likely to occur again, impacting future fuel

1 cases. If similar weather occurs again, resulting in another
2 underrecovery, that underrecovery would presumably need to be
3 recovered along with the underrecovery related to the mitigation
4 alternative. Thus, if full EMF recovery was ordered on in that case
5 as normally expected, the mitigation alternative would compound
6 any underrecovery in future fuel cases, and further increase the rates
7 to be collected in those future years. Should a party in that future
8 case propose additional mitigation, a "snowball" effect could be
9 created as past costs continued to be deferred for future recovery
10 beyond the time periods contemplated by statutes, Commission
11 Rules, and normal Commission practices. Furthermore, as detailed
12 in the testimony of Public Staff witness Metz, the Company has
13 overstated its fuel credit related to the Greenville plant, which will
14 already result in a known underrecovery for the item in the 2019 EMF
15 period. Additionally, should there be a base rate increase next year,
16 ratepayers would likely be paying higher base rates and fuel costs
17 that are higher than they would be without the mitigation alternative.
18 Therefore, the Public Staff believes that in the long-term, it is in
19 ratepayers' interest for the Company to recover the underrecovery in
20 full over the upcoming Rate Period. However, should the
21 Commission decide that the mitigation alternative is in the
22 ratepayers' interest, the Public Staff recommends that the
23 Commission accept its proposal concerning the Greenville Plant

1 credit adjustment and include the adjustment in the Rate Period
2 increment calculations, as detailed in the testimony of Public Staff
3 witness Dustin R. Metz.

4 Third, the Public Staff recommends the Marketer Percentage
5 decrease from 78% to 75% effective February 1, 2019, as detailed
6 in the testimony on Public Staff witness Darlene P. Peedin.

7 **Q. DOES THIS COMPLETE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

8 **A. Yes.**

MICHELLE M. BOSWELL**Qualifications and Experience**

I graduated from North Carolina State University in 2000 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. I am a Certified Public Accountant.

I am responsible for analyzing testimony, exhibits, and other data presented by parties before this Commission. I have the further responsibility of performing the examinations of books and records of utilities involved in proceedings before the Commission, and summarizing the results into testimony and exhibits for presentation to the Commission.

I joined the Public Staff in September 2000. I have performed numerous audits and/or presented testimony and exhibits before the Commission addressing a wide range of electric, natural gas, and water topics. I have performed audits and/or presented testimony in Duke Energy Carolina, LLC's (DEC's) 2010 REPS Cost Recovery Rider; the 2008 REPS Compliance Reports for North Carolina Municipal Power Agency 1, North Carolina Eastern Municipal Power Agency, GreenCo Solutions, Inc., and EnergyUnited Electric Membership; DEC's 2017 rate case, four recent Piedmont Natural Gas, Inc. (Piedmont), rate cases; the 2016 rate case of Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc., the 2012 rate case for Dominion Energy North Carolina (formerly Dominion North Carolina Power), Duke Energy Progress, LLC's 2013 and 2017 rate case, the 2018

rate case of Aqua North Carolina, Inc., several Piedmont, NUI Utilities Inc., and Toccoa annual gas cost reviews; the merger of Piedmont and NUI; the merger of Piedmont and North Carolina Natural Gas; and the merger of Dominion Energy, Inc. and SCANA Corporation.

Additionally, I have filed testimony and exhibits in numerous water rate cases and performed investigations addressing a wide range of topics and issues related to the water, electric, and telephone industries.

1 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Does that conclude the
2 presentations of the parties?

3 MS. GRIGG: Yes, sir.

4 MR. BLAKE: Yes, sir.

5 MR. McDONALD: (Nods head in agreement.)

6 MS. EDMONDSON: (Nods head in agreement.)

7 CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Thank you very much. That
8 being the case, we will close this record and we'll
9 move on to REPS.

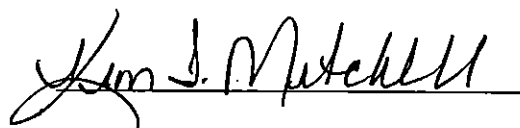
10 (WHEREUPON, the proceedings were adjourned.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, KIM T. MITCHELL, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that
the Proceedings in the above-captioned matter were
taken before me, that I did report in stenographic
shorthand the Proceedings set forth herein, and the
foregoing pages are a true and correct transcription
to the best of my ability.



Kim T. Mitchell
Court Reporter

FILED

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**Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission**