

## **COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM**

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August 2, 2007

The Honorable Joel H. Peck Clerk of the Commission Virginia State Corporation Commission C/O Document Control Center P.O. Box 2118 Richmond, VA 23218-2118

Re: PUE-2007-00049

Dear Mr. Peck:

On behalf of the Prince William Board of County Supervisors, I am writing to submit comments that the State Corporation Commission may wish to consider in examining the feasibility of reducing electric energy consumption 10% by the year 2022. The Board welcomes the opportunity to comment on this very important subject.

The cost effective reduction of electric energy by 10% over the next 15 years is a very achievable goal. Assuming the 10% goal is an absolute reduction of 2006 energy consumption levels, it should be considered a floor instead of a cap. Cost-effective reductions of 20% or more are possible and should be considered.

The following mix of programs is recommended in achieving the minimum 10% goal:

Energy Education Programs – The Commonwealth's energy office, the Division of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME), should provide targeted and aggressive energy education and outreach to Virginians to increase their ability to make informed energy choices. The Commonwealth should increase the availability of grant funding opportunities for localities to further their energy conservation programs, especially in the area of consumer education. The DMME should lead and administer these grant programs.

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Residential Load Management Programs – A number of electric utilities, including Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative (NOVEC) serving the Northern Virginia region and others throughout the country, offer voluntary residential "appliance cycling" peakshaving programs. These programs achieve energy conservation and demand reduction without direct customer involvement (except to initially agree to participate.) These types of utility-delivered residential load management should be more aggressively implemented all across the Commonwealth. Further, utilities should be encouraged or required to provide bill credits to participating customers as an additional incentive to enroll in these programs.

With an appropriate mix of programs and a sustained commitment to reducing energy consumption, the Commonwealth can achieve its goal. Prince William County appreciates the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely

Forey A. Stewar

Cc: Board of County Supervisors