

Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia 1325 G Street N.W., Suite 800 Washington, D.C. 20005 202-626-5120 www.dcpsc.org

**Press Release** 

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## DCPSC Releases Staff Report on Modernizing the Energy Delivery System for Increased Sustainability

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) – Today, the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia (Commission) released Order No. 18673 which issued for public comment a <u>staff report</u> on Modernizing the Energy Delivery System for Increased Sustainability (MEDSIS). The goal of MEDSIS is to increase sustainability for District consumers and make the energy delivery system more reliable, efficient, cost effective and interactive. The Commission issued Order No. 17912 which opened Formal Case No. 1130 and established MEDSIS to identify technologies and policies that can be implemented to modernize the regulatory and physical infrastructure in distributing electricity and natural gas in the District of Columbia. The Commission will take public comment on the MEDSIS Initiative until March 27, 2017.

The DCPSC MEDSIS Staff Report introduces the MEDSIS Initiative and lays out the following:

- 1. The role of the Commission, the District's restructured energy market, critical infrastructure concerns, and Staff's role in authoring this Report and advising the Commission in multiple capacities;
- 2. The unique characteristics of the District's energy delivery system and grid modernization efforts in other jurisdictions;
- 3. Concurrent Commission proceedings, rulemakings, and related reports that may have an impact on the MEDSIS Initiative;
- 4. An overview of the workshops held in this proceeding as well as a synthesis of comments filed in the *Formal Case No. 1130* docket in response to Commission <u>Order No. 18144</u>;
- 5. The legal, regulatory, and economic aspects of MEDSIS, including a host of proposed regulatory changes to facilitate grid modernization efforts in the District;
- 6. Detailed proposed parameters addressing how the \$25 million from the MEDSIS Subaccount Fund, established in the Pepco-Exelon Merger, can be used to implement District-appropriate pilot and demonstration projects; and
- 7. A detailed proposed Implementation Chart summarizing all of Staff's recommendations with corresponding proposed deliverable dates for implementation, tracking, and completion.

The MEDSIS Staff Report is a culmination of a year-long effort, involving a dedicated team comprised of representatives from the Commission's Office of General Counsel and the Office of Technical and Regulatory Analysis.

Attorney Advisor, Naza Shelley, who led staff efforts in writing the Report stated that, "Staff hopes that the recommendations presented in the MEDSIS Staff Report facilitate the removal of regulatory barriers to modernizing the District's energy distribution system and provide guidance and increased regulatory certainty as to the Commission's role as an energy regulator in the District."

Shelley emphasized that public input on the MEDSIS Staff Report is essential to moving the Initiative forward and informing the Commission's decision-making on the Report's recommendations.

"The Commission is seeking broad public input on the entirety of the MEDSIS Staff Report so that the recommendations ultimately adopted by the Commission will be those that will best modernize the system for all District customers. The public is encouraged to submit comments on the Report and Staff has recommended further public engagement through a Town Hall hosted at the Commission where the public can learn more about Staff's recommendations and proposed programs to modernize the District's energy delivery system."

The MEDSIS Town Hall will take place on Tuesday February 28, 2017 starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Commission Hearing Room located at 1325 G Street N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20005.

To obtain a copy of the Report and for more information about Formal Case No. 1130, Investigation into MEDSIS, please visit the MEDSIS webpage on Commission's website at <u>www.dcpsc.org/medsis</u>.

The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia is an independent agency established by Congress in 1913 to regulate electric, natural gas, and telecommunications companies in the District of Columbia.

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