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**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

April 13, 2010

In the Matter of a Review of the Price to  
Compare Published by the Maryland  
Investor-Owned Electric Utilities

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CASE NO. 9228  
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**NOTICE INITIATING PROCEEDING AND  
SETTING A PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

**To: Parties of Record in Case Nos. 9056 and 9064 and Other Interested Persons**

The Public Service Commission (“Commission”) initiates a new proceeding, Case No. 9228, for a comprehensive review of the “price to compare” that appears on the Maryland Investor-Owned Electric Utilities’ (“IOUs”) monthly customer bills and is published on the IOUs’ websites. The “price to compare” is intended to assist customers in making an informed decision when “shopping” for a competitive electric supplier or when made an offer by a competitive electric supplier. With the recent implementation of new Competitive Electric Supply regulations (COMAR 20.53), the Commission believes that it is an opportune time to investigate whether the “price to compare,” as calculated by the IOUs and set forth on a customer’s monthly bill, is an effective tool that facilitates or influences a customer’s decision regarding whether to select a competitive electric supplier and provides sufficient and accurate

information to make the comparison between the competitive offers and Standard Offer Service (“SOS”) provided by the customer’s IOU.

The Commission directs the IOUs to file comments responding to the “Questions for Utilities” set forth below (the IOUs need not limit themselves to these questions and may identify other issues associated with the “price to compare”). Competitive electric suppliers, Office of People’s Counsel, and other interested persons are invited to file comments on the “Question for Commenters” set forth below.

Questions for Utilities

- How are you calculating the price to compare?
- How is the price to compare displayed on the bill?
- Does any explanation accompany the price to compare number on the bill? If so, what is that explanation?
- Where is the price to compare found and how is it displayed on your website?
- How often does the price to compare get updated?
- What are the costs and other implications of listing more than one price to compare, *e.g.*, the current and next Standard Offer Service price along with the applicable dates of each?

Question for Commenters

- What calculation and display of the price to compare would be of most use to customers, and why?

The IOUs and other commenters shall file their comments by May 7, 2010. Technical Staff is directed to file a summary and analysis of the comments filed by the IOUs and other parties that submit comments by May 25, 2010. An original and seventeen paper copies, and an electronic version, of each filing made pursuant to this Notice shall be submitted to Terry J.

Romine, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. Five of the seventeen paper copies shall be three-hole punched. The electronic copy may be filed via the “e-file” system that is available at the Commission’s website, [www.psc.state.md.us](http://www.psc.state.md.us).

On Tuesday, June 1, 2010, the Commission shall hold a legislative-type hearing in the matter beginning at 10 a.m. in the Commission’s 16<sup>th</sup> Floor Hearing Room, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

By Direction of the Commission,

*/s/ Terry J. Romine*

Terry J. Romine  
Executive Secretary