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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

December 16, 2021

United Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA)
Framework for Distributed Energy
Resources

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BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF MARYLAND

CASE NO. 9674

**NOTICE INITIATING A NEW DOCKET, NOTICE OF VIRTUAL HEARING,
AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS**

On December 1, 2021 the Leader of the Electric Vehicle Work Group in Public Conference 44 filed a letter asking the Commission to docket a new proceeding to examine a Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) framework for all Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) in Maryland.¹ In support of this request, the filing suggests that a framework that measures cost-effectiveness and potential rate impacts across all DERs will ensure adequate review of projects and consistency in the valuation of relevant value streams, and could potentially assist the Commission in evaluating utility investment strategies and distribution system planning practices. Finally, the filing suggests using the Commission’s existing work on BCA, including in the Electric Vehicle and EmPOWER workgroups, as well as the National Standard Practice Manual, to inform the development of a unified DER BCA.

¹ Maillog No. 238014.

The Commission hereby initiates Case No. 9674 to explore the process for developing a proposed unified BCA framework for DERs in Maryland. In scoping and launching this initiative, the Commission will accept comments from interested parties on the limited topics of: (1) the practical use of a unified BCA for stakeholders, (2) the role of a unified BCA in Commission proceedings; and (3) suggested methodologies, procedures, or vehicles for developing the unified BCA. Interested stakeholders shall submit comments by February 16, 2022.²

The Commission will hold a virtual, legislative-style hearing to consider the comments at 1 p.m. on February 23, 2022. Parties that wish to actively participate in the hearing must contact Susan Howard at susan.howard@maryland.gov by 12:00 noon on February 21, 2022. Otherwise, you may watch the video of the hearing on the Commission's YouTube channel.³

By Direction of the Commission,

/s/ Andrew S. Johnston

Andrew S. Johnston
Executive Secretary

² All filings should be addressed to Andrew S. Johnston, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. The Commission encourages the parties to use its "eFile" system to submit the electronic version of the filing. Details of the "eFile" system can be found on the Commission's website, www.psc.state.md.us.

³ Access the Commission's YouTube channel via the "Watch PSC Proceedings" button on the lower left side of the Commission's home page, or at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/c/MarylandPSC>.