

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 21-5271-INV

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Public Utility Commission 2021 Investigation  
into Rates Related to Electric Vehicles

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Order entered: 12/20/2021

**ORDER OPENING AN INVESTIGATION AND REQUESTING COMMENTS**

On June 3, 2021, Act 55, an act relating to the Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation, was signed into the law. Among other things, Act 55 directs the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) to file a report to the Legislature annually for four years regarding progress on rates related to electric vehicles (“EVs”) and electric vehicle supply equipment (“EVSE”). By this order, the Commission opens an investigation to gather information it will need to file its report in January of 2022.

Section 33 of Act 55 directs distribution utilities to develop rates that will help to manage loads for greater cost containment, while supporting greater customer participation in such efforts and promoting the adoption of electric vehicles. Utilities are required to propose rates to the Commission by June 30, 2024. Several utilities have already put into place special EV and EVSE rates. Section 33 also requires that the Commission “in consultation with the Department of Public Service and State electric distribution utilities” to “file written reports...that address the goals delineated in subdivisions (c)(1)(A)–(F) of this section, as applicable, and any progress barriers towards the goals contained in subsections (a) and (b) of this section.”<sup>1,2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Act 55, Section 33, (c)(1)(A)-(F): “(c) PEV rates approved by the Public Utility Commission under subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection comply with subsection (b) of this section. (1) The Public Utility Commission shall approve PEV rates that it finds, at a minimum: (A) support greater adoption of PEVs; (B) adequately compensate PEV operators and owners of EVSE available to the public for the value of grid-related services, including costs avoided through peak management; (C) adequately compensate the electric distribution utility and its customers for the additional costs that are directly attributable to the delivery of electricity through a PEV rate; (D) include a reasonable contribution to historic or embedded costs required to meet the overall cost of service; (E) do not discourage EVSE available to the public; and (F) do not have an adverse impact to ratepayers not utilizing the PEV rate.”

<sup>2</sup> Act 55, 2021, Section 33, (a)-(b): “(a) This section serves to encourage efficient integration of PEVs and EVSE into the electric system and the timely adoption of PEVs and public charging through managed loads or time-differentiated price signals. (b) Unless an extension is granted pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, all State electric distribution utilities shall offer PEV rates, which may include rates for electricity sales to an entire customer premises, for public and private EVSE not later than June 30, 2024. These rates shall, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 225, be filed for review and approval by the Public Utility Commission and encourage: (1) efficient use of PEV loads consistent with objectives of least-cost integrated planning, set out in 30 V.S.A. § 218c, and 30 V.S.A. § 202(b) and

In 2022, the Commission plans to provide an inventory to the Legislature of existing rates related to EVs and EVSE. The Commission requests that the distribution utilities provide an inventory of rates and tariffs they offer related to EVs and EVSE. The inventory need only reference existing tariffs by number and include the following information:

1. **Rate details.** Details on the specific rate or rates offered, including eligibility by customer class or group. Utilities may either provide a descriptive narrative or the titles or numbers of any tariffs or pilot programs previously filed with the Commission. Please also identify the default residential and commercial retail rates and tariffs for point of reference.
2. **Enrollment.** The number of customers enrolled in such rates and the percentage of customers who utilize utility incentives related to EVs (Tier III, for example) who are also enrolled in the rate or rates.
3. **Effectiveness.** Whether the rates appear to be directing load away from peak times related to cost. What are the “lessons learned” during implementation so far?
4. **No EV or EVSE rates.** If the utility has no EV or EVSE rates, please describe (1) progress toward developing such rates, (2) any barriers the utility is facing as it attempts to implement the requirement, and (3) pathways to overcoming any such barriers associated with the development of rates for EV and EVSE rates in Act 55.

The Commission also wishes to gather any other comments or additional information that parties wish to offer on this topic, including comments from the Department of Public Service.

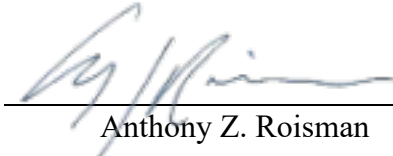
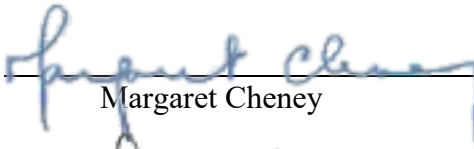
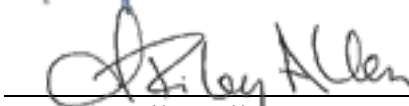
The deadline to submit the inventories and comments is December 31, 2021.

**SO ORDERED.**

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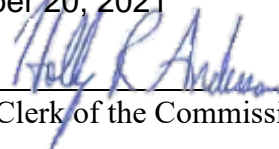
(c); (2) participation in the PEV rates; (3) travel by PEV relative to available alternatives; and (4) greater adoption of PEVs.”

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 20th day of December, 2021.

 _____)	Anthony Z. Roisman )	PUBLIC UTILITY )
_____) )		
 _____) )	Margaret Cheney )	COMMISSION )
_____) )		
 _____) )	J. Riley Allen )	OF VERMONT )

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: December 20, 2021

Attest:   
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Clerk of the Commission

*Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: [puc.clerk@vermont.gov](mailto:puc.clerk@vermont.gov))*

*Appeal of this decision to the Supreme Court of Vermont must be filed with the Clerk of the Commission within 30 days. Appeal will not stay the effect of this Order, absent further order by this Commission or appropriate action by the Supreme Court of Vermont. Motions for reconsideration or stay, if any, must be filed with the Clerk of the Commission within 28 days of the date of this decision and Order.*

PUC Case No. 21-5271-INV - SERVICE LIST

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(for Vermont  
Department of Public  
Service)

Other entities receiving notice:

Large email service list