

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 22-4869-INV

Public Utility Commission 2022 Investigation into Rates Related to Electric Vehicles	
---	--

Order entered: 11/15/2022

ORDER OPENING AN INVESTIGATION AND REQUESTING COMMENTS

On June 3, 2021, Act 55, entitled “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 an annual report with the Legislature for four years, beginning January 15, 2022, regarding the progress of Vermont distribution utilities on implementing rates related to plug-in electric vehicles (“EVs” or “PEVs”) and electric vehicle supply equipment (“EVSE”). By this order, the Commission opens an investigation to gather the information it will need to file its report in January of 2023.

The Commission issued its first annual report to the Legislature on this topic on January 15, 2022. That report was prepared using information gathered in Case No. 21-5271-INV.¹ Previously, the Commission released two reports that addressed electrification of the transportation system more broadly.² The information gathered for this report will address retail rates for EVs and EVSE specifically.

Section 33 of Act 55 directs distribution utilities to develop rates that will help manage loads for improved cost containment, while supporting increased customer participation in those rates and adoption of electric vehicles. Utilities are required to offer EV rates to their customers by June 30, 2024. Several utilities have already put into place some EV and EVSE rates. Section 33 also requires the Commission “in consultation with the Department of Public Service and State electric distribution utilities” to “file written reports...that address the goals delineated

¹ Case No. 21-5271-INV, the Public Utility Commission 2021 Investigation into Rates Related to Electric Vehicles. Participants are encouraged to review their filings and the final report in that case. Participant filings are available in the “other documents” tab in ePUC. The Commission’s final report, *Act 55: 2022 Report on Electric Rates for Electric Vehicles*, is available in the “Commission issued documents” tab in ePUC.

² See the Commission’s report *Promoting the Ownership and Use of Electric Vehicles*, of June 27, 2019 available at https://puc.vermont.gov/sites/psbnew/files/doc_library/Electric%20vehicles%20report.pdf and the Commission’s report *Supplemental Electric Vehicle Report Submitted Pursuant to Section 35 of Act 59 of the 2019-2020 Vermont Legislative Session* of December 13, 2019 available in Case No. 19-3009-INV.

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.”^{3,4}

In 2023, the Commission plans to provide an inventory to the Legislature of existing rates related to EVs and EVSE and an update on the development of rates that utilities plan to propose in advance of the June 30, 2024, implementation deadline. The Commission requests that the distribution utilities provide an inventory of rates and tariffs they offer related to EVs and EVSE or details on their progress toward offering those rates. Filings should include the following information and may be updated versions of the 2022 filings:

1. **Rate details.** Details on the specific rate or rates offered, including eligibility by customer class or group. Utilities may provide either 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.

³ Act 55, Section 33, (c)(1)(A)-(F) states:

(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.

⁴ Act 55, 2021, Section 33, (a)-(b) states:

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

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.** Do the rates appear to be directing load away from peak times related to cost? Are there other value streams or opportunities presented by EV rates? For example, will EV rates be effective in avoiding upgrades to the distribution grid or reducing other power supply costs? What are the “lessons learned” during implementation so far?
4. **Progress.**⁵ Please describe (1) progress toward developing new or additional EV or EVSE rates, (2) any barriers the utility is facing as it attempts to implement the requirement, (3) pathways to overcoming any such barriers associated with the development of rates for EV and EVSE rates in Act 55, and (4) concrete steps the utility is taking to prepare to propose rates in advance of the June 30, 2024 deadline for implementation.
5. **Addressing barriers.** In last year’s report, utilities identified several barriers to implementing EV and EVSE rates including metering, changing technology, cost, and broadband access.⁶ Please describe the specific actions the utility is taking to overcome these barriers.

The Commission also wishes to gather any other comments or additional information that parties would like to offer on this topic, including comments from the Department of Public Service, charging network providers, third-party service providers, and others.

The deadline to submit the inventories and comments is December 12, 2022.

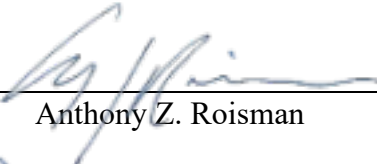
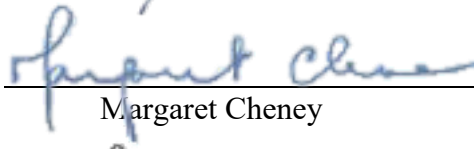
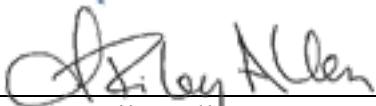
Reply comments, if any, are due December 30, 2022.

SO ORDERED.

⁵ For utilities that already offer EV/EVSE rates, please describe any efforts to add additional rates or programs. For example, a utility could answer these questions about rates directed at commercial customers, fleets, public transport, or fast charging stations.

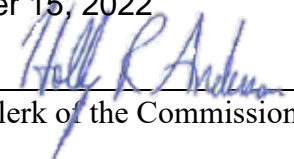
⁶ See Case No. 21-5271-INV, report *Act 55: 2022 Report on Electric Rates for Electric Vehicles* at 12-13.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 15th day of November, 2022.

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: November 15, 2022

Attest: 

 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)

PUC Case No. 22-4869-INV - SERVICE LIST

Carolyn Browne Anderson, Esq.
Green Mountain Power Corporation
2152 Post Road
Rutland, VT 05702
carolyn.anderson@greenmountainpower.com

(for Green Mountain
Power Corporation)

Reginald Beliveau, Jr.
Swanton Village, Inc. Electric Department
P.O. Box 279
120 First Street
Swanton, VT 05488
rbeliveau@swanton.net

(for Swanton Village,
Inc. Electric Department)

Sarah Braese
Vermont Public Power Supply Authority
PO Box 126
5195 Waterbury-Stowe Road
Waterbury Center, VT 05677
sbraese@vppsa.com

(for Vermont Public
Power Supply Authority)

Victoria J. Brown, Esq.
Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc.
42 Wescom Road
Johnson, VT 05656
vbrown@vermontelectric.coop

(for Vermont Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Jeffrey Cram
GF Power LLC
1000 River Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452
jeffrey.cram@globalfoundries.com

(for GF Power LLC)

Crystal L Currier
Vermont Public Power Supply Authority
PO Box 126
Waterbury Center, VT 05677
ccurrier@vppsa.com

(for Barton Village Inc.
Electric Department)

William F. Ellis
McNeil, Leddy & Sheahan
271 South Union Street
Burlington, VT 05401
wellis@mcneilvt.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Jonathan Elwell
Village of Lyndonville Electric Department
PO Box 167
20 Park Avenue
Lyndonville, VT 05851
jelwell@lyndonvilleelectric.com

(for Village of
Lyndonville Electric
Department)

Elijah D Emerson, Esq.
Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer PC
PO Box 1309
Montpelier, VT 05601
eemerson@primmer.com

(for Town of Northfield
Electric Department)
(for Town of Hardwick
Electric Department)
(for Village of Enosburg
Falls Water & Light
Department Inc.) (for
Village of Johnson Water
& Light Department)
(for Village of Johnson
Water & Light
Department)

Marla Emery
Village of Johnson Water & Light Department
P.O. Box 603
Johnson, VT 05656
memery@townofjohnson.com

Steven R Farman
Vermont Public Power Supply Authority
5195 Waterbury-Stowe rd
Waterbury Center, VT 05766
sfarman@vppsa.com

(for Vermont Public
Power Supply Authority)

Karen Field
Town of Hardwick Electric Department
PO Box 516
Hardwick, VT 05843
kfield@hardwickelectric.com

(for Town of Hardwick
Electric Department)

James Gibbons
City of Burlington Electric Department
585 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
jgibbons@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Grace Grundhauser
Green Mountain Power Corporation
163 Acorn Lane
Colchester, VT 05446
grace.grundhauser@greenmountainpower.com

(for Green Mountain
Power Corporation)

Michael J. Hall
Stackpole & French Law Offices
PO Box 819
Stowe, VT 05672
mhall@stackpolefrench.com

(for Town of Stowe
Electric Department)

Scott Johnstone
Village of Morrisville Water & Light Department
857 Elmore Street
Morrisville, VT 05661
sjohnstone@mwlvt.com

(for Village of
Morrisville Water &
Light Department)

Michael Lazorchak
Town of Stowe Electric Department
PO Box 190
Stowe, VT 05672
mlazorchak@stoweelectric.com

(for Town of Stowe
Electric Department)

Mari McClure
Green Mountain Power Corporation
163 Acorn Lane
Colchester, VT 05446
ceo@greenmountainpower.com

(for Green Mountain
Power Corporation)

Abbey Miller
Village of Enosburg Falls Water & Light Department
42 Village Drive
Enosburg Falls, VT 05450
amiller@enosburg.net

(for Village of Enosburg
Falls Water & Light
Department Inc.)

Pamela Moore
Village of Jacksonville Electric Company
P.O. Box 169
Jacksonville, VT 05342
sfarman@live.com

(for Village of
Jacksonville Electric
Company)

John Morley
Village of Orleans Electric Department
Municipal Building
One Memorial Square
Orleans, VT 05860
jmorley@villageoforleansvt.org

(for Village of Orleans
Electric Department)

Ken Nolan
Vermont Public Power Supply Authority
P.O. Box 126
Waterbury Center, VT 05677
knolan@vppsa.com

(for Vermont Public
Power Supply Authority)

Thomas Petraska
Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department
9 Pond Street
Ludlow, VT 05149
tpetraska@ludlowelectric.com

(for Village of Ludlow
Electric Light
Department)

Louis Porter
Washington Electric Cooperative
PO Box 8
East Montpelier, VT 05651
louis.porter@wec.coop

(for Washington Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Jackie Pratt
Town of Stowe Electric Department
PO Box 190
Stowe, VT 05672
jpratt@stoweelectric.com

(for Town of Stowe
Electric Department)

James Porter, Director of Public Advocacy
Vermont Department of Public Service
112 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601
DPS-PA@vermont.gov

(for Vermont
Department of Public
Service)

Carol Robertson
Village of Hyde Park Electric Department
P.O. Box 400
Hyde Park, VT 05655
carol.robertson@hydeparkvt.com

(for Village of Hyde
Park Electric
Department)

Jeffrey Schulz
Town of Northfield Electric Department
51 South Main Street
Northfield, VT 05663
jschulz@northfield.vt.us

(for Town of Northfield
Electric Department)

Ronald A. Shems, Esq.
Tarrant, Gillies & Shems, LLP
P.O. Box 1440
Montpelier, VT 05601-1440
ron@tarrantgillies.com

(for Washington Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Darren Springer
City of Burlington Electric Department
585 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
dspringer@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Emily Stebbins-Wheelock
City of Burlington Electric Department
585 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
estebbins-wheelock@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Michael Sullivan
Town of Hardwick Electric Department
P.O. Box 516
Hardwick, VT 05843
msullivan@hardwickelectric.com

(for Town of Hardwick
Electric Department)

Rebecca Towne
Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc.
42 Wescom Road
Johnson, VT 05656
rtowne@vermontelectric.coop

(for Vermont Electric
Cooperative Inc.)