

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 24-3023-INV

Public Utility Commission 2024 Investigation
into Rates Related to Electric Vehicles

Order entered: 12/10/2024

ORDER RE: WORKSHOP TOPICS

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 law.¹ Section 33(f) of Act 55 directs the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) to file an annual report with the Legislature for four years, through January 15, 2025, describing the progress of Vermont distribution utilities toward implementing rates related to plug-in electric vehicles (“EVs” or “PEVs”) and electric vehicle supply equipment (“EVSE”) by the June 30, 2024, deadline required by Section 33(b) of Act 55.

On September 27, 2024, the Commission opened this investigation to gather information for the report due on January 15, 2025. Included in the topics for comment was the Legislature’s new reporting requirement describing Vermont utilities’ service upgrade practices related to the installation of electric vehicle supply equipment:

[I]nclude a reporting of service upgrade practices related to the installation of electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) across all electric distribution utilities, including a comparison of EVSE-related service upgrade practices, a description of the frequency and typical costs of EVSE-related service upgrades, and rate-payer impact

The comments received on service upgrade practices contained varying levels of specificity, but are not sufficient for the reporting that the Commission is required to provide in its legislative report. To allow the Commission to prepare its report, a workshop will be held on December 18, 2024, to discuss the responses on service upgrade practices. At the workshop, I request that each utility be prepared to provide an explanation of the following topics, which may incorporate information from the written responses that you have already provided²:

¹ Public Act No. 55 (2021 Vt., Bien. Sess.) (“Act 55”).

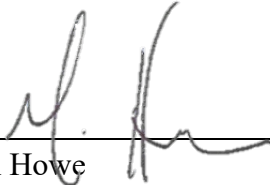
² For VPPSA-member utilities, I ask that each utility be prepared to address the topics above or for VPPSA to be prepared to address the topics for each of its members.

- 1) Each utility's policies for responding to customer requests for service upgrades that require upgrading utility-owned equipment (e.g., lines, transformers), including:
 - a) Whether and when customers requesting service upgrades are or would be responsible for costs associated with upgrading utility-owned equipment when upgrades are necessary.
 - b) Whether the entity responsible for costs is or would be different if the upgrade purpose is to enable the installation of EVSE.
 - c) Where your policies are documented (e.g., tariff, internal written procedures).
- 2) If your utility provides rebates for EVSE-related service upgrades, please explain if you have ever denied a rebate. If so, how many times and for what reason.
- 3) If customers are or would be responsible for upgrade costs, please explain whether your utility allocates the costs for shared infrastructure among customers.
- 4) The frequency and typical costs of EVSE-related service upgrades over the past three years, if you have performed any EVSE-related service upgrades.
- 5) Any ratepayer impacts that have or would result due to EVSE-related service upgrades.

When preparing for the workshop discussion, please also prepare a written summary that can be filed in ePUC after the workshop to aid in the Commission's preparation of its 2025 report.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 10th day of December, 2024.



Micah Howe
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: December 10, 2024

Attest: Pamela Lenahan
Deputy 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)

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