

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

CASE NO. 24-3023-INV

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION 2024
INVESTIGATION INTO RATES RELATED TO
ELECTRIC VEHICLES

December 18, 2024
9:30 a.m.

Via videoconference

Workshop held before the Vermont Public
Utility Commission, via videoconference, on December 18,
2024, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

P R E S E N T

HEARING OFFICER: Micah Howe, Staff Attorney

STAFF: Andrea Poppiti, Utilities Analyst
Jacob Davis, Utilities Analyst

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Brian Evans-Mongeon, Hyde Park
Bill Ellis, Esq., BED
Melinda Humphrey, GMP
Andrea Cohen, VEC
Ken Nolan, VPPSA
Philip Picotte, DPS
Matthew Bakerpoole, DPS
Candace Morgan, GMP
JJ Vandette, WEC
Bronwyn Cooke
Lou Cecere
Amber Widmayer, BED
Kelsey Dannenbaum
Patrick Murphy, AOT
Michael Lazorchak, Stowe Electric
David Roberts, VEIC
Lisa Morris, VEC
Cyril Brunner, VEC
Thea Schwartz, VEC
Brian Hall, VEC

1 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: I am going to go
2 ahead and get started. I think people may continue
3 to roll in as we go. But we can get started and they
4 can catch up as they join.

5 So good morning. We are here today for
6 a workshop in Case No. 24-3023-INV, which is an
7 investigation into rates related to electric vehicles
8 opened by the Vermont Public Utility Commission
9 pursuant to Act 55 of 2021.

10 My name is Micah Howe. I'm a staff
11 attorney at the commission. Also attending the
12 workshop today, and let me just double check, I think
13 I saw both Andrea Poppiti and Jacob Davis who are
14 utility analysts at the commission.

15 This workshop is being conducted
16 remotely. We are using the web-based platform
17 GoToMeeting. At this point I think everyone is
18 familiar with the guidelines for remote proceedings,
19 so I will skip over the procedures, but let me know
20 if you have questions or if any issues come up. The
21 most important parts are to keep your microphone off
22 unless you're speaking to avoid background noise, and
23 to identify yourself for the court reporter before
24 you are speaking.

25 We actually have a hard cut off today

1 at noon, so we need to cover a fair amount of ground
2 in that time, and hopefully -- I think we can get
3 through everything. That should not be a problem,
4 but for anyone who has afternoon plans, we have a
5 hard cut off at noon. So with that covered, let's
6 get to the workshop.

7 Let's go ahead, and everyone, let's
8 take attendance and see who is here. Make sure we
9 get that into the record. I will call off
10 participants, and I don't know for sure who everyone
11 is, so I'll just go down my list here. And then if I
12 don't cover someone, I'll ask for that at the end.

13 So is anyone here from the Department
14 of Public Service?

15 MR. PICOTTE: Good morning. Mr. Howe.
16 Philip Picotte from the Department of Public Service.
17 Also joined by attorney from the department Matthew
18 Bakerpoole.

19 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: From Burlington
20 Electric.

21 MS. WIDMAYER: Good morning. Amber
22 Widmayer from Burlington Electric Department.

23 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: All right.
24 Welcome. Let's see. Green Mountain Power.

25 MS. HUMPHREY: Melinda Humphrey joined

1 by Candace Morgan.

2 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: All right.
3 Welcome. Hyde Park.

4 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: Good morning. This
5 is Brian Evans-Mongeon. I'm the village manager for
6 the Village of Hyde Park.

7 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: All right.
8 Welcome. Stowe Electric.

9 (No response)

10 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: All right. No
11 one from Stowe Electric yet. Hopefully they will
12 join as we go.

13 Vermont Electric Co-op.

14 MS. MORRIS: Good morning. We have a
15 group here. So Lisa Morris, Thea Schwartz, Brian
16 Hall and Cyril Brunner.

17 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: All right.
18 Welcome everyone. Thanks for joining.

19 MR. LAZORCHAK: This is Michael
20 Lazorchak from Stowe Electric. I'm here.

21 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay great. And
22 then we have the VPPSA utilities, and I'm not sure if
23 it would be one -- someone from VIPPA.

24 Okay. There we go.

25 MR. ELLIS: Good morning. Ken, go

1 ahead.

2 MR. NOLAN: Ken Nolan. Vermont Public
3 Power Supply Authority. We will be representing all
4 11 utilities, and Bill Ellis, our outside counsel, is
5 here with me.

6 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Great. Welcome.
7 And then last I have Washington Electric. Anyone
8 from Washington Electric? All right. Is there
9 anybody that I missed?

10 MR. PICOTTE: JJ Vandette came on
11 screen but we could not -- although he unmuted, we
12 could not hear him speaking.

13 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Do you
14 want to -- sometimes there is a setting in your
15 computer that will switch your main audio. I'll put
16 you later in order, and hopefully we can get that
17 sorted out before we reach any questions for you.

18 All right. Well welcome everyone.
19 Let's get right to the substance. I sent out an
20 order with an agenda or a notice with an agenda
21 outlining the topics we will discuss today.

22 They all focus on the new question that
23 the legislature added last session in Act 148 related
24 to EV-related service upgrade policies. This is a
25 new topic the commission -- this is the fourth and

1 final report that the commission will submit under
2 Act 55. And this is a new topic that the legislature
3 asked the commission to address.

4 I think the topic was probably included
5 in a confusing manner in the original order opening
6 the investigation. So apologies if that created any
7 confusion. In my recent agenda I tried to break it
8 out into more of a piecemeal set of topics for the
9 utilities to respond to.

10 This actually came up in some
11 discussions with the various legislative committees
12 over the last session. So my interpretation of this
13 topic and the information that the commission would
14 like to provide is on EV-related service upgrade
15 policies. And this would be upgrades that occur
16 outside of the scope of installing the EVSE in the
17 resident's home or commercial customer's home. So
18 things that are on the utility side of the meter
19 rather than the homeowner side of the meter or
20 business's side of the meter.

21 So my -- there may be other things, but
22 the big things that come to my mind are transformer
23 upgrades, line upgrades, things like that that would
24 be outside of the customer's owned, I guess,
25 infrastructure. So we will dig a little deeper on

1 that today.

2 I don't know if -- what the best way to
3 proceed is, if the utilities have a prepared set of
4 responses that they would like to just run through
5 the topics and I can ask questions, that would
6 probably be the easiest. If they do not, we can step
7 through each of the individual topics with each
8 utility.

9 The goal, of course, is to gather
10 enough information to put into this report that's due
11 to the legislature next month. So I guess normally I
12 would just go in alphabetical order. Today given our
13 time constraints I'll probably go in a different
14 order. I would like to start with VPPSA and its
15 utilities because I think they will probably have the
16 longest responses given the number of utilities that
17 will need to be addressed today.

18 So VPPSA, do you -- let's see. Mr.
19 Nolan, do you have a preference on how to proceed?
20 I'm not quite sure how to parse out your response, so
21 in the comments you mentioned that the answer to
22 these questions may vary for each utility based on
23 their policies and procedures.

24 Do you have a sense of how best to
25 tackle this?

1 MR. NOLAN: I can walk you through each
2 question, Mr. Howe, and, I think, generally most of
3 them align in how they are treating things, but there
4 are some outliers.

5 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay.

6 MR. NOLAN: So I'll try to group
7 together, and then point out to you which outliers
8 exist and answer any questions you have.

9 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. That
10 sounds great to me.

11 MR. NOLAN: All right. So on the first
12 question around responding to customer requests and
13 whether -- who pays for upgrades. Generally all the
14 utilities require the customer to pay. There are
15 three outliers to that: Northfield Electric and
16 Orleans Electric pay for utility costs around
17 customer upgrades if they are load related. It would
18 be a different answer for generation projects, but on
19 the load side they will pay. In Enosburg, from a
20 terms and conditions matter, says they charge
21 customers if the transformer that's required is
22 greater than 37.5 Kv. As a practical matter, if they
23 are doing an upgrade for an EV that's usually a
24 larger transformer. The customer generally has to
25 pay. So 8 out of the --

1 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Quick question
2 for you. So an EV upgrade for a customer typically
3 requires a transformer in excess of 37.5?

4 MR. NOLAN: If they are upgrading the
5 system for a customer request like that, they are
6 going to assume that there is other load coming. So
7 they will generally put a larger transformer.

8 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay.

9 MR. NOLAN: 8 out of the 11 the
10 customer pays. 2 the utility pays. And 1, depending
11 on the size of the transformer, but generally the
12 customer.

13 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: That's across
14 the board, that's not EV specific?

15 MR. NOLAN: That is correct. As far as
16 question B, would it be different if there was
17 anything else. Other than generation, if it's a
18 generation project, some treat it differently. In
19 particular, Northfield would charge the customer
20 installing the generation for the upgrade, but if
21 it's a load, they will pay for it.

22 Policies or documents. This we have
23 struggled to get a clear answer. Most of the
24 utilities point to the Vermont Utility Service
25 Requirements Manual as the reason. We haven't really

1 found a direct quote in there, but when we question
2 the utilities as to how they are making the decision,
3 it appears that they are combining it, pointing at
4 service requirements manual and the "other services"
5 section of their terms and conditions. So they are
6 treating these as an other service that the
7 customer's requesting which clearly says that the
8 customer pays for the work performed.

9 On question 2, rebates. The utilities
10 themselves have not provided any rebates. That's
11 through our Tier III effort which we operate on
12 behalf of utilities. We did get a VLITE grant which
13 was specifically earmarked toward paying for
14 upgrades. That ended in May of this year. So since
15 May we have not provided any rebates to customers.

16 In all honesty, we only had a few
17 takers of that, and those customers were in
18 Morrisville and Hardwick. None of the other
19 utilities had customers that took advantage of it.

20 Regarding question 3, how do they treat
21 shared resources. Almost entirely across the board
22 the answer was the customer who is requesting the
23 upgrade pays for the upgrade. Hardwick and
24 Morrisville indicated that they had a policy similar
25 to line extensions, where if another customer later

1 required an upgrade, there would be a sharing of the
2 cost. But 9 out of the 11 said whoever has requested
3 the upgrade pays for it.

4 For question 4 regarding the cost, I
5 think generally the municipal utilities, our members
6 at least, saw a range in the 1,500 to 4,000 range.
7 But it was heavily dependent on which items required
8 upgrade. If it was just the line, we were seeing
9 numbers between 500 and a thousand. If the
10 transformer got involved, that could add up to \$2,000
11 more. But as we polled them as to what the total
12 cost was, they were all running in the two to four
13 thousand dollar range.

14 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: And for line
15 upgrades, is that typically just from the pole to the
16 residence to the meter? Is that the line that would
17 be -- so we are not talking about further
18 infrastructure upgrades beyond just the individual
19 premises.

20 MR. NOLAN: That's correct. The --
21 typically if it's going to be a primary line, that's
22 considered a utility cost. This would be talking
23 about the transformer and the secondary upgrade that
24 were necessary.

25 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay.

1 MR. NOLAN: Frequency of requests, it
2 varies quite a bit. Some of the members -- Swanton
3 has not really had a residential request. They have
4 had a couple of commercial requests. And it runs to
5 the other spectrum. Morrisville claims they get one
6 or two a month. And several other members, Enosburg,
7 Jacksonville, indicated one -- there are a couple
8 every quarter. So it's very minor.

9 You know, when we talk to Lyndon,
10 Ludlow, Orleans, and Jacks -- I'm sorry, Johnson,
11 they indicated they have not had any residential
12 requests at this point.

13 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. And your
14 answer is specific to EV requests or EV-related
15 requests, or is that generally?

16 MR. NOLAN: That's specifically related
17 to EV charger upgrades.

18 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Perfect.

19 MR. NOLAN: Yes. I think from our
20 standpoint, if you get outside of the Champlain
21 Valley, the farther you get toward the Northeast
22 Kingdom, we tend to see minimal upgrade requests,
23 minimal EV activity.

24 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Sure.

25 MR. NOLAN: And then question 5, I

1 don't have a clear answer. I would say we have tried
2 to look at the rate impacts, and we are not clear on
3 what the commission is asking for there. If we are
4 looking at the impact on the particular customer,
5 without having to pay, we are looking at a 3.1
6 percent increase, and that's based on
7 calculations for Barton. But I believe the
8 commission was looking more across what's the utility
9 impact. So further guidance would allow us to answer
10 that question a little better.

11 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Yeah. I think
12 -- well, and again, this is my interpretation of what
13 was in the Act last session. I think that's looking
14 for broader ratepayer impacts that are being seen
15 from these upgrades.

16 What you said, the 3 and-a-half percent
17 rate impact, was that on the specific customer that
18 requested the upgrade? So what you're saying -- go
19 ahead.

20 MR. NOLAN: It would be the effective
21 impact on a customer having to pay for the upgrade
22 itself.

23 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay.

24 MR. NOLAN: You would see a 3 percent,
25 3, 3 and-a-half percent impact for that cost.

1 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: And is that a
2 lump sum payment? Or they somehow pay that over time
3 through their rates?

4 MR. NOLAN: Yeah. In most of the cases
5 it's treated like a line extension. So the customer
6 would need to pay that up front before the work is
7 done.

8 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Gotcha. Okay.

9 MR. NOLAN: With that guidance, we can
10 have a better answer in our written filings to follow
11 up, but I don't have it today.

12 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Yeah. I
13 think my sense of what that part -- what that piece
14 of the topic was trying to get at was to the extent a
15 utility is not requiring customers to pay for these
16 upgrades, how does that impact rates.

17 And, you know, completely understand
18 that that could be read in a number of ways. And
19 it's going to depend entirely on how many there have
20 been, you know, apart from -- obviously there is no
21 broad ratepayer base impact if it's a cost causation
22 solution where that customer's paying. But where the
23 customer's not paying, and that's being spread across
24 that rate class, how does that impact it.

25 I don't have a clear picture in my mind

1 at this point how to present a useful answer to that
2 part of the inquiry. Honestly, the best way to give
3 some sort of a useful response would be in a -- for a
4 4 or 5 thousand dollar upgrade or a 4 thousand dollar
5 upgrade that has an impact on rates. That seems to
6 me like a hard number to come up with, a challenging
7 number that requires a lot of calculation which I'm
8 not asking anyone to do.

9 But, you know, if that information is
10 easily available, I would love to see that to give
11 the legislature a sense, because just given the
12 spectrum of, you know, number of upgrades, cost of
13 upgrades, and number of other customers across which
14 this is spread, the answer is it's not a single
15 answer. It's going to be a whole range of answers.

16 So I'm not quite sure how to present
17 that. I think there is a very good chance that I
18 explain the difficulty of answering it and then give
19 some examples. That may be what they are looking for
20 to give them a sense. So yeah, any information
21 anyone can contribute on that that I could include in
22 the attempted answer is appreciated. So I appreciate
23 the struggle, I guess, is my point.

24 MR. NOLAN: We will provide what we
25 can. And that's what I have unless you have other

1 questions.

2 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: No. I think
3 that is it. That was easier -- I thought that was
4 going to take a long time to walk through. So no. I
5 think that's it. Thank you for that.

6 Let's jump to Burlington Electric. I'm
7 not sure this was addressed in your comments, so I
8 would love to hear from Burlington Electric on this
9 topic, and we can fill in that gap.

10 MS. WIDMAYER: Yes. So our policy is
11 that the costs are paid for by the customer that
12 requires the upgrade. What those costs include are
13 the installation and the labor. BED covers the cost
14 of the transformer. We don't have cost sharing among
15 customers except in the rare occasion if there are
16 multiple customers requesting an upgrade at the same
17 time. We have had maybe one incident where two
18 customers have shared the cost.

19 The guidelines or the written document
20 dictating our procedures is essentially our operating
21 guidelines which we have been working on some
22 updates. We need to submit those at some point.

23 Number 2.

24 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Let me just -- a
25 quick question. So if you had -- I don't know what

1 your typical number of customers is on a transformer.
2 But let's say you have four customers on a
3 transformer. First one gets an EV, and six months
4 later a second one gets an EV. First one paid for
5 the upgrade. Second one doesn't require an upgrade
6 because it's already been done. That first customer
7 would get no break or no sharing of those costs?

8 MS. WIDMAYER: Not at this time. The
9 information that we collect for people when they are
10 requesting upgrades, we ask them what it's for, but
11 it's not always directly causal to, you know, an EV
12 or sometimes people are just kind of speculating, we
13 might want to do some things. But, you know, there
14 is not like a direct project that's actually
15 happening. So yeah, we don't have a mechanism for
16 reimbursing people at this point.

17 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Is that
18 anything that you've considered or talked about?
19 Just I guess, you know, the legislature is asking
20 these questions. I'm not sure --

21 MS. WIDMAYER: I understand the
22 direction this is going. I mean obviously I think
23 that is something worthwhile considering -- for us to
24 consider. It's not a conversation that we have at
25 this point.

1 MS. POPPITI: Just to go back for a
2 second. Andrea from the commission. Did you say
3 that BED pays for the transformer though? Or did I
4 mishear what you said?

5 MS. WIDMAYER: That's correct.

6 MS. POPPITI: So BED pays for the
7 transformer, and the customers pay for the lines and
8 the labor. Is that what you said?

9 MS. WIDMAYER: Yeah. I have an example
10 of that breakdown. It's going to be different every
11 time depending on where the customer is located and
12 how far. A recent project the transformer was over 7
13 thousand dollars, and the costs for installation and
14 labor were over \$4,000.

15 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Thanks, Andrea.
16 I totally misunderstood that.

17 MS. POPPITI: No problem.

18 MS. WIDMAYER: And that cost is paid up
19 front by the customer.

20 MS. POPPITI: And Micah asked how many
21 customers are typically on a transformer. Do you
22 have a sense of that?

23 MS. WIDMAYER: I don't. It varies. I
24 can find out.

25 MS. POPPITI: Okay. Yeah. That would

1 be great.

2 MS. WIDMAYER: So next question. We
3 don't have the EVSE-related rebate at this point. We
4 don't allocate the costs. We don't always know if it
5 is EVSE related. And we don't have good information
6 on the rate impacts because we don't have the
7 information on the EVSE-related upgrades.

8 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Do you
9 have any general sense of upgrade frequency if it's
10 just in general, not EV specific?

11 MS. WIDMAYER: I can get that for you
12 as well.

13 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Yeah.
14 Just curious if this is a common occurrence or not so
15 common occurrence. Sometimes it may not be a problem
16 at all.

17 MS. WIDMAYER: Right.

18 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: It's nothing
19 that needs any action. So again, ratepayer impacts I
20 guess so if -- do you have a sense of so when BED
21 upgrades a transformer for -- based on a service
22 request, is there any sense of that -- how that
23 spreads across -- what impact that has on rates? Or
24 is that just part of the normal course of business?

25 MS. WIDMAYER: Yeah. When I was

1 talking to engineering, they didn't have a sense.
2 They kind of just -- yes. Part of the normal course
3 of business.

4 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay.

5 MS. POPPITI: Maybe it would be helpful
6 to see if there's been a lot more in the last year or
7 two than there were in the previous few years. That
8 might give a sense of what is impacting rates because
9 of EVs, be kind of extrapolating, but --

10 MS. WIDMAYER: Yeah.

11 MS. POPPITI: -- some sort of
12 subjective sense there or --

13 MS. WIDMAYER: Okay. Yeah, I'll follow
14 up on that.

15 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Any other
16 questions for Burlington Electric before I move on?
17 That should do it. Thank you for that.

18 I think that all of this will give us
19 the base for what we put together in this report. So
20 thank you. Let's jump over to Stowe Electric.

21 MR. LAZORCHAK: Okay. Michael
22 Lazorchak again. Stowe Electric. So we do have line
23 extension, you know, the line extension or the
24 service request form similar to the other
25 municipalities. To my knowledge, we haven't received

1 a service upgrade due to electric vehicle charging
2 stations.

3 Most of the level II chargers that have
4 gone into residential properties they are associated
5 with the larger, either new construction, or, you
6 know, restoration of a building. So we haven't
7 actually parsed out what's causing that load
8 requirement. We just lump it into a new build.
9 However, if we would have to upgrade a transformer
10 due to the EV loads, the customer would be
11 responsible for the difference between the existing
12 transformer and the larger transformer.

13 We do have, much like the VPPSA
14 utilities, we rely on polling information from either
15 the Vermont Service Requirements Manual, the terms
16 and conditions that Stowe Electric has, internal
17 guidance, and then conversations with our board of
18 commissioners as it's related to EVSE.

19 For the -- 1A, yes, the customer is
20 responsible. 1B, you know, we treat EVSE as any
21 other load that a customer would be initiating the
22 service upgrade for. We provide rebates for the
23 level II charger, but we don't tie that to, like, the
24 cost of a service upgrade. So if you are going to
25 install a level II charger, we do have a rebate

1 available for that.

2 No residential customer's taken
3 advantage of that rebate. We have had, I think,
4 about six commercial customers who have received
5 rebates for level II chargers. The customers that
6 I'm aware of who have received the level II rebates,
7 they have increased the size of the transformer, but
8 again, that's related to additional loads that are
9 going on.

10 We have seen a couple of the hotels in
11 town as they are expanding their business they are
12 adding heat pumps, heat pumps and EV charging
13 stations, and I haven't gone through and tried to
14 parse out what's attributed to the charging stations
15 or what's attributed to the heat pump loads.

16 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: One question for
17 you. I think you said in the beginning that the
18 customer was responsible for the difference in size
19 of the transformer. So if you are having then --
20 what's that?

21 MR. LAZORCHAK: The cost. What we --
22 you know, I'm just kind of making it up. If it's a 5
23 KVA that's out there, we take that price going to a
24 10 KVA, the difference between those two is what we
25 attribute to the customer.

1 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: And the rest is
2 covered by Stowe Electric?

3 MR. LAZORCHAK: Yes. We operate under
4 the theory that we sort of, with the initial outlay
5 for that transformer, we have recovered the cost of
6 that transformer and then the long-term maintenance
7 of that transformer.

8 What we also do is we try to utilize
9 the NESC platform to see if we can shift transformers
10 around. So if there is a transformer at a different
11 location that's being under utilized, we can move it
12 to a new customer location, we try to do that.
13 Again, we have not done that for EV charging, but
14 that is a policy that we try to do. One, to try to
15 save costs, make it more efficient on our system too.
16 And then just recognizing we are still having
17 difficulties getting hold of transformers.

18 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Right.

19 MR. LAZORCHAK: So trying to be
20 efficient in how we allocate transformers within our
21 system. We do not, much like VPPSA and BED, we
22 don't, like, cost allocate that transformer among
23 multiple folks on that transformer who are using that
24 transformer. We do not provide a credit like you
25 would do with a line extension. Number 3.

1 And then number 4, the frequency, I
2 can't really speak to that because we haven't had any
3 costs directly related to EVSE. Stowe Electric does
4 own and operate charging stations. We have installed
5 new chargers. We have moved chargers around. But I
6 can't speak to the frequency or the typical costs for
7 customer EVSE over the past three years.

8 And then the ratepayer impacts. We are
9 undergoing a cost of service study right now. And
10 the rate consultant is looking at not only the
11 customer-owned EVSE impacts, but also are we
12 appropriately allocating the chargers that we own and
13 operate. We use ChargePoint. ChargePoint has what
14 they call the Assure plan and the Cloud Management
15 plan. It's paid in five year increments. So we are
16 undertaking that right now. I don't have any
17 information for you at the moment.

18 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. All
19 right. That is great information. Thank you for
20 that.

21 Any questions from Andrea or Jacob?

22 MR. DAVIS: One quick question. When
23 the program is utilized to shift the transformers
24 around, how then is that cost allocated if there
25 already was a transformer that can meet the needs of

1 the one that needs to be upgraded and then swapping
2 out for the lower voltage transformer?

3 MR. LAZORCHAK: I don't know. Because
4 it hasn't come up in the context of EV charging, I
5 didn't ask that. I mean I know -- I don't know. I
6 can check and get back to you.

7 MR. DAVIS: Okay. Awesome. Thank you.

8 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: All right.
9 Thank you for that. Let's jump to Hyde Park.

10 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: Again, good
11 morning. This is Brian Evans-Mongeon. First and
12 foremost, from our perspective, Hyde Park is still
13 working on a tariff for EV and EVSE. We were granted
14 a two-year extension to June of 2026 in order to be
15 able to put that together. That does not inhibit our
16 customers from wanting to do EV on their own. And as
17 long as they are incorporating the EV charging under
18 their current structure, that is absolutely fine with
19 us.

20 So we do provide the fact for our
21 customers to be able to do charging providing that
22 they are willing to pay the cost for supporting those
23 activities.

24 With that in mind, relative to specific
25 requests, we do treat it, as others had mentioned, as

1 a service application under our line extension
2 policy, which, you know, basically obligates the
3 requesting party to foot the bill for those expenses.

4 And I think to the later question, when
5 it is joint, if there is a joint request, then that
6 cost is assigned to the joint parties based upon, you
7 know, the representation as to how they have agreed
8 to do this, if it's 50/50 or if there is three, 33/
9 33/33, whatever. You know, we work with the customer
10 to understand as to how they want to deal with a
11 joint request.

12 But overall, the circumstances are that
13 when they make a request, we do the estimate to
14 determine whether or not any new equipment is needed,
15 including transformation. And if those costs are,
16 you know, if that is determined to be applicable,
17 then the customer will pay for that. But as allowed
18 under our policy, if down the road someone else wants
19 to be able to utilize those facilities in a common
20 basis, then those subsequent parties would then pay,
21 and the contribution would be being made back to the
22 original provider.

23 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Can I ask a
24 question about that?

25 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: Sure.

1 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: I'm curious. My
2 assumption going into this question was that this was
3 just as application of line extension policies. I
4 think what I'm hearing is that in most cases it's
5 actually not, or at least in the cases we have heard
6 it's more of an operating procedures issue.

7 So in a line extension policy or under
8 a line extension policy, so you have a -- clearly a
9 line extension going to a new service address, when
10 more people come on to use that address, you know,
11 it's more of a black and white situation. This is a
12 new user off that extension. So they share in the
13 costs over the -- whatever time period that cost
14 sharing mechanism operates.

15 I think a lot of them are seven years
16 or somewhere in that vicinity. Where it's an
17 upgrade, let's say it's an upgrade to the transformer
18 size. How is that cost sharing determined? Is there
19 maybe a but for analysis of, you know --

20 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: Okay. I'm sorry.
21 It's the same procedure.

22 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay.

23 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: Basically whether
24 it's an upgrade request, you know, we treat it under
25 the service application process that we have that's

1 part of our line extension policy. Because when we
2 take a look at this situation, we have to assess as
3 to whether or not, you know, the upgrades could be
4 anywhere from poles and wires to local facilities at
5 the individual site. So, you know, we are going into
6 the situation -- until we get a better handle on what
7 the requesting party is seeking, we are not really
8 able to eliminate any possibility which could also
9 extend to a modification of the line serving that
10 customer.

11 Because we have had a few instances of
12 where requests have come in so dramatically that they
13 want to upgrade that it has required, you know,
14 significant changes to the infrastructure serving the
15 site. So in that case, yeah, we treat it all under
16 the same policy from the perspective of meeting the
17 service requirements of the customer.

18 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Just so
19 I'm sure I am understanding. Let's say customer one
20 comes in, wants to put in a level II charger that
21 requires a transformer upgrade to service that load
22 at that location. So and then neighbor also serves,
23 you know, customer two also served by that same
24 transformer six months later puts in a level II
25 charger. But because customer one already paid for

1 the upgrade, does not have to -- does not require an
2 upgrade to the transformer similarly. Is there a
3 cost sharing in that scenario, or does customer one
4 bear the cost there?

5 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: Let me offer you
6 something that we actually had occur.

7 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Great.

8 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: We had a situation
9 which there were four customers being served off of a
10 single transformer. One of the customers came to us
11 and indicated that they wanted to have an upgrade of
12 service to 200 amp. That was going to require a
13 transformer change. When we went to the other three
14 customers, none of the three customers wanted to
15 upgrade their service. So they politely informed us
16 that, because we said to the customer who originally
17 made the request, because we have single transformer
18 serving all these customers. We need to find out as
19 to whether or not all four customers want to go in on
20 this arrangement. And once it was determined that
21 three of the customers did not, the three customers
22 were left alone and they were -- continued to be
23 served off the existing transformer. So there was no
24 incremental expense or responsibility to them.

25 Now when we propose the solution to the

1 customer who was originally doing the upgrade, and
2 realized the cost of that expense, they subsequently
3 denied or turned -- came back to us and said we are
4 withdrawing the request because that cost was too
5 much for them to cover on their own at this time.
6 But the way that we approached it was if you could
7 get your neighbors on board, we would share it four
8 ways or any combination thereof.

9 But yeah, given the fact that it was
10 just back to the original customer, the customer was
11 given the opportunity to either move forward with the
12 upgrade as they requested or to withdraw the request.
13 They ultimately decided to withdraw the request. And
14 hence, we have the same configuration we did before,
15 four customers on one circuit.

16 Now that has prohibited the customer
17 from being able to do the upgrades that they wanted
18 to do on their property because they were looking to
19 do EV, they were also looking to do heat pumps. They
20 were also looking to do other service aspects. That
21 has forced them, as a result of the decision, they
22 did not want to pay for the upgrade. Thus, they were
23 -- they did not move forward with those other
24 enhancements that they were looking forward to doing.

25 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. So if I

1 tweak that situation a little bit, let's say the
2 customer decided to go ahead and do the upgrades.

3 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: Yes.

4 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: And two years or
5 a year later one of the other three customers who
6 initially declined all of a sudden put in -- decided
7 they wanted to upgrade their service to 200 amp and
8 put in EVs or heat pumps or whatever heavy load they
9 wanted. Would that second customer have to cost
10 share?

11 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: If it was
12 determined that we had the capability off of the new
13 transformer that we installed for the first customer,
14 if there was additional capability to serve that
15 second customer, then we would work with that
16 customer to, you know, have them upgrade. But they
17 would then bear -- their line extension service
18 application payments would then create a credit back
19 to the first customer who actually paid for the
20 installation.

21 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Great.
22 Yeah. That was the situation I was trying to get at.

23 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: Yeah.

24 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: That's helpful.
25 Thank you.

1 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: Okay. As I
2 mentioned, because of the fact that we do not have an
3 EVSE tariff at this point in time, there are no
4 issues relating to rebates. We have talked about
5 the joint aspect. And then as far as questions four
6 and five are concerned, we have not had any EVSE-
7 related upgrade at this time.

8 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. And
9 because this would be a cost causation or customer
10 causation approach, there would be no ratepayer --
11 broader based ratepayer impacts.

12 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: That's correct.
13 Because one of the comments that we have heard from
14 our customer base is they do not want any, you know,
15 any income sensitivity cross subsidization going on.
16 So that's why we treat everything as being associated
17 with the service application based upon the
18 requester.

19 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. All
20 right. Any questions from Andrea or Jacob?

21 (No response)

22 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: No questions.

23 MR. EVANS-MONGEON: Thank you very
24 much.

25 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: All right.

1 Thank you. Let's see, let's go ahead and check in
2 with Washington Electric and see if Mr. Vandette has
3 had any luck with his microphone.

4 MR. VANDETTE: Check. Check.

5 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Perfect.

6 MR. VANDETTE: I switched to my phone
7 here.

8 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: I see. The
9 Caller 01. That will work too.

10 MR. VANDETTE: Good morning, everyone.
11 J.J. Vandette from Washington Electric Co-op. Get
12 started here. I do have some written comments that I
13 can submit after this. And I'll start right from the
14 top.

15 Question 1, WEC members requesting
16 service upgrades that are responsible for costs
17 associated with service upgrades in the following
18 scenarios; new service being one, net metering being
19 two, and number three, load increases requiring
20 transformer upgrades greater than 37 and-a-half KVA.

21 Question B. WEC members requesting
22 service upgrades are not responsible for costs
23 associated with upgrading utility-owned equipment
24 when upgrades are necessary for EV chargers.

25 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: So they are not

1 responsible for upgrading for EV chargers?

2 MR. VANDETTE: That's correct.

3 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Even at 37.5
4 KVA?

5 MR. VANDETTE: If it is above 37.5 KVA,
6 we reserve the right to use our discretion in
7 determining cost causation. In some instances, if
8 it's a reasonable situation in which there are
9 multiple members who are tied to one transformer, but
10 we oftentimes have one-to-one member to transformer
11 ratios or one-to-two, in which case the 37.5
12 threshold is not reached.

13 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay.

14 MR. VANDETTE: A rare instance.
15 Speaking of the policy, 1C, WEC's policy is an
16 internal written procedure that's been shared with
17 our membership publicly including in our Co-op
18 publication called Currents. The policy was first
19 discussed and then accepted by our Board of Directors
20 earlier this year actually. And as a reminder, the
21 Board of Directors are elected from the -- among
22 Co-op membership, they are representing the
23 membership, and have regular communication with them
24 as well.

25 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Does that

1 specifically address the EV, I'll call it an
2 exclusion, I'm not sure that's the right term, EV
3 exclusion for service upgrades?

4 MR. VANDETTE: That's correct, yes.

5 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay.

6 MR. VANDETTE: And then number 2, not
7 applicable. WEC does not provide rebates for EVSE-
8 related service upgrades.

9 Number 3 is a similar answer, not
10 applicable. WEC does not require members to be
11 responsible for the upgrades, costs associated with
12 EVSE as of 2024.

13 Next one, 4, is an interesting one.
14 Because a lot has transpired and changed over the
15 past years in terms of our policy and in terms of the
16 availability of transformers which was a bottleneck
17 for a lot of this work in previous years. So I will
18 -- with that -- with those opening remarks, I'll get
19 into the actual response.

20 The frequency of EVSE-related service
21 upgrades has been impacted by the fact that many of
22 WEC's existing transformers are undersized due to
23 past regulatory guidance to decrease transformer
24 capacities for efficiency purposes.

25 To elaborate on that, I asked a few of

1 my colleagues who have been around longer than I -- I
2 have been at the Co-op for one year. And I was
3 pointed to references of PCB transformer policies and
4 EnergyStar transformer policies, and quote, right
5 sizing of transformers. And so there was an era
6 there before my time in which we were encouraged to
7 keep transformer sizes appropriately sized. So we
8 weren't, you know, being inefficient in the process
9 of installing those.

10 And with that context, as a result the
11 vast majority of WEC's member EVSE inquiries have
12 resulted in required transformer upgrades. So as an
13 example, 2024 is a good example, which I will speak
14 to here in a moment.

15 But going back to 2022 there was a
16 transformer shortage in the supply chain. And it led
17 WEC to reserve and prioritize a limited number of
18 transformers for projects that were related to
19 emergency repairs, new connections and obligations
20 related to net-metering projects. So no EVSE related
21 service upgrades were performed in 2022.

22 In 2023 WEC performed 18 transformer
23 upgrades, two of which were specific to EVSEs, and 16
24 were related to more general service upgrades, which
25 included a handful of EVSEs well.

1 In 2024 through mid December, WEC has
2 assessed 48 transformers for EVSE-related upgrades,
3 and 46 of those required upgrades of the 48 assessed.

4 And the last part of that question
5 four, a typical cost of an EVSE-related service
6 upgrade mainly related to the current incremental
7 cost between a base transformer and a new larger
8 capacity transformer, they have fluctuated
9 drastically over the years because of supplier
10 pricing and shortages. But in 2023 the average cost
11 for a transformer upgrade was \$1,658 per transformer.

12 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: And is that a
13 total transformer cost? Or that's the difference
14 between the smaller and larger?

15 MR. VANDETTE: Great question. It is
16 the differential. The cost between the smaller or
17 the existing transformer -- or I'm sorry. Our base
18 transformer and the newer larger transformer,
19 including labor.

20 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Including
21 labor. Okay. Great. And one other -- you may have
22 said this and I was off in a thought somewhere. But
23 for those numbers of upgrades you've done, WEC has
24 absorbed, those are all being paid for by Washington
25 Electric?

1 MR. VANDETTTE: As of January 1, 2024,
2 that is correct.

3 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. As of
4 this year. And prior to that they were paid for by
5 customers or some other approach?

6 MR. VANDETTTE: That is correct. The
7 members were obligated to pay the differential cost
8 between the base transformer and the new requirement.

9 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. And by
10 customers you mean that specific customer paid the
11 upgrade cost.

12 MR. VANDETTTE: That is correct.

13 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: All right.

14 MS. POPPITI: Just to follow up on
15 that. What led to that decision to shift to WEC
16 paying rather than the customers paying as of January
17 1, 2024? How was that implemented and decided?

18 MR. VANDETTTE: There were a few
19 different factors. The first factor that came into
20 play was the way in which we do accounting with RUS.
21 We were getting a loan for it and then charging the
22 members for it, and it wasn't necessarily jibing with
23 our accounting process. So that was first and
24 foremost the thing that tipped us off to a change
25 that needed to happen.

1 We have, as written about in Currents
2 and in other regulatory filings, you know, the cost
3 causation is something that WEC believed in. We all
4 want to cross subsidize things, but in zooming out a
5 little bit in terms of what trends are happening in
6 the marketplace and leaning on a little bit of what
7 Vermont Electric Co-op has done in terms of analyses,
8 the ability for Washington Electric Co-op to both
9 increase our base transformer and cover the cost of
10 any differential between that base transformer and
11 what is required for EVSEs, the cost that the Co-op
12 is incurring for those upgrades in juxtaposition to
13 the benefit that we will get from revenues over the
14 life of the EV, the math that we saw Vermont Electric
15 Co-op do, and providing some of their testimony in
16 other places, was convincing enough for us to make
17 that policy change.

18 And lastly, we have had a lot of member
19 feedback that was not positive about the old policy.
20 So there is a confluence of factors, a number of
21 which I just spoke about here.

22 Finally, I misinterpreted question 5
23 and was focused on the individual ratepayer impact.
24 And that seems to not be the direction that this
25 question should have been answered. So I'll go back

1 to the drawing board in my written responses. I can
2 try to provide some helpful context. So a full-on
3 analysis of the impact is going to be pretty
4 difficult. So I'll just note that now, and I will do
5 my best to respond to that appropriately in the
6 written response.

7 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Yeah. And don't
8 -- I mean you don't need to do a full blown rate
9 analysis to come up with an answer on this. You
10 know, this is -- if Washington Electric is covering
11 these costs, it's obviously an input to rates and
12 costs.

13 What question did you answer?
14 Individual rate impacts or individual ratepayer
15 impacts for -- in a cost causation scenario or --

16 MR. VANDETTE: In essence -- I'm sorry
17 to interrupt.

18 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: No. Go ahead.

19 MR. VANDETTE: In essence, I was just
20 speaking to the average cost per participant prior to
21 2024. I just noted again that it was \$1,658 per
22 transformer in the year prior to 2024 on average.

23 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Yeah. So I
24 think the more information we can provide, you know,
25 that's useful too. So the more information we can

1 use to give a complete picture to the legislature, I
2 think, the better. Given that I am also not sure
3 what they are asking for here. So we will give as
4 many answers as there are, and hopefully it will
5 satisfy everyone who put this question together.
6 Because they may also not be looking for the same
7 information. So we will cover all the bases, I
8 think. So that's helpful too. So thank you for
9 that.

10 MR. VANDETTE: I will keep that answer
11 in there, and I will elaborate a little bit further
12 on the written responses. Thank you.

13 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Yeah. The more
14 information the better, and we can put it all in the
15 report just in case, you know, it's entirely
16 possible, maybe even likely, that I'm also
17 misinterpreting that topic. So we will do our best.

18 All right. Thank you for that. I
19 guess let's jump to VEC. We heard about from Mr.
20 Vandette referencing your analysis. Let's go to you
21 guys.

22 MS. MORRIS: Hello. So this is Lisa
23 Morris speaking. So typically our members do pay for
24 transformer upgrades similar to what other utilities
25 have outlined where the cost causer pays the cost.

1 We would take the old transformer back into
2 inventory, and we would charge them the difference
3 between the two transformers.

4 Specifically for electric vehicles, we
5 cover that cost. And it's similar to what JJ
6 outlined. We include those transformer upgrades in
7 our compliance report that we file every March for
8 Tier III. And we have found that overall the
9 additional kilowatthour sales and the revenue that we
10 get from that covers the incentive that we give for
11 the electric vehicle as well as that transformer
12 upgrade cost.

13 And so the last thing that we wanted to
14 do was give an incentive and then give them a bill
15 for a larger amount and upset our members. And that
16 way -- and really undermine the integrity of the Tier
17 III program. So we are, again, covering the cost of
18 transformers specifically for EVSE-related uses.

19 These policies -- it's in our tariff,
20 and we do have those details in our written comments.
21 We would be happy to share that again.

22 We have never denied that service for
23 an electric vehicle, and we are actually typically
24 identifying them and going out and updating the
25 transformer, so it would not be member-requested

1 work. It would be work that VEC is identifying and
2 doing proactively so that we don't have a failure on
3 the system.

4 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Let me ask a
5 question. So you're identifying -- these are not
6 service upgrade requests. These are your situations
7 where you're identifying transformers that are
8 nearing capacity?

9 MS. MORRIS: That's correct. We have a
10 software that identifies when the capacity is
11 overloaded a certain amount of the time. And we
12 would -- yeah, so we would flag those, and we would
13 proactively do that work.

14 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Are they
15 -- are service upgrades ever driven by the customer
16 requests that require a transformer? Or are you more
17 on top of it than that where you identify --

18 MR. BRUNNER: This is Cyril Brunner.
19 So typically the customer doesn't know the impact;
20 right? So we very rarely, I would say, get up front
21 information about what that charger impact would look
22 like. So that's why we kind of take this kind of
23 after-the-fact approach. Because generally that kind
24 of transformer impact is not known, even the charging
25 speed isn't known. That charging speed could be very

1 small and not have a big impact, or it could be
2 significant and have a big impact. But that
3 information is very rarely given to us before the
4 charger is installed.

5 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay.

6 MS. MORRIS: So let's see. So the
7 frequency and the typical cost. We do, again, file
8 that every year as part of our compliance report.

9 To date we have done about 50
10 transformer upgrades related to electric vehicles,
11 and then annually we do about 10 to 20 of those
12 transformer upgrades. And the ratepayer impacts,
13 just to go back to the overall, you know, picture of
14 electric vehicles. We do find that we are -- that
15 it's basically a positive ratepayer impact. So it's
16 reducing rates for members overall because of those
17 additional kilowatthour sales from the vehicles.

18 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay, wow. Just
19 for my own understanding, so I can explain this in
20 the report.

21 So customers will come in and they will
22 request a service upgrade, put in say a level II
23 charger -- actually been doing charger research.
24 I've actually been surprised by the draws on those
25 and the variation in the draws, you know, over --

1 across the range.

2 But that happens. And then VEC is just
3 monitoring transformer load at that point. And when
4 it identifies one for any reason, it exchanges --
5 under your line extension policy, the rebate
6 procedure, you do an analysis on whether the
7 additional load that you're seeing will cover the
8 cost of the transformer upgrade. And then that's the
9 end of it?

10 MS. MORRIS: Yes. We don't often see
11 that a member needs a service upgrade. I guess I
12 would let Cyril or perhaps Brian Hall, who is our
13 manager of systems engineering, and if I'm wrong on
14 that, but I don't think that we often see service
15 capacity upgrades needed for level II chargers.

16 MR. BRUNNER: Yeah. I mean, again, it
17 depends; right? I think we said 10 to 20
18 transformers a year generally; right? So of the
19 total amount it's a very low percentage. Is that
20 what you're talking?

21 MS. MORRIS: No. I was thinking more
22 on the member side, not on the transformer side.

23 MR. BRUNNER: I don't have that
24 information. Again, right? It's not assets that we
25 own.

1 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Sure. Okay. As
2 you identify transformers nearing capacity, that --
3 am I understanding that right that could be due to
4 EVs, that could be partially due to EVs, that could
5 be just due to general load growth; is that right?
6 You're just generically monitoring transformer
7 capacity.

8 MR. BRUNNER: That's correct. That's
9 correct. We are -- we know which locations have
10 electric vehicles so we have two ways of knowing
11 generally; right. One is through the incentive that
12 we offer. We keep that. And we track that Tier III
13 incentive. We have a data base where you can
14 associate data with a location and the transformer.

15 And the second piece is that we have
16 the capability to run analytics on our AMI data.
17 Generally level II charging is easy to identify.
18 It's pretty easy for us to understand where that
19 transformer impact is coming from within, you know,
20 some level of certainty.

21 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Great.
22 Any other questions from the team? Shaking their
23 heads. No. All right.

24 MS. MORRIS: Thank you.

25 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Thank you. All

1 right. We are moving very quick, which I'm happy,
2 and Kim will be happy. Let's see. Last -- I believe
3 the last on my list is Green Mountain Power.

4 MS. HUMPHREY: Hi. This is Melinda
5 Humphrey.

6 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: I'm sorry. So I
7 think your comments probably covered everything. So
8 yeah, anything you want to add in response to this
9 break out is great?

10 MS. HUMPHREY: Okay. No. I don't have
11 anything additional to add. We do have written
12 response prepared, but if you have any questions I
13 would be happy to answer them.

14 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. Just on
15 the -- let me find your comments, before you jump
16 off.

17 So it sounds like Green Mountain Power
18 had a similar rebate program. I did look at the line
19 extension policy. Does that work the same way or is
20 that how are you identifying the need to upgrade and
21 whether or not that is flexible load? How do you --
22 how does that process happen?

23 MS. HUMPHREY: We have a credit towards
24 our line extension service upgrades rather than a
25 rebate. And so we are notified by customer initiated

1 line upgrades and requests. And if GMP's designers
2 determine that it has a material benefit for all of
3 our customers, which includes decreased maintenance
4 and -- or increased reliability, worker public
5 safety, or, in this instance, a flexible electrical
6 device like EVSE, then the credit comes into effect.

7 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. And that
8 comes from the customer requests. And then does GMP
9 ask the customer what this is for? How does the
10 establishment of that category --

11 MS. HUMPHREY: When our customer calls
12 in to request a service upgrade line extension, they
13 work with a distribution designer in their area, and
14 that's where the credit and the use case is
15 determined.

16 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay.
17 Interesting. Does the credit ever get denied? Has
18 that ever happened?

19 MS. HUMPHREY: No.

20 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. I'm going
21 to scan through the list. If team members have other
22 questions for GMP, just go ahead.

23 (No response).

24 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: I guess the only
25 thing I have is is there anything outside of the

1 tariff, the credit and the tariff, that comes into
2 play in any sort of written internal procedures, or
3 is everything handled by the credit? For instance,
4 if GMP determined that the credit was not applicable
5 to a particular situation, for whatever reason, would
6 that go to a cost causation approach? Or is there
7 some -- what policy kicks in at that point?

8 MS. HUMPHREY: If it was for the
9 purpose of an EVSE, there would be no denial in this
10 case, if it was an upgrade. And so for this specific
11 purpose, in this line of questions, there would be no
12 instance where it would go through any other process.

13 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: Okay. So it
14 would never fall out. Okay. All right. Wow. That
15 was far faster than I thought it would be. So thank
16 you everyone.

17 Did I miss anybody? Philip, did you
18 have anything from the department that you would like
19 to add? Do you want to talk about your service
20 upgrade policies?

21 MR. PICOTTE: Thankfully I'm not
22 required to do that today. I don't think the
23 department has anything else to say. Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: All right.
25 Thank you. All right.

1 Did I miss anybody? I think I covered
2 all the utilities. But if I missed somebody, let me
3 know. That should cover it. That was all the
4 substance I have.

5 Anything else from the team on the
6 substance? Any follow-up questions?

7 MS. POPPITI: No.

8 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: All right.
9 Nothing from the team.

10 The only other issue is the filing of
11 written comments. I don't have a deadline in mind.
12 I just want to make sure no one's having to work on
13 this over the holidays to get something filed.

14 So our report is due on the 15th of
15 January. I will be able to prepare the bulk of that,
16 along with Jacob and Andrea, I think, based on our
17 discussion here. So would January 6th work for
18 filing written comments? And you're welcome to file
19 them sooner, and we would love to have them sooner,
20 but I don't want to pinch anyone over the break. I
21 guess if January 6 is too soon, there is not a lot of
22 wiggle room there. If January 6 is too soon, then
23 let me know.

24 (No response).

25 HEARING OFFICER HOWE: All right.

1 Nobody objecting. I'm going to assume that's good
2 with everybody. So I guess what I will do is I'll
3 put together a short order with that January 6 date.
4 And again, like I said, feel free to file your
5 written comments sooner, and if you have them
6 prepared, feel free to file them right away.

7 And I don't have anything else. So
8 unless anyone has something they want to raise, if
9 you do, please turn on your microphone.

10 All right. Last chance. No takers.
11 All right. I think that's it for everybody. Thank
12 you for being so thoroughly prepared and jumping on
13 this. I know it was short notice. But we wanted to
14 get it in before everyone left for the holiday. So
15 that's all I have. Thank you very much.

16 (Whereupon, the proceeding was
17 adjourned at 10:41 a.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

1
2
3 I, Kim U. Sears, do hereby certify that I
4 recorded by stenographic means the Workshop re: Case No.
5 24-3023-INV, via videoconference, on December 18, 2024,
6 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

7 I further certify that the foregoing
8 testimony was taken by me stenographically and thereafter
9 reduced to typewriting and the foregoing 52 pages are a
10 transcript of the stenograph notes taken by me of the
11 evidence and the proceedings to the best of my ability.

12 I further certify that I am not related to
13 any of the parties thereto or their counsel, and I am in
14 no way interested in the outcome of said cause.

15 Dated at Williston, Vermont, this 19th day
16 of December, 2024.

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19  Kim U. Sears
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u> </u> \$ <u> </u></p> <p>\$1,658 [2] 38:11, 41:21 \$2,000 - 12:10 \$4,000 - 19:14</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u> </u> 0 <u> </u></p> <p>01 - 34:9 05402-0329 - 1:22</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u> </u> 1 <u> </u></p> <p>1 [4] 10:10, 34:15, 39:1, 39:17 1,500 - 12:6 10 [3] 23:24, 45:11, 46:17 10:41 - 52:17 11 [3] 6:4, 10:9, 12:2 148 - 6:23 15th - 51:14 16 - 37:23 18 [4] 1:6, 1:10, 37:22, 53:5 19th - 53:15 1A - 22:19 1B - 22:20 1C - 35:15</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u> </u> 2 <u> </u></p> <p>2 [4] 10:10, 11:9, 17:23, 36:6 20 [2] 45:11, 46:17 200 [2] 30:12, 32:7 2021 - 3:9 2022 [2] 37:15, 37:21 2023 [2] 37:22, 38:10 2024 [12] 1:4, 1:6, 1:11, 36:12, 37:13, 38:1, 39:1, 39:17, 41:21, 41:22, 53:5, 53:16 2026 - 26:14 24-3023-INV [3] 1:2, 3:6, 53:5</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u> </u> 3 <u> </u></p> <p>3 [7] 11:20, 14:16, 14:24, 14:25, 14:25, 24:25, 36:9 3.1 - 14:5 329 - 1:22 33 - 27:8 33/33 - 27:9 37 - 34:20 37.5 [5] 9:22, 10:3, 35:3, 35:5,</p>	<p>35:11</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u> </u> 4 <u> </u></p> <p>4 [5] 12:4, 16:4, 16:4, 25:1, 36:13 4,000 - 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