

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 18-2660-INV

Investigation into promoting the ownership and use of electric vehicles in the State of Vermont	
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Order entered: 02/04/2019

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP RE: RATE DESIGN AND GRID MANAGEMENT

On May 21, 2018, Act 158 (H.917) of the 2017-2018 Vermont legislative session took effect upon its signing by the Governor. Section 25 of Act 158 directed the Public Utility Commission (“Commission” or “PUC”) to conduct an evaluation and submit a report by July 1, 2019, concerning issues related to the charging of electric vehicles (“EVs”).

As part of its charge, the Commission was tasked with examining the following issues: (1) removal or mitigation of barriers to EV charging, including strategies, such as time-of-use rates, to reduce operating costs for current and future EV users without shifting costs to ratepayers who do not own or operate EVs; (2) strategies for managing the impact of EVs on and services provided by EVs to the electric transmission and distribution system; (3) electric system benefits and costs of EV charging, electric utility planning for EV charging, and rate design for EV charging; (4) how and on what terms, including quantity, pricing, and time of day, such charging stations will obtain electric energy to provide to EVs; and (5) the accuracy of electric metering and submetering technology for charging EVs.¹

The Commission intends to convene a workshop to gather additional information to better understand these issues for preparing its report to the Legislature. At this time, the workshop is tentatively scheduled for March 15, 2019. The Clerk’s Office will send out a separate notice confirming the date, time, and location for the workshop as soon as possible.

Specifically, the Commission would like to hear from participants regarding: (1) planned or currently available EV-specific rate offerings for both home charging and service to public charging stations, how they will be or are being implemented, how successful the offerings are

¹ The Commission has already solicited several rounds of written comments from participants in this investigation and has conducted two workshops. Additionally, the Commission has submitted a proposal to the Vermont Legislature recommending a statutory amendment that would clarify the limited extent of the Commission’s jurisdiction over EV charging stations.

expected to be or have been, and any difficulties expected to be encountered or that have been encountered in offering such rates; (2) demand charges and DC fast-charging stations, including the effects of demand charges on the deployment of such stations and how such effects can be mitigated or eliminated without undue impact to electric ratepayers; (3) incorporation of growing EV charging load into the electric grid and issues associated with serving that new load; (4) the potential benefits of managed EV charging to the electric grid, including using EV batteries for purposes such as peak shaving and regulation, and the likelihood of realizing such benefits based on EV usage in Vermont and existing and expected technological capabilities; and (5) the accuracy of electric metering and submetering technology for charging EVs.

Participants are encouraged to submit written materials addressing the above topics in advance of the workshop by filing them in this case using ePUC no later than March 1, 2019. If any participant wishes to make a presentation at the workshop, the presentation shall be filed in ePUC along with a request for time at the workshop no later than March 1, 2019. For instructions on how to file your materials in ePUC, please see the memorandum from the Clerk's Office issued October 24, 2018. Please do not file your responses as "public comments." After the Commission receives any written materials and requests for presentation, it will issue an agenda for the workshop that includes both a start time and an expected completion time.

SO ORDERED.


Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 4th day of February, 2019



John J. Cotter, Esq.
Deputy General Counsel

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: February 4, 2019

Attest: 
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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