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**State of Vermont
Public Utility Commission**

MEMORANDUM

To: Parties in PUC Case Number 18-2660-INV
From: Judith C. Whitney, Clerk of the Commission *ycw*
Re: Notice of Case No. 19-3009-INV
Date: July 17, 2019

On July 17, 2019, the Public Utility Commission issued the attached order opening Case Number 19-3009-INV in response to Section 35 of Act 59 of the 2019-2020 Vermont Legislative Session. The Commission is posting the order for informational purposes to the participants in Case Number 18-2660-INV.

Please be advised that your participation in Case Number 18-2660-INV does not automatically make you a participant in Case Number 19-3009-INV. If you decide to participate in Case No. 19-3009-INV, you must follow the instructions in the attached order.

Encl. (1)

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 19-3009-INV

Investigation into potential fees associated with electric vehicle charging in Vermont in response to Act 59 of the 2019-2020 Vermont legislative session	
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Order entered: 07/17/2019

ORDER OPENING INVESTIGATION AND NOTICE OF WORKSHOP

On June 27, 2019, the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) filed with the Vermont Legislature its report entitled *Promoting the Ownership and Use of Electric Vehicles in the State of Vermont*. The report analyzes barriers to achieving more widespread adoption of electric vehicles (“EVs”) in Vermont and included a range of recommendations to mitigate or remove those barriers, thereby helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Vermont’s transportation sector, the largest single contributor to those emissions in Vermont.

The Commission’s report was filed in response to Act 158 (H.917) of the 2017-2018 Vermont legislative session. 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”).

On June 14, 2019, Section 35 of Act 59 (H.529) of the 2019-2020 Vermont legislative session took effect upon its signing by the Governor. Section 35 of Act 59 directs the Commission, in consultation with those Vermont electric distribution utilities that wish to participate, the Agency of Transportation, the Department of Public Service, and Efficiency Vermont, to file a supplemental report with the Legislature on or before December 15, 2019, addressing the following topics:

1. Whether Vermont’s electric distribution utilities should collect both a per-kWh transportation efficiency fee and a per-kWh transportation infrastructure assessment, or just a per-kWh transportation infrastructure assessment and how best to implement any such charges.¹

¹ Section 35 of Act 59 defines the transportation efficiency fee as a per-kWh fee on electricity provided by an electric distribution utility for electric vehicle supply equipment equal to the energy efficiency charge rate set by the Commission, and to be charged instead of an energy efficiency charge. The Act defines the transportation

2. The design of an electric vehicle charging tariff for electric utilities with more than 17,000 customers, and other electric utilities at their discretion, that allows a customer, including a company that owns and operates electric vehicle supply equipment, to purchase electricity solely to charge a plug-in EV. The report should consider whether such tariffs should include:

- time-of-day or off-peak rates;
- per-kWh fees for transportation efficiency and transportation infrastructure;
- an option for a customer to purchase energy solely from renewable sources;
- a mechanism for the recovery of costs reasonably necessary to comply with implementing an electric vehicle charging tariff, such as costs to inform and educate customers about the financial, energy conservation, and environmental benefits of electric vehicles, and to publicly advertise and promote participation in a customer-optional tariff;
- provision for clear and transparent customer billing statements, including the amount of energy consumed under the tariff;
- the necessary costs of metering or submetering within the rate charged to the customer; and
- other considerations that the Commission deems appropriate.

3. Whether there should be a mandatory periodic report from electric distribution utilities to the Commission and what should be included in those reports, with consideration given to:

- tariff participation levels and impact highlights, including tariff participation levels and new electric vehicle supply equipment installed by county;
- the overall costs and benefits of the tariff, including any changes or issues encountered during the reporting period; and
- other data required by the Commission.

4. The amount of incremental revenue to Vermont's electric distribution utilities expected to be generated by plug-in EVs and all other financial benefits that plug-in EVs may bring to electric distribution utilities over the next 10 years, whether there are necessary costs

infrastructure assessment as a per-kWh assessment on electricity provided by an electric distribution utility for electric vehicle supply equipment.

and technical feasibility problems when metering plug-in EV charging separately from other electrical demand on the same account, and all other costs expected to be incurred by the electric distribution utilities related to plug-in EV deployment and associated infrastructure.

5. How to address the use of net-metering energy and net-metering energy credits for electric vehicle supply equipment.

In today's order we initiate an investigation to gather and assess the information needed to comply with the reporting requirements of Act 59. The Commission intends to conduct this investigation through a series of written filings and workshops, with each cycle of filings and workshops addressing specific pre-identified issues.

The first workshop will be held on August 22, 2019, starting at 9:30 A.M. in the Susan M. Hudson Hearing Room, Third Floor, People's United Bank Building, 112 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont. The workshop will be recorded by a court reporter.

Topics (1) and (4) above will be addressed at the first workshop. Discussions will include whether the per-kWh fees identified by Section 35 should be collected by Vermont distribution utilities and, if so, the costs and challenges associated with collecting and tendering those fees to the appropriate State agency; the incremental revenue and other benefits to distribution utilities associated with EV adoption; the costs and the technical feasibility for distribution utilities to separately meter EV charging; and any other costs associated with EV deployment and infrastructure that distribution utilities expect to incur. Given the December 15 deadline and to ensure a fully informed and accurate report to the Legislature, the Commission requests that the distribution utilities and other participants prepare detailed information about these topics for the workshop, including estimates of the staffing requirements, employee and contractor hours, and infrastructure spending that would be required to implement and operate a system capable of collecting per-kWh fees, and the incremental revenues that would result based on different estimates of the future rate of EV adoption. In the context of these costs and challenges, participants are invited to submit comments on alternative means of collecting fees from owners and users of EVs in Vermont to ensure an appropriate contribution to the costs of Vermont's transportation infrastructure.

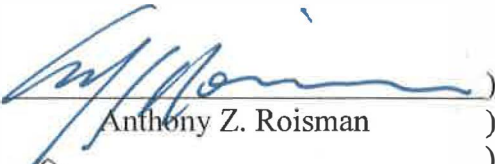
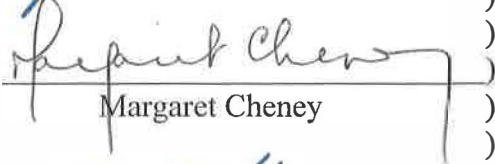

Participants are encouraged to file any advance written materials setting forth their positions and recommendations on these topics no later than close of business on August 15, 2019.

This proceeding will be conducted in ePUC using case number 19-3009-INV. Participants are encouraged to submit their filings using ePUC, the Commission's online document management system. Interested persons should contact the Clerk of the Commission at puc.clerk@vermont.gov to request to be added as a participant in this case. More information about ePUC is available at: <https://epuc.Vermont.gov/>.

SO ORDERED.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 17th day of July, 2019.

)	
Anthony Z. Roisman)	PUBLIC UTILITY
)	
)	
Margaret Cheney)	COMMISSION
)	
)	
Sarah Hofmann)	OF VERMONT

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: July 17, 2019

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)

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