

THE APPLICATION OF SOUTHERN  
MARYLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,  
INC. FOR ADJUSTMENTS TO ITS RETAIL  
RATES AND CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC  
DISTRIBUTION SERVICE AND OTHER  
TARIFF REVISIONS

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BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF MARYLAND

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CASE NO. 9738  
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Issued: June 27, 2024

**PUBLIC UTILITY LAW JUDGE’S NOTICE  
OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING**

On May 1, 2024, Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative, Inc. (“SMECO” or the “Cooperative”) filed an application with the Public Service Commission of Maryland (“Commission”) pursuant to Public Utilities Article, *Annotated Code of Maryland* (“PUA”) §4-203 and §4-204 for authority to revise its retail rates and charges for electric service and other tariff revisions (the “Application”).<sup>1</sup>

The Cooperative is requesting authority to increase its operating revenues by \$37.9 million. SMECO states that this proposed increase would result in an approximate 10.92% overall bill increase for the average customer-member. SMECO serves approximately 176,000 residential, commercial, and industrial customer-members in Charles, St. Mary’s, Prince George’s and Calvert Counties.

An evening hearing for the purpose of receiving public comments in connection with the Application is hereby scheduled as follows:

**Tuesday, July 23, 2024  
7:00 p.m.**

**SMECO Customer Service Center  
15065 Burnt Store Road  
Hughesville, MD 20637**

If you would like to participate in the hearing virtually, please send a request to [psc.pulj@gmail.com](mailto:psc.pulj@gmail.com) by **12:00 Noon on July 22, 2024** and a Zoom link will be provided. A

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<sup>1</sup> Maillog No. 309428. The Application and other pleadings in this matter may be viewed or downloaded from the electronic docket file (9738) available through the Commission’s website, [www.psc.state.md.us](http://www.psc.state.md.us).

video recording of the hearing will also be available on the Public Utility Law Judge (PULJ) Division's YouTube Channel.<sup>2</sup>

Written comments on the Application may be submitted electronically or by first-class mail on or before **Friday, August 2, 2024**. Comments submitted electronically must be submitted through the Commission's Public Comment Dropbox, which can be accessed through the Commission's website at [www.psc.state.md.us](http://www.psc.state.md.us). Instructions for logging into the Public Comment Dropbox are located under the "Tools" section of the Commission's website under the "Make a Public Comment" tab, which can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.psc.state.md.us/make-a-public-comment/>. Commenters utilizing the Public Comment Dropbox are required to complete a one-time registration. All comments must include a reference to **Case No. 9738**. If submitted by first-class mail, comments must be addressed to Jamie Bergin, Chief Clerk, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. Only one copy is required.

SMECO is directed to publish, as a display advertisement in newspapers of general circulation throughout its service territory, a notice of the hearing for public comments, including the case caption, case number, the time, date, and place of the hearing, the purpose of the hearing, that members of the public may participate by sending an e-mail to [psc.pulj@gmail.com](mailto:psc.pulj@gmail.com) by 12:00 Noon on July 22, 2024, and the date by which written public comments may be filed, at least twice, in successive weeks, **prior to July, 23, 2024**. SMECO is also directed to place on its homepage a notice of the hearing for public comments in a manner that a customer need not click the link to determine the date, time, location, and purpose of the hearings. Additionally, SMECO shall post on at least two

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<sup>2</sup> You may access the PULJ Division's You Tube Channel via the following link: <https://bit.ly/2X6wLiP>.

routinely used social media platforms, such as Facebook or X (f/k/a Twitter), and use any other means of communication at its disposal to further notify its customers of the date, time, and location of the evening hearing, and the date by which written public comments may be filed. SMECO shall file certificates of publication with the Commission on or before the date of the hearing.

Finally, SMECO is directed to prominently post by 12:00 Noon (EST) on the day of the evening hearing for public comment scheduled for this proceeding, an informational sign at or near each public entrance of the building in which the public hearing will be held. Each sign shall be at least 17 by 22 inches in size and state the time, room number, and subject of the public hearing. The font size of the lettering shall be greater than 48 point size and as large as the sign allows.

The Cooperative shall submit an affidavit certifying that the necessary properly sized information sign(s) were posted as directed, including the time the signs were posted and a photograph of the informational sign near or at the public entrance of the building, which shall be filed with the Commission within two business days after the public hearing date.

        /s/ Christine L. Burke          
Christine L. Burke  
Public Utility Law Judge  
Public Service Commission of Maryland

Reasonable accommodations will be made at Public Service Commission proceedings for qualified persons with disabilities, if requested 5 days in advance of the proceeding. (Dial 410-767-8000 or 1-800-492-0474 or access the prior numbers through the Maryland Relay Service at 1-800-201-7165.)

COMMISSIONERS

STATE OF MARYLAND

FREDERICK H. HOOVER, JR.  
CHAIR

MICHAEL T. RICHARD  
KUMAR P. BARVE  
BONNIE A. SUCHMAN



## PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

June 27, 2024

Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative,  
Inc.'s application for adjustments to its retail  
rates and charges for electric distribution  
service and other tariff revisions

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Case No. 9738

### VIA EMAIL

To All Parties of Record:

Enclosed is a copy of the Public Utility Law Judge's Notice of Public Comment Hearing issued today in the above-entitled matter.

Very truly yours,

*/s/ Leatrice Williams*

Leatrice Williams  
Administrative Aide

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Enclosure

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER TOWER • 6 ST. PAUL STREET • BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202-6806

410-767-8000 • Toll Free: 1-800-492-0474 • FAX: 410-333-6495

MDRS: 1-800-735-2258 (TTY/Voice) • Website: [www.psc.state.md.us](http://www.psc.state.md.us)