CASE NO. 21-0032-E-IMM

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY and

WHEELING POWER COMPANY,

public utilities,

Charleston, Kanawha County.

Application for approval of a written plan for a Middle-Mile

Broadband Infrastructure Expansion Project and Associated Cost

Recovery, pursuant to W. Va. Code§24-2-1p(f).

**NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING**

 On January 20, 2021, Appalachian Power Company (APCo) and Wheeling Power Company (WPCo) (together the Companies), filed an application, duly verified, for approval of a written plan for a middle-mile broadband infrastructure expansion project (the Project) and associated cost recovery, pursuant to W. Va. Code§24-2-1p(f).

The Project is a middle-mile broadband infrastructure expansion project in APCo’s service territory in Logan and Mingo Counties pursuant to legislation to expand the availability of broadband services and technology in West Virginia.

The application is on file with and available for public inspection at the Public Service Commission, 201 Brooks Street, in Charleston, West Virginia.

The Companies anticipate charging the following surcharge rates for its customers:

Customer Class                      cents per kWh          $ per kW
Residential                                    0.015
Small Commercial                        0.010               .023 to .034
Large Commercial                                              .029 to .053
Industrial Tariff                                                      .029 to .053
Industrial Special Contract        Various                    Various

**The average residential customer using 1,000 kWh per month would experience a rate increase of $0.15 monthly or $1.80 yearly under the Companies’ proposal.**

These rates represent the following average project-related increases to become effective June 1, 2021, unless otherwise ordered:

MONTHLY YEARLY

($)INCREASE (%)INCREASE ($)INCREASE (%) INCREASE

Residential 66,907 0.121 802,878 0.121

Commercial 26,272 0.096 315,267 0.096

Industrial 6,965 0.018 83,584 0.018

Resale 0 0 0 0

Other 0 0 0 0

The only resale customer in West Virginia is Black Diamond Power Company, Inc.

The proposed increased rates and charges related to the project will produce approximately $1.2 million annually in additional revenue, an increase of 0.08%, during the first rate year.

The increases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested rates and charges among the various classes of customers are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the Public Service Commission in its review of this filing.

 The Commission set a procedural schedule, including a hearing date on the Application, if necessary, that will begin at 9:30 a.m. on April 28, 2021, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room at the Commission’s offices at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia. Depending on the state of the COVID-19 pandemic at the time of the hearing, the entire evidentiary hearing may be held by videoconference. The Commission will issue further instructions regarding this matter at a later date. If no opposition to the Application is received, the hearing may be waived and the Commission may issue a final order within 150 days of the Application filing date.

 Anyone desiring to intervene should file a written petition to intervene within 20 days following the date of this publication unless otherwise modified by Commission order. All requests to intervene should briefly state the reason for the request to intervene and comply with the rules on intervention set forth in the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Commission will receive public comments until the beginning of the hearing. All written comments and requests to intervene should state the case name and number and be addressed to Connie Graley, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323. Public comments may also be filed online at <http://www.psc.state.wv.us/scripts/onlinecomments/default.cfm> by clicking the “Formal Case” link.

**APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY and**

**WHEELING POWER COMPANY**