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## News Release



Contact: Andy Farmer  
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Telephone: 804-371-9141

For Immediate Release: Jan. 3, 2022

## SCC Seeks to Establish Commonwealth Health Reinsurance Program

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) has applied for a federal waiver to establish the Commonwealth Health Reinsurance Program (CHRP) as directed by Virginia Code Section 38.2-6606. The new program is scheduled to begin on January 1, 2023.

House Bill 2332 was passed in the 2021 session of the Virginia General Assembly and signed into law on March 31, 2021, creating the CHRP and directing the SCC to seek the waiver application.

The CHRP application was submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and to the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

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## News Release



Contact: Andy Farmer  
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For Immediate Release: Jan. 7, 2022

## SCC Approves Dominion Energy Virginia Grid Transformation Plan

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) has approved Dominion Energy Virginia’s Phase II of its plan for electric distribution grid transformation projects that the company seeks to deploy in 2022 and 2023.

In its petition, the company proposed projects that focus on grid reliability and are designed to accommodate or facilitate the expected increase in distributed energy resources resulting from recent policy developments, including the Virginia Clean Economy Act and FERC Order 2222.

After consideration of the case record, the Commission approved many of the Phase II projects subject to certain requirements, including cost caps. Among other projects, the Commission approved the company's Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) proposal, which it had previously denied. The Commission's approval was based on several factors, including that the company provided a timeline for system-wide implementation of time-varying rates and now has an active experimental time-of-use rate, which requires AMI.

The Commission also approved a pilot-like proposal for two previously denied grid technologies projects: intelligent grid devices and fault location, isolation and service restoration. The Commission found these projects are targeted at feeder segments with below-average reliability.

The Commission also directed the company to take certain specific actions in implementing the approved Phase II projects and in filing its next petition. The Commission stated the company should continue to perform a robust cost-benefit analysis going forward. The company should also include a more thorough projection of distributed energy resources penetrations and anticipated reliability impacts.

(MORE)

The Phase II projects are grouped into several categories of related elements with associated costs:

- Advanced Metering Infrastructure, including deployment of approximately 1.1 million smart meters and associated infrastructure - \$198.3 million
- The continued development of a customer information platform - \$203.9 million
- Grid infrastructure, which comprises targeted corridor improvements and voltage island mitigation - \$27.7 million
- Multiple grid technologies - \$194.42 million
- Telecommunications - \$102 million
- Cyber security - \$9.3 million
- Physical security - \$37.5 million
- Customer education - \$3 million

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**Case Number [PUR-2021-00127](#)** – Dominion Energy Virginia for approval of Grid Transformation Plan

[View Final Order](#)

## News Release



Contact: Ford Carson  
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For Immediate Release: 01/11/2022

## SCC Reminds Investors to Consider Risks Before Conducting Financial Transactions that Rely on DeFi

**RICHMOND** – Decentralized Finance (DeFi), a relatively new blockchain-based set of financial services, may come with risks that are not readily apparent to investors. As such, the State Corporation Commission (SCC) urges Virginians to approach this technology as they would any other potential investment – with caution as well as an understanding of the potential benefits and risks.

DeFi firms rely on algorithms and use digital assets to provide financial services such as depository services, lending, investing and management services. Some of these services are highly complex, operate outside current regulatory frameworks and may offer few, if any, consumer protections. DeFi relies heavily on peer-to-peer transactions rather than an intermediary such as a bank that holds custody of funds.

“Never invest more than you can afford to lose,” said Ron Thomas, director of the SCC’s Division of Securities and Retail Franchising (Division). “Because DeFi is an emerging technology – and offers lending and investing options that are not dependent on traditional financial markets – the risks differ from those in traditional markets.”

“The growing popularity of cryptocurrencies is one of the main drivers behind the development of alternative banking and business opportunities that may rely on DeFi models,” Thomas said.

To help Virginians better understand DeFi, the North American Securities Administrators Association, of which the SCC is a member, issued [an investor advisory](#) to explain DeFi, the technology behind it, how DeFi lending works, potential risks for investors, and how consumers can avoid becoming a victim to scams.

Thomas encourages Virginians to understand any investment and the person offering it **before** they invest.

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For additional resources regarding securities and investing, or to find out if an investment or the person offering it are properly licensed or registered in Virginia, contact the Division of Securities and Retail Franchising in Richmond at 804-371-9051 or toll-free at 1-800-552-7945, or visit its website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Consumer-Investments](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Consumer-Investments).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 1/27/2022

## SCC Encourages Virginians to Protect Homes, Vehicles and Other Property Against Severe Winter Weather

**RICHMOND** – Winter weather can wreak havoc with your home, business, vehicles and other property, causing billions of dollars in insured and uninsured losses nationwide each year. Think burst pipes, slippery sidewalks, roof cave-ins and vehicle damage due to fallen tree limbs and slick roads.

With several recent winter weather events in Virginia already and the possibility for others during this winter season, the time to prepare is now. The State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) encourages Virginians to review their insurance coverage and prepare their homes and vehicles **before** harsh winter conditions return. It is important to know the extent of your insurance coverage, as well as any deductibles you may have to pay in the event of a claim.

Accumulation of too much snow or ice can result in tree limbs breaking and falling on homes, vehicles and power lines. Falling limbs also can result in collapsed roofs and other damage to homes, structures and vehicles. Melting snow and ice can cause flooding of property and interior damage to structures even after a winter storm ends. Sub-freezing temperatures can lead to broken pipes both inside and outside your home.

“Plan ahead for seasonal and other hazards,” said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White. “Homeowners, renters and commercial property policies can protect you against many types of winter weather threats, but there are exceptions. Contact your insurance agent or company or the SCC's Bureau of Insurance to learn more.”

To help reduce the risk of damage to your home and property this winter, the Bureau suggests the following:

- Remove dead, dying, diseased or broken tree limbs near your home and property.
- Remove debris from your gutters to help prevent ice dams and allow melting water to drain freely away from your home.
- Inspect your attic insulation and ventilation to ensure warm air stays in the living areas of your home and out of the attic. Keeping attic air cold can help minimize the freeze/thaw cycle that causes ice dams, which may cause interior water damage to

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your home. Proper insulation of your home has the added advantage of helping save energy and may reduce your heating costs.

- Protect your pipes from freezing. Detach garden hoses from your home before the temperature drops below freezing and properly winterize pipes and irrigation systems around your home. To protect interior pipes, leave your faucet running slightly to allow water to trickle through the pipes, reducing the chance that standing water will freeze. Opening the cabinet doors under your sink allows warm air to circulate around your pipes and to help keep them from freezing.
- Make sure fireplaces, wood stoves and electric heaters work properly. Additionally, keep combustible items away from heat sources.

Standard homeowners, renters and commercial property insurance policies provide coverage for damage to property caused by wind, snow, severe cold and freezing rain. Property damage caused by flooding typically is not covered, but separate flood insurance is available through the National Flood Insurance Program at [floodsmart.gov](http://floodsmart.gov) and may be available through your insurance carrier.

If your home or property suffers damage as a result of severe winter weather, contact your insurance agent or company as soon as possible. Make any necessary emergency repairs and take reasonable steps to prevent further damage. Record all damage to your property and include photographs, notes and repair-related receipts.

Homeowners insurance also may cover certain incidents where someone slips and falls on slick sidewalks or other surfaces on your property. You can check for this coverage under the liability and medical payments portions of your homeowners insurance policy.

If you are involved in an auto accident between two or more vehicles attributed to snowy and slippery road conditions, or if your vehicle crashes into an object affixed along a roadway (such as a streetlight) due to those conditions, collision coverage is available under standard auto insurance policies. Also check to see whether your auto insurance covers damage to your vehicle caused by ice, snow and falling tree limbs. These types of damages usually are covered by other-than-collision (or comprehensive) coverage on your vehicle, which protects against damage to a vehicle from such things as fire, water, hail, vandalism, glass breakage, wind and falling objects.

The Bureau offers consumer guides regarding homeowners, renters, commercial and auto insurance and disaster-related property insurance claims. For copies of these and other publications offered by the Bureau or for answers to your insurance questions, contact the Bureau's Property and Casualty Consumer Services Section at 804-371-9185 in Richmond or toll-free at 1-877-310-6560. Copies of the consumer insurance guides are also available on the Bureau's website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance).

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For Immediate Release: 2/2/2022

## SCC Cautions Virginians Regarding Top Investor Threats for 2022

**RICHMOND** – Investment scams involving cryptocurrencies, promissory notes, online investment offers and schemes involving Self-Directed Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) may be among the top investor threats Americans face during 2022, according to a recent survey of securities regulators.

The State Corporation Commission’s (SCC) Division of Securities and Retail Franchising (Division) encourages Virginians to do their homework any time they plan to invest. Understanding the benefits and risks of any investment is important.

“Let caution be your guide, especially when investing in cryptocurrency and digital assets, which can be volatile and headline the list of investor threats for the new year,” said Director Ron Thomas. “Don’t be lured by thoughts of easy money or stories of ‘crypto millionaires,’ and never invest more than you can afford to lose.”

The list Thomas references is a list of the top 2022 investor threats, as determined by a survey of state and provincial securities regulators conducted by the North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA), of which the SCC is a member. The annual survey is designed to identify the products, practices or schemes that may present challenges or risks for investors.

Thomas offers the following tips to identify and avoid scams:

1. Independently verify who is offering an investment and details of an offer. Scammers often spoof websites and rely on fake social media accounts to obscure their identities. To spot fake accounts, look closely at their content, dates of inception and quality of engagement. Pay careful attention to domain names and learn more about how to [protect your online accounts](#).
2. Beware of fake client reviews. Scammers often reference or publish positive, yet bogus, testimonials purportedly drafted by satisfied customers. These testimonials create the appearance the promoter is legitimate and has demonstrated solid performance in the past, but they are sometimes drafted by the scammer, not a

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satisfied customer. Learn how to protect yourself with [NASAA's Informed Investor Advisory on social media, online trading and investing](#).

3. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Don't be enticed by promises of safe, lucrative, guaranteed returns with little or no risk and over relatively short terms – sometimes measured in hours or days instead of months or years. These representations are often a red flag for fraud, since all investments carry some degree of risk.

Individuals offering investments are obligated to truthfully disclose all material facts, and they must disclose the risks associated with each product. On the other hand, bad actors will often minimize or conceal risks and, instead, tout profits and payouts.

Thomas encourages Virginians to understand any investment before turning over their hard-earned money. To learn more about whether investments and the people offering them are properly registered, Virginians can contact the Division at 804-371-9051 or toll-free at 1-800-552-7945 or email [SRF\\_General@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SRF_General@scc.virginia.gov). They can also search the federal Securities and Exchange Commission's [Investment Adviser Public Disclosure](#) website or visit the [BrokerCheck](#) platform offered by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority or FINRA.

For more information, visit the Division's website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Consumer-Investments](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Consumer-Investments) or the NASAA website at [nasaa.org](http://nasaa.org).

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For Immediate Release: 03/04/2022

## SCC Highlights Upcoming National Consumer Protection Week

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) reminds Virginians that National Consumer Protection Week (NCPW) begins Sunday. Each year, NCPW helps people understand their consumer right and make smart choices with their finances. Held March 6-12 this year, NCPW combines the efforts of the Federal Trade Commission and other federal, state, and local agencies and organizations – including the SCC – to promote resources for well-informed consumer decisions.

The SCC is a one-stop shop for many such resources. Consumers may find information and assistance in areas including insurance companies and agents, state-chartered financial institutions, investment firms and their representatives, retail franchises and investor-owned utilities providing electric, natural gas, water, and sewer, along with landline telecommunications services.

The SCC also offers many consumer guides and financial information resources on topics such as mortgage loans and deposit account information, purchasing insurance, and more. Specially trained staff can assist Virginians with information to help them make informed choices and, in some circumstances, to address complaints against regulated entities for things like an improperly denied insurance claim, errant charges on a loan transaction or securities offering, or an inaccurate utility bill.

The SCC encourages consumers to shop around and compare prices and terms; thoroughly evaluate any offer; keep written records of all transactions; find products and services that suit their particular needs; review statements and bills regularly; learn to spot scams, and verify that an individual or company is properly licensed or registered.

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If a problem arises, the SCC urges consumers to try to resolve it with the regulated individual or company first. If they need further help, consumers can contact the appropriate SCC division. Information about the complaint process along with related forms are available from the Consumers section of the SCC website at [scc.virginia.gov](http://scc.virginia.gov). To contact the SCC by phone, call toll-free at 1-800-552-7945 or in Richmond, call:

- Bureau of Insurance – 804-371-9741
- Bureau of Financial Institutions – 804-371-9657
- Division of Securities and Retail Franchising – 804-371-9051
- Division of Public Utility Regulation – 804-371-9611
- Office of the Clerk – 804-371-9733
- Division of Information Resources – 804-371-9141

In the event the SCC does not have regulatory authority over a particular company, individual, product or transaction, its staff will assist consumers whenever possible by referring them to the appropriate local, state or federal authority for assistance. These authorities may include the Office of the Attorney General, a local consumer protection office, law enforcement agencies, Better Business Bureau or the Federal Trade Commission (which consumers can also contact directly through its toll-free helpline at 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357)).

To learn more about National Consumer Protection Week, visit <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/>.

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For Immediate Release: 3/11/22

## SCC Encourages Virginians to Prepare for Potential Extreme Spring Weather

**RICHMOND** – The arrival of spring can usher in tornadoes, strong winds, hailstorms, flash floods, lightning and other extreme weather. Advance preparation is the key to protecting yourself, your loved ones and your property – both physically and financially.

The State Corporation Commission’s (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) encourages Virginians to plan now for potentially extreme spring weather. “Assess your risk and make sure you have the insurance coverage you need if severe weather causes damage to your home, business, vehicles or other property,” said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White. “If you have questions, contact the Bureau of Insurance or your insurance agent or company.”

When planning ahead to protect your interests, the Bureau encourages Virginians to consider the following:

- Review your insurance policy and contact your insurance company if you have any questions about your coverage.
- Create a detailed inventory of your belongings. Include photos and receipts of your property if you have them. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners’ (NAIC) [free home inventory app](#) can facilitate this process. You can use the [Inventory Checklist](#) as a guide. Store your home inventory checklist and insurance policy information in a secure, waterproof location.
- Most homeowners and renters insurance policies do not cover losses due to flooding. Talk with your insurance agent about flood insurance or visit the National Flood Insurance Program website. To learn more, contact your insurance agent or the NFIP at 1-888-379-9531 or visit [floodsmart.gov](http://floodsmart.gov).

Automobile other-than-collision insurance coverage, sometimes called "comprehensive" insurance coverage, helps pay to repair or replace vehicles if they are stolen or damaged by such things as fire, water, wind, hail, vandalism, glass breakage, falling objects or contact with an animal.

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In the event that a loss occurs at a later date, the Bureau recommends that Virginians keep several steps in mind:

- Contact your insurance company or agent as soon as possible.
- Take photos of your damaged property once it is safe to do so.
- Save the receipts of any emergency repairs that are needed to prevent your property from becoming further damaged.
- If you feel you are treated unfairly, contact the Bureau of Insurance Property & Casualty Consumer Services team at 804-371-9185 or file a complaint online.

The Bureau offers free consumer guides for homeowners and commercial property owners with information about what to do when a disaster strikes. These and many other consumer insurance guides are available on the Bureau's website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance).

The Bureau's specially trained staff can assist consumers with their insurance-related questions and concerns. To learn more, contact the Consumer Services Section of the Bureau's Property and Casualty Division toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or in Richmond at 804-371-9185. For additional emergency preparedness information relating to various types of disasters and hazards, visit the Virginia Department of Emergency Management website at [vaemergency.gov](http://vaemergency.gov).

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For Immediate Release: 4/1/2022

## SCC Reminds Virginians to Dig with C.A.R.E.

**RICHMOND** — April is National Safe Digging Month, and the State Corporation Commission's Division of Utility and Railroad Safety (URS) reminds all Virginians to Know What's Below and Dig with C.A.R.E. to help keep Virginia's underground utility infrastructure damage-free and our communities, business districts and environment safe.

The steps to safe digging in Virginia are:

- **Contact** Virginia 811 **before** you dig.
- **Allow** the required time for marking the utilities.
- **Respect** and protect the marks.
- **Excavate** carefully.

Whether you're a professional contractor, do-it-yourselfer or homeowner, you have an important role in preventing damage to underground utilities. No matter how big or small your project is, contacting the Virginia 811 Notification Center to request the marking of your underground utility lines **before** you dig will help avoid physical injury, property damage, costly repairs and service interruptions.

Contact Virginia 811 by going online at [www.va811.com](http://www.va811.com). You may also call 811 or 1-800-552-7001 Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding legal state and national holidays. Emergency notification service is available 24/7, 365 days a year.

For more information about safe digging and demolition, contact URS at (804) 371-9980 or visit the SCC Damage Prevention page at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Damage-Prevention](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Damage-Prevention).

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For Immediate Release: 04/04/2022

## Mandatory 10-Digit Dialing Begins in April for New 757/948 Overlay Area Code

**RICHMOND** – Mandatory 10-digit dialing (3-digit area code + the 7-digit telephone number) begins April 9, 2022 for Virginians living in the 757 area code region. Local calls made with just seven digits will not be connected. This is the second step in a February 2020 relief plan approved by the State Corporation Commission (SCC) to phase in the new 948 area code. Permissive 10-digit dialing for the 757 area code region began September 11, 2021.

The 757 area code encompasses the vast majority of the Hampton Roads metropolitan area including Williamsburg, Franklin and Suffolk in the west, and Virginia Beach, Norfolk and the Eastern Shore to the east.

In the coming months, the inventory of available phone numbers with "757" as the area code is expected to run out. The SCC approved an **overlay**, which is the addition of another area code (948) to the same geographic region served by an existing area code (757). Beginning May 9, 2022, new telephone lines or services may be assigned numbers using the new 948 area code.

The good news: residents and businesses that already have phone numbers will get to keep them. No one's 757 phone number will change.

Alarm, security, and elevator services and equipment currently located in the 757 area code and programmed to dial only seven digits must be updated or reprogrammed to dial the area code + telephone number for all calls in the 757 area code.

For more information on this topic, see: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/757-Area-Code-Exhaust-Relief-FAQ](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/757-Area-Code-Exhaust-Relief-FAQ).

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For Immediate Release: 04/04/2022

# SCC Announces Release of Request for Proposals for the Virginia Health Benefit Exchange Platform and Call Center

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) is pleased to announce its release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the State-Based Exchange Technology Platform (SBE Platform) and Consumer Assistance Center (CAC) on eVA, Virginia’s central procurement system. This RFP is the next step for the Health Benefit Exchange (HBE) division of the SCC to successfully transition from HealthCare.gov to a fully autonomous, Virginia-based health insurance exchange.

Vendor proposals, which should incorporate the SBE Platform and CAC, are due May 2. The SCC expects to award the contract in mid- to late-summer of 2022.

HBE’s primary purpose is to promote a transparent and competitive marketplace, promote consumer choice and education, assist individuals with access to programs, premium assistance tax credits, cost sharing reductions, support the continuity of coverage, and reduce the number of uninsured.

The Health Benefit Exchange will:

- Provide eligibility, enrollment, and tailored customer service closer to Virginia citizens;
- more closely coordinate with other state agencies and programs to increase the likelihood that individuals maintain health care coverage; and
- directly handle consumer complaints and address consumer issues to design and optimize the consumer shopping experience.

Open Enrollment for plan year 2023 will begin on November 1, 2022. Virginia marketplace consumers will continue to shop for health plans on HealthCare.gov until November 1, 2023. The SCC anticipates that the full transition to its own state-based platform will be completed by the fall of 2023, in time for Open Enrollment for health plans that begin coverage January 1, 2024.

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For Immediate Release: 05/09/2022

## Mandatory 10-Digit Dialing Begins in May for New 540/826 Overlay Area Code

**RICHMOND** – Mandatory 10-digit dialing (3-digit area code + the 7-digit telephone number) begins May 14, 2022, for Virginians living in the 540 area code region. Local calls made with just seven digits will not be connected. This is the second step in a June 2020 relief plan approved by the State Corporation Commission (SCC) to phase in the new 826 area code. Permissive 10-digit dialing for the 540 area code region began November 13, 2021.

The 540 area code encompasses the northwestern and southwestern portions of Virginia; some of the larger cities include Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Culpeper, Fredericksburg, Front Royal, Harrisonburg, Radford, Roanoke, Salem, Staunton, Waynesboro and Winchester.

In the coming months, the inventory of available phone numbers with "540" as the area code is expected to run out. The SCC approved an **overlay**, which is the addition of another area code (826) to the same geographic region served by an existing area code (540). Beginning June 14, 2022, new telephone lines or services may be assigned numbers using the new 826 area code.

The good news: residents and businesses that already have phone numbers will get to keep them. No one's 540 phone number will change.

Alarm, security, and elevator services and equipment currently located in the 540 area code and programmed to dial only seven digits must be updated or reprogrammed to dial the area code + telephone number for all calls in the 540 area code.

For more information on this topic, visit: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/540-Area-Code-Exhaust-Relief](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/540-Area-Code-Exhaust-Relief).

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For Immediate Release: 5/17/2022

## SCC Cautions Virginia Investors Regarding Online Investment Scams

**RICHMOND** – The Internet, social media and messaging apps offer many useful features for daily life, but also new opportunities for investment scams. While social media platforms, online dating websites and dating apps may be good ways to meet people, Virginia residents should be wary if someone uses an online friendship or romance to solicit an investment or offer investment opportunities.

Individuals trying to promote investment scams may pose as potential romantic partners or possible new friends in an attempt to lure unsuspecting individuals into fraudulent investment schemes. These scammers may set online traps as well as use technology and social media platforms to profile targets. They may spend time getting to know their target and use flattery to try to win them over before introducing an investment opportunity.

The State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Division of Securities and Retail Franchising (Division) encourages Virginians to be skeptical of investments offered by a new and unfamiliar online contact or friend request, and to do their homework **before** considering any investment.

“Don't let your heart rule your head when making financial decisions,” said Director Ron Thomas. “The virtual world can make it easy for scammers to pretend to be someone who they are not. Whether online, by phone or in person, be leery of unsolicited investment offers and never share financial information with a stranger. Understand the risks and benefits of any investment and do not invest more than you can afford to lose.”

Thomas offers the following tips:

1. Independently verify who is offering an investment and the details of an offer, as well as verify any app or website to which a stranger may direct you. Be wary of individuals who are unwilling to meet face-to-face or via clear video feed, or who attempt to pressure you into making an investment.

Keep in mind that individuals offering investments are obligated to disclose all material facts regarding an investment, and they must disclose the risks associated

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with each product. Bad actors will often minimize or conceal risks of an investment and, instead, tout their alleged profits and payouts.

2. Make sure any investment and the person offering it are properly registered. In Virginia, contact the Division at 804-371-9051 or toll-free at 1-800-552-7945, or email [SRF\\_General@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SRF_General@scc.virginia.gov). Investors can also search the federal Securities and Exchange Commission's [Investment Adviser Public Disclosure](#) website or visit the [BrokerCheck](#) platform offered by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).
3. If an offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Don't be swayed by flattery or the promise of friendship or romance, or be enticed by claims of safe, lucrative or guaranteed returns with little or no risk. These representations are often a red flag for fraud, since all investments carry some degree of risk.

For more information, visit the Division's website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Consumer-Investments](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Consumer-Investments) or the NASAA website at [nasaa.org](http://nasaa.org).

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For Immediate Release: 5/19/22

# SCC Receives Federal Approval to Establish Commonwealth Health Reinsurance Program

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) has received approval of a federal waiver to establish the Commonwealth Health Reinsurance Program (CHRP). The SCC will be responsible for implementing and operating that program, which is scheduled to begin on January 1, 2023.

The SCC was directed under Virginia Code Section [§ 38.2-6606](#) to submit an application for a State Innovation Waiver to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and to the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury Department) to establish the CHRP. Under the waiver, insurance carriers are reimbursed a percentage of the claims of covered individuals with high annual costs.

[House Bill 2332](#) was passed in the 2021 Special Session I of the Virginia General Assembly and signed into law on March 31, 2021, creating the CHRP and directing the SCC to seek the waiver application. The SCC submitted an application for the waiver to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, a division of HHS, and the Treasury Department on December 30, 2021. The approval is for an initial period of up to five years.

Information about the CHRP is available on the SCC website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Reinsurance-Waiver](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Reinsurance-Waiver)

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 5/25/2022

## Know What to Expect if your Investment Account is Reassigned, SCC Advises

**RICHMOND** – Many investors rely on financial advisors to help them reach their financial goals. When an investment advisor or stockbroker leaves their position with a firm, however, their clients may have questions about what may happen with their investment accounts.

The State Corporation Commission’s (SCC) Division of Securities and Retail Franchising (Division) encourages Virginians to know ahead of time what to expect if their investment advisor or stockbroker leaves their employer. In the event this occurs, investors are encouraged to find out why they left and understand what will happen to their investment account.

Departures may be voluntary such as job changes, retirement or a move to another city. Or they could be involuntary – such as a termination or health issues. In either case, it’s important to know how a financial service professional’s firm will handle their departure, how your account will be serviced, and what information the firm will provide regarding the departing employee. The answers to these questions may vary from firm to firm.

“Don’t be taken by surprise if your investment professional leaves their firm or the financial services industry,” said Director Ron Thomas. “Know in advance what to expect. Ask questions and understand your options **before** determining what to do with your investment account.”

Some common questions that Virginians may ask include the following:

- Will I be notified if my stockbroker or investment advisor leaves the firm or leaves the financial industry completely? If so, how and when will I be notified?
- How can I find out why they left the firm?
- How will my account be serviced if my stockbroker or investment advisor leaves?

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- Will I be assigned a new broker or advisor, or will my account be assigned “to the house” – a general account at the firm without an assigned individual managing the account?
- Will I receive the same services I previously received with my broker or advisor? Will the firm continue to collect the same fees from me? Keep in mind that broker-dealers and investment advisers have a responsibility to ensure that the services they charge you for are actually provided.
- To whom can I direct questions or trade instructions?
- What are my options regarding my account? For example, should I retain assets at the existing firm, or may I transfer assets to another firm?
- Can I get contact information for my departing broker? Firms may have policies regarding whether a departing stockbroker or investment advisor can communicate with you or solicit you to transfer your account to another firm.

If you work with a specific advisor, broker or team, you should receive notice from their firm if they will no longer be servicing your account. If you receive such a notice, consider following up immediately to find out why. Also ask questions to understand the situation before your account is reassigned or you decide to transfer your account elsewhere.

For additional information, contact the Division at 804-371-9051 or toll-free at 1-800-552-7945 or email [SRF\\_General@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SRF_General@scc.virginia.gov). The North American Securities Administrators Association provides information about [Reassigned Investor Accounts](#).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 5/31/2022

## SCC Encourages Virginians to Plan Now for Hurricane Season

**RICHMOND** – The Atlantic hurricane season begins tomorrow, and the State Corporation Commission’s (SCC) Bureau of Insurance encourages Virginians to review your insurance policies now to make sure you have the coverage you need if a hurricane or other natural disaster strikes.

Hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30 each year. Once a hurricane develops in the Atlantic, it may be difficult to find an insurance company willing to write related coverage for your home, auto or business until after the storm threat passes.

“Protect yourself physically and financially before the waters start to churn,” said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White. “Review your insurance policies and understand what is and is not covered. Contact your insurance agent or company or the Bureau of Insurance if you have questions.”

Keep in mind that even areas hundreds of miles from the coast can experience floods and other damage caused by hurricanes’ high winds and torrential rains. Most hurricane damage results from flooding, not high winds, and even minor floods can cause extensive damage to your home, business, or belongings.

The Bureau offers the following reminders:

- Homeowners, renters and commercial insurance policies issued in Virginia typically do not cover damage caused by floods, surface water or storm surges. The federal government sells insurance for direct flood and flood-related damage to homeowners, renters and businesses in eligible communities through its National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). In most cases, there is a 30-day waiting period for a new flood insurance policy to take effect. To learn more about this program, contact your insurance agent or the NFIP at 1-800-427-4661 or visit [floodsmart.gov](http://floodsmart.gov).

Some private insurers also offer flood policies, so check with your insurance agent about the availability of a private flood insurance policy. In either case, ask whether your flood policy covers your personal property.

(more)

- Some homeowners policies require a special deductible for wind or hurricane losses. These deductibles are applied separately from any other deductible on the homeowners policy. Additionally, these deductibles may be written as a flat amount, such as \$1,000, or they may be applied to the loss as a percentage of the insurance coverage on the dwelling. Remember that the deductible is the amount that you must pay before the insurance company pays its portion of a claim.
- If your property is damaged by a hurricane, contact your insurance agent or company as soon as possible. Make any necessary emergency repairs, and take reasonable steps to prevent further damage to your property. Make a list of all damage to your property and include photographs, notes and repair-related receipts.
- Prepare a complete inventory of your personal property now, including photographs, videos and serial numbers. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) offers a free smartphone app – [NAIC Home Inventory](#) – to facilitate this process. The app is available through the App Store and Google Play. Keep your insurance policies and home inventory together in a safe place.
- If you must evacuate, know the name of your insurance company, and take your homeowners, auto and other insurance policies and your home inventory with you or make sure you have saved these important documents electronically. The policies will contain your policy numbers and the phone numbers of your insurance companies in case you have questions or need to file a claim.

The Bureau of Insurance offers free consumer guides for homeowners and commercial property owners with information about what to do when disaster strikes. These and many other consumer insurance guides are available at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance). The Bureau's specially trained staff stand ready to assist consumers with their insurance-related questions and concerns. For more information, contact the Consumer Services Section of the Bureau's Property and Casualty Division toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or in Richmond at 804-371-9185.

For additional emergency preparedness information relating to hurricanes and other types of disasters and hazards, visit [vaemergency.gov](http://vaemergency.gov).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 06/02/2022

# Comparison Shopping Resource Now Available to Help Virginians Shop for Auto and Homeowners Insurance Coverage

**RICHMOND** – When shopping for insurance, it is important to compare the same information from multiple carriers before making a decision about which policy is best for you.

The State Corporation Commission’s (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) now offers a new resource – *Insurance Shopper’s Worksheets* – to help Virginians do just that. Along with an easy-to-use format, these worksheets include a brief description of coverages and common deductibles, and are designed to allow consumers to make an “apples to apples” comparison of costs for up to three insurers.

“Consumers should take the time to understand how their auto and homeowners policies work, what’s covered and what isn’t,” said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White, adding, “The *Insurance Shopper’s Worksheets* will help Virginians make well-informed consumer decisions when shopping for insurance coverage and choose a policy that best suits their needs.”

As part of the Bureau’s efforts to promote consumer protection and awareness, this shopping resource is a simple, effective and important component of the consumer assistance tools provided by the Bureau. To access the *Insurance Shopper’s Worksheet* and other helpful information, visit [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Automobile-Insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Automobile-Insurance) for information about auto insurance and [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Homeowners-Insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Homeowners-Insurance) for information about homeowners insurance.

The Bureau also offers a variety of free insurance consumer guides. Copies of these guides are available on the Bureau’s website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance). For questions and concerns related to auto and homeowners insurance, contact the Bureau’s Property and Casualty Consumer Services Section at 804-371-9185 in Richmond or toll-free at 1-877-310-6560.

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 6/15/2022

## On World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, SCC Offers Reminders about Senior Financial Exploitation

**RICHMOND** – On World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (June 15), the State Corporation Commission reminds financial professionals and all Virginians to be on the lookout for signs of elder financial abuse and to know how to report it.

Each year, seniors lose billions of dollars as a result of financial exploitation, with losses averaging tens of thousands of dollars per victim.

Although financial abuse can take many forms, senior citizens (and those around them) should be aware of exploitation efforts involving the sale of investments, as well as attempts to access seniors' investments accounts. Such efforts can include online or telemarketing scams selling fraudulent investments, or someone trying to gain control over a senior citizen's investment accounts for their own personal gain. Perpetrators may be strangers, family members, trusted friends or caregivers, financial professionals or others. Seniors who have disabilities, rely on others for help or live alone may be particularly susceptible to financial exploitation.

"Seniors are increasingly being targeted by scammers," said Ron Thomas, director of the State Corporation Commission's Division of Securities and Retail Franchising (Division). "Perpetrators often strike when seniors are most vulnerable, such as during a health crisis or after the death of a loved one. Social isolation and increased reliance on the internet for many daily activities can compound the problem," he said.

In some cases, scammers may target their victims using personal details gleaned from obituaries and social media posts. Some perpetrators may exploit established relationships within seniors' social and support groups to become more involved in their lives.

Some red flags of financial abuse could be as follows:

- Surrendering passwords and control of finances to a new or overly protective friend or caregiver;
- Suspicious signatures on checks or other documents;
- Unusual activity in investment or bank accounts including large, frequent or unexplained withdrawals or transfers between accounts;

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- Sudden changes to beneficiary designations or legal or financial documents involving investments, such as power of attorney, wills, trusts, retirement accounts or insurance policies, or suddenly missing documents;
- Unexplained financial activities, such as the disappearance or “gifting” of assets, valuables or securities;
- Fear of or sudden change in feelings toward friends or family members; and
- A lack of knowledge by a senior about their financial status or reluctance to discuss financial matters.

Thomas urges Virginians who suspect they or a loved one are the victims of investment fraud or possible senior financial exploitation to contact the Division at 804-371-9051 in Richmond or toll-free at 1-800-552-7945. For more information, visit the Division’s website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Consumer-Investments](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Consumer-Investments). The North American Securities Administrators Association, of which the Division is a member, also offers resources on its website at [www.nasaa.org/investor-education/senior-investor-resource-center](http://www.nasaa.org/investor-education/senior-investor-resource-center) or at [serveourseniors.org](http://serveourseniors.org).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 06/16/2022

### SCC Seeks Public Comments on Application of Dominion Energy Virginia to Increase its Fuel Factor

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) is offering time for members of the public to give oral comments by telephone on an application by Dominion Energy Virginia to increase its fuel factor for usage on and after July 1, 2022.

Dominion's application requests approval to recover the company's estimated Virginia jurisdictional fuel expenses of approximately \$2.278 billion for the July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, fuel year, and its projected June 30, 2022, fuel deferral balance of \$1.020 billion, subject to its mitigation proposal.

The company presents two potential mitigation proposals that would spread recovery of the \$1.020 billion projected fuel deferral balance over two or three years, respectively.

For a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month, the average weighted monthly bill would increase under the three alternative recovery proposals as follows: (1) increase \$24.12 from \$122.01 to \$146.13, or by 19.8%, based on the full recovery of the deferral balance; (2) increase \$17.23 to \$139.24, or by 14.1%, based on recovery of the deferral balance over two years; and (3) increase \$14.93 to \$136.94, or by 12.2%, based on recovery of the deferral balance over three years. The company requests the Commission approve its three-year mitigation proposal.

The SCC has scheduled a public witness session to begin at 10 a.m. on July 6, 2022. Public witnesses intending to provide oral testimony must pre-register with the SCC by 5 p.m. on June 30, 2022. Witnesses will be called by the hearing examiner assigned to the case on July 6 in the order in which they registered. Public comments will be limited to five minutes per caller. The hearing will be webcast at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting).

Public witnesses wishing to provide oral testimony may pre-register in one of three ways:

- Completing a public witness form for case number PUR-2022-00064 on the SCC's website at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting)
- E-mailing the same form (PDF version on the same website as above) to [SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov)

(MORE)

- Calling the SCC at 804-371-9141 during normal business hours (8:15 a.m. – 5 p.m.) and providing your name and the phone number you wish the Commission to call to reach you during the hearing.

A public evidentiary hearing will follow the public witness hearing at 10 a.m. on July 7, 2022, in the SCC's second floor courtroom at 1300 East Main Street in Richmond to receive testimony and evidence from the company, any respondents and the SCC staff.

For those who prefer, there is also an opportunity to provide comments in writing on the Dominion application. Written comments may be submitted through the SCC's website by June 30, 2022, at [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](https://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Simply go to the SCC website, select "Cases" and then "Submit Public Comments," and scroll down to case number PUR-2022-00064. Then click SUBMIT COMMENTS.

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**Case Number [PUR-2022-00064](#)** – Dominion Energy Virginia application to revise its fuel factor

## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 6/21/2022

## SCC: Protect Your Summer Fun By Double-Checking Your Insurance Coverage

**RICHMOND** – For all the sun, fun and travel that comes with summer, the season also poses its share of risks. The State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) reminds Virginians to double-check with their insurance agent or company to assure sufficient insurance coverage in the event of an illness, theft or mishap.

“Whether you’re grilling with friends, driving, or boating, don’t let a lack of insurance coverage put a damper on your summer fun,” said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White. “Anticipate summer hazards now to minimize their potential financial damage by ensuring your insurance coverage is adequate and up-to-date.”

The Bureau offers several tips to help Virginians protect themselves against potential risks. Keep your home, vehicles, belongings and personal information safe, especially when away on vacation. Know how much your auto and homeowners insurance will cover if someone steals belongings from your vehicle, home or yard. If hosting an event at your home – such as a yard sale, neighborhood cookout or pool party – know what type of insurance you may need if a guest is injured or if there is property damage. Also, understand your insurance coverages if severe summer weather damages your home or vehicles. Finally, understand any deductibles or coverage limits that may apply.

Additionally, the Bureau recommends you review and update your home inventory. This will help to ensure your homeowners or renters policy provides enough coverage for your belongings. Separate coverage may be needed for high-cost items like jewelry, art or electronics. A home inventory can help facilitate the claims process if damage or theft occurs. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners' free smartphone app – [NAIC Home Inventory](#) – makes creating a home inventory quick and easy. This app is available through the App Store and Google Play.

In the season of hurricanes and heavy rains, keep in mind that homeowners, renters and commercial insurance policies issued in Virginia typically do not cover damage to your home and belongings due to floods, surface water or storm surges. The federal government sells insurance covering direct flood and flood-related damage to homeowners, renters and businesses in eligible communities through its National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). In most cases, there is a 30-day waiting period for a new flood insurance policy to take effect. To learn more about this program, contact your insurance agent or the NFIP at 1-800-427-4661 or visit [floodsmart.gov](http://floodsmart.gov).

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Some private insurers offer flood policies, so check with your insurance agent about the availability of a private flood insurance policy. In either case, ask whether your flood policy provides coverage for your personal property. (more)

If you are planning a summer trip, understand your health insurance coverage in case you require medical treatment in an urgent care facility or hospital while traveling out-of-state or abroad. Bring health insurance information with you on your trip including identification cards and contact details for family members.

If you're driving for vacation or to visit friends and family, make sure your auto insurance policy meets your specific needs before you leave. Check your liability limits to ensure adequate protection against personal injury or property damage arising from an accident while traveling. Keep your insurance company's contact information and a copy of your insurance card with you when you drive and know what to do if an accident occurs.

For information about these or other insurance-related topics, contact the Virginia Bureau of Insurance in Richmond at (804) 371-9741 or toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or visit its website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 7/12/22

# SCC Seeks Comments on Proposed 804 Area Code Exhaust Relief

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) is inviting public comment regarding bringing a new area code to Virginia regions now served by the 804 area code. It is projected that the 804 area code could run out of available numbers during the third quarter of 2024.

The 804 area code encompasses portions of Central Virginia and the Northern Neck including Richmond, Petersburg, Ashland, Charles City, Chesterfield, Columbia, Hague, Henrico, New Kent, Reedville and Water View.

The SCC is considering a proposal by the North American Numbering Plan Administrator for an all services distributed overlay of a new area code for the 804 area code region. Under this proposal, if adopted, a new area code would be superimposed over the same geographic region covered by the current 804 area code. Existing customers would retain their 804 area code and seven-digit telephone number.

If approved by the SCC, implementation of the new area code overlay would be completed by early 2024, which is six months prior to the anticipated 804 area code exhaust date.

The 804 area code is already transitioning to mandatory 10-digit dialing (three-digit area code plus the seven-digit phone number) due to the national implementation of 988 – the new three-digit abbreviated dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The new 988 number begins operation on July 16, 2022. As a result of this transition, 10-digit dialing will already be in place in the 804 area code region prior to the implementation of the new overlay area code.

Anyone interested in submitting comments on the proposed area code change may do so by following the instructions found on the SCC website at [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](https://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments), or they may submit written comments to the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments must refer to case number PUR-2022-00083.

To learn more about 804 area code relief, visit [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Public-Utility](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Public-Utility).

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### [Case number PUR-2022-00083](#)

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 07/15/2022

### SCC Approves Fuel Rate Increase for Kentucky Utilities

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) approved a proposed increase to the fuel rate for customers of Kentucky Utilities, doing business as Old Dominion Power Company (KU/ODP), at the level previously implemented.

The Commission previously permitted the rate increase to go into effect on an interim basis, subject to further modification, effective April 1, 2022. For a typical residential customer using 1,000 kWh per month, it represented an increase of \$6.15 on a monthly bill.

The fuel rate is the portion of the electric bill that pays for the fuel used to generate electricity and costs associated with power purchased by the utility company to serve its customers.

In its final order, the Commission is implementing the recommendation of an SCC hearing examiner that was not opposed by any party to the case.

The Commission stated: “In approving this previously implemented interim increase in the fuel factor, the Commission notes its awareness of the ongoing rise in gas prices, inflation, and other economic pressures that are impacting all utility customers. We are sensitive to the effects of rate increases, especially in times such as these. The Commission, however, must follow the laws applicable to any rate case, as well as the findings of fact supported by the evidence in the record. This is what we have done herein.”

Kentucky Utilities provides electric service to approximately 27,000 customers in Wise, Lee, Russell, Scott, and Dickenson counties.

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**Case Number [PUR-2022-00021](#) – Application of Kentucky Utilities Company to revise its fuel factor**

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 07/18/2022

### SCC Approves Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Plan for Appalachian Power

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) approved the 2021 Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS) development plan for Appalachian Power Company for new solar and onshore wind generation capacity. The company is required to submit an annual plan to the SCC to comply with the Virginia Clean Economy Act (VCEA).

For the limited purpose of this second annual RPS plan filing, the SCC found that Appalachian Power’s plan is reasonable and prudent.

The company requested approval to acquire or contract for seven new facilities which combined represent approximately 493 megawatts renewable generation capacity. Five solar facilities will be located in Virginia, one wind facility will be located in Illinois, and one solar facility will be located in West Virginia.

The SCC also approved a revenue requirement of \$32,069,614 for the recovery of VCEA-related resources for the rate year of August 2022 through July 2023.

In its final order, the Commission stated, “As always, the Commission is guided by the statutes and the record. In doing so, we have exercised the Commission’s delegated discretion in a manner that faithfully implements the VCEA requirements that include carbon reduction, while best protecting consumers who expect and deserve reliable and affordable service.”

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**Case Number [PUR-2021-00206](#)** – Application of Appalachian Power Company for approval of its 2021 RPS Plan

## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 7/27/2022

## SCC Offers Insurance Tips for Students Heading to College

**RICHMOND** – August is the time many students head to college, some for the first time. In addition to new classes, instructors, friends and living quarters, this time can also bring new insurance needs.

The State Corporation Commission’s (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) encourages Virginia families with college students to make sure their college prep checklist includes a thorough review of both their own insurance needs as well as those of their students. “Protect yourself and your family financially by ensuring your student has the insurance coverage they need before they leave for college,” said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White. “Review insurance coverage for their health, auto, living space and belongings and make sure they understand their coverage.”

The Bureau encourages parents and students to shop around for insurance coverage and compare premiums and policy provisions. Read any insurance policy carefully and make sure you understand exactly what is covered, as well as exclusions, deductibles and limits. If you have questions or concerns, contact your insurance agent or company. Additionally, the Bureau offers the following insurance considerations for parents and college students:

### **HEALTH**

College students have several options for getting health insurance. Under federal law, students may be able to stay on their parents’ health insurance until they turn 26 years old. If your student remains on your health insurance policy, make sure they have a copy of any insurance cards and understand what services are covered, as well as know how to obtain referrals, if necessary, before seeking treatment. Under some health insurance policies, your student would need to find a physician or hospital that is within your insurance carrier’s provider network – except for emergency care – or pay more out of pocket if a provider is outside your carrier’s network.

Students who do not have health insurance through a parent's policy, or who have limited coverage due to provider networks or service areas, may opt to purchase a student health insurance plan through their college or university. Students also may be eligible for a Special Enrollment Period that would allow them to apply for a private health insurance plan through the federally-facilitated health insurance marketplace at [HealthCare.gov](http://HealthCare.gov).

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## **PERSONAL PROPERTY AND HOUSING**

College students often take many valuable items with them to school, such as laptops, printers, mobile phones, televisions, gaming devices and bicycles. When reviewing your insurance needs, consider how much it would cost to replace everything in your student's dorm room or apartment if a theft or disaster occurred.

For students who live in on-campus student housing, their parents' homeowners or renters policy may cover their belongings if they are stolen or damaged. Some policies, however, may limit the amount of coverage provided. Certain items – such as jewelry or expensive electronics – may require special coverage. In the event of a loss, policy deductibles may also apply.

Students living off campus should consider renters insurance, which generally covers a tenant's personal property as well as insures the tenant in case someone is injured on their leased premises. Landlords' policies generally only cover the structure, not a renter's possessions. Renters insurance premiums vary depending on the location and size of the rental unit and the value of the tenant's possessions.

No matter where your student lives, they should have a list of their belongings. An inventory of personal property will help you and your student determine how much insurance is needed. If a loss occurs, the inventory can facilitate the claims process. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) offers a [free smartphone app](#) that makes creating an inventory easy.

## **AUTO**

For college students planning to take a car to school, parents should ask their insurance agent or company about coverage availability – as well as rates for the city and state where the college is located – before deciding whether to keep the student's car on the family policy. If your student is attending college in another state, make sure you know that state's minimum requirements for auto insurance coverage. Additionally, check with your agent or insurance company about good-student discounts on the vehicle's insurance premiums for students who maintain good grades and any eligibility requirements.

Students whose names are on the title for a car must purchase their own auto insurance policy. However, they may be able to stay on their parents' policy if their parents own the vehicle they will use at school. Tell your insurance agent where the vehicle will be stored if the address is different from what is on the policy.

For more information, contact the Bureau toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or in Richmond at 804-371-9741 or visit its website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance).

## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 08/03/2022

### SCC Denies Virginia Credit Union Membership Expansion To Include the Medical Society of Virginia

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) has denied authorization for the Virginia Credit Union (VACU) to expand its field of membership to include the Medical Society of Virginia (MSV).

VACU had sought the SCC's approval to expand its field of membership to include MSV. The Virginia Bankers Association and seven banks opposed the requested expansion.

In its final order, the Commission said the Code of Virginia (§ 6.2-1328) provides a clear directive that: “When practicable and consistent with reasonable safety-and-soundness standards, the Commission shall encourage the formation of a separately chartered credit union instead of adding a new group to the field of membership of an existing credit union.”

After full proceedings, the Commission found that VACU did not meet its burden to show that the formation of a separate credit union by MSV is not practicable or is not consistent with reasonable safety-and-soundness standards.

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**Case Number [BFI-2019-00049](#)** – Virginia Bankers Association, et al. v. Virginia Credit Union, Inc., et al.

## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 08/05/2022

## SCC Approves Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Project

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) has approved an application by Dominion Energy Virginia for cost recovery associated with its proposed Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Project (CVOW). The project consists of 176 wind turbines, each designed to generate 14.7 megawatts, to be located approximately 27 miles off the coast of Virginia Beach. The project is expected to have a capital cost of \$9.8 billion and will likely be the largest capital investment, and single largest project, in the history of Dominion Energy Virginia.

The Commission also approved the electric interconnection and transmission facilities to connect CVOW reliably with the existing transmission system.

The Commission approved a revenue requirement of \$78.702 million for the rate year of September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2023, to be recovered through a new rate adjustment clause (Rider OSW). Over the projected 35-year lifetime of the project, for a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per month, Rider OSW is projected to result in an average monthly bill increase of \$4.72 and a peak monthly bill increase of \$14.22 in 2027. The rate adjustment clause is effective for usage on and after September 1, 2022.

In 2020, the Virginia General Assembly enacted the Virginia Clean Economy Act (VCEA) that declared in order to meet the Commonwealth's clean energy goals prior to December 31, 2034, the construction or purchase by a public utility of one or more wind generation facilities off the state's Atlantic shoreline is in the public interest.

Following a full proceeding, the Commission found, as directed by the General Assembly, that construction of CVOW is in the public interest.

In its final order, the SCC stated: "In so finding that these costs must be recovered from customers, the Commission is also keenly aware of the ongoing rise in gas prices, inflation, and other economic pressures that are impacting all utility customers. This is a prescriptive statute, and we applied it based on the record in this case."

The Commission further stated that significant concerns were raised throughout the proceeding regarding the affordability of the project and the financial risk to ratepayers. With a project of this magnitude, the SCC ordered the following consumer protections:

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- Dominion shall file a notice with the SCC within 30 calendar days if it determines that the total project costs are expected to exceed the current estimate, or if the final turbine installation is expected to be delayed beyond February 4, 2027.
- Each annual Rider OSW update application filed by Dominion prior to the project's commercial operation shall include any material changes to the project, the most recent biannual project update, and a written explanation as to the reason for any cost overruns above the most recent estimate provided by the company to include the reasonableness and prudence of the additional costs.
- Beginning with the commercial operation and extending for the life of the project, customers shall be held harmless for any shortfall in energy production below an annual net capacity factor of 42 percent, as measured on a three-year rolling average.

In a concurring opinion, Commissioner Jagdmann wrote that she agrees with the Final Order in all respects. She emphasized:

This is a legislatively favored Project. If the elements of Code § 56-585.1:11 are met, the costs of the Project are presumed "reasonable and prudent" – which means, in effect, "ratepayers pay." While no case participants oppose this Project – most urge the Commission to enact ratepayer protections given the high cost of this Project and its significant risk.... [T]he Commission has added specific protections – those being a requirement for regular reporting and a requirement (referred to as the "performance standard") that Dominion fund the cost of replacement power if the Project doesn't run or produce the quantity of power projected in the Company's analysis. But these protections do not address the Project's already high projected cost or the fact that the projected price could well [increase].... These protections also do not completely address potential Project abandonment risks. Importantly, the General Assembly has effectively maintained its ability to implement additional protections – for example through funding mechanisms such as general fund appropriation or other means, such as implementing new legislation designating the consumer-funded proceeds from Dominion's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative ("RGGI") be used to lessen the cost of the CVOW Project .... Such action may be appropriate given the public policy support for and economic development aspects of this Project.

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**Case Number [PUR-2021-00142](#)** – Application of Dominion Energy Virginia for approval and certification of the Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Commercial Project and Rider Offshore Wind

**View [Final Order](#)**

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 8/11/22

## SCC Reminds Virginians to Dig with C.A.R.E.

**RICHMOND** – August 11 (811 Day) is the day recognized in the Commonwealth to remind Virginians of the importance of always contacting Virginia 811 **before** you dig. Virginia 811 is the one-call notification center created by Virginia’s utilities to protect their underground facilities.

Contacting Virginia 811 to have your underground utilities located is a simple, no-cost process. If your digging project is taking place at a single address, go online at [www.va811.com](http://www.va811.com) to enter your request. This online service is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

You may also call 8-1-1 Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding state and national holidays. Emergency notification service is available 24/7, 365 days a year as well. Know What’s Below, contact Virginia 811 before you dig and Dig with C.A.R.E.!

C.A.R.E. means:

- **C**ontact Virginia 811 **before** you dig.
- **A**llow the required time for marking.
- **R**espect and protect the marks.
- **E**xcavate carefully.

Help keep Virginia’s underground utility infrastructure damage-free and our communities, business districts and environment safe by taking this important first step.

To learn more about “Digging with C.A.R.E.” and Virginia’s underground utility damage prevention program, contact the State Corporation Commission’s Division of Utility and Railroad Safety at 804-371-9980 or visit [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Utility-Railroad-Safety](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Utility-Railroad-Safety).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 08/30/2022

## Plan Ahead: A Reminder from the SCC During National Preparedness Month and the Midpoint of Hurricane Season

**RICHMOND** – September is National Preparedness Month, an annual observance to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. This also marks the midpoint of the Atlantic hurricane season, the peak period when potentially deadly tropical cyclones form in the Atlantic Ocean. As such, the State Corporation Commission (SCC) is urging Virginians to think ahead and act now to protect themselves and their families.

“It’s critical to ensure that your insurance coverage is up-to-date so you can minimize any financial damage,” said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White. “Take time to review each of your insurance policies so you know exactly what is – and is not – covered.”

The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30. Once a hurricane develops in the Atlantic, it may be difficult to find an insurance company willing to write coverage until after the storm threat passes.

Keep in mind that hurricane damage is often caused by flooding, not high winds. Standard homeowners, renters and commercial insurance policies issued in Virginia typically do not provide coverage for damage from floods, surface water or storm surges. Coverage for flood damage is available to homeowners, renters and business owners in eligible communities through the National Flood Insurance Program. If you think you may need flood insurance, it’s important to prepare ahead of time since there is typically a 30-day waiting period before a new flood insurance policy takes effect. To learn more, visit [www.floodsmart.gov/](http://www.floodsmart.gov/).

Creating an inventory of your personal property including photos, videotapes and serial numbers will help you prepare for emergencies. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners’ free smartphone app – [NAIC Home Inventory](#) – makes creating a home inventory quick and easy. Keep this inventory and your insurance policies in a safe place and take them with you if you evacuate. Your policy contains the policy number and insurance company’s phone number if you have questions or need to file a claim.

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For information about these or other insurance-related topics, contact the Virginia Bureau of Insurance in Richmond at 804-371-9741 or toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or visit its website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance).

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For Immediate Release: 9/1/2022

## SCC Bureau of Insurance Offers New Medigap Premium Comparison Tool

**RICHMOND** – If you are covered under Medicare, or will soon be eligible for Medicare coverage, the State Corporation Commission’s (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) offers a helpful tool for you: the *Medigap Premium Finder*. This tool allows you to search and compare annual premiums for Medicare Supplement plans. These optional plans, also known as “Medigap” and offered by private insurance companies, are designed to help pay deductibles, copayments and some out-of-pocket costs, and provide other benefits that Medicare does not cover. Medigap policy premiums are separate from any other premiums consumers pay for Medicare coverage.

There are 12 different Medigap plans – A through N – from which consumers can select. Premiums can vary significantly depending on the insurance company and plan you choose. While comparison shopping for prices, benefits, and services can seem daunting, the *Medigap Premium Finder* helps simplify this task. This one-stop shopping tool allows you to search by ZIP Code to see the names and contact information for insurance companies writing Medigap insurance in your area, as well as those companies’ coverage options and annual premiums.

Comparison shopping can result in considerable cost savings and help consumers find a company and policy that best suits their needs. The Bureau encourages Virginians to comparison shop before selecting a specific Medigap plan.

Consumers can access the *Medigap Premium Finder* at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Med-Premium-Finder](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Med-Premium-Finder). The website also includes the *Virginia Medigap Guide* and other valuable consumer insurance information.

The Bureau’s Life and Health Division also has specially trained staff who can help with your questions regarding Medigap insurance. To contact them, call 804-371-9691 in Richmond or toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or email the Bureau at [BureauofInsurance@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:BureauofInsurance@scc.virginia.gov).

Additionally, the Bureau offers free consumer outreach programs on a number of insurance-related topics, including Medigap. Speakers are available to talk to your group or organization on the insurance topics of your choice and can provide answers to general questions regarding insurance. For more information, contact the Bureau’s Outreach Section at 804-371-9389 or e-mail [ConsumerOutreach@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:ConsumerOutreach@scc.virginia.gov).

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For Immediate Release: 9/7/2022

## SCC Offers Life Insurance Awareness Month Reminders

**RICHMOND** – When a family member dies – particularly if they are a wage earner – their survivors may suffer financial loss, or even hardship. Life insurance is designed to protect loved ones against the loss of an individual’s income or services. During Life Insurance Awareness Month (September), the State Corporation Commission’s (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) reminds Virginians that there are many factors to consider when determining if life insurance is right for you and your family.

“When considering your family’s financial future, review your existing financial resources, debts and other liabilities, as well as your family’s needs and goals,” said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott White. “Understand the different types of life insurance and shop around to compare prices and coverage.”

White encourages Virginians who already have life insurance to review their policies regularly and update their policies and beneficiaries to ensure their coverage keeps pace with their changing circumstances. Life events – such as a birth, divorce, remarriage, or other changes affecting your finances (such as a new mortgage or a new job) – may trigger a need to update your life insurance policy.

When determining whether to purchase life insurance and how much coverage you may need, evaluate your existing resources and your family’s likely financial situation following a death. Consider the following: Does your spouse work? Do you have any sources of income other than salary? Do you have life insurance through your job?

Also think about financial obligations that may fall upon family members if you die, such as mortgage or rent payments, business expenses, medical expenses, car loans or student loans. Also consider your family’s short-term and long-term goals – such as your spouse’s retirement, providing care for a loved one or your children’s education.

Understand the types of life insurance available – term life or permanent – and how benefits are paid if you die. What you pay for life insurance (premiums) depends largely on the type of policy chosen, your health status, age, gender, occupation, family health history and lifestyle. Be sure to compare premiums, coverage and claims service when considering life insurance options.

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Contact the Bureau in Richmond at 804-371-9741 or toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 for questions or to make sure the company or individual offering the coverage is licensed and in good standing. The Bureau offers a free Virginia Life Insurance Consumer Guide with answers to many life insurance questions on its website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Tips,-Guides-Publications](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Tips,-Guides-Publications).

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners offers a free Life Insurance Policy Locator Service that can help consumers find lost life insurance policies and annuity contracts. To learn more about the Locator Service, visit <https://eapps.naic.org/life-policy-locator/#/welcome>.

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 9/8/2022

## SCC Cautions Virginians About Social Media “Finfluencers” Providing Financial Advice

**RICHMOND** – Fueled by rising interest in investing, reliance on apps and social media for investing information is replacing more traditional sources of such information, such as brokerage or investment advisory firms. Increasingly, Virginians rely on social media to find investment advice and connect with financial advisors.

This trend has introduced financial influencers or “finfluencers” – celebrities or other well-known online personalities who use social media (such as Twitter, YouTube, TikTok, Facebook or other sites) - to promote investment opportunities or offer financial advice. These finfluencers may or may not have a background in the financial services industry, and sometimes receive compensation by the business offering the investment, the social media platform on which the message appears, or some other undisclosed source with an interest in the promoted investment or financial service.

“When it comes to investing, there is no one-size-fits-all approach. Instead, individuals should consider whether an investment fits their particular needs,” said Ron Thomas, director of the State Corporation Commission’s (SCC) Division of Securities and Retail Franchising (Division). Thomas encourages Virginians to review financial opportunities on social media carefully and investigate them thoroughly. “Understand the risks and benefits of any investment and never invest more than you can afford to lose,” he said.

The financial services industry is highly regulated, with strict rules about statements concerning an investment’s performance and disclosures regarding compensation and potential conflicts of interest. Investment promoters typically must provide potential investors with all information relevant to making an informed investment decision.

Thomas offers the following tips:

- Consider investment opportunities or advice from finfluencers with caution and independently conduct your own due diligence before investing or taking advice.

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- Be wary of content on social media or elsewhere promoting investment opportunities with big or guaranteed returns with little or no risk. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- As part of your due diligence, independently verify who is offering an investment and the details of any offers. Keep in mind that individuals offering investments are obligated to disclose all material facts regarding an investment, and they must disclose the risks associated with each product.
- Make sure any investment and the person offering it are properly registered. In Virginia, contact the Division at 804-371-9051 or toll-free at 1-800-552-7945, or email [SRF\\_General@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SRF_General@scc.virginia.gov).

For more information, visit the Division's website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Consumer-Investments](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Consumer-Investments) or the NASAA website at [nasaa.org/64940/informed-investor-advisory-finfluencers/?qoid=investor-advisories](http://nasaa.org/64940/informed-investor-advisory-finfluencers/?qoid=investor-advisories).

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For Immediate Release: 09/12/2022

## Lifeline Awareness Week Highlights Affordable Communications Options for Low-Income Virginians

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) is recognizing Lifeline Awareness Week, September 12-16, 2022, to bring attention to an important communications resource for low-income Virginians. Lifeline, administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company, provides a monthly discount of up to \$9.25 on qualifying voice and broadband services for eligible subscribers.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought remote work, education, and medical care to the forefront, underscoring the need for all Virginians to stay digitally connected. You could be eligible for Lifeline if your income falls below a certain level – at or below 135 percent of the federal poverty guidelines – or if you participate in one of the following federal assistance programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit

Participating companies can help with enrollment. You can also use a new option – the National Verifier ([www.checklifeline.org](http://www.checklifeline.org)) – to check your eligibility and sign up for Lifeline. Since not all companies are required to offer Lifeline service, it's a good idea to contact area providers to see if they participate.

To learn more about Lifeline and the National Verifier, and to see if you are eligible, call 1-800-234-9473 or email [lifelinesupport@usac.org](mailto:lifelinesupport@usac.org) or visit [www.lifelinesupport.org](http://www.lifelinesupport.org) or the FCC website at [www.fcc.gov/lifeline-consumers](http://www.fcc.gov/lifeline-consumers). You may also contact the Universal Service Administrative Co. at [LifelineProgram@usac.org](mailto:LifelineProgram@usac.org).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 9/14/2022

## SCC Bureau of Insurance Encourages Businesses to Plan Now for Natural Disasters

RICHMOND – What would you do if your business is flooded, or a fire or powerful winds destroyed your building? Natural disasters can take a severe toll on businesses, knocking them out of commission for days, weeks or months and curtailing even the best laid plans. Some businesses never reopen following a natural disaster, and others that can reopen may fail within one year after disaster strikes.

Even natural disasters far away - including hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, wildfires and earthquakes – can impact your business by disrupting supply chains and communications. Small businesses are especially vulnerable to natural disasters since they often have fewer resources, locations and employees to help them become operational again.

"How you plan for and respond to disasters can determine whether your business survives," said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White. "Protect yourself and your business against the unexpected by having the insurance coverage you need and updating it regularly."

The State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) urges businesses to undertake advance planning – both physical and financial – to safeguard employees, protect assets and minimize business disruptions. To get your business running again as quickly as possible after a disaster, here are some steps you can take now:

- Understand risks, including the potential danger of natural disasters;
- Have emergency disaster and business continuity plans in place;
- Make sure your insurance coverage is up-to-date by reviewing policies and making adjustments as needed; and
- Know how to respond if disaster strikes.

The Bureau specifically urges you to educate yourself on what your insurance policies cover and how much money you may need to make repairs and pay employees, creditors and yourself in the event of a disaster. Consider:

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- What your deductibles, coverage limits and exclusions are;
- Whether additional or separate coverages are needed, such as coverage for damage related to floods or earthquakes, which are not usually covered by standard business insurance policies;
- Whether you need to buy separate automobile insurance for business vehicles;
- Whether your business and its contents are insured for current replacement cost; and
- If you need business interruption insurance to cover loss of income that your business may suffer after a disaster.

Additional steps small business owners can take include the following:

- Share business continuity plans with employees that include current employee contact information, backup vendors or suppliers and a temporary relocation site;
- Develop a communication plan and procedures for work processes and payroll during a disaster or business interruption;
- Keep preparedness items onsite at your workplace – including disaster provisions, maps with evacuation routes and access to a working radio and mobile apps for emergency instructions;
- Compile and safely store an inventory of assets and equipment (including computer hardware), as well as back up all personal and company data regularly in case information is lost during a disaster;
- Keep physical copies of important records (such as building plans, insurance policies, bank accounts and employee contact information) in a safe, waterproof and fireproof place;
- After a disaster strikes your business, contact your insurance agent or company immediately and ask what information is needed to file a claim.

The Bureau of Insurance offers free consumer guides specifically geared to businesses. To learn more, contact the Consumer Services Section of the Bureau of Insurance Property and Casualty Division toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or in Richmond at 804-371-9185 or visit [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance).

For additional emergency preparedness information relating to disasters, visit [vaemergency.gov](http://vaemergency.gov).

## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 09/16/2022

## SCC Approves Fuel Rate Increase for Dominion Energy

RICHMOND – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) approved an increase to the fuel rate for customers of Dominion Energy Virginia that includes a mitigation proposal that would spread the recovery of the \$1.020 billion projected fuel deferral over three years. The Commission also approved a stipulation under which Dominion Energy agreed to waive recovery of one-half of its incremental carrying costs arising from the three-year mitigation proposal, approximately \$27.5 million.

The rate increase became effective on an interim basis, subject to further modification, on July 1, 2022.

For a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per month, it represented an increase to the average weighted monthly bill of \$14.93.

The fuel rate is the portion of the electric bill that pays for the fuel used to generate electricity and costs associated with power purchased by the utility company to serve its customers.

In its final order, the Commission stated: “the Commission notes its awareness of the ongoing rise in gas prices, inflation, and other economic pressures that are impacting all utility customers. We are sensitive to the effects of rate increases, especially in times such as these. The Commission, however, must follow the laws applicable to this case, as well as the findings of fact supported by the evidence in the record. This is what we have done herein.”

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Case Number [PUR-2022-00064](#) – Application of Virginia Electric and Power Company to Revise its Fuel Factor

[Order Establishing 2022-2023 Fuel Factor](#)

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 9/19/2022

## SCC Encourages Virginians to Use Caution Around Railroad Tracks

**RICHMOND** – Every three hours in the United States, a person or vehicle is hit by a train, according to Operation Lifesaver, Inc. (OLI), a nonprofit organization dedicated to rail safety education. During Rail Safety Week – September 19-25, 2022 – the State Corporation Commission (SCC) is pleased to join forces with OLI, state Operation Lifesaver programs and other rail safety partners throughout North America to raise awareness about the need for pedestrians, motorists, bicyclists and others to stay safe around railroad tracks and crossings.

Lauren Govoni, director of the SCC's Division of Utility and Railroad Safety (Division), and Virginia Operation Lifesaver Coordinator Tracey Lamb encourage Virginians to stay alert, use caution and obey signals around railroad tracks, and to always expect a train. "Rail safety is much more than just a single tip or slogan," Govoni said. "It's a set of guidelines for different groups of people, including children, first responders, media professionals, photographers, personal and professional drivers, and more."

As part of this annual nationwide campaign, the SCC will partner with law enforcement and organizations throughout the state to promote daily Rail Safety Week themes that include commuter and transit safety, crossing safety and professional drivers, trespass prevention, and photographer safety. It will also share potentially life-saving information on its website and social media pages.

While the 76 percent decrease in collisions nationwide at highway-rail grade crossings during the past 50 years is encouraging, "there is still more rail safety awareness work to do," Lamb said. "Trains can take a mile or more to come to a complete stop. If your vehicle ever stalls on the track, exit your vehicle immediately and call the phone number on the blue Emergency Notification System sign located at the crossing or call 911," she said.

Virginia Operation Lifesaver is administered by the SCC's Division of Utility and Railroad Safety, which offers education sessions, and can be reached at 804-371-1588. To learn more about railroad safety and railroad regulation in Virginia, visit [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Railroad-Regulation](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Railroad-Regulation) or [oli.org](http://oli.org).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 10/6/2022

### SCC Awards Technology Platform Contract to Transition Virginia to State-Based Health Insurance Exchange

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) awarded a contract to [GetInsured](#) of Mountain View, California, which also has an office in Richmond, for the technology platform and consumer assistance center that will support Virginia’s health insurance exchange (Exchange), an online consumer marketplace for private health insurance coverage.

Following a competitive procurement process that included evaluation committee members and subject matter experts from three state agencies, the SCC selected GetInsured for an eight-year contract. GetInsured has successfully transitioned three states to operate their own health insurance exchanges, and currently operates the technology for seven state-based exchanges.

"The SCC is looking forward to working with GetInsured, a proven company with unmatched experience helping states transition from the federal exchange," said Keven Patchett, director of the Exchange. "With this contract award, we are taking the final steps to execute on providing a Virginia-based exchange focused on high-quality consumer service and connecting more Virginians to affordable health insurance."

The new contract does not impact the upcoming Open Enrollment that starts November 1, 2022. Until the transition to a state-based exchange is completed in fall 2023, Virginians should visit [Healthcare.gov](http://Healthcare.gov) to sign up for coverage.

In 2020, the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation creating the Health Benefit Exchange division within the SCC. This division is responsible for overseeing Virginia's transition to a Virginia Exchange.

The Exchange will work closely with partners and stakeholders throughout this transition, including Virginia’s insurance carriers, agents, brokers and navigators to promote an efficient, consumer-friendly shopping experience.

(MORE)

“We are delighted to bring all the benefits of a state-based exchange to Virginia,” said GetInsured CEO Chini Krishnan. “We commend the state for taking this important step. A state-based exchange will allow Virginia to better address and respond to the unique needs of its market and will make health insurance even more accessible to communities across the state.”

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## News Release



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Telephone: 804-371-9141

For Immediate Release: 10/7/2022

## SCC Seeks Public Comments on Application of Appalachian Power Company to Increase its Fuel Factor

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) is offering time for members of the public to give oral comments by telephone on an application by Appalachian Power Company to increase its fuel factor for usage on and after November 1, 2022.

Appalachian Power's application requests approval to recover the company's estimated Virginia jurisdictional fuel expenses of approximately \$416,140,161 for the November 1, 2022, through October 31, 2023, fuel year, and its projected October 31, 2022, fuel deferral balance of \$361,411,867, subject to its mitigation proposal.

The company's mitigation proposal would spread recovery of the projected fuel deferral balance over two years.

For a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month, the average weighted monthly bill would increase by \$20.17, from \$127.81 to \$147.98 under the Company's proposal. The Commission has permitted the Company to place the proposal into effect on an interim basis, subject to further modification, effective November 1, 2022.

The SCC has scheduled a public witness session to begin at 10 a.m. on December 13, 2022. Public witnesses intending to provide oral testimony must pre-register with the SCC by 5 p.m. on December 7, 2022. The hearing will be webcast at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting).

Public witnesses wishing to provide oral testimony may pre-register in one of three ways:

- Completing a public witness form for case number PUR-2022-00139 on the SCC's website at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting)
- E-mailing the same form (PDF version on the same website as above) to [SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov)
- Calling the SCC at 804-371-9141 during normal business hours (8:15 a.m. – 5 p.m.) and providing your name and the phone number you wish the Commission to call to reach you during the hearing.

A public evidentiary hearing will follow the public witness hearing at 10 a.m. on December 14, 2022, in the SCC's second floor courtroom at 1300 East Main Street in Richmond to receive testimony and evidence from the company, any respondents and the SCC staff.

(more)

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For those who prefer, there is also an opportunity to provide comments in writing on the Appalachian Power application. Written comments may be submitted through the SCC's website by December 6, 2022, at [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](https://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Simply go to the SCC website, select "Cases" and then "Submit Public Comments," and scroll down to case number PUR-2022-00139. Then click SUBMIT COMMENTS.

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Case Number [PUR-2022-00139](https://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments) – Appalachian Power Company application to revise its fuel factor

Register online to receive SCC news releases by email at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/News-Release-Subscriptions](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/News-Release-Subscriptions)



## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 10/13/2022

## SCC Approves Shared Solar Programs for Dominion Energy Virginia Customers

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) has approved two programs that allow customers of Dominion Energy Virginia the opportunity to participate in shared solar initiatives. Under a shared solar program, a customer purchases a subscription for a certain amount of the kilowatt-hour (kWh) electricity produced by a solar facility.

During the 2020 session of the Virginia General Assembly, legislation was enacted directing the SCC to establish a multi-family shared program (Code § 56-585.1:12) and a separate shared solar program (Code § 56-594.3).

In Case Number PUR-2020-00124, the SCC approved the multi-family shared solar program for Dominion customers. Under this program, the solar facility is located on or adjacent to a multi-family dwelling (such as an apartment complex). Customers in that multi-family dwelling can subscribe to a portion of the kWh output of the solar facility located next to the dwelling. Customers receive a credit on their utility bill, based on Dominion's full retail rate, for the kWh amount of the customer's shared solar subscription.

In Case Number PUR-2020-00125, the Commission issued an order confirming its prior approval of a separate shared solar program. Under this program, the solar facility can be located anywhere in Dominion's territory, and customers of Dominion can subscribe to a portion of the kWh output of this solar facility regardless of the customer's location.

These customers also receive a credit on their utility bill, based on Dominion's full retail rate, for the kWh amount of the customer's shared solar subscription. In addition, because Dominion still delivers the solar facility's kWh to these customers, the statute creating this Shared Solar Program directs the Commission "to ensure [these] customers pay a fair share of the costs of providing electric services." (Code § 56-594.3 D)

(more)

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Thus, customers in this program also pay for costs to deliver the solar facility's kWh to the customer. Finally, as also required by statute, low-income customers that participate in this Shared Solar Program are exempted from paying these kWh delivery charges.

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**Case Number [PUR-2020-00124](#)** – In the matter of establishing regulations for a multi-family shared solar program pursuant to § 56-585.1:12 of the Code of Virginia  
**Case Number [PUR-2020-00125](#)** – In the matter of establishing regulations for a shared program pursuant to § 56-594.3 of the Code of Virginia

## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 11/01/2022

### SCC Encourages Virginians to Shop for Health Insurance During Open Enrollment

**RICHMOND** – Virginia consumers now have an opportunity to shop for affordable health care coverage or make changes to an existing plan for the 2023 plan year through [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov). The 2023 Open Enrollment period will take place from November 1, 2022, to January 15, 2023. Open Enrollment is the only time during the year consumers can enroll in coverage, without a qualifying life event that can make you eligible for a Special Enrollment Period.

For 2023, enhanced premium credits have been continued and more Virginians will now be eligible for financial assistance. The federal government recently finalized a new rule which makes financial assistance available to family members of certain workers whose employer provided insurance may not be affordable for spouses and dependents.

In accordance with federal law, Qualified Health Plans (QHPs) must provide coverage for 10 essential health benefits which include:

- Ambulatory care
- Emergency services
- Hospitalization
- Maternity and newborn care
- Mental health, behavioral health and substance use disorder services
- Prescription drugs
- Rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices
- Laboratory services
- Preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management
- Pediatric services, including oral and vision care

Qualified Health Plans also prohibit denials for pre-existing conditions, require zero co-pays on preventative care, and have no lifetime maximums on covered benefits.

Through [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov), Virginia residents can access financial assistance to lower costs for health insurance for plan year 2023.

For coverage that begins January 1, 2023, there are now at least two health carriers participating in the marketplace in every county and region across the Commonwealth.

(MORE)

To begin an application or to make changes to existing coverage, consumers can visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) or call the Marketplace Call Center at 1-800-318-2596, TTY: 1-855-889-4325.

For free in-person or on-line help, or help over the phone, Virginia residents have several options.

- Local navigators and assisters can be found at the Enroll Virginia website: [ENROLL Virginia! \(enrollva.org\)](https://enrollva.org) or by calling 1-888-392-5132.
- Certified agents and brokers in their community can be found by visiting [Get help applying and more | HealthCare.gov](#)

To learn more about the Virginia Exchange or to obtain additional contact information, visit the Exchange website at [Virginia SCC - HBE Consumer Contact](#).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 11/3/2022

## SCC Cautions Virginians that Deer Are an Autumn Hazard for Drivers

**RICHMOND** – The arrival of autumn means changing leaves and shorter daylight hours. It also means an increased risk of vehicle collisions with deer.

Mating season and migration contribute to an uptick in vehicle-deer crashes during the fall. In fact, November is the peak month for insurance claims related to vehicle collisions with deer. The State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Bureau of Insurance reminds drivers to remain alert for deer when driving on Virginia roadways.

“A deer in the roadway poses a threat to even the most careful driver,” said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott White. “As fall arrives, contact your insurance agent or company to find out if your automobile policy provides coverage for claims involving a crash with deer or other wildlife.”

If you have liability insurance coverage only, your policy may not cover damage to your auto from a deer crash. Damage to your vehicle caused by colliding with a deer usually falls under an optional coverage called “other-than-collision” or “comprehensive.” In addition to deer strikes, comprehensive coverage often reimburses for damage to your vehicle caused by theft, wind, hail, flood, fire or vandalism.

To help avoid a crash with a deer, lower your speed and stay alert. If a deer runs out in the road, stay in your lane and brake as carefully as possible. Crashes with deer, while startling, are often safer for the driver and vehicle occupants than swerving sharply and putting surrounding vehicles and their occupants at risk.

If you do hit a deer while driving, notify law enforcement and your insurance company as soon as possible. When safe to do so, take photos of the scene of the crash, as well as damage to the vehicle if you plan to file an insurance claim. If you see leaking fluid, tire damage, broken lights or other damage, call a tow truck.

The Bureau of Insurance stands ready to assist Virginians with their questions regarding auto and many other types of insurance. For more information, call the Bureau toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or in Richmond at 804-371-9741 or visit its website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 11/07/2022

## SCC Seeks Comments on Utility Opportunities Under IIJA

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) directed investor-owned electric utilities and electric cooperatives to address federal grant opportunities in Virginia's utility infrastructure under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) for the benefit of customers. The Commission also invited other interested parties to file comments. The IIJA creates a program of federal financial assistance to promote electric utility investments in advanced generation, transmission, and distribution technologies.

The IIJA provides grants for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, hydrogen fueling infrastructure, and other fueling infrastructures, as well as grid hardening activities to reduce the occurrence of – or consequences of – events that disrupt operations of the electric grid due to extreme weather, wildfire, or natural disasters.

The IIJA also establishes loans under a transmission facilitation program; additional funding for the Smart Grid Investment Matching Grant Program; incentive payments to qualifying hydroelectric facilities; financial assistance for a demonstration project for pumped storage hydropower for intermittent renewable energy; additional funding for various demonstration and pilot projects; and programs to develop carbon capture technology to improve environmental performance of coal and natural gas use.

The public must submit written comments by February 2, 2023. Written comments may be submitted through the SCC's website at [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](https://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Simply go to the SCC website, select "Cases" and then "Submit Public Comments," and scroll down to case number PUR-2022-00180. Then click SUBMIT COMMENTS.

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[Case Number: PUR-2022-00180](#)

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 11/22/2022

## SCC Bureau of Insurance Encourages Virginians to Protect Themselves Financially Against Holiday Hazards

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Bureau of Insurance wishes Virginians a happy and safe holiday. Good food, gifts, spirited greetings and gatherings with friends and loved ones – these are just a few of the things that create happy holiday memories. Unfortunately, seasonal hazards can dampen the holiday spirit. Protecting yourself financially with insurance is an important step to combat holiday mishaps.

The Bureau of Insurance reminds Virginians that their holiday to-do list should include checking with their insurance agent or company to ensure they have the insurance coverage they need should an injury, illness, theft or mishap occur.

“Whether you are at home or on the road, don’t let a lack of insurance coverage dampen your holidays financially,” said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott White. “Review your insurance coverage now and update it, if needed. Know what is – and is not – covered and understand deductibles and coverage limits.”

In addition to reviewing your insurance coverage, take steps now to keep your home, vehicle and belongings safe during the holidays. Know how much your auto and homeowners insurance will cover if someone steals gifts, decorations or other items from your vehicle, home or yard. Know, too, what type of insurance you need if a special holiday meal or decorations go up in flames, an undercooked turkey sends guests to the hospital, or frozen pipes burst causing water damage to your home.

Before you travel, keep in mind that holiday driving can be a challenge with distracted drivers and severe winter weather. Keep your auto insurance company’s contact information and a copy of your insurance card with you when you drive. Review your liability limits to ensure you have adequate protection against injury or damage if you are involved in an accident during the hectic holiday rush.

Become familiar with what your health insurance will cover if you need treatment at an urgent-care facility or hospital while you are out-of-state or traveling abroad. Take health insurance information with you when traveling, such as identification cards and contact details for all family members.

(more)

Make an early New Year's resolution to create – or update – your home inventory. An inventory can help you determine if your homeowners or renters policy provides enough coverage for your belongings – as well as facilitate the claims process if you must file an insurance claim. An inventory also will help you identify high-cost items that may need separate insurance coverage, such as jewelry, art or electronics. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners' free smartphone app – [NAIC Home Inventory](#) – makes creating a home inventory easy.

Also check that you have insurance coverage for seasonal activities that you may enjoy, such as skiing, snowboarding and snowmobiling.

For information about a variety of insurance-related topics, contact the SCC's Bureau of Insurance in Richmond at 804-371-9741 or toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or visit its website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance). Additional information also may be found on the [National Association of Insurance Commissioners' website](#).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 11/22/2022

## SCC Approves New Area Code for Central Virginia and Northern Neck *NANPA Assigns new 686 Area Code to Relieve Exhaustion of 804*

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) has approved bringing a new area code – 686 - to Virginia regions now served by the 804 area code. It is expected that the 804 area code could run out of available numbers during the third quarter of 2024.

The SCC approved a proposal by the North American Numbering Plan Administrator for an all-services distributed overlay of the new 686 area code for the 804 area code region. The new area code will be superimposed over the same geographic region covered by the current 804 area code. That region encompasses portions of Central Virginia and the Northern Neck including Richmond, Petersburg, Ashland, Charles City, Chesterfield, Columbia, Hague, Henrico, New Kent, Reedville and Water View.

Existing customers will keep their 804 area code and seven-digit telephone number. Phone numbers in the new 686 area code will not be assigned until all available phone numbers in the 804 area code are exhausted.

Implementation of the new area code overlay will be completed by early 2024, which is six months prior to the anticipated 804 area code exhaust. The relief provided by the new 686 area code is expected to last approximately 32 years.

The 804 area code already transitioned to mandatory 10-digit dialing (three-digit area code plus seven-digit phone number) in July 2022 due to the national implementation of 988, the new three-digit abbreviated dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

To learn more about 804 area code relief, visit [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Public-Utility](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Public-Utility).

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[Case number PUR-2022-00083](#)

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 11/30/2022

## SCC's Bureau of Insurance Offers Post-Hurricane Season Flood Insurance Reminders

**RICHMOND** – Although the Atlantic Hurricane season ends November 30, the State Corporation Commission's Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) reminds Virginians that floods can happen anywhere and anytime – not just during hurricane season. Heavy rains, saturated soil, melting snow and ice, broken dams and a lack of vegetation due to wildfires or other causes are just a few factors that can contribute to flooding.

Floods are the most common and costly natural disaster in the United States, causing damages in the billions of dollars each year. Just one inch of water can cause as much as \$25,000 damage to your home, according to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

“It only takes a few inches of water to cause major damage to your home and other property. Assess your flood risk and take steps now to protect yourself physically and financially from floods,” said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott White. “Having flood insurance can help you recover faster once the floodwaters recede.”

Standard homeowners, renters and commercial insurance policies issued in Virginia typically do not provide coverage for damage caused by floods, surface water or storm surge. However, coverage may be available to homeowners, renters and businesses in eligible communities through the NFIP. The federally-backed flood insurance offered through the NFIP provides separate coverage for structures and contents in the event of flood damage. In addition to the NFIP, flood insurance coverage may be available through some private insurers.

Advance planning is crucial since policyholders typically must wait 30 days for a flood insurance policy to take effect. To learn more about flood insurance, contact your insurance agent or the NFIP at 1-800-427-4661, or visit [floodsmart.gov](http://floodsmart.gov). Be sure to ask whether your flood insurance policy covers your personal property.

Virginia residents should assess the risk of potential flood damage and determine if they live in a community eligible to participate in the NFIP. If you live in a floodplain near a river, or if you live near the coast, it is especially important to consider the need for flood insurance coverage.

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Unlike homeowners insurance, auto insurance usually does include damage caused by flooding provided you have “other-than-collision” (often referred to as “comprehensive”) coverage on your vehicle. In addition to water damage caused by flooding, comprehensive coverage typically helps pay to repair or replace vehicles if they are stolen or otherwise damaged by such things as fire, water, wind, hail, vandalism, glass breakage, falling objects or contact with an animal. Check your auto insurance policy or contact your insurance agent if unsure whether your vehicle is protected in the event of flood damage.

For questions or information about a variety of insurance-related topics, contact the Virginia Bureau of Insurance in Richmond at 804-371-9741 or toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or visit its website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/insurance](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/insurance).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 12/07/2022

## SCC Encourages Virginians to Shop for and Enroll in Health Insurance Coverage

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) reminds Virginia consumers that they can sign up for health insurance coverage or make changes to an existing plan now through [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov). This open enrollment period ends January 15, 2023.

For coverage to begin on January 1, 2023, consumers must enroll at [HealthCare.gov/get-coverage](https://www.healthcare.gov/get-coverage) by midnight on December 15, 2022. Enrollments occurring on December 16 and through January 15, will be for coverage starting February 1, 2023. Open enrollment is the only time during the year consumers can enroll in coverage without a qualifying life event that can make you eligible for a Special Enrollment Period.

For 2023, enhanced premium credits have been continued and more Virginians will now be eligible for financial assistance. The federal government recently finalized a new rule that financial assistance available to family members of certain workers whose employer-provided insurance may not be affordable for spouses and dependents.

Health insurance plans sold through the federal marketplace, known as Qualified Health Plans, must provide coverage for 10 essential health benefits that include:

- Ambulatory care
- Emergency services
- Hospitalization
- Maternity and newborn care
- Mental health, behavioral health and substance use disorder services
- Prescription drugs
- Rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices
- Laboratory services
- Preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management
- Pediatric services, including oral and vision care

These Qualified Health Plans also prohibit denials for pre-existing conditions, require zero copays on preventive care, and have no lifetime maximums on covered benefits. Through [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov), Virginia residents can access financial assistance to lower costs for health insurance for plan year 2023.

For coverage that begins January 1, 2023, there are now at least two health carriers participating in the marketplace in every county and region across the Commonwealth.

(MORE)

To begin an application or to make changes to existing coverage, consumers can visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) or contact the Marketplace Call Center at 1-800-318-2596, TTY: 1-855-889-4325. For free in-person or online help, or help over the phone, Virginia residents have several options:

- Local navigators and assisters can be found at the Enroll Virginia website: [ENROLL Virginia! \(enrollva.org\)](https://enrollva.org) or by calling 1-888-392-5132.
- Certified agents and brokers in their community can be found by visiting [Get help applying and more | HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov).

Virginia is on track to complete the transition to a Virginia-based health insurance marketplace by fall of 2023. To learn more about the Virginia Exchange or to obtain additional contact information, visit the SCC Exchange website at [HBE Consumer Contact](https://www.hbe.virginia.gov).

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## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 12/15/2022

## SCC Approves Stipulation and Replacement of Performance Standard for Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Project

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) has accepted a replacement for the performance standard in the Commission’s August 5, 2022, final order approving the application for the Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Project by Dominion Energy Virginia.

In an Order on Reconsideration, the SCC approved a stipulation proposed by Dominion, the Office of the Attorney General’s Division of Consumer Counsel, Walmart, Inc., Appalachian Voices, and the Sierra Club that replaces the performance standard with five elements addressing, among other things, construction cost and carrying cost sharing, operating performance provisions, impact of the federal Inflation Reduction Act, and the scope of the agreement.

In approving the stipulation, the Commission stated that it has not otherwise expanded, or modified approval or cost recovery set forth in the August 5 final order. The SCC further noted that those proposing the stipulation “assert, unanimously in support thereof, that the [ ] Stipulation adequately protects the interests of consumers. In addition, Clean Virginia and the Committee, though not formal parties to the [ ] Stipulation, confirm that they have no opposition to the Commission’s approval thereof.”

In its order, the Commission reiterated the significant impact that this project will have on customers’ electric bills. The project likely represents the largest capital investment, and single largest project, in the history of the Company. “[T]he electricity produced by this Project will be among the most expensive sources of power – on both a per kilowatt of firm capacity and a per megawatt-hour basis – in the entire United States,” the SCC stated.

In a concurring opinion, Commissioner Jagdmann wrote that she agrees with the Order on Reconsideration in all respects. She emphasized that the General Assembly is uniquely positioned to align some of the costs of the project that currently will be paid solely by most of Dominion customers with the economic development benefits and clean energy attributes of this project that the operative statutes recognize advantage the Commonwealth more broadly:

(MORE)

Virginia law thus declares that offshore wind is in the public interest and requires consideration of advantages that benefit all Virginians. The General Assembly is uniquely positioned to align general fund appropriations or other funding for this Project. Such public policy determinations by our legislators would help spread the substantial costs of this Project, which currently fall squarely on most of Dominion's customers, among all in the Commonwealth who stand to benefit from the clean energy and economic expansion benefits associated with this Project that the Commission is required by statute to consider.

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Case Number [PUR-2021-00142](#) – Application of Dominion Energy Virginia for approval and certification of the Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Project

[Order on Reconsideration](#) - 12/15/2022

## News Release



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For Immediate Release: 12/21/2022

## SCC Concludes Revised Rate Review for Appalachian Power, Directs Reduction to Interim Base Rates

**RICHMOND** – The State Corporation Commission (SCC) has concluded a revised triennial review of the base rates for Appalachian Power Company that reduces the annual rate increase that has been in effect on an interim basis since October 1, 2022.

For a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month, the new rates result in a monthly charge of approximately \$6.00 compared to the interim charge of \$8.55. Appalachian Power will submit revised tariffs to the SCC that recalculate the bill impact of the application of the new rates and refund the difference with interest to customers within 90 days of the Commission order.

In August, the Supreme Court of Virginia found that the SCC did not have the authority last year to decide whether it was reasonable for Appalachian Power to include costs associated with the closure of several coal-fired plants in its accounting expenses between 2017 and 2019. The Commission had found that the costs, called an asset impairment charge, were unreasonable.

The Court directed the SCC to revise its final decision in the triennial review and remanded the case to the Commission for further proceedings.

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Case Number [PUR-2020-00015](#) - Application of Appalachian Power for a 2020 triennial review of its base rates, terms, and conditions

[Order on Remand](#) - 12/21/2022