



LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD:

***** DC PLUG Community Hearings *****

The Office of the People's Counsel (OPC) alerts consumers of the opportunity to comment at four (4) community hearings regarding changes to the DC Power Line Undergrounding (DC PLUG) initiative. The hearings, scheduled by the DC Public Service Commission will take place July 21-25 in Wards 4, 5 and 8.

To testify at a community hearing, contact the Office of the DC Public Service Commission Secretary three days in advance by calling (202) 626-5150. You can also register as a witness or provide written testimony by emailing psc-commissionsecretary@dc.gov. Walk-ins on the day of hearings can also testify. Refer to PSC Formal Case No. 1145/Pepco/DDOT's Biennial Plan and Financing Application. Also contact OPC at (202) 727-3071 for additional information.

Hearing Dates and Times:

Friday, July 21, 2017, 2:30 PM

Ward 8

Community of Hope DC

4 Atlantic Street SW

Tuesday, July 25, 2017, 11:30 AM

Ward 4

St. John's United Baptist Church

6343 13th Street NW

Monday, July 24, 2017, 6:30 PM

Ward 5

Trinity Washington University

O'Connor Auditorium

125 Michigan Avenue NE

Tuesday, July 25, 2017, 6:30 PM

Ward 4

Temple Sinai

3100 Military Road NW

About the Revised Powerline Undergrounding Plan:

The PSC hearings will focus on the Potomac Electric Power Company ("Pepco") and the District Department of Transportation's ("DDOT") first Biennial Underground Infrastructure Improvement Projects Plan ("Biennial Plan") and Financing Order Application ("Financing Application"). Pursuant to a recently passed amendment to the law authorizing DC PLUG, Pepco and DDOT filed both with the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia ("Commission" or "PSC") on July 3, 2017.



The amendment to the law authorizing DC PLUG effectively changes the Commission's prior regulatory approvals and directs Pepco/DDOT to file new proposed construction plans and cost information (including cost-recovery mechanisms--such as charges, surcharges, and rate riders) with the Commission for its review and approval.

Under the new law, Pepco and DDOT are now required to file two-year construction plans (rather than the previous three-year plans) with the Commission for approval. In addition, the duration of the initiative has been reduced from 10 to 6 years (with the possibility of an extension). Further, the estimated cost of DC PLUG has been reduced from \$1 billion to \$500 million. Lastly, the goal for the maximum number of feeders to be undergrounded during DC PLUG is now 30, rather than

The Biennial Plan identifies the overhead primary and lateral power lines Pepco/DDOT propose to place underground, the estimated construction costs, and the surcharge Pepco will use to recover its construction costs over the next two years. The Financing Application details DDOT's method to recover the cost for its share of the work. DDOT's proposal will impose a charge on Pepco and Pepco will ultimately recover costs from ratepayers.

While the recent amendment to the undergrounding law substantially changed some components of DC PLUG, the goals of the initiative remain the same: for Pepco and DDOT to place underground portions of the poorest performing overhead primary and lateral power lines in Wards 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 to prevent power outages and increase the resiliency of Pepco's distribution system during severe weather events. OPC supports the intent and goals of DC PLUG, as reflected in the amended law, and is currently reviewing Pepco/DDOT's submission to determine whether it is consistent with the law.



ABOUT THE PEOPLE'S COUNSEL

Sandra Mattavous-Frye

Sandra Mattavous-Frye is serving her second term as People's Counsel after she was reappointed by DC Mayor Muriel Bowser in 2015. First appointed by Mayor Vincent Gray, she was unanimously confirmed by the Council of the District of Columbia and sworn-in in 2011. Ms. Mattavous-Frye leads the DC Office of the People's Counsel (OPC), as the statutory advocate representing consumers of natural gas, electric and telephone services. [Learn More >>](#)

Office of People's Counsel
(202) 727-3071

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