



STATE OF DELAWARE  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Delaware PSC Staff Recommends Limiting Delmarva Power Infrastructure Investment**

Dover – The Delaware Public Service Commission (PSC) Staff today released a report regarding their review of Delmarva Power’s 2013-2017 infrastructure investment plan.

The report was prompted by a Delmarva Power rate increase application (PSC Docket 13-115) filed in March 2013 that indicated Delmarva Power planned to spend \$397 million dollars over the next five years to replace infrastructure and enhance system reliability. The PSC Staff expressed concern because Delmarva Power was already demonstrating improved reliability metrics at historically lower investment levels. On May 7, 2013 the Delaware Public Service Commission approved an investigation of the proposed plan to ensure such investment is consistent with customers’ reliability needs and the ability of customers to pay for such investment.

The Public Service Commission Staff investigation found that the majority of the Delmarva Power distribution infrastructure is relatively young in terms of asset life, that Delmarva Power did not present evidence that its aging distribution infrastructure was driving its need for investment, or that its customers are dissatisfied with the current level of system reliability. The Staff report recommends Delmarva Power’s planned infrastructure and reliability investment over the next five years be limited to no more than \$200 million dollars until a more detailed annual review process can be completed, and also recommends re-opening Public Service Commission Docket 50, which measures reliability metrics.

Delaware Public Service Commission Executive Director Robert Howatt said, “I commend Delmarva Power for focusing their investments on improving the reliability of their system, but this report shows that Delmarva needs to re-examine its investment strategy with particular attention to justifying such an expense from the customers’ point of view.”

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The full report can be found [here](#) and on the Delaware Public Service Commission website at: <http://dep.sc.delaware.gov>. The Public Service Commission Staff will accept written public comment on the report until July 17, 2014, and then ask for Commission approval of Staff's recommended actions at the August 5, 2014 Public Service Commission meeting.

Public comments can be e-mailed to [psc@state.de.us](mailto:psc@state.de.us), referencing Docket 13-152 in the subject line, or mailed to:

Delaware Public Service Commission  
861 Silver Lake Blvd., Suite 100  
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Docket Number: 13-152

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