Delaware Public Service Commission

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NOVEMBER 30, 2015

CONTACT INFORMATION
Heather Contant 302-736-7564
Heather.Contant@state.de.us

Delaware PSC Fights to Protect Delaware Electric Customers

DOVER – The initial cost allocation for the Artificial Island project would have required all Delaware customers to pay almost 90% of the cost to resolve system stability issues related to generation at New Jersey's Artificial Island nuclear complex while only receiving approximately 10% of the benefits. Without some relief, transmission costs for Delaware electric customers would have increased nearly 25% by 2018. Governor Jack Markell and Delaware Public Advocate, David Bonar, supported the Delaware PSC filing.

This week, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued an Order, in response to the Delaware PSC filing, for a FERC Technical Conference. The FERC Order states that the proposed cost allocation "has not been shown to be just and reasonable and may be unjust, unreasonable, or unduly discriminatory or preferential." Delaware PSC Chair, Dallas Winslow, stated that, "while this is a gratifying response, there is still much work to be done." The technical conference is tentatively set to begin in January 2016.

Starting in 2013, Delaware PSC Public Utility Analysts, John Farber and Joe DeLosa, began researching information, attending committee meetings, and drafting documents related to the Artificial Island project. Approximately 100 hours were spent on drafting the Delaware PSC complaint alone. Delaware PSC staff will continue to actively participate in the upcoming FERC proceedings related to this complaint and advocate the interests of Delaware customers.

The Artificial Island project is designed to resolve system stability and generation operating issues related to the PSEG Nuclear, LLC generating units on Artificial Island. The project includes 500KV substation work in New Jersey, 230 KV transmission line work in Delaware and a new 230KV transmission line to be constructed under the Delaware River from Salem to a new substation in Delaware that would tap into the existing Red Lion-Carranza and Red Lion-Cedar Creek 230 KV lines.