COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND 2015 Legislative Session

Resolution No.	CR-13-2015
Proposed by	Council Member Franklin
Introduced by	Council Members Franklin, Turner, Harrison, Davis, Taveras,
-	Lehman, Toles and Glaros
Date of Introduc	tion March 24, 2015

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION concerning

The Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc. Merger and Settlement Agreement For the purpose of recommending that the Maryland Public Service Commission ("Commission") approve the merger of Exelon Corporation ("Exelon") and Pepco Holdings, Inc. ("PHI"), including the terms of the Settlement Agreement and Stipulation ("Settlement Agreement") by and among Exelon, PHI, Prince George's County and other settling parties ("Settling Parties").

WHEREAS, Exelon and PHI executed an Agreement and Plan of Merger on April 29, 2014, and an Amended and Restated Agreement and Plan of Merger on July 18, 2014 (the "Merger");

WHEREAS, on August 19, 2014, Exelon, PHI, Potomac Electric Power Company ("Pepco"), and other related entities (collectively, the "Joint Applicants") filed an application with the Commission seeking approval of the proposed merger of Exelon and PHI and the resulting change in control of Pepco and Delmarva Power, pursuant to Md. Code, Public Utilities Article, § 6-105 (the "Application");

WHEREAS, on August 19, 2014, the Commission initiated a proceeding for examination and investigation of the Application under Case No. 9361;

WHEREAS, Prince George's County filed a Petition to Intervene in Case No. 9361 on September 15, 2014, which was granted by the Commission;

WHEREAS, Prince George's County submitted live testimony and briefs and actively participated before the Commission in Case No. 9361;

22

WHEREAS, the Joint Applicants have agreed to binding commitments that address the

1

2

3

4 5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16 17

18

19

20

concerns and issues raised by Prince George's County before the Commission, as set forth in the Settlement Agreement and Stipulation (the "Settlement Agreement") entered into as of March 16, 2015 by and among the Joint Applicants, Prince George's County and other parties to Case No. 9361;

WHEREAS, the Settlement Agreement includes commitments aimed at providing certain benefits to customers and Prince George's County through a combination of bill credits, funding for energy-efficiency programs and renewables investments, accelerated reliability improvements, low-income customer assistance and other provisions, including:

A commitment by Exelon to establish a \$94.4 million customer investment fund

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

that will be used to provide \$36.8 million in bill credits, or approximately \$50 per Pepco customer in Maryland, and \$57.6 million to fund energy-efficiency programs in PHI's Maryland service territory, including \$17.6 million to be administered by Prince George's County. To help economically challenged customers lower their energy bills, at least 20 percent of the energy efficiency funds will be dedicated to programs targeting low- and moderate-income customers.

A commitment to accelerate Pepco's reliability improvements so that Pepco will achieve first-quartile performance by 2018 as measured against peers, or face financial penalties if it falls short.

A commitment by Exelon to establish a \$50 million "Green Sustainability Fund" to stimulate investment in solar, energy storage and other distributed generation throughout the PHI service territory. The funds could also be used for such things as energy-efficiency investments, microgrids, water conservation in buildings, clean transportation, community solar and other qualifying energy technologies.

Development of 15 megawatts of solar generation, with 5 megawatts each in Prince George's County, Montgomery County, and the Delmarva Power service territory in Maryland. Prince George's has also entered into an energy purchase agreement with Exelon that will result in the development of an additional 5 megawatts of electricity generated by solar projects, and this electricity will be provided to the county free of charge for a set period of time.

A commitment to file a proposal with the PSC for public-purpose microgrid projects in Pepco's service territory, including a project in Prince George's County;

• A commitment for Pepco to request that the PSC initiate a "grid-of-the-future" proceeding to examine opportunities to transform the electric grid through smart grid technology, microgrids, renewable resources and distributed generation. Exelon will provide up to \$500,000 for the PSC to retain a consultant to study relevant issues and facilitate the proceeding.

• A commitment to work with PSC staff and other stakeholders to accelerate and enhance Pepco's energy-efficiency initiatives. The commitment includes establishing penalties for failure to meet commission-approved goals.

• A commitment by Exelon to provide funding of \$1,240,000 over four years to Prince George's County in support of Workforce Development programs as follows:

Exelon and Pepco will partner with Prince George's County to promote a
Sustainable Energy Workforce Development Program in Prince George's County. The
Sustainable Energy Workforce Development Program will play a critical role in
establishing an advanced energy industry in the County that will create quality jobs and
build employment capacity in the energy sector. A sustainable energy job or career
produces goods or services that benefit the environment, promote a low-carbon economy,
and/or conserve natural resources by performing duties in the area of energy-efficiency and

• Exelon and Pepco will partner with Prince George's County on the implementation of an energy-literacy program in Prince George's County Public School System to prepare students for advanced careers in the energy sector.

• Exelon or Pepco will participate in Prince George's County Summer Youth Enrichment Program ("SYEP") by hiring or sponsoring at least 20 County youth annually for the next four years.

• A commitment by Exelon and Pepco to help reduce the burden of long-standing debts for low-income families in Maryland through a one-time elimination of unpaid bills that are over three years past due as of the date of the merger closing.

• A commitment that there will be no net reduction, due to involuntary attrition as a result of the Merger integration process, in the employment levels at Pepco for two years following the Merger closing, a commitment to make a good-faith effort to hire a minimum of 110 bargaining-unit employees in Maryland during the twenty-four month period after

the Merger closes, and a commitment by Exelon to assume PHI's obligations, or cause PHI to continue to meet its obligations, to Pepco employees and retirees with respect to pension and retiree health benefits.

WHEREAS, the Joint Applicants and Prince George's County, together with other parties to Case 9361, have agreed to terms that they believe establish that the Merger is in the public interest, convenience and necessity, including benefits to consumers and no harm as required by Md. Code, Public Utilities Article, § 6-105.

WHEREAS, because Exelon owns nuclear power plants, concern has been expressed that Exelon will (a) seek to obtain revenue from utility ratepayers to offset losses from its nuclear power plants and (b) favor its nuclear power plants at the expense of renewable and distributed energy resources.

WHEREAS, communities in Prince George's County have expressed a desire to see more undergrounding of utility facilities for reliability, economic development, and aesthetic reasons.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that the Council urges the Maryland Public Service Commission to determine, as a condition of approving the Settlement Agreement and the Merger, whether the commitments made by Exelon are strong and verifiable commitments (a) that Exelon will not impose risk from its nuclear operations on the utility customers of Pepco and (b) for significant clean, renewable and distributed energy, including energy efficiency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council urges the Maryland Public Service Commission to find that the Merger is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity, including benefits and no harm to consumers, and, pursuant to §6-105, to grant the Application, adopting the commitments delivered by the Settlement Agreement without further modification.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council urges the Maryland Public Service Commission, as part of its approval of the Merger, to encourage Pepco to engage the communities of Prince George's County and the Prince George's County Department of Public Works in meaningful dialogue and discussion by conducting a study to determine the feasibility and establish a reasonable cost estimate of undergrounding utility facilities in coordination with county road projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council encourages all parties to the Settlement 1 Agreement to fully support the Merger and the Settlement Agreement so that the benefits of the 3 Merger may be realized as set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

Adopted this 7th day of April, 2015.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____

Mel Franklin Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd Clerk of the Council