

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1325 G STREET, N.W., SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

PUBLIC NOTICE

February 10, 2021

FORMAL CASE NO. 1125, IN THE MATTER OF THE PROMOTION OF THE UTILITY DISCOUNT PROGRAMS.

1. The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia (“Commission”) hereby gives notice that on February 1, 2021, the Department of Energy and Environment (“DOEE”) filed its invoices for DOEE’s Utility Discount Program (“UDP”) administrative expenses and costs for the Consumer Education Program (“CEP”) for the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2021 (“First Quarter FY 2021”).¹

2. In Fiscal Year 2021 (“FY 2021”), DOEE is the administrator for three (3) of the four (4) low-income UDPs² as well as the CEP.³ As such, it performed administrative functions that are to be reimbursed by Washington Gas Light Company (“WGL”), the Potomac Electric Power Company (“Pepco”), and the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (“DC Water”); and incurred CEP costs that are to be reimbursed by WGL, Pepco, DC Water, and the District of Columbia Universal Service Trust Fund (“DC USTF”). In Order No. 17246, the Commission approved a process for DOEE to request reimbursement for its expenses, which includes issuing a public notice when invoices are filed with the Commission to obtain public comment on these invoices.⁴

3. In its First Quarter FY 2021 Invoices, DOEE includes information on First Quarter advertising. DOEE represents that it executed contracts for television, radio, print, and signage advertising. DOEE also had its first meeting with the social media vendor. DOEE indicates that the Utility Discount Program Education Working Group (“UDPE WG”) agreed to postpone the start of the social media campaign because of a concern that Facebook could identify DOEE UDP advertisements as political advertisements, which were limited on Facebook during the 2020 election season. The UDPE WG also agreed that Twitter could be used as a backup platform.⁵

¹ *Formal Case No. 1125, In the Matter of the Promotion of the Utility Discount Programs*, Department of Energy and Environment’s First Quarter Invoices for FY 2021 (“DOEE First Quarter FY 2021 Invoices”), filed February 1, 2021.

² The four UDPs in the District of Columbia are: Customer Assistance Program (“CAP”) for water customers; Lifeline, for telephone customers; Residential Aid Discount (“RAD”) for electric customers; and Residential Essential Service (“RES”) for gas customers.

³ The Commission notes that as of October 1, 2013, DOEE is no longer performing administrative functions for the Lifeline service program, but remains the administrator of the RES, RAD, and CAP programs.

⁴ *Formal Case No. 813, In the Matter of the Application of Potomac Electric Power Company for an Increase in its Retail Rates for the Sale of Electrical Energy* and *Formal Case No. 988, In the Matter of the Development of Universal Service Standards and the Universal Service Trust Fund for the District of Columbia*, Order No. 17246, rel. September 19, 2013.

⁵ DOEE First Quarter FY 2021 Invoices at 1.

DOEE represents that its first quarter expenditures total \$171,605.29: \$137,230.36 for personnel expenditures, \$3,000 towards the postage purchase order with USPS, and \$31,374.93 for radio and social media advertising.⁶ DOEE seeks reimbursement in the amount of \$12,272.96 from the DC USTF Administrator, \$52,772.50 from Pepco, \$52,772.29 from WGL, and \$53,787.54 from DC Water.⁷

4. DOEE also includes the invoices for the First Quarter FY 2021 and several tables that provide details on the expenses incurred by DOEE in First Quarter FY 2021. The first table is the UDP administrative budget summary, which breaks down UDP expenditures by line item.⁸ DOEE’s next table breaks down the expenses for the CEP, itemizing the amounts spent on the various outreach programs.⁹ The third table provides details regarding the expenses incurred for the UDP administrative budget.¹⁰ The next four (4) pages are the separate invoices for the First Quarter FY 2021 for the DC USTF, Pepco, WGL, and DC Water, itemizing the expenses.¹¹

5. All persons interested in commenting on DOEE’s First Quarter FY 2021 Invoices may submit written comments and reply comments not later than 10 and 20 days, respectively, after the Commission’s issuance of this Notice. Comments are to be addressed to Brinda Westbrook-Sedgwick, Commission Secretary, Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia, 1325 G Street, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20005 and submitted electronically on the Commission’s website at https://edocket.dcpssc.org/public/public_comments. Copies of DOEE’s First Quarter FY 2021 Invoices may be obtained by visiting the Commission’s website at www.dcpssc.org. Once at the website, open the “eDocket” tab, click on “search database” and input “FC 1125” as the case number and “406” as the item number. Copies of DOEE’s First Quarter FY 2021 Invoices may also be purchased, at cost, by contacting the Commission Secretary at (202) 626-5150 or psc-commissionsecretary@dc.gov.

A TRUE COPY:

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION:

CHIEF CLERK:

**BRINDA WESTBROOK-SEDGWICK
COMMISSION SECRETARY**

⁶ DOEE First Quarter FY 2021 Invoices at 2.

⁷ DOEE First Quarter FY 2021 Invoices at 2.

⁸ DOEE First Quarter FY 2021 Invoices, Attachment at 1. The Commission notes that the tables are not paginated, so the page numbers are the Commission’s additions.

⁹ DOEE First Quarter FY 2021 Invoices, Attachment at 2.

¹⁰ DOEE First Quarter FY 2021 Invoices, Attachment at 3.

¹¹ DOEE First Quarter FY 2021 Invoices, Attachment at 4-7.