## State Corporation Commission 2025 General Assembly Session State Fiscal Impact Statement

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Bill Number: HB2755 H1 Patron: Singh

**Bill Title:** Pilot program for underground transmission lines; qualifying projects.

**Bill Summary:** Authorizes the State Corporation Commission to, in reviewing any application submitted by a public utility for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction of an electrical transmission line of 500 kilovolts filed between January 2025 and July 2032, approve up to two applications for qualifying projects to be constructed in whole or in part underground as part of the pilot program for underground transmission lines and to provide an expedited review of any such application.

The bill removes certain provisions related to the existing pilot program. Under the bill, a project shall be qualified if an engineering analysis demonstrates that it is technically feasible; the Commission, in consultation with the applicant and other stakeholders, provides a projection of the overall cost of the project and its impact on electric service rates; and if the governing body of each locality in which a portion of the proposed line will be placed underground indicates support for the transmission line to be placed underground. Such locality shall take into account the projected overall cost and indicate whether and to what extent the locality will provide any funding to defray such cost.

The bill permits the Commission to deny an application for a project that otherwise meets the criteria to qualify, provided that the Commission shares its rationale for doing so. Additionally, rather than assigning certain costs to be recovered by Virginia jurisdictional customers, the bill requires that such costs be allocated by the Commission in a manner that is just and reasonable for customers.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** No **Items Impacted:** None

**Explanation:** Not applicable

Fiscal Summary: There is no anticipated fiscal impact on the State Corporation Commission.

**General Fund Expenditure Impact:** None

Nongeneral Fund Expenditure Impact: None

Position Impact: None

Fiscal Analysis: There is no anticipated fiscal impact on the State Corporation Commission.

Other: None