



Fiscal Impact Statement for Proposed Legislation

Virginia State Corporation Commission

Published: January 29, 2026

House Bill 617

Version: Introduced

Patron: McNamara

Title: Electric utilities; virtual power plant pilot program; Phase I Utilities.

Summary: Requires Appalachian Power to petition the State Corporation Commission for approval to conduct a pilot program to evaluate methods to optimize demand through various technology applications, including the establishment of virtual power plants, by December 1, 2026. The bill requires the pilot program to evaluate electric grid capacity needs and the ability of such virtual power plants to provide grid services, including peak-shaving, during times of peak electric demand.

Effective Date(s): July 1, 2026

Amendment Necessary: Budget, Item 475
 Technical, see *Technical Note* below
 None

Fiscal Summary

TYPE OF IMPACT	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031
REVENUE					
General (XXXX)					
Nongeneral (XXXX)					
EXPENDITURES					
General (XXXX)					
Nongeneral (02080)	\$98,000	\$98,000	\$98,000	\$98,000	\$98,000
CHANGE IN FTE					
General (XXXX)					
Nongeneral (02080)	1	1	1	1	1

Fiscal Analysis

Revenue

None

Expenditures

When considered individually, the State Corporation Commission (SCC) can meet the requirements of this bill with the adjustments identified in the fiscal impact summary table and within its existing funding authority. If enacted, the SCC will review operational and fiscal impacts of this legislation along with other enacted 2026 electric utility bills to determine implementation.

Change in FTE

See above.

Other Comments

None

Technical Note

None