



Fiscal Impact Statement for Proposed Legislation

Virginia State Corporation Commission

Published: March 5, 2026

House Bill 429

Version: Senate Substitute 1

Patron: LeVere Bolling

Title: Electric utilities; integrated resource plans.

Summary: Makes various changes related to the content and process for an integrated resource plan (IRP) developed by an electric utility that provides a forecast of its load obligations and a plan to meet those obligations. The bill (i) extends the planning timeframe from 15 to 20 years; (ii) requires Appalachian Power to file an IRP by removing an exception from the definition of "electric utility"; (iii) changes the frequency a utility is required to file an IRP from biennially to triennially; and (iv) requires utilities to consider the use of grid-enhancing technologies as alternatives to new transmission infrastructure, and when new transmission lines are envisioned, to provide the reasons grid-enhancing technologies are not sufficient to defer or eliminate the need for new transmission infrastructure. The bill requires that the current stakeholder review process for integrated resource plans be facilitated by a third-party facilitator selected by the State Corporation Commission and compensated by the utility. The bill requires, as part of the stakeholder review process, the utility to provide stakeholders with reasonable access to the same modeling software, modeling assumptions, modeling inputs, and data used by the utility to evaluate supply and demand resources in its integrated resource plan to enable stakeholders to create modeling scenarios for the utility's consideration during the development of its integrated resource plan. The bill requires the Commission to (a) establish guidelines that ensure that utilities develop comprehensive integrated resource plans and provide meaningful public engagement and maximum transparency during the planning process; (b) conduct a proceeding by July 1, 2027, and at least once every five years thereafter, to identify and review each of its existing orders relevant to integrated resource plans to determine if such orders remain necessary and effective and are not overly burdensome; and (c) to convene a work group to make recommendations on the required guidelines. Finally, the bill requires any petition to permit the construction and operation of electrical generating facilities filed by an electric utility that is required to file an integrated resource plan to (1) incorporate the intent to construct and operate such generating facilities or (2) if the utility's intent to construct and operate such generating facilities was not identified in the utility's most recently approved integrated resource plan, provide a detailed explanation of why the utility did not anticipate the need for such generating facilities.

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					
<i>General (XXXX)</i>					
<i>Nongeneral (XXXX)</i>					
EXPENDITURES					
<i>General (XXXX)</i>					
<i>Nongeneral (0208)</i>	\$473,000	\$314,000	\$314,000	\$314,000	\$314,000

CHANGE IN FTE					
<i>General (XXXX)</i>					
<i>Nongeneral (0208)</i>	3				

Fiscal Analysis

Revenue

When considered individually, the SCC can meet this bill's requirements 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.

Expenditures

To meet the requirements of this bill, the SCC will need to hire a consultant facilitator for the workgroup. Estimated consultant cost \$200,000.

Change in FTE

The SCC will need to hire three full-time employees to meet the requirements of this bill.

Other Comments

The bill as substituted requires the workgroup to complete its recommendations by March 1, 2027, instead of October 1, 2026, allowing for a more thorough review. The bill requires the SCC to establish regulations by September 1, 2027. A consultant is still needed to complete the workgroup efforts, however, the improved timeline will result in a reduction of those costs.

Technical Note

None.