



## Fiscal Impact Statement for Proposed Legislation

Virginia State Corporation Commission

Published: April 6, 2026

### Senate Bill 253

**Version:** Enrolled

**Patron:** Lucas

**Title:** Electric utilities; pilot programs for energy assistance and weatherization for certain individuals.

**Summary as Passed Senate:** Amends annual funding commitments for the purposes of the annual pilot program for energy assistance and weatherization for low-income, elderly, and disabled individuals conducted by Dominion Energy Virginia and Appalachian Power Company. Under the bill, Appalachian Power Company is required to continue its pilot program at no less than \$1 million and no greater than \$1.5 million annually. Dominion Energy Virginia is required to continue its pilot program at no less than \$156 million and no greater than \$204 million for the time period beginning July 1, 2026, and ending July 1, 2038. The bill extends the sunset date of such pilot programs from July 1, 2028, to July 1, 2038.

The bill also provides that Dominion Energy Virginia may recover costs associated with certain electrical facilities that have been approved by the State Corporation Commission as of December 1, 2033, provided that certain requirements are met and notwithstanding any limitations on such cost recovery in current law. The bill directs Dominion Energy Virginia to propose to the Commission, in any proceeding to determine rates for generation and distribution services commencing after January 1, 2027, and before July 1, 2033, that certain costs related to capacity procurement requirements and distribution infrastructure investments are allocated to the utility's customer class approved to serve customers with a contracted or measured electric demand of 25 megawatts or greater and an anticipated or measured average annual electric load factor of 75 percent or greater. The bill provides that certain customers in manufacturing, industrial, or consumer goods warehousing and distribution activities other than data storage may elect to remain on their existing rate schedule.

The bill requires Dominion Energy Virginia, in connection with its first proceeding to determine rates for generation and distribution services commencing after July 1, 2026, to include in its petition to the Commission a proposal to revise its tariff for supplementary, maintenance, or standby service for customers with power plants, effective as of January 1, 2028. The bill provides that the Commission shall only approve such proposal if it determines that such tariff will not adversely affect other retail customers or the utility in a manner contrary to the public interest, and any revised tariff terms shall include protections against stranded cost risks to the utility customer base. Additionally, the bill authorizes Dominion Energy Virginia to file a petition for the securitization of certain deferred fuel costs.

**Effective Date(s):** July 1, 2026

**Amendment Necessary:**  Budget, Item ###  
 Technical, see *Technical Note* below  
 None, see *Other Comments* below

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## *Fiscal Summary*

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The State Corporation Commission will be required to hire a financial consultant to meet the requirements of this bill. The costs will be reimbursed by the utility as authorized in 56-249.6:2.

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## *Fiscal Analysis*

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### **Revenue**

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See Other Comments below.

### **Expenditures**

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See Other Comments below.

### **Change in FTE**

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None.

### **Other Comments**

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### **Technical Note**

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None.