



POWER NOTES - DOMINION VIRGINIA EDITION

FALL 2017 ISSUE - POWER NOTES

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Dominion VA Power Demand Rebilling & Refund Plans

For several years, we identified suspected errors in the demand charges for some customers of Dominion VA Power. In some cases, the demand reading on the meter had gotten stuck at the same level for multiple months. We have secured significant refunds for some customers as a result of identifying these errors.

In April 2016, Dominion acknowledged that there had been demand billing errors for many small and mid-size commercial customers. They identified approximately 24,000 commercial customers who were impacted by the problems. These customers had an identical KW demand reading at least two months in a row between July 2013 and June 2016. This was because the demand reading was not reset to zero in some months. The errors impacted 10% of commercial customers in the 30 KW to 500 KW demand range.

Dominion submitted a proposal to the VA Public Service Commission for approval of the "Demand Rebilling and Refund Plan." The plan was approved, and the 24,000 identified customers were sent letters explaining the overcharges on their bills. In recent months, these impacted customers were provided a Demand Adjustment Credit, a Demand Adjustment Interest Credit and a Demand Adjustment Goodwill Credit on their bills for the errors which occurred July 2013 through June 2016.

Customers who did not get a credit on their bills but have the potential for this same type of error were sent a letter notifying them of the potential problem.

How can UMS help?
We will continue to monitor your bills for repeating demand readings which can indicate an issue. If we find such a problem on your bills, we will contact Dominion and work to secure a refund for you.

East Coast Nuclear Plants



Since our last newsletter, the U.S. Department of Energy increased their total loan guarantees on the GA Power Vogtle Plant to \$12 billion. Since the Westinghouse bankruptcy, GA Power has contracted with Bechtel to finish construction of units 3 and 4. The original cost projections for the units totaled \$14 billion; the updated projection is \$25 billion and climbing. The units were originally projected to go on line in 2016 and 2017, but new estimates call for 2022 or later.

At UMS, we project that at least one of these units will never produce power. Customers and stockholders of The Southern Company will likely share the losses, and it's possible that U.S. taxpayer dollars will contribute.



SCE&G, subsidiary of SCANA, and Santee-Cooper, a state-run power company, spent \$11 billion on 2 new units at the V.C. Summer Plant. That includes \$2 billion that was paid by customers through higher rates and \$9 billion that SCE&G and Santee Cooper are now trying to pass along to their customers. After the Westinghouse bankruptcy, construction on both units was canceled.

On the day the SCANA Chief Executive Officer was quoted in the newspaper saying he would not be leaving or retiring, it was announced that he and a Senior Vice President were both retiring effective immediately. The U.S. Attorney for the area and the SC Law Enforcement Division are investigating potential criminal acts and the findings will be brought before a federal grand jury. Multiple class-action lawsuits have been filed by shareholders and SCANA has been accused of burying a negative report from a contractor for 18 months.

SCANA stock (SCG) is down more than 40% from earlier this year. Rate cases, legislative action and lawsuits may all be required to determine who will ultimately pay for the units - most likely, customers and shareholders.

President George W. Bush Speaks at the World Energy Engineering Congress

Former President George W. Bush spoke at the World Energy Engineering Congress in Atlanta, Georgia on October 27th.

All UMS Customers were mailed two invitations to attend the Expo at the WEEC; we enjoyed seeing some of you there and encourage those of you who missed the event to join us next year.

UMS President, Brian Coughlan, had the opportunity to meet and take a photo with the former President.

We had several corporate office staff members and Account Managers present at our booth during the WEEC Expo.

As always, the WEEC offered very informative seminars and proved to be a great networking opportunity.



UMS Booth at the WEEC Expo

(front row, l-r) Janessa Goldstein - VP of Financial Operations, Nicolette Thomas - Analyst, Kristina Duerr - National Account Manager, Brian Coughlan - President; (back row, l-r) Mary Greblunas - Account Manager, Tanner Myers - Analyst, Paul Andrews - Sales Manager, Troy Tapp - Account Manager.

Mark your calendars! The 2018 WEEC will be held at the Charlotte Convention Center.



We will be mailing two invitations to all active customers in September 2018.

Several keynote speakers are under active consideration for the event. In recent years, speakers have included President George W. Bush, President Bill Clinton, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State Colin Powell and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

We hope to see you there! **October 17-19, 2018**

WANT TO WIN AN APPLE WATCH?

Keep an eye on your mailbox for the 2017 Customer Satisfaction Survey! Return the survey before December 1st, and be entered to win an Apple Watch. If you provide more feedback by completing the front and back page of the survey, your name will be entered three additional times!



Congratulations to Nicolette Thomas,

UMS Analyst, on passing the **Certified Lighting Efficiency Professional (CLEP) Course & Exam** offered by the Association of Energy Engineers!

Nicolette now holds several certifications:

BEP - Business Energy Professional*;
CEA - Certified Energy Auditor*;
CEP - Certified Energy Procurement Professional* and **CLEP**.

*Considered "In-Training" until completion of 3 years in industry.

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