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**For Immediate Release**

## **Maryland PSC to Hold Two More Virtual Public Comment Hearings for BGE's Multi-Year Rate Plan**

(BALTIMORE, MD-August 5, 2020) – The Maryland Public Service Commission will hold two more virtual public comment hearings on Baltimore Gas and Electric Company's proposed multi-year rate plan. The hearings will be held **Monday, August 17, 2020 at 6 p.m.** and **Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 6 p.m.** The first public comment hearing in this case was held on July 30, 2020.

BGE has requested to maintain rates for gas and electricity at current levels until January 2023, at which time the company proposes to increase gas service rates by \$94.9 million and electric distribution rates by \$140.4 million. According to BGE, the total bill for an average residential customer receiving both electric and gas service from BGE is expected to increase in 2023 by \$12.87 per month (or about 8.3 percent).

**Members of the public who wish to speak at the hearing should register by sending an email to [susan.howard@maryland.gov](mailto:susan.howard@maryland.gov) by 12 noon on August 14, 2020 (for the August 17<sup>th</sup> hearing) and by 12 noon on September 16, 2020 (for the September 17<sup>th</sup> hearing).** The hearing will be simultaneously livestreamed on the PSC's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/MarylandPSC>

Written comments will also be accepted until October 23, 2020 by using the Commission's online public comments portal, instructions for which can be found at: <https://www.psc.state.md.us/make-a-public-comment/> Comments should reference Case. No 9645.

**Background:** Earlier this year, the Commission approved a pilot process to allow a utility to request a rate plan using a multi-year period. BGE is the first Maryland utility to request such a plan under this framework. The Commission's use of this methodology, which is used in several other states, is expected to limit the number and frequency of utility rate cases, and allow customers to know with certainty the timing and scale of changes in rates. Until now, the Commission has relied largely on a traditional form of ratemaking based on a past, or historic, 12-month period as the basis for electric and gas utilities to recover the cost of providing service to customers. As such, many utilities file rate cases as frequently as every year in an effort to recover their costs more quickly.

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**About the Public Service Commission:**

*The Maryland Public Service Commission regulates electric and gas utilities and suppliers, telephone companies (land lines), certain water and sewer companies, passenger motor vehicle carriers for hire (sedans, limousines, buses, Uber, Lyft), taxicab companies (in Baltimore City and County, Charles County, Cumberland and Hagerstown) and bay pilot rates.*

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