



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

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APRIL 7, 2009

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Note: The web addresses (links) in this document may change over time. The Department for the Aging does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Barbara Childers, MSW, LSW

DATE: April 6, 2009

SUBJECT: VICAP Customer Service Specialist

Please join me in welcoming Pam Smith to the Virginia Department for the Aging. Pam will be working in the state office assisting with VICAP, including screening calls received by the Department from Virginians with questions related to insurance needs. Additionally, Pam will be involved with volunteer management and training certification.

Pam's email address is pamela.smith@vda.virginia.gov and her direct line is 804-662-7050.

Thank you!

Barbara Childers, MSW
VICAP Director



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Kathy Miller
Director of Long-Term Care

DATE: April 7, 2009

SUBJECT: PACE, Assisted Living Facility and Auxiliary Grants

The Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) has examined the occurrence of persons receiving PACE services who reside in Assisted Living Facilities (ALF) and receive Auxiliary Grants. Consequently, DMAS has issued a memorandum providing guidance on this issue.

According to the memorandum, individuals who reside in an ALF cannot receive services in PACE and receive an Auxiliary Grant supplement simultaneously. If they choose to enroll in PACE, they must forfeit their Auxiliary Grant benefit. If they want to continue to receive their Auxiliary Grant supplement, they will have to disenroll from PACE unless the PACE organization assumes the cost of their housing. Individuals who are currently enrolled in both programs will have to consider their available options and make a decision regarding which benefit they want to continue to receive no later than May 29, 2009.

A copy of the memorandum issued by Cindi Jones, Chief Deputy Director of DMAS, is attached.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Medical Assistance Services

PATRICK W. FINNERTY
DIRECTOR

SUITE 1300
600 EAST BROAD STREET
RICHMOND, VA 23219
804/786-7933
800/343-0634 (TDD)
www.dmas.virginia.gov

MEMORANDUM

TO: Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Organizations

FROM: Cindi Jones, Chief Deputy Director *CJ*

DATE: April 3, 2009

SUBJECT: PACE, Assisted Living Facility and Auxiliary Grant Supplement

The Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) has examined the occurrence of persons receiving PACE services who also reside in an Assisted Living Facility and receive an Auxiliary Grant. As a result of this examination, DMAS is providing the following guidance effective upon release of this memorandum.

As the State Administering Agency for PACE, DMAS is requiring the following:

1. Individuals who reside in an Assisted Living Facility may enroll in PACE if they meet the functional, medical/nursing and financial requirements, but will **not** be permitted to receive an Auxiliary Grant.
2. Individuals currently receiving services in PACE, who reside in an Assisted Living Facility and receive the Auxiliary Grant, must either:
 - a) forfeit their Auxiliary Grant supplement and continue to receive PACE services, or
 - b) disenroll from PACE and continue to receive the Auxiliary Grant supplement, or
 - c) remain in PACE and the PACE organization assumes the cost of their housing.

The Auxiliary Grant provides for room and board, maintenance and care, which allows an elderly individual to remain in the Assisted Living Facility. DMAS understands that the Assisted Living Facility may be an alternative community-based placement for some individuals; however, DMAS will not allow PACE services to be provided to Assisted Living Facility recipients unless the above condition(s) are met.

Individuals currently receiving both PACE and an Auxiliary Grant benefit, who will be impacted by this guidance, will need to consider the available options and make a decision regarding which benefit they would like to continue to receive. Changes to an individual's ongoing benefit will need to be effective as soon as possible, but no later than May 29, 2009.

DMAS looks forward to continue working with you in providing services to our elderly citizens.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Kathy Miller
Director of Long-Term Care

DATE: April 7, 2009

SUBJECT: Consumer Directed Supports and Services Training

The Virginia Systems Transformation Grant (STG) is sponsoring training sessions in Consumer Directed Supports and Services and person-centered planning. One-day workshops will be offered on April 29 and April 30 in Richmond for AAA staff. The sessions will be presented by Jean Tuller of Jean Tuller Consulting. The training sessions are **free**. Sessions are scheduled from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and lunches will be provided.

The workshop is designed to help familiarize participants with consumer-direction principles and the paradigm shift that occurs in the role of the care coordinator when consumer direction is implemented.

The registration form is attached. Sessions are limited to 30 participants each day, so register now for this great training opportunity!

Consumer Directed Supports and Services: Enhancing Person-Centeredness

A training session for Area Agencies on Aging

Presented by Jean Tuller

This **one day** workshop is designed to familiarize participants with consumer direction and the shift in thinking that it brings to those who support seniors. Participants will gain knowledge and skills that will help them better plan with and support individuals in their communities. Topics include:

- ✦ The historical and national context for consumer-direction
- ✦ The paradigm shift in the role of the service coordinator as a result of consumer direction
- ✦ How to build a plan of care that is person-centered and lends itself to consumer-directed services
- ✦ Facilitation techniques to manage “wants” versus “needs” when developing a plan of care

Workshop Location and Dates

Location: 1604 Santa Rosa Road, Suite 202
Richmond, VA 23229-5008

Dates: April 29 or April 30, 2009

Sponsored by: Virginia Systems Transformation Grant

The Goal 2 Resource Team of the systems transformation initiative focuses on choice and control through three objectives: enhancing person-centered practices, developing the capacity for individual budgets, and ensuring self-direction.

Questions? Call Dawn Machonis at the Partnership for People with Disabilities at (804) 828-1335 or email at dmmachonis@vcu.edu

Consumer Directed Supports and Services: Enhancing Person-Centeredness

April 29 OR April 30, 2009
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Please submit no later than April 20, 2009

The following registration form may be mailed, faxed (804-828-0042), or submitted via email to dmmachonis@vcu.edu. Please submit one registration form for each person from your agency. **Registration is limited to approximately 30 participants each day.**

Please check the 1 session for which you are registering: April 29 April 30

Name _____ Title _____

Agency _____

Address _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Special Dietary Needs _____

Other Accommodations _____

Lunch is included each day.

Upon receipt of your registration, a confirmation, agenda, and directions will be emailed to you. If you have questions, please call Dawn Machonis at (804) 828-1335 or email at dmmachonis@vcu.edu.

Dawn M. Machonis
Partnership for People with Disabilities
Virginia Commonwealth University
P.O. Box 843020
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The Partnership for People with Disabilities is a university center for excellence in developmental disabilities at Virginia Commonwealth University. VCU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action university providing access to education and employment without regards to age, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, political affiliation or disability. If alternative formats of this document are needed, please contact the Partnership for People with Disabilities at 804/828-3876 or 800/828-1120 (TDD Relay). Support for this initiative is provided through a contract with the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) with funding under Grant No. P-91599/3 from the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Kathy Miller
Director of Long-Term Care

DATE: April 7, 2009

SUBJECT: National Memory Screening Day

November 17, 2009 is National Memory Screening Day (NMSD). The Alzheimer's Foundation of America, a national nonprofit organization, has been sponsoring NMSD annually since 2003. The event is held each November during National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month. For the event qualified healthcare professionals offer free, confidential memory screenings to those who are concerned about memory loss or who want to check their memory. The screening is non-invasive and consists of a series of questions and tasks that can be administered in 5-10 minutes.

The Alzheimer's Foundation of American is signing up organizations to serve as "supporters" of the event. There is no associated cost. Your agency will be listed as a supporter on the Foundation's marketing materials and the NMSD website with a link to your agency's website.

If your agency cannot serve as a screening location, your staff can become involved in other ways, such as volunteering to participate at another screening site in the community. You may choose to publicize NMSD in your agency newsletter, on your website, or in other communications. Last year, nearly 2,200 community sites around the country participated and screened approximately 54,000 individuals.

Attached is more information about the NMSD initiative. If you have questions or would like to sign up to be a supporter, contact the Alzheimer's Foundation of America at info@alzfdn.org.



All about National Memory Screening Day-November 17, 2009

The Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to "Caring for the Nation." AFA unites more than 950 member organizations across the country—grassroots Alzheimer's organizations, assisted living facilities, community organizations, government agencies and other dementia-related groups, all of which provide hands-on care and resources to individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related illnesses, and their families.

AFA introduced the nation's first National Memory Screening Day (NMSD) in 2003 and holds this event each November, during National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month. It marks the focal point of AFA's national initiative to promote early detection and intervention for those concerned about memory loss as well as to educate the public about successful aging.

During NMSD, we collaborate with local sites to offer free, confidential memory screenings to the public and distribute educational materials about memory concerns, dementia, caregiving and successful aging. Participating sites typically include Alzheimer's agencies, senior citizen centers, long-term care residences, houses of worship, Ys, research labs, pharmacies, doctor's offices, hospitals, and other community organizations, as well as the entire Kmart pharmacy chain. Qualified healthcare professionals, such as doctors, nurses, psychologists, social workers and dementia care administrators, administer the screenings. The screening is non-invasive, consists of a series of questions and tasks and takes five to ten minutes to administer. All of our materials clearly emphasize that memory screenings are used as an indicator of whether a person might benefit from an extensive medical exam, but that they are **not** used to diagnose any illness and in no way replace an exam by a qualified healthcare professional. We encourage medical follow up.

In 2008, qualified healthcare professionals provided free, confidential memory screenings to an estimated 54,000 people at nearly 2,200 sites—and the number is expected to grow exponentially this fall.

With this campaign, our goals are to:

- Provide free, confidential memory screenings to those with memory concerns or who want to check their memory
- Eliminate the stigma and fears associated with dementia
- Encourage those with memory problems to follow up with an exam by a qualified physician or other healthcare professional for an accurate diagnosis, treatment, social services and community resources
- Educate the public about Alzheimer's disease and successful aging
- Alleviate the fears of those who do not have a problem

National Memory Screening Day is supported by:

- An extensive national public relations campaign, with the intent of securing coverage in major media and at the local level
- A dedicated Web site, www.nationalmemoryscreening.org, which lists participating sites and provides critical information about memory screenings and Alzheimer's disease

Involvement is simple:

- Sign up as a site at www.nationalmemoryscreening.org
- AFA provides all the necessary tools—at no cost—to seamlessly and effectively carry out the memory screenings. These tools include: memory screening tools, such as suggested screening tests and consent forms; posters, which can be localized with a site's address; press releases/public service announcements with blank spaces for localization, and memory screening booklets with information about warning signs of dementia, screenings and successful aging. Most materials are posted on a private Internet site and others are sent via the mail.
- The event generates community goodwill and provides the opportunity for the participating organization or practice to raise awareness of the disease and educate the public about its own services.

Participating sites are responsible for:

- Arranging the time and space for the screenings
- Selecting a qualified healthcare professional screener—a physician, psychologist, nurse practitioner, social worker, etc.—to administer the tests (**AFA does *not* provide screeners.**)
- Selecting the memory screening tool—such as the GPCOG, MINI-COG, Memory Impairment Screen (MIS)
- Distributing and collecting all required forms
- Publicizing the event locally
- Emphasizing to participants that memory screenings do not represent a diagnosis
- Encouraging appropriate participants—those with below normal scores and those who continue to have concerns—to follow up with a complete medical exam by a qualified healthcare professional to obtain a proper diagnosis and treatment
- Providing educational materials and community resources to the public

Questions? Need additional materials?

Contact Amanda Edmonds, national events manager, at 866-AFA-8484 or aedmonds@alzfdn.org.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Kathy Miller
Director of Long-Term Care

DATE: April 7, 2009

SUBJECT: Dominion Virginia Power Seeking Rate Increase

Dominion Virginia Power has filed requests with the State Corporation Commission for a 6.9 percent increase in their base rate. This would be an increase of about \$7.54 per month for a typical residential customer. This is the first base rate increase Dominion has requested since 1992. The increase would be phased in over a 14 month period, beginning September 1, 2009. The increase would be used to fund new electric infrastructure and energy conservation programs, including smart grid technology and "smart meters." Customers, however, will first see a decrease of about \$3.64 in their monthly bills beginning July 1, 2009 as a result of lower fuel costs.

Dominion Virginia Power plans to invest over \$7 billion between now and 2012 in environmental improvements, service improvements, building new generation, and expanding the electrical grid. The company estimates it will connect 90,000 new customers by the end of 2011. Dominion also expects to add 20,000 construction and support jobs over the next three years.

The Dominion News Release is attached. For more information on the rate filings, visit www.dom.com.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 31, 2009

Company:

Contacts:

Media:

Analysts:

**DOMINION VIRGINIA POWER SEEKING RATE INCREASE
FOR ELECTRIC INFRASTRUCTURE, ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAMS**

- **SEPARATE FILING REQUESTS LOWER FUEL CHARGE**
 - *SCC approval required before any rate changes can take effect*
 - *Net effect, if approved, would be increase of 6.9 percent over 14 months*
 - *If approved, electric rates would still be below national average*
 - *Initial funding sought for 'smart grid' demonstration projects*

RICHMOND, Va. – Dominion Virginia Power today announced a series of rate filings with the State Corporation Commission (SCC) designed to meet customers' energy needs by funding essential new electric infrastructure and energy conservation programs.

If approved by the SCC, the net result of the requests would be a 6.9 percent increase in rates for a typical residential customer. The increases would be phased in over about the next 14 months.

The electric infrastructure construction projects anticipated in the filings are expected to result in the creation of more than 20,000 jobs over the next three years.

Lower fuel charges effective July 1 would partially offset the higher utility costs in other areas that would be put into rates later this year and next if approved by the SCC. This would be the first increase in Dominion Virginia Power rates in nearly 17 years other than for fuel and a small charge related to construction of a new power station. Fuel costs are passed through with no profit to the company.

The new infrastructure, energy efficiency and conservation programs are designed to increase Virginia's energy independence, improve reliability and stabilize electric rates over the long term. Among the energy conservation efforts announced today are 13 new programs and the

initial phase of “smart grid” technology, which will ultimately lead to a new level of energy savings and services for customers.

“We all expect the power to be there when we flip the switch,” said David Heacock, president of Dominion Virginia Power. “Behind that switch is an amazing, interconnected grid of electric infrastructure – power stations, power lines, substations and more – that must be continuously maintained, updated and expanded to ensure reliable service. That is what these filings are fundamentally about.

“Additionally, we have a goal shared by the state of Virginia to increase the Commonwealth’s energy independence and to reduce the growth in energy use. By having more generation in Virginia and our customers engaged in cost-effective energy conservation programs, we will be better able to hold rates down over the long term and provide a boost to the state’s efforts to increase economic development, create jobs and attract new industry.”

Virginia is currently the second largest importer of electricity in the United States, behind only California.

Impact on Rates

If all filings are approved by the SCC, the net effect of all the proposed rate changes on a typical residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours a month would be an increase of about \$7.54 a month, from \$108.73 to \$116.27, or 6.9 percent. This would occur through a series of rate adjustments between about July 1, 2009, and May 1, 2010.

If approved, the first adjustment would be a decrease of about \$3.64 a month, or about 3.3 percent, on July 1 as a result of lower fuel costs. The decrease would have been greater except for the effect of \$755 million in higher fuel costs that Dominion did not collect last year. Those costs were deferred to help customers cope with the sharply higher fuel prices that were in effect last summer.

The proposed base rate increase, if approved by the SCC, would take effect on Sept. 1, subject to adjustments, along with new transmission and related costs; new generation costs on Jan. 1, 2010; and an increase for energy conservation programs on May 1, 2010.

Even after all of the proposed changes, Dominion Virginia Power’s residential rates would be 3.6 percent below the national average as of Jan. 1, 2009. Over the past 17 years, the company’s rates have gone up only about half as much as other goods and services as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

\$7 Billion to Be Invested Through 2011

Dominion Virginia Power plans to invest more than \$7 billion between now and 2012 for environmental improvements, building new generation, making reliability and service improvements, and expanding the electrical grid. That is in addition to \$10 billion the company invested in these kinds of projects since its last increase in base rates.

Part of the investment is needed to serve new customers. The company expects to connect about 90,000 new customers by the end of 2011. Combined with the 567,000 customers added since the last base case, Dominion's customer base has grown by 31 percent.

"We know our customers expect us to keep electric rates as affordable as possible," Heacock said. "By working hard to improve efficiency, we have been able to keep rates down, improve reliability and meet the demands of customer growth."

"There is a point, however, after nearly 17 years, where adjustments in rates are required to accommodate the multitude of higher costs we face and the need to undertake a significant expansion in infrastructure that must occur to maintain reliable service in the Commonwealth over the next several years."

Dominion Virginia Power is following a balanced approach of upgrading certain existing units, adding new clean-coal and gas generation, increasing renewable power from sources such as wind, and cost-effective energy efficiency and conservation programs, including elements of the new smart grid system, to meet projected load growth. Studies by PJM Interconnection, the regional grid operator, and Dominion continue to show that despite the economic downturn, residential and business customer growth will add approximately 4,600 megawatts of new load over the next decade – enough power for more than 1 million new homes.

"These types of construction projects, high technology systems and customer-friendly energy conservation programs cannot be completed overnight," Heacock said. "As a utility, we must plan well into the future and begin work years before the actual demand will hit the grid."

A study by Chmura Economics & Analytics of Richmond, an independent economics consulting firm retained by Dominion Virginia Power, estimates that more than 20,000 construction and support jobs will be created by the projects over the next three years. The operation of new generating facilities and associated infrastructure will provide an ongoing economic impact of more than \$200 million annually and more than 600 permanent jobs.

"Smart Meters" Expected to Save Customers \$1 Billion

Among the items proposed in the base rate filing is funding for a large-scale demonstration project of "smart meters," a new generation of electric meters with two-way communications capability. The demonstration in the Midlothian and Charlottesville areas is designed to provide additional data in advance of a plan to install smart meters at all customer locations in future years. Once approved and installed, one of the first benefits of the new meters would be to save customers an expected \$1 billion or more over 15 years through the delivery of more efficient operating voltages to their homes.

Other benefits of the new meters include improved outage reporting and the prospect of new time-sensitive pricing that would give customers the option of using electricity when it is less expensive.

Additionally, the company announced today that it plans to file for SCC approval of 13 new energy efficiency and conservation programs in July. The programs, including some that have

already been market tested, are designed to reduce peak loads and overall demand by about 150 megawatts by 2011.

Customer Options to Reduce Impact

Dominion Virginia Power is encouraging customers to take steps to lessen or eliminate the impact of higher rates. This includes:

- Using the energy conservation information available on Dominion's Web site, www.dom.com. An online home energy audit, advice on how to reduce energy use and an energy conservation blog are among the features.
- Taking advantage of the compact fluorescent light bulb discount program the company has in partnership with The Home Depot.
- Switching to Budget Billing to equalize monthly bills.
- Seeking financial assistance through Dominion's Energy Share program for qualifying low-income customers who are unable to pay heating or cooling bills regardless of the energy source.
- Providing energy gift certificates to relatives, friends, churches and charitable groups to assist customers in need.

Any customers having trouble paying their electric bill for any reason should call the company as soon as possible, toll-free, at 1-888-667-3000.

Details on the Filings

Base rates pay for existing electric infrastructure such as power stations and other facilities to serve customers; operating costs such as maintenance, payroll and benefits; and a return for utility investors. Dominion's last base case adjustment was a decrease in 1998, and the last increase in base rates went into effect in 1992.

Fuel charges pay for fuels used to generate electricity and by law cannot include any profit.

A law that re-regulated Virginia electric utilities in 2007 sets forth specific times for utilities to seek base rate adjustments, and this case is being filed under that statute. The law also allows utilities to make separate filings as needed for specific new infrastructure projects.

Five filings, which each must be approved by the SCC before it can take effect, include:

- A decrease of \$236 million, or about \$3.64 a month for a typical residential customer, for lower fuel costs, to take effect July 1.
- An increase of \$298 million, or about \$6.29 a month, in base rates to take effect Sept. 1, subject to refund and adjustments by the SCC.
- An increase of \$77 million, or \$1.40 a month, for the Bear Garden Power Station in Buckingham County, effective Jan. 1, 2010. The SCC approved construction of the project Friday.
- An increase of \$78 million, or \$1.26 a month, to pay for transmission projects and related expenditures, to take effect Sept 1.

- An increase of \$99 million, or about \$1.78 a month, for the Virginia City Hybrid Energy Center in Southwest Virginia, to take effect Jan. 1, 2010.
- A notice of intent to file for an increase of about \$20 million to \$30 million, or about 40 cents to 50 cents a month for new energy efficiency and conservation programs. This case is scheduled to be filed on or after July 1, and, if approved, will become effective by May 1, 2010.

For further information on the rate filings, visit www.dom.com.

Dominion Virginia Power is the principal subsidiary of Dominion (NYSE: D), one of the nation's largest producers of energy, with a portfolio of more than 27,000 megawatts of generation. Dominion serves retail energy customers in 12 states. For more information about Dominion, visit the company's Web site at <http://www.dom.com/>.

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