



Public Service Commission

NEWS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release, Contact:
Julie Fedorchak, (701) 328-4096
Randy Christmann, (701) 328-4096
Sheri Haugen-Hoffart, (701) 328-4096

PSC Schedules Public Hearing to Gather Input Regarding Demand Response and Demand Flexibility Practices

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold a public hearing on Nov. 17 to gather input regarding demand response and demand flexibility practices.

Demand response and demand flexibility are terms used to describe any kind of program that reduces that amount of energy being used during a peak usage time, such as during very cold or very hot weather. Many of these programs incentivize customers to sign up for a reward, such as a credit to their bill in exchange for reducing or turning off their power. Some examples include:

- Notifying customers when energy conservation is needed and asking them to reduce electricity usage during that time. (some utilities will offer peak time rebates to customers who show a reduction in their usage during that time)
- Allowing the utility to control a customer's usage during peak times including controlling heat, air conditioning or hot water heaters.
- Allowing commercial customers the option of lower rates in exchange for the ability to switch their usage to a back-up generator if needed during a peak usage period.

The input is being gathered as part of President Biden's Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act that was signed into effect Nov. 2021. The act included the following standard: "Each electric utility shall promote the use of demand-response and demand flexibility practices by commercial, residential, and industrial customers to reduce electricity consumption during periods of unusually high demand."

During this hearing anyone with input about this issue is encouraged to participate and share their views. The information gathered will be used to help the Commission decide if rate mechanisms should be established to allow an electric public utility to timely recover the costs of promoting demand response and demand flexibility practices.

Details for the public hearing are as follows:

- **Thursday, Nov. 17, 2022 – 10 a.m. Central**
- **Attend in person: 12th Floor, State Capitol Building - Bismarck, ND**
- **Listen and/or share comments via phone: 1-888-585-9008 Room Code 671-872-185**
- **Online viewing only (cannot give comments using this link):**
<https://psc.nd.gov/public/meetings/live.php>

The North Dakota Public Service Commission is a constitutionally created state agency with authority to permit, site and regulate certain business activities in the state including electric and gas utilities, telecommunications companies, power plants, electric transmission lines, pipelines, railroads, auctioneers, commercial weighing devices, pipeline safety and coal mine reclamation. For more information, contact the Public Service Commission at (701) 328-2400 or www.psc.nd.gov.

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