DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

STEVEN ROYS

ON BEHALF OF

THE SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY

In the Matter of the Consideration of the Adoption of Certain Regulatory Standards

Pursuant to Section 111 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, as
amended by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (IIJA)

I.  INTRODUCTION

Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
A.  My name is Steven Roys. My business address is One Riverwood Dr., Moncks Corner, SC 29461.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.
A.  I hold a bachelor’s degree in Accounting and Marketing from the University of South Carolina, and I am currently enrolled in the professional MBA program at the University of South Carolina. I have been employed as a financial analyst at the South Carolina Public Service Authority (“Santee Cooper”) for over eight years, with 6 years of experience in electric vehicle strategy and program design.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR POSITION AND RESPONSIBILITIES AT SANTEE COOPER.
A.  I am employed by Santee Cooper as a Financial Analyst in the Conservation and Energy Efficiency department. My primary responsibilities include developing and implementing electric vehicle (“EV”) programs for Santee Cooper’s residential and
commercial customers. I am also responsible for co-leading Santee Cooper’s Electric Vehicle Task Force which has a goal of developing a corporate strategy for Santee Cooper’s EV efforts. In addition to my EV work, I also assist with the development of the Demand-Side Management portion of Santee Cooper’s Integrated Resource Plan.

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

A. I am testifying on behalf of Santee Cooper on the subject of Santee Cooper’s response to the proposed Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 standards in the area of Electric Vehicle Charging Programs found in PURPA Section 111(d)(21).

II. ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING PROGRAMS IN PURPA SECTION 111(d)(21)

Q. WHAT IS THE REQUIREMENT WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING CONTAINED IN PURPA SECTION 111(d)(21)?

A. The IIJA of 2021 amended the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to, among other things, require that states consider a broad four-part regulatory policy to promote electric vehicle charging. The section of the statute reads:

(21) Electric vehicle charging programs.--Each State shall consider measures to promote greater electrification of the transportation sector, including the establishment of rates that--

(A) promote affordable and equitable electric vehicle charging options for residential, commercial, and public electric vehicle charging infrastructure;

(B) improve the customer experience associated with
electric vehicle charging, including by reducing charging times for light-, medium-, and heavy-duty vehicles;

(C) accelerate third-party investment in electric vehicle charging for light-, medium-, and heavy-duty vehicles; and

(D) appropriately recover the marginal costs of delivering electricity to electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging infrastructure."

My testimony will discuss Santee Cooper’s programs to encourage electric vehicle charging in our retail service territories, which could promote electric vehicle charging options for both customers and the public as well as offer a staff recommendation regarding whether or not Santee Cooper should adopt the proposed standard set forth at PURPA Section 111(d)(21).

Q. DOES SANTEE COOPER HAVE ANY PROGRAMS OR PRACTICES TO ENCOURAGE THE USE OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES?

A. Santee Cooper has implemented several programs to encourage the use of electric vehicles by its customers and encourages EV usage statewide. Through its campaign, Empower Auto, Santee Cooper offers EV time-of-use rates which were designed for residential customers with EVs, rebates for residential customers who install EV charging in their homes, and an EV grant program available for commercial customers.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CURRENT EV PROGRAMS SANTEE COOPER MAKES AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS.
Santee Cooper residential customers can apply to receive a $250 rebate after purchasing and installing a qualifying level 2 EV charging station in their home through the Empower SC Program.

Residential customers with a battery or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle are given the opportunity to enroll in one of two Charge Smart EV rate plans. The Residential Electric Vehicle Power Rate (“REV”) combines EV’s electricity cost with home electricity usage. The Residential Electric Vehicle Power Only Rider (“EVO”) separates the electricity usage of charging an EV from home electricity usage and involves installing a second meter. Both of these rate plans are time-of-use plans, and the prices depend on the time of day when electricity is used.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EV GRANT PROGRAM FOR COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS.

As part of the Evolve Grant Program, eligible commercial customers are encouraged to apply for up to $25,000 of grant funding. For 2023, Santee Cooper has set aside $100,000 for Evolve grants. These will be split into a spring and a fall cycle. Each cycle offers up to $50,000 in grant funding. Customers can apply for grant funds in four project categories:

- Make-Ready Research
- Education and Outreach
- Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure
- Electric Fleet Conversion

Recipients of the most recent Evolve grants include the City of Conway who is installing 2 charging stations, Coastal Carolina University who is installing 12 charging stations, the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce who is conducting a...
make-ready research project for chargers in the Myrtle Beach area as well as
installing 1 charging station, McLeod Health Seacoast who is installing 2 charging
stations, and Elite Home Care who is replacing a gas powered fleet vehicle with an
electric vehicle.

Q. DOES SANTEE COOPER USE ELECTRIC VEHICLES IN ITS FLEET OR
ENCOURAGE EV USE BY EMPLOYEES?
Santee Cooper currently has four light-duty battery electric vehicles in its fleet. Additionally,
there is one plug-in hybrid vehicle that is on order. Santee Cooper has 12 level 2 charging
stations for fleet and employee use. These stations are located at four different Santee Cooper
owned sites. There are 4 stations at the Moncks Corner headquarters, 4 stations at the Horry-
Georgetown Office, 2 stations at the North Myrtle Beach Service Center, and 2 Stations at the
Wampee Conference Center.

Q. IN YOUR OPINION SHOULD SANTEE COOPER’S ADOPT THE PROPOSED
POLICY SET FORTH IN PURPA SECTION 111(d)(2)?
A. Yes, Santee Cooper should adopt the proposed policy set forth in PURPA Section
111(d)(2), particularly in light of the fact that Santee Cooper’s programs advancing
electric vehicles are consistent with that proposed standard.

Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR PREFILED DIRECT TESTIMONY?
A. Yes.