

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT'S 2017** :  
**DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM** : **DOCKET NO. 4663**

**REPORT AND ORDER**

On November 4, 2016 and pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-2-1.2, Pascoag Utility District (Pascoag or District) filed its Demand Side Management (DSM) Program for 2017 with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission or PUC). Pascoag proposed an overall budget of \$151,663 to fund its residential and commercial energy efficiency programs for calendar year 2017.<sup>1</sup>

Although Pascoag's 2017 residential programs will mirror those in 2016, the District made budget adjustments to eight programs based on the level of activity during 2016.<sup>2</sup> To reflect a decrease in activity, Pascoag proposed decreasing the Home Energy Audits program by \$1,625, the ENERGY STAR Appliance Rebate Program by \$3,000, the Refrigerators/Freezer Buy Back Program by \$350, the Energy Efficient Window/Doors Program by \$500, the ENERGY STAR Lighting Fixtures & Ceiling/Ventilation Fans Program by \$350, and the Home Office Equipment/Home Electronics Program by \$1,000. The District proposed increasing the budgets for the Central Air Conditioning Program by \$1,500 and Desk Calendars Program by \$100.<sup>3</sup> The District noted that participation in its programs appears to be cyclical resulting in fluctuations in program expenses. To address low performing programs, it reminds customers of programs

---

<sup>1</sup> Pascoag Utility District's 2017 Demand Side Management Program (Nov. 4, 2016). The \$151,663 budget is based on forecasted sales in 2017 of 56,173 MWHs. All filings in this docket are available at the PUC offices located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island or at <http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4663page.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Pascoag Utility District's 2017 Demand Side Management Program, Sch. A-2, Sch. B at 1, Sch. C at 10.

<sup>3</sup> Pascoag Utility District's 2017 Demand Side Management Program, Sch. A-2; Sch. C at 10-16.

through customer service representatives, by advertising in local publications, and by including informational inserts with its bills.<sup>4</sup>

Pascoag made only two changes to its Commercial/Industrial DSM programs for 2017. The District increased the budget of the Committed Funds – Lighting and Energy Efficiency Projects by \$23,168 to provide rebates to Brigado’s IGA and Pine Grove Health Club.<sup>5</sup> The District eliminated the \$8,045 line item for the rebate provided to the Community Baptist Church to relamp with LED tubes, which was satisfied during 2016.<sup>6</sup>

Finally, Pascoag requested a decrease in the funding for three of the programs and an increase in the level of funding for two of the programs in its Administrative/Advertising/Education programs. It proposed a \$155 decrease in the funding for its Follow-Up for Successful Programs and requested authority to transfer up to 10% of the funds to other programs with higher customer demand. If carry-over funds exceed the District’s estimate, Pascoag will move these funds to this line item in the 2017 budget, subject to Division approval. Pascoag also proposed a \$700 decrease in the funding of its Outreach/Education program and a \$411 decrease in the Community Events program.<sup>7</sup> The District requested a line item of \$3000 for a partnership with Burrillville High School. In the past, it had worked with one of the teachers, until his retirement, on various energy conservation projects. Pascoag has coordinated with the school’s Environmental Sciences program to work on energy conservation campaigns with the intent of creating awareness through activities, events, and messaging. The

---

<sup>4</sup> Pascoag Response to Comm. 1-5 (Nov. 8, 2016).

<sup>5</sup> Pascoag Utility District’s 2017 Demand Side Management Program, Sch. A-2; Sch. C at 17-18.

<sup>6</sup> Pascoag Utility District’s 2017 Demand Side Management Program, Sch. A-2.

<sup>7</sup> Pascoag Utility District’s 2017 Demand Side Management Program, Sch. A-2; Sch. C at 20-21.

District also requested a \$3,434 increase in funding for Energy Efficiency Continuing Education, to allow the District's DSM Coordinator to pursue a certificate in Energy Efficiency Management.<sup>8</sup>

On December 7, 2016, the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division) filed a memorandum recommending approval of Pascoag's 2017 DSM Program.<sup>9</sup>

At an Open Meeting on December 13, 2016, the Commission unanimously approved Pascoag's 2017 DSM Plan, associated budget, and reallocation guidelines. Pascoag's continued efforts and diligence in designing and implementing its DSM programs and its commitment to energy conservation are familiar to the Commission. It is evident to the Commission that the District is dedicated to providing services in an efficient manner by continuing to review existing programs and making modifications to those programs that reflect its customers' needs. As in the past, the Commission will continue to allow Pascoag the flexibility to reallocate up to 10% of the funding associated with a certain program subject to Division authorization; reallocation of any amount in excess of 10% will continue to require Commission approval.

Accordingly, it is hereby

(22759) ORDERED:

1. Pascoag Utility District's 2017 Demand Side Management Programs and associated budget are approved.
2. A factor of \$0.0023 per kilowatt-hour is hereby approved in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws §39-2-1.2, with \$0.002 to be applied to the Demand Side Management Programs approved herein and \$0.0003 to be administered by the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources for renewable energy programs.

---

<sup>8</sup> Pascoag Utility District's 2017 Demand Side Management Program, Sch. A-2; Sch. C at 22.

<sup>9</sup> Division Mem. (Dec. 7, 2016).

3. Pascoag shall file with the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers any request to reallocate funds among programs up to 10% of the total budget, with a reference copy to the Commission. Requests to reallocate funds in excess of 10% of the total budget shall require Commission approval.
4. Pascoag shall make its 2018 DSM Filing no later than November 1, 2017.
5. Pascoag shall comply with all other findings and instructions contained in this Report and Order.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND ON JANUARY 1, 2017 PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION ON DECEMBER 13, 2016. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED MARCH 28, 2017.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION



Margaret E. Curran, Chairperson

Herbert F. DeSimone, Commissioner\*

Marion S. Gold, Commissioner

\*Commissioner DeSimone did not participate in this decision.

**NOTICE OF RIGHT OF APPEAL:** Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §39-5-1, any person aggrieved by a decision or order of the PUC may, within seven days from the date of the order, petition the Supreme Court for a Writ of Certiorari to review the legality and reasonableness of the decision or order.