

**Public Service Commission of South Carolina**  
**Annual Report of Financial Impact of Videoconferencing Activities**  
**Period Covered: July 2020 – December 2021**

**Date Prepared: January 31, 2022**

During fiscal year 2021, the Public Service Commission of South Carolina conducted most hearings using videoconferencing as a means of all parties’ participation in the proceedings. The Commission had begun videoconferencing just before the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past two years as the pandemic has progressed, livestreaming of Commission hearings, business meetings, and consultant interviews has increased significantly. In addition to increasing the number of off-site participants through voice and video technology, livestreaming the Commission’s proceedings has doubled the visibility of the Commission’s business by allowing citizens and businesses to view proceedings as they occur and even watch later. Livestream data is compared in the table below for fiscal years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021:

<b>PSC Livestream Viewer Traffic</b>		
	<b>Total Events (FY 2019-2020)</b>	<b>Total Events (FY 2020-2021)</b>
<b>July</b>	767	877
<b>August</b>	740	517
<b>September</b>	399	518
<b>October</b>	1,913	1,228
<b>November</b>	570	1,550
<b>December</b>	771	777
<b>January</b>	375	3,433
<b>February</b>	832	1,541
<b>March</b>	777	2,742
<b>April</b>	346	2,467
<b>May</b>	559	1,046
<b>June</b>	567	655
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,616</b>	<b>17,351</b>

The Commission added WebEx in FY21 as another platform to allow more participation in the Commission's business affairs and continues to seek opportunities to enhance participation capabilities. The table below shows the number of virtual and audio participants in the Commission’s proceedings for FY20-21 which includes, witnesses/other participants and counsel/representatives. There were also 97 virtual participants in forums and workshops held during FY21.

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<b>Public Service Commission Proceedings Virtual &amp; Audio Participants Fiscal Year 2020-21</b>				
		<b>Hearings/Proceedings Before Commission(ers)</b>		
<b>Month</b>	<b>Hearing Examiner Proceedings Incl'g Forums &amp; Workshops</b>	<b>Witnesses/ Other Participants</b>	<b>Counsel/ Rep's</b>	<b>Total</b>
July 2020	2	15	17	34
August 2020	4		14	18
September 2020		13	24	37
October 2020	14	19	17	50
November 2020	3	101	25	129
December 2020		8	25	33
January 2021		89	26	115
February 2021	15	20	35	70
March 2021		188	54	242
April 2021	15	41	26	82
May 2021	40	8	9	57
June 2021	4	11	8	23
<b>Totals</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>890</b>

During FY2021, the Commission held 8 Customer Public Hearings allowing participants to use the conferencing line to call in the Fall of 2020, and then beginning in January 2021, the commission staff telephoned the witnesses during the hearings for them to provide their oral testimony. The table below shows the number of called participants, and of those called, the number of witnesses in the Customer Public Hearings.

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<b>Public Service Commission Customer Public Hearings Testifying Participants Fiscal Year 2020-21</b>					
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event Docket</b>	<b>Event Name</b>	<b># of Participants Called</b>	<b># of Participants Testified</b>	<b>Total Participants</b>
11/9/2020	2020-125-E	Dominion Energy Adjustments of Rates & Charges		23	23
11/10/2020	2020-125-E	Dominion Energy Adjustments of Rates & Charges		28	28
11/12/2020	2020-125-E	Dominion Energy Adjustments of Rates & Charges		31	31
1/5/2021	2020-125-E	Dominion Energy Adjustments of Rates & Charges	51	43	43
1/7/2021	2020-125-E	Dominion Energy Adjustments of Rates & Charges	61	44	44
3/23/2021	2020-229-E	Dominion Energy Solar Choice Metering Tarriff	252	151	151
3/25/2021	2020-229-E	Dominion Energy Solar Choice Metering Tarriff	10	8	8
4/21/2021	2020-264/265-E	Duke Energy Carolina/Duke Energy Progressive Solar Choice Metering Tarriff	9	6	6
<b>Total Customer Public Hearing Participants</b>			<b>383</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>334</b>

**The tables below include the same information as the tables above for the period July 2021 – December 2021:**

<b>PSC Livestream Viewer Traffic</b>		
	<b>Total Events (FY 2020-2021)</b>	<b>Total Events (FY 2021-2022)</b>
<b>July</b>	877	1,258
<b>August</b>	517	1,535
<b>September</b>	518	656
<b>October</b>	1,228	954
<b>November</b>	1,550	1,726
<b>December</b>	777	331
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,467</b>	<b>6,460</b>

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		<b>Hearings/Proceedings Before Commission(ers)</b>		
<b>Month</b>	<b>Hearing Examiner Proceedings Incl'g Forums &amp; Workshops</b>	<b>Witnesses/ Other Participants</b>	<b>Counsel/ Rep's</b>	<b>Total</b>
July 2021	0	18	34	52
August 2021	5	16	25	46
September 2021	3	18	35	56
October 2021	0	43	32	75
November 2021	0	67	18	85
December 2021	0	68	0	68
<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>382</b>

<b>Public Service Commission Customer Public Hearings Testifying Participants Fiscal Year 2021-22</b>					
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event Docket</b>	<b>Event Name</b>	<b># of Participants Called</b>	<b># of Participants Testified</b>	<b>Total Participants</b>
11/8/2021	2021-153-S	Application of Palmetto Wastewater Reclamation, Inc. for an Adjustment of Rates and Charges		1	1
<b>Total Customer Public Hearing Participants</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

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