

# THE TRUTH ABOUT DOMINION'S CLAIMS OF "LOW RATES"

Dominion Energy says it has some of the "lowest rates in the country." Here's why that's a misleading statement:

## 1. Customers pay electricity bills, not rates.

Rather than comparing rates, it is more accurate to look at a state-by-state comparison of average electric bills. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, **Virginians' electric bills are consistently some of the highest in the nation.** In fact, Virginians pay the third highest bills in the South Atlantic region spanning from West Virginia to Florida.<sup>1</sup> In 2022, an average Dominion customer paid \$136.93 per month.<sup>2</sup>

## 2. Dominion's rates have been overinflated for at least 15 years.

For years, regulators at the State Corporation Commission (SCC) have shown that Dominion's rates are much higher than they should be, resulting in **more than \$2 billion in customer overcharges.** For example:

- During the 2009 rate case, the SCC staff recommended a rate decrease of \$365.3 million, but the SCC could not decrease rates due to a settlement with the utility.<sup>3</sup>
- During the 2015 rate case, SCC staff projected revenues over a fair return of at least \$299 million, but because of the 2015 rate freeze (prompted by Dominion), the SCC could not lower rates.

During the 2015 rate case, SCC Judge James Dimitri wrote: "The record in this case and other biennial review proceedings demonstrate that, when conventional rate standards are applied, there have been, and are projected to continue to be, **excessive base rates paid by Dominion customers.**"<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> 2021 U.S. Energy Information Administration. Average Monthly Bill - Residential. table5\_a.pdf (eia.gov)

<sup>2</sup> 2022 SCC Report. Page 6. <https://rga.lis.virginia.gov/Published/2022/RD418/PDF>

<sup>3</sup> 2010 SCC Report. Page 28. <https://rga.lis.virginia.gov/Published/2010/RD181/PDF>

<sup>4</sup> State Corporation Commission Final Order. Commissionaire James Dimitri Dissent Opinion. Pages 28-31. <https://www.scc.virginia.gov/docketsearch/DOCS/35m401!.PDF>.