## Opportunities for PBR Improvements: Environmental Justice and DERs

PBR Stakeholder Workgroup Meeting #2



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### The Virginia Environmental Justice Act: What Does it Mean for Utility Planning?



- Established the Commonwealth's policy of promoting environmental justice and ensuring that it is carried out throughout the Commonwealth, with a focus on environmental justice communities and fenceline communities
- Creates a need to identify, evaluate, and plan with communities affected by utility development and operations such that no group bears a share of negative environmental consequences
  - Status Quo: does not address the need to move beyond customer service towards customer involvement and reductions to energy burden

## How PBR Informed Regulatory Changes Can Further Environmental Justice



- Tracking service disconnections by locale, with a goal of minimizing service disconnections, especially in environmental justice and fenceline communities
- Incent development and expansion of programs that reduce energy burden (i.e., PIPP)
- Increase and enhance energy efficiency and clean energy options for environmental justice and fenceline communities
- Track and measure the effectiveness of these programs (i.e., EM&V)

#### Distributed Energy Resources (DERs)



Behind the meter (BTM) devices, including, but not limited to solar, storage, smart thermostats, water heaters, heat pumps, and electric vehicles, that provide energy and/or energy management capabilities for the Customer or the grid.



# How PBR Informed Regulatory Changes Can Incent DE Deployment at Scale

- Minimize interconnection times
- Appropriately value grid services that DERs provide (time, location, etc.)
  - Includes DSM program development
- GETs utilization
- EV charging support (make ready investment, managed charging, V2L & V2G capabilities)
  - Focus on environmental justice and fenceline communities

# How PBR Informed Regulatory Changes Can Measure and Ensure Emissions Reductions

- Virginia Law:
  - VCEA (mandatory retirements, RPS, and build targets)
  - Carbon reduction requirements in § 10.1-1308(E)
- As opposed to carbon intensity in the utility planning space, actual carbon emissions should be modeled and reported
  - Otherwise, given future load growth, our progress on emissions reductions might be unclear

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