



## COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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202.724.8028

### ZACHARY PARKER

Ward 5 Councilmember  
Chair, Committee on Youth Affairs

### COMMITTEE MEMBER

Health  
Human Services  
Transportation and the Environment

March 24, 2026

Chairman and Commissioners  
District of Columbia Public Service Commission  
1325 G Street, N.W.  
Suite 800  
Washington, D.C. 2005

Chairman Thompson and Commissioners Beverly and Trabue,

Countless District residents are feeling the pain of rising energy costs. Since 2017, the Public Service Commission (PSC) has approved rate increases—amounting to 68.1%—that have outpaced increases in neighboring jurisdictions.<sup>1</sup> Routinely, I hear from neighbors who say that their bills have more than doubled over the last year. Similarly, I often hear from neighbors pleading for support as they seek to avoid shutoffs. More recently, the same is true from local businesses who are operating on thin margins and struggling to pay their skyrocketing energy bills. While I appreciate your letter highlighting the many aspects of a Pepco bill that the PSC has no control over like energy transmission, the PSC's decisions still influence at least one-third of residents' energy costs.

Following the March 5, 2026 D.C. Court of Appeals ruling overturning the most recent energy rate increases, I am formally requesting responses from the Public Service Commission on the following questions:

- Given the Court's decision invalidating the most recent rate increase, how is the PSC mitigating the accrued overpayment from residents since January 1, 2025?
- What is the PSC's plan to reimburse or credit District residents for overpayment?
- On March 10, 2026, Pepco requested an expedited evidentiary hearing. What is the PSC's planned course of action in response?
- Given the outcome of the March 5 Court of Appeals ruling, how has the PSC revamped internal processes to ensure due process for proposed rate increases?
- What plans, if any, does the PSC have to engage residents on the above questions and related issues?

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<sup>1</sup> Mark Rodeffer, Opinion: D.C.'s lax utility oversight is costing customers, *The 51st*, March 12, 2026, *available at* <https://51st.news/washington-dc-public-service-commission-utility-rate-hikes/>.

Please provide responses by March 31, 2026 as I endeavor to provide context to constituents grappling with rising costs. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office. I can be reached at 202-724-8028 and [zparker@dccouncil.gov](mailto:zparker@dccouncil.gov).

In partnership,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zachary Parker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent initial "Z".

Zachary Parker  
Councilmember, Ward 5  
Chair, Committee on Youth Affairs  
Council of the District of Columbia

cc:

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