

## News Release

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## Delmarva Power Warns Customers About Utility Scammers During COVID-19 Pandemic

**NEWARK, Del.** (March 26, 2020) – With Delaware, Maryland and the world experiencing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, Delmarva Power is reminding customers to always be on alert for potential scams targeting energy customers. Scams occur throughout the year, but the company has seen an increase in scam attempts with scammers using this health crisis to take advantage of energy customers throughout the United States. The company has received reports that scammers are threatening to shut service off, and also are offering cash or credit incentives in order to obtain a customer's personal or financial information.

"It is unfortunate that scammers are using the public's concerns around health and financial uncertainty to deceive and further harm our customers," said Derrick Dickens, senior vice president and Chief Customer Officer for Pepco Holdings, which includes Delmarva Power. "We want to provide our customers with tools and information that can help ward off would be scammers and help put a stop to these ongoing scamming attempts."

In some cases, scammers are duplicating the recorded message that customers hear when calling a legitimate company, so when customers call the number provided by the scammer, it sounds like an actual business. Some scammers also use caller ID "spoofing" to replicate an energy company's phone number.

Throughout the year, Delmarva Power takes steps to raise awareness among its customers, including posting tips to social media, adding alerts on the <u>delmarva.com</u> homepage, sharing articles with tips and resources on <u>The Source</u>, issuing news releases, and participating annually in <u>Utilities United Against Scams Day</u> in March and November. Any customer who believes he or she has been the target of a scam is urged to contact their local police and call Delmarva Power immediately at 800-375-7117 to report the situation.

## Don't Get Scammed: Customers can avoid being scammed by taking a few precautions

- Never provide your social security number or personal information to anyone initiating contact with you claiming to be a company representative or requesting you to send money to another person or entity other than Delmarva Power.
- Always ask to see a company photo ID before allowing any Delmarva Power worker into your home or business.
- Never make a payment for services to anyone coming to your door.

## How to protect yourself

- Delmarva Power representatives will never ask or require a customer with a past due balance to purchase a prepaid debit card to avoid disconnection.
- Customers can make payments online, by phone, automatic bank withdrawal or by mail.
- Customers with a past due balance will receive multiple shut off notifications never a single notification one hour before disconnection.
- If a customer ever questions the legitimacy of the call, hang up and call Delmarva Power at 800-375-7117.

It is important to remind customers again of the many energy assistance programs available to help meet their energy needs. Delmarva Power offers a number of programs to help customers in Delaware and Maryland through temporary or extended financial hardship. Additionally, Delmarva Power is suspending service disconnections and waiving new late payment charges at least until May 1 and working with customers on a case-by-case basis to establish payment arrangements and identify energy assistance options. Delmarva Power is also working with residents whose service was previously disconnected to have service restored. Those customers should contact the company at 800-375-7117. As part of the reconnection process, Delmarva Power Customer Care representatives will work with residents to help identify assistance programs that can supplement bill payment and can help ensure service remains on after this pandemic.

To learn more about Delmarva Power, visit *The Source*, Delmarva Power's online news room. Find additional information by visiting <u>delmarva.com</u>, on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/delmarvapower</u> and on Twitter at <u>twitter.com/delmarvaconnect</u>. Delmarva Power's mobile app is available at <u>delmarva.com/mobileapp</u>.

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Delmarva Power is a unit of Exelon Corporation (Nasdaq: EXC), the nation's leading energy provider, with approximately 10 million customers. Delmarva Power provides safe and reliable energy service to approximately 532,000 electric customers in Delaware and Maryland and approximately 136,000 natural gas customers in northern Delaware.