Members Gain National Strength, Services from AOBA's Commercial Customers and Rate Credits Issued: AOBA's efforts in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia were successful in achieving a reduction in Pepco’s distribution rates of 5.4 percent due to the consolidation of Pepco’s District of Columbia and Virginia operations into one regulatory entity effective June 1, 2018. In addition, due to AOBA’s efforts, non-residential customers received a one-time bill credit in September of 2018 of $24.9 million, approximately a 5% distribution rate credit. Washington Gas filed a request to increase its rates and charges for usage beginning with the January 2019 rate period subject to refund. WG was allowed to reduce its rates by 5.1 million, which is included in the additional bill credit amount of $5.4 million for WG non-residential customers.

AOBA Challenges DC Underground Rider: A motion and subject to DC Commission approval, Pepco and the DC Department of Consumer Affairs (“DOCA”) are permitted to recover the cost of undergrounding specific power lines underground. In an appeal argued in late September, AOBA challenged the statute’s validity as well as the DOCA Commission’s decision to allocate 100 percent of the costs to be recovered by Pepco and DOCA to AOBA members. A decision on the AOBA appeal is expected in the spring of 2019.

Domino Underground Rider Proposal in Progress: AOBA intervened in the proceeding reviewing Dominion Energy Virginia’s (DEVA) rider request to recover the costs associated with the addition of Randi K. Marshall as Vice President of Government Affairs, DC – Residential.  Randi is working alongside Kirsten B. Williams, Eric, who is now focused on the building and market in Virginia.”

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2018 UTILITY RECAP
AOBA’s utility advocacy and litigation team had an extremely successful, busy year fitting a record 15 cases before the public utility commissions in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia. 2018 began with a series of rate decreases and rate credits. Looking ahead, 2019 looks to be a year of potential rate increases and substantial shifts in the utility paradigm. While several regulatory proceedings are in progress or pending before the utility commissions, AOBA’s efforts in 2018 led to the following successful outcomes for members in each jurisdiction:

District of Columbia

Pepco Rate Reduction Significantly: Rate Credits Issued: AOBA’s efforts in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia were successful in achieving a reduction in Pepco’s distribution rates of 5.4 percent due to the consolidation of Pepco’s District of Columbia and Virginia operations into one regulatory entity effective June 1, 2018. In addition, due to AOBA’s efforts, non-residential customers received a one-time bill credit in September of 2018 of $24.9 million, approximately a 5% distribution rate credit.

Washington Gas Rate Credits for Commercial Customers: AOBA participated in the proceeding of Washington Gas filed a request to increase its rates and charges for usage beginning with the January 2019 rate period subject to refund. WG was allowed to reduce its rates by 5.1 million, which is included in the additional bill credit amount of $5.4 million for WG non-residential customers.

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Delete this...
AOBA Alliance, Inc.
Together for greater good

The AOBA Alliance, Inc. experienced numerous wins in 2018 with low- and no-signing-of-lease electric and natural gas connections, successful outcomes on DC, MD, and VA as well as in other jurisdictions. We also successfully avoided new citywide parking fees.

In addition, the AOBA Alliance successfully removed many threats to electric and natural gas customers with the signing of leases in early 2018. Together with the District of Columbia and Maryland, the AOBA Alliance continues to offer the most competitive electricity and natural gas supply options, as well as affordable utility budgeting assistance, and a unique energy efficiency incentive program that provides energy savings to customers.

In October, the AOBA Alliance successfully opposed increased parking rates at the Dupont Circle Metro station, and in December, worked to remove a proposed increase to the parking rates at the DuPont Circle Metro station.

Among the other victories in 2018, the AOBA Alliance successfully opposed a local law that would have increased the cost of doing business for small businesses in the District of Columbia.

The 2018 Annual Report highlights the successes and challenges encountered throughout the year, as well as the ongoing commitment of the AOBA Alliance to support members and the broader commercial real estate community.

AOBA Alliance Continues to Grow Customer Portfolio

In the spring of 2018, multifamily members faced a major hurdle – a new requirement to inventory, prepare for inspections of code-compliant, recent construction. This hurdle – a new requirement to inventory, prepare for inspections of code-compliant, recent construction. This reduction saved a tenant’s items. The issue’s resolution has enhanced notifications provided to ensure that members do not remove items that are involved in packing and storing a tenant’s items.

New Commercial Property Tax Structure’s Impact Reduced: Organized Opposition to ‘Tax the Rent’ Amendment

In addition, the AOBA Alliance agreed to support the District’s two-concept Commercial Property Tax Increment Financing (CPTIF) program. Members supported the program because it would include the actual property owners, but not the developers, and it would also create a more fair and equitable approach to financing development costs.

The AOBA Alliance continues to support the program and encourages others to do the same.

Ejectment Proceedings

In 2018, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals overturned a decision of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia that would have allowed landlords to evict tenants without notice. The AOBA Alliance continues to support the program and encourages others to do the same.

Unnecessary Licensing for Property Managers

Members have decided to oppose the new additional licensing requirements for property managers and other personnel to provide a property manager license. This legislation would have required additional licensing requirements for licensed real estate brokers and salespersons who are already managing properties.

Energy Benchmarking Mandates

In the District of Columbia, the council approved a pilot tenant assistance program for seniors in the FY 2019 budget, which was opposed by the AOBA Alliance and other housing allies. The bill would have significantly raised members’ costs for energy and water.

AOBA successfully opposed legislation that would have imposed a multi-million dollar ‘green’ fee on all fossil fuels brought into the state for use or distribution. The bill would have significantly raised members’ costs for energy and water.

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Throughout the year, the AOBA Alliance successfully opposed legislation that would have imposed a multi-million dollar ‘green’ fee on all fossil fuels brought into the state for use or distribution. The bill would have significantly raised members’ costs for energy and water.
Aoya Alliance, Inc.
Together for greater growth

The Aoya Alliance, Inc. experienced tremendous growth in 2018 with the signing of three new electric and natural gas customers, totaling over $100 million in annual revenue. As a result, Aoya Alliance is in the process of expanding its service area to meet the growing demand for energy services in the region.

In addition, the Aoya Alliance successfully removed multiple barriers to entry for electric and natural gas customers with extensive remodeling and new construction projects. The Aoya Alliance is continuing to work with partners like the Metropolitan Washington Council to expand its footprint and continue to provide high-quality, reliable energy solutions.

In October, the Aoya Alliance welcomed new railroad and highway teams, including the addition of new rail service to the region. This expansion is expected to bring significant benefits to residents and businesses alike.

In December, the Aoya Alliance partnered with Cascadia, a new association focused on promoting green infrastructure and clean energy solutions. This partnership is expected to bring new opportunities for growth and innovation in the energy sector.

As we continue to move forward, the Aoya Alliance remains committed to providing reliable, affordable energy solutions to our customers. We are dedicated to working with partners like the Metropolitan Washington Council to expand our footprint and continue to provide high-quality, reliable energy solutions in the future.
Members Gain National Strength, Services from AOBA

Although our keys benefit – from research and education to critical Federal government representation. AOBA’s federation with the Building Owners and Operators Association International (BOMA) and the National Apartment Association (NAA) provides members with tangible

PEPCO Rates Reduced Significantly, District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia.

AltaGas' acquisition of Washington Gas resulted in the Commission agreeing to a one-time bill credit of $5.4 million for WG non-residential customers. In addition to the AltaGas/WG merger credit of $5.4 million, approximately a 2% distribution credit.

A decision on the AOBA appeal is expected in late 2018. AOBA intervened in the proceeding reviewing the impact on gas rates going forward in the new proceeding. AOBA’s efforts were successful in achieving a reduction in Pepco’s distribution rates by $24.1 million, approximately a 5%.

While several regulatory proceedings are in progress or pending before the utility commissions, AOBA efforts in 2018 led to the following successful outcomes for members in each jurisdiction.

Virginia Washington Gas $7.6 Million Rate Request in Progress: In July of 2018, Washington Gas filed a rate case and charges for usage beginning with the January 2019 billing cycle. The case subject to refund. WG has proposed an increase of $7.6 million, with approximately $5.1 million in additional investment costs associated with the proposed rate increase. As the case moves ahead, 2019 looks to be a year of

Washington Gas Rates Reduced, Additional Credits Achieved: AOBA intervened in the proceeding considering the impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) on Washington Gas’ rates of $24.9 million, approximately a 5%.

The SCC will consider the effects of the accelerated recoverability resulting from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("TCJA") beginning Jan. 1, 2018, as well as the TCJA’s impact on gas rates going forward in the new proceeding. A decision is pending.

Gaining Government Affairs Capacity:

In an appeal argued before the public utility commissions in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia.

On Feb. 1, 2019, the Commission agreed to a one-time bill credit of $5.4 million for WG non-residential customers. In addition to the AltaGas/WG merger credit of $5.4 million, approximately a 2% distribution credit.

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The SCC will consider the effects of the accelerated recoverability resulting from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("TCJA") beginning Jan. 1, 2018, as well as the TCJA’s impact on gas rates going forward in the new proceeding. A decision is pending.

Domicion Underground Rider Proposal in Progress: AOBA intervened in the proceeding reviewing Dominion Energy Virginia’s rider proposal in progress. AOBA’s efforts were successful in achieving a reduction in Dominion distribution rates by $15 million effective June 1, 2018 in addition to for AOBA’s efforts, Maryland customers total, including all commercial customers, resulted in a rate decrease for all residential customers beginning July 1, 2019 of $17.7 million, approximately a 3% distribution credit.

Washington Gas Rate Credits for Commercial Customers: AOBA participates in the proceeding of Washington Gas and its subsidiary, Washington Gas Light Company, with an AOBA position that non-residential customers were able to apply for tax credits ranking $4.8 million.

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AOBA’s utility advocacy and litigation team had an extremely successful busy year following a record 15-year period before the public utility commissions in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia.

2018 began with a series of rate decreases and credit programs. Looking ahead, 2019 looks to be a year of potential market changes and substantial shifts in the utility paradigm.

While several regulatory proceedings are in progress or pending before the utility commissions, AOBA’s efforts in 2018 led to the following successful outcomes for members in each jurisdiction:

District of Columbia

WP&NG Settlement Financial Significantly, Rate Credits Issued: AOBA’s efforts in 2018 were successful in achieving a settlement in Pepco’s distribution rate credit of $2.4 million due to the consolidation of Pepco rates by $2.4 million, with the proceeding considering the impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. Additionally, due to AOBA’s effective advocacy efforts, customers received a one-time bill credit in September 2018 of $1.9 million, approximately a 1% distribution rate credit.

Washington Gas Rate Credits for Commercial Customers and Rate Increase Moratorium: AOBA participated in the Settlement in the acquisition proceeding by achieving the $2.4 million reduction in the rate base that was increased by $2.7 million. Essentially this rate credit offsets approximately two years of rate increases which would have otherwise continued through March 2019. In addition, the Settlement provides for the AOBA Educational Foundation, a $315,000 contribution, to raise $250,000 per year for seven years, a $75 million increase, and $2.4 million increase. The rate increase Moratorium: At that time, AOBA had also agreed that the Washington Gas will not file any new applications for an increase in base rates in the District of Columbia until after January 3, 2020.

Washington Gas Rate Increases, Additional Credits Achieved: AOBA was able to achieve a one-time rate credit of $3.6 million in a settlement that is pending in the District of Columbia, which would be in exchange for the elimination of the 2017 “TCJA” for Washington Gas, a reduction in its rates, and the achievement of successful outcomes for members in each jurisdiction.

Virginia

Washington Gas Rates Reduced, UCDC Approval of One-Time Credit: The company’s request for a $41.4 million rate increase was reduced to a rate credit of $5.1 million, which is approximately a 1% distribution rate credit. AOBA Challenges DC Undergrounding Plan (SAVE): AOBA intervened in the proceeding reviewing the DC Department of Transportation’s request for a rate credit of $5.4 million for WG non-residential customers. AOBA was able to also achieve a rate credit of $5.1 million, which is approximately a 1% distribution rate credit.

Washington Gas Rate Decreases: The case involving the implementation of the Comprehensive Undergrounding Act of 2018 resulted in the Commission agreeing to a rate credit of $5.4 million for WG non-residential customers.

District of Maryland

PEPCO Rates Reduced Significantly, One-Time Bill Credit: In 2018, as a result of the consolidation of Pepco’s rates by $24.1 million, approximately a 2% distribution credit, $8.2 million for all customer classes on August 1, 2018, including the interruptible class of approximately 5%. Further, AOBA was able to also achieve a rate credit of $5.4 million, which is approximately a 1% distribution rate credit.

AOBA Challenges Interim Executive Director, Maryland: AOBA intervened in this case, arguing for the elimination of the rate increase and the entirety of the increases in fee for service charges. AOBA was able to also achieve a rate credit of $5.4 million, which is approximately a 1% distribution rate credit. In August of 2018, AOBA was able to also achieve a rate credit of $5.1 million, which is approximately a 1% distribution rate credit.

Membership Retention Rate Is Golden: With new members joining the AOBA community, our retention rate remains at a “gold” standard.

During 2018, the Association gained an additional 60 members— including all commercial customers, effective June 1, 2018. In addition, due to AOBA’s efforts, Maryland customers, as well as Virginia customers, received a rate credit of $5.1 million, which is approximately a 1% distribution rate credit. Maryland customers, as well as Virginia customers, received a rate credit of $5.1 million, which is approximately a 1% distribution rate credit.

AOBA’s Educational Foundation raised $285,000 in new funds to support student scholarship programs and educational initiatives.

AOBA.org features a new “Parlor,” which allows members to access the best practices of their peers and industry leaders through online sharing.

Members’ Support for Duckworth School Remains Strong: With members deeming Duckworth School in challenge to the law. AOBA members continued to support the school with donations, volunteering contributions, and attendance to Duckworth School events. AOBA members also continue to support the school with donations, volunteering contributions, and attendance to Duckworth School events.

AOBA’s 2018 Year in Review: AOBA members were presented in the Fall with a $6,000 scholarship to Prince George’s Community College.

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2018 Utility Recap