

PROJECT NO. 34561

RULEMAKING PROCEEDING TO	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
AMEND PUC SUBSTANTIVE RULES	§	
RELATING TO DEFINITION OF	§	OF TEXAS
SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL	§	
CUSTOMERS	§	

**PROPOSAL FOR PUBLICATION OF AMENDMENT TO §25.214
AS APPROVED AT THE OCTOBER 2, 2007 OPEN MEETING**

The Public Utility Commission of Texas (commission) proposes an amendment to §25.214, relating to Terms and Conditions of Retail Delivery Service Provided by Investor Owned Transmission and Distribution Utilities. The proposed amendment will establish a definition for a retail seasonal agricultural customer in Chapter One of the Pro-Forma Retail Delivery Tariff for Transmission Distribution Service Providers (TDSPs) to ensure that the seasonal agricultural customer exemption, currently within each TDSP's tariff, is consistently applied to customers by each TDSP. Project Number 34561 is assigned to this proceeding.

The tariff of each TDSP contains a requirement that the determination of Billing Demand applicable to the Distribution System Charge shall be the higher of the customer's demand for the current billing month, or 80% of the customer's highest monthly demand established in the 11 months preceding the current billing month (80% ratchet). This provision applies to non-residential customers receiving: (1) service at secondary voltage with demand greater than 10 kilovolt ampere (kVa), 10 kilowatt (kW) or 5kW; (2) primary service; and/or (3) service at transmission level. All of the current TDSP tariffs provide that a "Retail Seasonal Agricultural Customer" is exempt from the 80% ratchet. While two TDSPs have company-specific definitions for a Retail Seasonal Agricultural Customer in their tariffs, no standard definition of a

Retail Seasonal Agricultural Customer exists that would ensure that the exemption is uniformly applied to customers within all TDSP territories. This rulemaking seeks to establish a standard definition in the Pro-Forma Retail Delivery Tariff to be reflected in each TDSP's tariff to ensure uniform application of the exemption. TDSPs will be required to file a compliance tariff incorporating the new language within 30 days of the effective date of the revised rule and Pro-Forma Retail Delivery Tariff.

Lauren Damen, Senior Retail Market Analyst, has determined that for each year of the first five-year period the proposed section is in effect there will be no fiscal implications for state or local government as a result of enforcing or administering the section.

Ms. Damen has determined that for each year of the first five years the proposed section is in effect the public benefit anticipated as a result of enforcing the section will be consistent treatment of seasonal agricultural customers across all TDSPs. There will be no adverse economic effect on small businesses or micro-businesses as a result of enforcing this section. There is no anticipated economic cost to persons who are required to comply with the section as proposed.

Ms. Damen has also determined that for each year of the first five years the proposed section is in effect there should be no effect on a local economy, and therefore no local employment impact statement is required under Administrative Procedure Act (APA), Texas Government Code §2001.022.

The commission staff will conduct a public hearing on this rulemaking, if requested pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, Texas Government Code §2001.029, at the commission's offices located in the William B. Travis Building, 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701 on Wednesday, November 28, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. CPT in the Commissioners' Hearing Room. The request for a public hearing must be received within 21 days after publication.

Comments on the proposed amendment may be submitted to the Filing Clerk, Public Utility Commission of Texas, 1701 North Congress Avenue, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, within 21 days after publication. Sixteen copies of comments on the proposed amendment are required to be filed pursuant to §22.71(c) of this title. Reply comments may be submitted within 30 days after publication. Comments should be organized in a manner consistent with the organization of the proposed rule(s). The commission invites specific comments regarding the costs associated with, and benefits that will be gained by, implementation of the proposed section. The commission will consider the costs and benefits in deciding whether to adopt the section. All comments should refer to Project Number 34561. In addition to the proposed language, the commission requests that parties submit comments on the following questions. Please explain your answers, provide any requested language, and provide applicable examples.

- (1) The proposed definition of "retail seasonal agricultural customer" includes the requirement that the customer's energy consumption be "subject to significant seasonal variation." Should the definition specify what constitutes significant seasonal variation?
- (2) Should the definition include a specific time limit on the number of months that an agricultural customer can reach peak usage in order to be considered seasonal? Should

the definition specify whether peak usage may be reached in more than one season, such as one summer peak and one winter peak? Should the definition specify a threshold amount that the peak(s) must be above the customer's average usage?

- (3) The proposed definition currently includes irrigation that meets the requirements of the definition as an example of a possible retail seasonal agricultural customer. Is this an appropriate inclusion?
- (4) Are there any customers that the proposed definition would include that should not be included? Are there any customers that the proposed definition would exclude that should be included?

This amendment is proposed under the Public Utility Regulatory Act, Texas Utilities Code Annotated §14.002 (Vernon 2007) (PURA), which provides the Public Utility Commission with the authority to make and enforce rules reasonably required in the exercise of its powers and jurisdiction. The commission also proposes this rule pursuant to PURA §36.001, which grants the commission the authority to adopt rules for determining the classification of customers and the applicability of rates; PURA §39.203, which grants the commission the authority to establish reasonable and comparable terms and conditions for open access on distribution facilities for all retail electric utilities offering customer choice and PURA §32.101, which requires an electric utility to file a tariff with the commission.

Cross Reference to Statutes: Public Utility Regulatory Act §§14.002, 36.001, 39.203, and 32.101.

§25.214. Terms and Conditions of Retail Delivery Service Provided by Investor Owned Transmission and Distribution Utilities.

(a) – (c) (No change.)

(d) **Pro-forma Retail Delivery Tariff.**

(1) **Tariff for Retail Delivery Service.**

Figure: 16 TAC §25.214(d)(1)

(2) **Compliance tariff.** Compliance tariffs pursuant to this section must be filed by February 15, 2008~~June 15, 2006~~.

Figure: 16 TAC §25.214(d)(1)

**TARIFF
FOR
RETAIL DELIVERY SERVICE**

(Company Name)

TABLE OF CONTENTS (No change.)**CHAPTER 1: DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions apply to Company's Tariff for Delivery Service, including the service rules and regulations, policies, Rate Schedules and Riders, and to any Service Agreements made pursuant to the Tariff, unless specifically defined otherwise therein.

ACTUAL METER READING. A Meter Reading whereby Company has collected information from the Meter either manually or through a direct reading, through telemetry, or other electronic communications.

AFFILIATED RETAIL ELECTRIC PROVIDER. A retail electric provider that is affiliated with or the successor in interest of an electric utility certificated to serve an area.

APPLICABLE LEGAL AUTHORITIES. A Texas or federal law, rule, regulation, or applicable ruling of the Commission or any other regulatory authority having jurisdiction, an order of a court of competent jurisdiction, or a rule, regulation, applicable ruling, procedure, protocol, guide or guideline the Independent Organization, or any entity authorized by the Independent Organization to perform registration or settlement functions.

BANKING HOLIDAY. Any day on which the bank designated by Company as the repository for payment of funds due to Company under this Tariff is not open for business.

BILLING DEMAND. Demand used for billing purposes as stated in the applicable Rate Schedule or Rider.

BILLING DETERMINANTS. Measured, calculated, or specified values used to determine Company's Delivery Charges that can be transmitted to the CR on an approved TX SET electronic transaction. These values may include, but are not limited to, measurements of kilowatt-hours (kWh), actual monthly Non-Coincident Peak (NCP) Demand, annual NCP Demand, annual 4-CP Demand (coincident peak for four summer months), Billing Demand, Power Factor, fixed charges, number of lamps, Rate Schedules, and rate subclass.

BUSINESS DAY. Any day on which Company's corporate offices are open for business.

CENTRAL PREVAILING TIME, CPT. As established by national time standards, either Central Standard Time or Central Day-Light time.

CODES. Federal, state, or local laws, or other rules or regulations governing electrical installations.

COMMISSION, PUC, or PUCT. The Public Utility Commission of Texas.

COMPANY. The transmission and distribution utility providing Delivery Service pursuant to this Tariff, and its respective officers, agents, employees, successors, and assigns.

COMPANY'S DELIVERY SYSTEM. The portion of the Delivery System that is owned by Company.

COMPETITIVE RETAILER (CR). A Retail Electric Provider, or a Municipally Owned Utility, or an Electric Cooperative that offers customer choice in the restructured competitive electric power market or any other entity authorized to provide Electric Power and Energy in Texas. For purposes of this Tariff, a Municipally Owned Utility or an Electric Cooperative is only considered a Competitive Retailer where it sells retail Electric Power and Energy outside its certified service territory.

CONSTRUCTION SERVICE. Services related to the construction, extension, installation, modification, repair, upgrade, conversion, relocation, or removal of Delivery System facilities, including temporary facilities.

CONSTRUCTION SERVICE CHARGE. Commission authorized charges to recover costs associated with Construction Services.

DELIVERY. The movement of Electric Power and Energy through Company's electric lines and other equipment, including transformers, from the Point of Supply to the Point of Delivery.

DELIVERY CHARGES. Commission authorized rates and charges for the use of Company's Delivery System. Delivery Charges comprise Delivery System Charges and Discretionary Charges.

DELIVERY SERVICE. The service performed by Company pursuant to this Tariff for the Delivery of Electric Power and Energy. Delivery Service comprises Delivery System Services and Discretionary Services.

DELIVERY SERVICE AGREEMENT. The standard, pro-forma document set forth in this Tariff in which Company and Competitive Retailer agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of Company's Tariff.

DELIVERY SYSTEM. The electric lines, and other equipment, including transformers, owned by Company and the Meters, including Non-Company Owned Meters, used in the Delivery of Electric Power and Energy.

DELIVERY SYSTEM CHARGES. Commission authorized charges to recover costs associated with Delivery System Services.

DELIVERY SYSTEM SERVICES. Delivery Services whose costs are attributed to all Retail Customers that receive Delivery Service from Company and charged to Competitive Retailers serving Retail Customers under the Rate Schedules specified in Section 6.1.1, DELIVERY SYSTEM CHARGES. Delivery System Services are all Tariffed Delivery Services provided by Company that are not specifically defined as Discretionary Services.

DEMAND. The rate at which electric energy is used at any instant or averaged over any designated period of time and which is measured in kW or kVA.

DISCRETIONARY CHARGES. Commission authorized charges to recover costs associated with Discretionary Services.

DISCRETIONARY SERVICES. Customer-specific services for which costs are recovered through separately priced Rate Schedules specified in Chapter 6.

ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE. An electric cooperative as defined in PURA §11.003(9).

ELECTRIC POWER AND ENERGY. The kWh, the rate of Delivery of kWh, and ancillary services related to kWh that a Competitive Retailer provides to Retail Customers.

ELECTRIC SERVICE IDENTIFIER or ESI ID. The basic identifier assigned to each Point of Delivery used in the registration system and settlement system managed by ERCOT or another Independent Organization.

ERCOT. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc.

ESTIMATED METER READING. The process by which Billing Determinants are estimated when an Actual Meter Reading is not obtained.

FACILITY EXTENSION POLICY. The Company policy that covers such activities as extensions of standard facilities, extensions of non-standard facilities, extensions of facilities in excess of facilities normally provided for the requested type of Delivery Service, upgrades of facilities, electric connections for temporary services, and relocation of facilities.

FACILITY EXTENSION AGREEMENT. The Service Agreement pursuant to this Tariff that must be executed by Company and the entity (either a Retail Customer or Retail Electric Provider) requesting certain Construction Services before Company can provide such Construction Services to the requesting entity.

GOOD UTILITY PRACTICE. This term will have the meaning ascribed thereto in P.U.C. SUBST. R. 25.5, Definitions, or its successor.

INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATION or IO. The organization authorized to perform the functions prescribed by PURA §39.151.

KILOVOLT AMPERES or kVA. 1000 Volt-Amperes.

KILOWATT or kW. 1000 Watts.

KILOWATT-HOUR or kWh. 1000 Watt-hours.

LOAD FACTOR. The ratio, usually stated as a percentage, of actual kWh used during a designated time period to the maximum kW of Demand times the number of hours occurring in the designated time period.

METER or BILLING METER. A device, or devices for measuring the amount of Electric Power and Energy delivered to a particular location for Company billing, CR billing and as required by ERCOT. Meters for residential Retail Customers shall be Company owned unless otherwise determined by the Commission. Commercial and industrial Retail Customers required by the Independent Organization to have an IDR Meter may choose a Meter Owner in accordance with P.U.C. SUBST. R. 25.311, Competitive Metering Services and other Applicable Legal Authorities.

METER DATA. All data contained within the Meter.

METER OWNER. Entity authorized by the Retail Customer to own the Meter. Entity could be Retail Customer, Competitive Retailer, or other entity designated by the Retail Customer as permitted by Applicable Legal Authorities. If the Retail Customer is not eligible for competitive metering or does not choose to participate in competitive metering the Meter Owner shall be Company.

METER READING. The process whereby Company collects the information recorded by Meter. Such reading may be obtained manually, through telemetry or other electronic communications, or by estimation, calculation or conversion in accordance with the procedures and practices authorized under this Tariff.

METER READING SCHEDULE. No later than December 15 of each calendar year, Company shall post its schedule for reading each meter on its website so that Competitive Retailers and Retail Customers may access it. Company shall notify Competitive Retailer of any changes to this schedule 60 days prior to the proposed change. Company is responsible for reading the Meter within two Business Days of the date posted in this schedule.

METERING EQUIPMENT. Required auxiliary equipment that is owned by Company and used with the billing meter to accurately measure the amount of Electric Power and Energy delivered. Metering equipment under this definition does not include communication, storage, and equipment necessary for customer access to data.

MUNICIPALLY OWNED UTILITY. A utility owned, operated, and controlled by a municipality or by a nonprofit corporation, the directors of which are appointed by one or more municipalities, as defined in PURA §11.003(11).

NON-COMPANY OWNED METER. A Meter on the ERCOT-approved competitive Meter list that is owned by an entity other than the Company. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, a Non-Company Owned Meter shall be treated under this Tariff as if it were a Meter owned by the Company.

POINT OF DELIVERY. The point at which Electric Power and Energy leaves the Delivery System.

POINT OF SUPPLY. The point at which Electric Power and Energy enters the Delivery System.

POWER FACTOR. The ratio of real power, measured in kW, to apparent power, measured in kVA, for any given load and time, generally expressed as a percentage.

PREMISES. A tract of land or real estate or related commonly used tracts, including buildings and other appurtenances thereon.

PROVIDER OF LAST RESORT (POLR). A REP certified in Texas that has been designated by the Commission to provide a basic, standard retail service package to requesting or default customers.

PURA. Public Utility Regulatory Act, TEXAS UTILITIES CODE ANNOTATED.

RATE SCHEDULE. A statement of the method of determining charges for Delivery Service, including the conditions under which such charges and method apply. As used in this Tariff, the term Rate Schedule includes all applicable Riders.

REGISTRATION AGENT. Entity designated by the Commission to administer settlement and Premises data and other processes concerning a Retail Customer's choice of Competitive Retailer in the competitive retail electric market in Texas.

RETAIL CUSTOMER. An end-use customer who purchases Electric Power and Energy and ultimately consumes it. Whenever used in the context of Construction Services, the term Retail Customer also includes property owners, builders, developers, contractors, governmental entities, or any other organization, entity, or individual that is not a Competitive Retailer making a request for such services to the Company.

RETAIL CUSTOMER'S ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION. All conductors, equipment, or apparatus of any kind on Retail Customer's side of the Point of Delivery, except the Meter and Metering Equipment, used by or on behalf of Retail Customer in taking and consuming Electric Power and Energy delivered by Company.

RETAIL CUSTOMER'S ELECTRICAL LOAD. The power and energy required by all motors and other electricity-consuming devices located on Retail Customer's Premises that are operated simultaneously using Electric Power and Energy delivered by Company.

RETAIL ELECTRIC PROVIDER or REP. As defined in PURA §31.002(17), a person, certificated pursuant to PURA §39.352, that sells Electric Power and Energy to Retail Customers.

RETAIL SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL CUSTOMER. A customer whose energy consumption is subject to significant seasonal variation and that is primarily engaged in producing or processing crops subsequent to their harvest to prepare or store them for market or other processing, including, but not limited, to cotton ginning, irrigation, and rice and grain drying.

RIDER. An attachment to a Rate Schedule that defines additional service options, pricing, conditions, and limitations for that class of service.

SCHEDULED METER READ DATE. Date Company is scheduled to read the Meter according to the Meter Reading Schedule.

SERVICE AGREEMENT. Any Commission-approved agreement between Company and a Retail Customer or between Company and a Competitive Retailer, which sets forth certain information, terms, obligations and/or conditions of Delivery Service pursuant to the provisions of this Tariff.

SERVICE CALL. The dispatch of a Company representative to a Delivery Service address or other designated location for investigation of a complete or partial service outage, irregularity, interruption or other service related issue.

SWITCHING FEE. Any fee or charge assessed to any Retail Customer or Competitive Retailer upon switching the Competitive Retailer that does not relate to recovering any utility cost or expenses already included in Commission-approved Delivery Charges included in Chapter 6 of this Tariff.

TAMPER or TAMPERING. Any unauthorized alteration, manipulation, change, modification, or diversion of the Delivery System, including Meter and Metering Equipment, that could adversely affect the integrity of billing data or the Company's ability to collect the data needed for billing or settlement. Tampering includes, but is not limited to, harming or defacing Company facilities, physically or electronically disorienting the Meter, attaching objects to the Meter, inserting objects into the Meter, altering billing and settlement data or other electrical or mechanical means of altering Delivery Service.

TARIFF. The document filed with, and approved by, the PUC pursuant to which Company provides Delivery Service. It is comprised of Rate Schedules, Riders, and service rules and regulations. The service rules and regulations include definitions, terms and conditions, policies, and Service Agreements.

TEXAS SET, TX SET or SET. A Standard Electronic Transaction as defined by the protocols adopted by the Commission or the Independent Organization.

TRANSITION CHARGES or TC. Charges established pursuant to a financing order issued by the Commission.

VALID INVOICE. An invoice transaction that contains all the information required by TX SET and is in compliance with TX SET standards as set forth in the TX SET Implementation Guides and Commission rules, and have not been rejected in accordance with the TX SET Implementation Guides and Commission Rules.

CHAPTER 2 – CHAPTER 6 (No change.)

This agency hereby certifies that the proposal has been reviewed by legal counsel and found to be within the agency's legal authority to adopt.

**ISSUED IN AUSTIN, TEXAS ON THE 2nd DAY OF OCTOBER 2007 BY THE
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
ADRIANA A. GONZALES**

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