

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 20-2022-INV

Determination of 2021 Energy Efficiency Charge Rates	
--	--

Order entered: 06/15/2021

ORDER APPROVING BURLINGTON ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSED ENERGY EFFICIENCY CHARGE RATES FOR NET-METERING CUSTOMERS WITHOUT PRODUCTION METERS

I. INTRODUCTION

This case concerns the determination of energy efficiency charge (“EEC”) rates for 2021 pursuant to Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) Rule 5.300. On November 5, 2020, the Commission issued an order concluding that we would make no changes to the EEC rates in the City of Burlington Electric Department (“BED”) service territory until after the Commission has issued a final decision regarding BED’s amended Demand Resources Plan in Case No. 19-3272-PET. That matter is still pending.

Beginning July 1, 2021, a new provision in Rule 5.300 will become effective. On that date, net-metering customers’ electric EEC will be determined on their gross electric consumption.¹ Net-metering customers who do not have the equipment necessary for their utility to determine their gross electric consumption may either install the necessary equipment or pay a fixed monthly EEC.

BED has filed a proposal for the fixed monthly EEC to go into effect beginning with service rendered July 1. In this Order, we approve BED’s proposal.

II. PARTICIPANTS’ COMMENTS

BED Proposal

To calculate the fixed monthly EEC, BED proposes the following method:

¹ Commission Rule 5.303(B)(2). Gross consumption means the total electricity a customer has consumed including electricity from the grid plus the electricity from a net-metering system.

1. $(\text{Total BED 2019 retail kWh by customer class}) \div (\text{average number of BED customers during 2019}) = \text{Average annual kWh consumption by customer class.}$
2. $(\text{Average annual kWh consumption by customer class}) \div (12) = \text{Average monthly kWh consumption by customer by class.}$
3. $(\text{Average monthly kWh consumption by customer by class}) \times (\text{2021 EEC rate by class}) = \text{Average fixed monthly fee by customer class.}$

BED states that this will be applied to 13 residential net-metering customers served under BED's R3 tariff who do not have a production meter. The fixed monthly EEC for these customers will be \$3.55, which is a decrease of \$0.85 from their previous average monthly bill under the existing rules. Similarly, three commercial customers served under BED's small general service ("S3") tariff will be affected by this rule. The fixed monthly EEC for these customers will be \$4.08, which is a decrease of \$3.65 from their previous average monthly bill under the existing rules.

Department of Public Service

The Department of Public Service ("Department") supports BED's proposal and recommends approval by the Commission. In addition, the Department notes that Rule 5.303(B)(2) calls for the fixed monthly EEC to be based upon average *statewide* monthly consumption, whereas BED's proposal is based on average BED-territory consumption data. The Department supports BED's use of BED-specific data and contends that it is a reasonable interpretation of the Rule, particularly because Section 5.305(A) states that "the electric EEC rates shall be calculated on a statewide basis, except for the service territory of BED."

III. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION


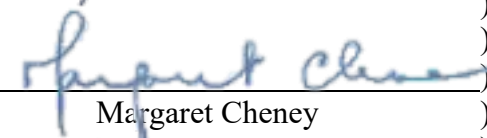
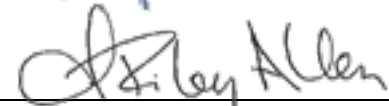
Beginning July 1, 2021, net-metering customers will be assessed EEC charges based on gross electricity consumption. For those net-metering customers who do not have both a consumption meter and a production meter, Rule 5.303(B)(2) provides that they will pay a fixed monthly EEC unless they choose to install the necessary equipment for their utility to determine their gross electricity consumption. Under the rule, the fixed monthly EEC "shall be determined by rate class and shall be based upon the average statewide monthly consumption and demand

for the previous year for the rate class times the Electric EEC rate for the year the rate is being implemented.”

BED’s proposal reasonably interprets Rule 5.303(B)(2) to call for BED-specific customer data, as opposed to using statewide consumption data. We therefore approve BED’s proposed method and fixed monthly EEC rates to take effect with service rendered July 1, 2021.


SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 15th day of June, 2021.

 _____)) PUBLIC UTILITY
Anthony Z. Roisman)	
))	
 _____)) COMMISSION
Margaret Cheney)	
))) OF VERMONT
 _____)	
J. Riley Allen)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: June 15, 2021

Attest: 
_____)
Clerk of the Commission

Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: puc.clerk@vermont.gov)

Appeal of this decision to the Supreme Court of Vermont must be filed with the Clerk of the Commission within 30 days. Appeal will not stay the effect of this Order, absent further order by this Commission or appropriate action by the Supreme Court of Vermont. Motions for reconsideration or stay, if any, must be filed with the Clerk of the Commission within 28 days of the date of this decision and Order.

PUC Case No. 20-2022-INV - SERVICE LIST

Carolyn Browne Anderson, Esq.
Green Mountain Power Corporation
2152 Post Road
Rutland, VT 05702
carolyn.anderson@greenmountainpower.com

(for Green Mountain
Power Corporation)

Reginald Beliveau, Jr.
Swanton Village, Inc. Electric Department
P.O. Box 279
120 First Street
Swanton, VT 05488
rbeliveau@swanton.net

(for Swanton Village,
Inc. Electric Department)

Meredith Birkett
Village of Johnson Water & Light Department
P.O. Box 603
Johnson, VT 05656
vojmanager@townofjohnson.com

(for Village of Johnson
Water & Light
Department)

Mary Bouchard
Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.
85 Swift Street
South Burlington, VT 05403
mbouchard@vermontgas.com

(for Vermont Gas
Systems, Inc.)

Erin C. Brennan, Esq.
Vermont Department of Public Service
112 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620
Erin.Brennan@vermont.gov

(for Vermont
Department of Public
Service)

Victoria J. Brown, Esq.
Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc.
42 Wescom Road
Johnson, VT 05656
vbrown@vermontelectric.coop

(for Vermont Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Ellen Burt
Town of Stowe Electric Department
P.O.Box 190
Stowe, VT 05672
eburt@stoweelectric.com

(for Town of Stowe
Electric Department)

William F. Ellis
McNeil, Leddy & Sheahan
271 South Union Street
Burlington, VT 05401
wellis@mcneilvt.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Jonathan Elwell
Village of Enosburg Falls Water & Light
42 Village Drive
Enosburg Falls, VT 05450
jelwell@enosburg.net

(for Village of Enosburg
Falls Water & Light
Department Inc.)

Elijah D Emerson, Esq.
Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer PC
PO Box 1309
Montpelier, VT 05601
eemerson@primmer.com

(for Town of Northfield
Electric Department)
(for Village of Enosburg
Falls Water & Light
Department Inc.) (for
Town of Hardwick
Electric Department)
(for Village of Johnson
Water & Light
Department)
(for Vermont Public
Power Supply Authority)

Steven R Farman
Vermont Public Power Supply Authority
5195 Waterbury-Stowe rd
Waterbury Center, VT 05766
sfarman@vppsa.com

James Gibbons
City of Burlington Electric Department
585 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
jgibbons@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Michael J. Hall
Stackpole & French Law Offices
PO Box 819
Stowe, VT 05672
mhall@stackpolefrench.com

(for Town of Stowe
Electric Department)

Bill Humphrey
Village of Lyndonville Electric Department
P.O. Box 167
20 Park Avenue
Lyndonville, VT 05851
bhumphrey@lyndonvilleelectric.com

(for Village of
Lyndonville Electric
Department)

Penny Jones
Village of Morrisville Water & Light Department
857 Elmore Street
Morrisville, VT 05661
pjones@mwlvt.com

(for Village of
Morrisville Water &
Light Department)

Katelyn Kran
Barton Village Inc. Electric Department
kkran@bartonvt.com

(for Barton Village Inc.
Electric Department)

Michael Lazorchak
Town of Stowe Electric Department
PO Box 190
Stowe, VT 05672
mlazorchak@stoweelectric.com

(for Town of Stowe
Electric Department)

Megan Ludwig, Esq.
Vermont Department of Public Service
112 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601
megan.ludwig@vermont.gov

(for Vermont
Department of Public
Service)

James Massie
Efficiency Vermont-Vermont Energy Investment Corporation
20 Winooski Falls Way
5th Floor
Winooski, VT 05404
jmassie@veic.org

(for Efficiency Vermont
- Vermont Energy
Investment Corporation)

Mari McClure
Green Mountain Power Corporation
163 Acorn Lane
Colchester, VT 05446
ceo@greenmountainpower.com

(for Green Mountain
Power Corporation)

Joseph McKearin
Green Mountain Power Corporation
2152 Post Road
Rutland, VT 05701
Joseph.McKearin@greenmountainpower.com

(for Green Mountain
Power Corporation)

Pamela Moore
Village of Jacksonville Electric Company
P.O. Box 169
Jacksonville, VT 05342
pmoore@jacksonvilleelectric.net

(for Village of
Jacksonville Electric
Company)

John Morley
Village of Orleans Electric Department
Municipal Building
One Memorial Square
Orleans, VT 05860
jmorley@villageoforleansvt.org

(for Village of Orleans
Electric Department)

Ken Nolan
Vermont Public Power Supply Authority
P.O. Box 126
Waterbury Center, VT 05677
knolan@vppsa.com

(for Vermont Public
Power Supply Authority)

Jessica Patterson
Town of Hardwick Electric Department
PO Box 516
Hardwick, VT 05843
jess@hardwickelectric.com

(for Town of Hardwick
Electric Department)

Thomas Petraska
Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department
9 Pond Street
Ludlow, VT 05149
tpetraska@tds.net

(for Village of Ludlow
Electric Light
Department)

Jill Pfenning
Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.
85 Swift Street
South Burlington, VT 05403
jpfenning@vermontgas.com

(for Vermont Gas
Systems, Inc.)

Patricia Richards
Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.
P.O. Box 8
East Montpelier, VT 05651
patty.richards@wec.coop

(for Washington Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Carol Robertson
Village of Hyde Park Electric Department
P.O. Box 400
Hyde Park, VT 05655
carol.robertson@hydeparkvt.com

(for Village of Hyde
Park Electric
Department)

Jeffrey Schulz
Town of Northfield Electric Department
51 South Main Street
Northfield, VT 05663
jschulz@northfield.vt.us

(for Town of Northfield
Electric Department)

Ronald A. Shems, Esq.
Tarrant, Gillies, Richardson & Shems
P.O. Box 1440
Montpelier, VT 05601-1440
rshems@tarrantgillies.com

(for Washington Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Morris L. Silver, Esq.
Law Offices of Morris L. Silver, Esq.
P.O. Box 606
Benson, VT 05731-0606
mlsilver@sover.net

(for Efficiency Vermont
- Vermont Energy
Investment Corporation)

Darren Springer
City of Burlington Electric Department
585 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
dspringer@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Emily Stebbins-Wheelock
City of Burlington Electric Department
585 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
estebbins-wheelock@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington
Electric Department)

Michael Sullivan
Town of Hardwick Electric Department
P.O. Box 516
Hardwick, VT 05843
msullivan@hardwickelectric.com

(for Town of Hardwick
Electric Department)

Rebecca Towne
Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc.
42 Wescom Road
Johnson, VT 05656
rtowne@vermontelectric.coop

(for Vermont Electric
Cooperative Inc.)

Matthew J. Walker
Efficiency Vermont-Vermont Energy Investment Corporation
20 Winooski Falls Way
5th Floor
Winooski, VT 05404
mjwalker@veic.org

(for Efficiency Vermont
- Vermont Energy
Investment Corporation)

David C. Westman
Efficiency Vermont - Vermont Energy Investment Corporation
20 Winooski Falls Way
5th Floor
Winooski, VT 05404
dwestman@veic.org

(for Efficiency Vermont
- Vermont Energy
Investment Corporation)