

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 20-0203-INV

Investigation into the establishment of reduced rates for low-income residential ratepayers of Vermont electric utilities	
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Order entered: 04/25/2023

INFORMATION REQUEST FOR WASHINGTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

In Case No. 19-1270-TF, the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) ordered Washington Electric Cooperative (“WEC”) to consult and collaborate with the Vermont Public Service Department (“Department”) to develop a program to support low-income members and to report back within 12 months.¹ That requirement was later replaced by a requirement for WEC to participate in this investigation.² The Commission is encouraged to hear about WEC’s Affordable Community Renewable Energy (“ACRE”) Program, which will provide approximately 140 low-income households with a \$45 per month discount on their bills for 5 years. However, the number of participants in WEC’s low-income program is capped and the offering is time limited. Therefore, the Commission requests that WEC file responses to the following questions by May 8, 2023:

1. Assuming the percentage of low-income members in WEC’s service territory is the statewide average of 31%, what percentage of low-income members in WEC’s service territory will be able to participate in WEC’s ACRE Program?
2. When does WEC anticipate that its ACRE Program will begin providing benefits to participants?
3. Does WEC have plans to adopt any other new rate assistance programs or other types of programs to benefit its low-income members now, in the foreseeable future, or when the ACRE Program ends?

¹ *Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.’s, tariff filing for rate design changes and a change in rate schedules to be effective on services rendered beginning June 17, 2019*, Case No. 19-1270-TF, Order of 12/19/19 at 13.

² *Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.’s, tariff filing for rate design changes and a change in rate schedules to be effective on services rendered beginning June 17, 2019*, Case No. 19-1270-TF, Order of 12/10/20.

SO ORDERED.

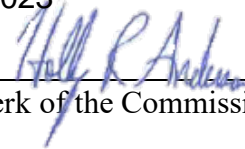
Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 25th day of April, 2023.



Elizabeth Schilling
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: April 25, 2023

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)

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