

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 22-4100-TF

Tariff filing of Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc. for a 14.19% rate increase effective with service-rendered November 1, 2022	
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Order entered: 07/03/2023

PROCEDURAL ORDER REQUESTING INFORMATION

This case concerns the Vermont Public Utility Commission’s (“Commission”) investigation into a tariff filing by Washing Electric Cooperative, Inc. (“WEC”) requesting a 14.19% rate increase effective on a service-rendered basis on November 1, 2022.

On May 19, 2023, the Commission issued an order approving a 12.83% rate increase. As a condition of approval, the Commission required WEC to file compliance tariffs reflecting the approved rate increase and a plan to return the difference between the amount collected via the temporary surcharge and what would have been collected under the approved 12.83% rate increase to customers and former customers.

On May 30, 2023, WEC filed its plan to return funds to current and former customers. On June 1, 2023, WEC filed compliance tariffs.

On June 21, 2023, WEC filed two revised tariffs—one for street lighting (“Policy Bulletin No. 38 L”) and one for net-metering tariff (“Policy Bulletin No. 38 NM”). For the street lighting tariff, WEC has applied the approved 12.83% rate increase to energy usage rates and to fixture installation, fixture equipment, and pole installation costs. For the net-metering tariff, WEC has applied the approved 12.83% rate increase to the account set-up fee, monthly maintenance fee, and meter equipment cost.

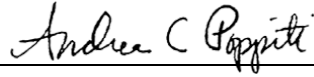
On June 23, 2023, the Vermont Department of Public Service (“Department”) filed comments on the proposed plan to return funds and the compliance tariffs. The Department states that it does not oppose the plan to return funds. The Department, however, also states that it determined that certain compliance tariffs from WEC’s original June 1 filing did not accurately reflect the approved 12.83% rate increase. The Department states that it discussed those concerns with WEC before WEC filed the two revised tariffs on June 21. After reviewing

WEC's June 21 filing, the Department did not identify any further issues with WEC's compliance tariffs.

WEC and the Department are requested to file comments on the ratemaking basis for applying the approved rate increase to the fixture installation, fixture equipment, and pole installation costs for the street lighting tariff and for the account set up fee, monthly account maintenance fee, and meter equipment cost for the net-metering tariff. We also request that WEC and the Department explain whether that same ratemaking basis should apply to the fees and charges in the fourth paragraph under "MEMBER-OWNED LED FIXTURES ON MEMBER PROPERTY" and the \$25 and \$50 reconnection fees under "SUSPENSION OF SERVICE" of Policy Bulletin No. 38 L. Finally, the parties are requested to address the public comment filed by Stephen Bushman on June 26, 2023. The Commission requests that the parties file comments in response to this request by July 12, 2023.

SO ORDERED.


Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 3rd day of July, 2023.



Andrea Poppiti
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: July 3, 2023

Attest: 

Deputy 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)

PUC Case No. 22-4100-TF - SERVICE LIST

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