

BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE MATTER OF A PERMANENT)
RULEMAKING OF THE OKLAHOMA) CAUSE NO. RM 201800010
CORPORATION COMMISSION AMENDING)
OAC 165:35. ELECTRIC UTILITY RULES)

PUBLIC UTILITY DIVISION'S PROPOSED RULES AS OF 01/28/2019

(Note: Section headers highlighted in green are known by PUD to contain industry disagreement)

**TITLE 165. CORPORATION COMMISSION
CHAPTER 35. ELECTRIC UTILITY RULES**

SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

165:35-1-2. Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this Chapter, shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Affiliate" means any person, entity, or business section, or division that directly or through one or more intermediaries controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the entity in question. Control includes, but is not limited to, the possession, directly or indirectly and whether acting alone or in conjunction with others, of the authority to direct the management or policies of a person or entity. Control may be exercised through management, ownership of voting securities or other right to vote, by contract or otherwise. A voting interest or ownership of five percent (5%) or more creates a presumption of control.

"ANSI" means the American National Standards Institute.

"Capacity" means the quantity of electric power produced by a generating facility at a point in time, as measured in kilowatts or megawatts.

"Commission" means the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

"Company submeter" means a kWh measuring device provided by the utility located on line beyond the point of delivery of electrical service providing service to another consumer. Usage from these meters are deducted from the meter at point of delivery.

"Competitive bidder" means any entity that submits a competitive bid in response to a request.

"Competitive bidding process" means a process to solicit offers to provide fuel supplies, electric generation service, fuel transportation services, and other goods or services related to a utility's provision of electric service to end users.

"Complaint" means an expression of dissatisfaction regarding the utility's billings, service procedures, or employee conduct which requests or requires some remedial or corrective action be taken by the utility. Complaints may be made by the consumer or other interested party. A complaint may be made orally, electronically or in writing, but must be made or received at the utility's offices.

"Conduit" means any structure, or section thereof, containing one or more ducts, manholes, or handholes, used for any telephone, cable television, electrical, or communications conductors or cables, owned or controlled, in whole or in part, by one or more public, telecommunications, or consumer-owned utilities.

"Consumer rate class" means a division of rates as provided by a utility's tariff for pricing electric service.

"Consumer sector" means a major division of consumers, i.e., residential, commercial, or industrial.

"Consumer submeter" means a kWh measuring device provided by the customer and located on line beyond the point of delivery of electrical service.

"Consumer" means any person, member of a cooperative, firm, corporation, municipality or agency, other political subdivision of the United States, or the State of Oklahoma receiving electric service of any nature from a utility. Any reference to a "customer" or "end-user" or "ratepayer" contained in a tariff, or in this Chapter, shall be deemed to mean a "consumer," unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

~~**"Corporation Commission"** means the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.~~

"Corporate Support Services" or "Shared Services" means human resources, procurement services, information technology, regulatory services, administrative services, real estate services, legal services, accounting, environmental services, research and development, internal audit, community relations, corporate communications, financial services, financial planning and management support-services shared between or among a utility, its parent holding company or an affiliated entity and such other services authorized by the Commission on a case-by-case basis.

~~**"CSD"** means the Consumer Services Division of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.~~

~~**"Delinquent"** means a payment not received on or before the due date as posted on a utility's bill.~~

"Disconnection" means electric service has been discontinued by consumer request or by the utility.

"Economy energy" means electric energy that is purchased during the course of the day to take advantage of the opportunity to purchase power from unexpected surpluses on or available to the grid more cheaply than producing it oneself or purchasing power under existing contracts.

"Electric consuming facility" means anything that utilizes electric energy from a central station source.

"Electric energy" means the quantity of electric power that is generated over a specific interval of time, measured in kilowatt-hours or megawatt-hours.

"Electronic notification" means any automated communication received by e-mail, phone, text message or fax.

"Electric plant" means facilities and equipment owned or operated by a utility, including but not limited to generating stations, substations, transformers, towers, poles, conductors, transportation equipment, conduits, meters, motors, real estate, buildings, and dams.

"Electric service" means the supply of electricity, including generation, transmission, distribution and ancillary services (e.g. spinning and supplemental reserves) for ultimate consumption.

"Electricity" means electric power and energy produced, transmitted, distributed, or furnished by a utility.

"Energy" means a quantity of electricity produced over a given time, as measured in kilowatt-hours.

"FERC" means the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

"Filed" means to present a document and have it accepted by the ~~Office of the~~ Court Clerk of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

"Fuel procurement plan" means a plan that (1) establishes the parameters of a fuel supply portfolio for a utility and (2) strikes an appropriate balance between fuel costs and the related risks to which consumers are exposed (e.g., fuel cost increases and supply disruptions) over the term of the resource plan.

"Fuel supplies" means the coal, oil, natural gas and other fuels that generation facilities consume to produce electricity and the transportation and transmission services used to deliver those fuels.

"Generation facility" means a machine or machines capable of producing capacity, energy or other electricity products.

"Generation service" means the production of energy, capacity and other electricity products to meet customer demands for electricity.

"Generation supplier" means an entity capable of providing generation service.

"Independent power producer" means any generation supplier that is not a utility or an affiliate thereof.

"Integrated resource plan" means a utility's plan as further defined and established in Commission rules found at OAC 165:35-37 to ensure that sufficient supply- and demand-side resources are available to meet its obligation to serve and to achieve public policy objectives, including those prescribed by law, rule, or Commission order.

"Interested party" means any individual or entity with appropriate authority to act on behalf of a particular consumer or group of consumers, or any other party involved in, or affected by, the provision of electric generation service.

"kW" means kilowatts, and **"kWh"** means kilowatt-hours.

"Legal holiday" means any day declared by law or proclamation of the Governor of Oklahoma to be a legal holiday or a day on which the United States Parcel Service does not deliver mail.

"Load" means the amount of electric power delivered or required at any specific point or points on an electric transmission and distribution system.

"Local forecast" means a statement of what the weather is predicted to be, that is issued by the National Weather Service for a specific county, city, and/or zip-code area.

"Long-term" means longer than one year.

"Major event" means a catastrophic event that exceeds the design limits of the electric power system, such as an extreme storm, tornado or earthquake, wherein there is a significant loss of service.

"Meter" means any device or devices used to measure or register electric power and energy.

"Meter shop" means a shop used for the inspection, testing, and repair of meters.

"Municipality" means an incorporated city or town in Oklahoma.

"MW" means megawatts, and **"MWh"** means megawatt-hours.

"NEC" means the National Electrical Code issued by the National Fire Protection Association.

"NWS" means the National Weather Service.

"Owner" means a public utility, telecommunications utility, or consumer-owned utility that owns or controls poles, ducts, conduits, rights-of-way, manholes, handholes, or other similar facilities.

"Planned interruption" means electric service has been suspended by the utility.

"Planning period" means the ten (10) year period that begins on the date that the utility files its integrated resource plan with the Commission.

"Pole" means any pole that carries distribution lines, telecommunications lines, and that is owned or controlled by a public utility, telecommunications company, or consumer-owned utility.

"Pole occupant" means any licensee or other entity that constructs, operates, or maintains attachments on poles or within conduits.

"Premises" means any piece of land or real estate, or any building or other structure or portion thereof, or any facility where electric service is furnished to a consumer.

"Prudence review" means a comprehensive review that examines as fair, just, and reasonable, a utility's practices, policies, and decisions regarding an investment or expense at the time the investment was made or expense was incurred; including direct or indirect maximization of its positive impacts and mitigation of adverse impact upon its ratepayers, ~~without~~ consideration of its ultimate used and useful nature.

"PUD" means the Public Utility Division of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

"Purchased-power procurement plan" means a plan that establishes the parameters of a purchased-power portfolio for a utility that meets the utility's planning objectives and strikes an appropriate balance between power supply costs and the related risks to which consumers are exposed (e.g., purchased-power cost increases and power supply disruptions) over the term of the resource plan.

"Records" means documentation maintained by the utility either in electronic or paper form.

"Residence" means any dwelling unit containing kitchen appliances, permanent sewer, or septic facilities and water service. A weekend cabin and a mobile home are residences when used as such. An individual room in a hotel or motel is not a residence.

"Resources" means supply-side generating facilities including life extension and repowering projects for such facilities (and the output thereof), and non-supply side programs, including energy efficiency programs and demand response programs.

"RFP" means "request for proposal," the document that publicly opens a competitive bidding process by describing the utility's needs and seeking bids to fulfill those needs.

"Risk management plan" means a systematic method utilized by a utility to, among other things:

- (A) Identify risks inherent in procuring and obtaining a supply portfolio;
- (B) Establish the means by which the utility plans to address and balance or hedge the identified risks related to cost, price volatility and reliability; and
- (C) Address the fuel, purchased-power and utility supply costs implicit in the utility's supply portfolio, and also energy efficiency and demand response programs as a potential hedge against risk.

"RUS" means the Rural Utilities Service.

"Special contract" means a written agreement between a utility and a consumer providing for furnishing electric service on terms different from those prescribed in approved tariffs.

"Stakeholder" means an interested party, as defined above.

"Statistical sampling" means a method for drawing elements from a population such that all possible elements in the population have a known and specified probability of being drawn and such that the set of chosen elements has approximately the same distribution of characteristics as the population from which it was drawn.

"Subdivision" means any land, wherever located, whether improved or unimproved, contiguous or not, which is divided into lots or proposed to be divided for the purpose of disposition pursuant to a common promotional scheme or plan of advertising for disposition.

"Submit" means to present a document to the Director of the Public Utility Division.

"Subsidize" means to furnish financial support by the utility to the affiliate.

"Support equipment" means guy wires, anchors, anchor rods, and other accessories of the pole owner used to support the structural integrity of the pole.

"Tariff" includes every rate schedule, or provision thereof, and all terms, conditions, rules, and regulations for furnishing electric service.

"Unplanned or emergency interruption" means service has been suspended due to circumstances beyond the control of the utility.

"Utility" means any person, firm, partnership, or corporation furnishing electric service to the public in Oklahoma and subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the Commission.

165:35-1-3. Application of rules

(a) This Chapter shall apply to the operations of any electric utility operating within the State of Oklahoma under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

(b) This Chapter is intended to define good business practice under normal conditions, ~~It is intended to insure~~ ensure adequate service and prevent unfair charges to the public, and to protect the utilities from unreasonable demands.

(c) In any case where a controversy arises in connection with the interpretation of any provisions of this Chapter or the applicability thereof, the Commission will make such orders as it may deem appropriate upon application of any interested party and after notice and hearing.

(d) A utility may decline initial service to a consumer until service may be rendered in compliance with this Chapter and applicable municipal ordinances and regulations.

(e) A utility may prescribe rules and regulations for furnishing service not inconsistent with this Chapter. No such rules shall be valid until filed with and approved by the Commission. A utility may refuse or discontinue service for noncompliance with its service rules only in cases where its approved rules specifically so provide.

(f) Whenever compliance with any provision or requirement of this Chapter would be unduly burdensome, or cause an unreasonable hardship or an excessive expense, or result in an unusual difficulty, or for other good cause shown the Commission may, upon application of the utility or the consumer and after notice and hearing, suspend or excuse compliance therewith or make such other requirements as it shall deem appropriate. For good cause shown, the Commission may grant temporary relief pending the hearing. If, after the effective date of this Chapter, a utility seeks an exception or variance from this Chapter in its tariffs or terms and conditions of service, such exception or variance shall be clearly shown on such tariffs or terms and conditions of service, sufficient to plainly bring to the Commission's attention to the exact nature of the said exception or variance. Any exception or variance not so marked or identified in such tariff or terms and conditions of service shall be superseded by this Chapter to the extent that said exception or variance is in conflict therewith. Upon approval by the Commission, the variance should indicate the number of the authoritative Commission order.

(g) The adoption of this Chapter shall in no way preclude the Commission from altering or amending this Chapter in whole or in part after notice and hearing, or from allowing or requiring additional or different service, equipment, facility, or standards than prescribed by this Chapter, either upon complaint or application or upon its own motion. Nothing provided in this Chapter shall relieve any utility from any duty prescribed by the laws of the State of Oklahoma.

(h) A utility shall not be required to take any action to ensure that a consumer follows or takes any action in compliance with any Commission rule or regulation concerning submetering activities, and no utility shall in any way be deemed to be responsible for any failure by a

consumer or third party to follow or take actions in compliance with such Commission rules and regulations.

(i) The utility shall be subject to a fine per day per occurrence for any violation of this Chapter. The fine shall be determined pursuant to 17 O.S. § 1, after notice and hearing.

165:35-1-4. Location and retention of records

(a) **Record retention.** Unless otherwise specified herein, all records required by this Chapter shall be preserved by the utility in the form and for a period of time not less than that specified by applicable rules of FERC or the RUS; or in absence thereof, for two (2) years.

(b) **Record location.** All records required by this Chapter shall be made available for review in Oklahoma at the office or offices of the utility and shall be open for examination by the Commission or its representatives; provided that if the general office of the utility is located outside of Oklahoma, the records may be kept at the general office. Each utility shall maintain records in such detail that the cost of property located and business done in the State of Oklahoma, including cost of fuel for generation purposes, can be accurately and readily ascertained, and the utility shall make available any such records for examination by the Commission or its authorized representative. Each utility shall notify the Commission as to the location of the office or offices at which the various classes of records are kept and shall file with the Commission such reports as the Commission may from time to time require.

(c) **Submetering records.** In the event of the use of company submetering, all submetering records shall be retained for a period of two (2) years and shall be available for inspection by the Commission, the affected consumer and/or duly interested party at a location accessible to the consumer affected by submeters.

(d) **Contact persons.** Each utility shall notify in writing, the PUD Director within thirty (30) days of a change in the company-designated contacts for PUD and CSD issues.

(1) The update shall include the name(s), physical street address(es), electronic mail addresses and telephone number(s) of the designated individual(s), and shall be furnished applicable to each operating district, town or any segment of the utility so that PUD will be able to reach the responsible person at any time. If this information is unavailable, the utility may seek a waiver from the PUD Director by making the request in writing.

(2) The contact name(s) provided pursuant to this subsection shall be the individual(s) primarily responsible for:

(A) Providing customer service;

(B) Repair and maintenance;

(C) Answering complaints;

(D) Authorizing and/or furnishing refunds to customers;

(E) Tariff issues;

(F) Regulatory matters;

(G) PUD Fee Assessment (and Fee Assessment Payments, if different);

(H) Primary emergency;

(I) After hours emergency;

(J) Annual reporting;

(K) Attorney for regulatory matters;

(L) Community liaison; and

(M) Engineering operations, meter tests and repairs.

(e) Other information. Each utility shall promptly furnish such other information as PUD or the Commission may request, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

165:35-1-5. Sale or disposal of jurisdictional facilities by utility

(a) Except upon order of the Commission made upon application, notice and hearing, no utility shall discontinue or abandon any segment of its jurisdictional distribution system or sell, transfer, or dispose to another any portion of its jurisdictional plant or property then constituting an integrated operating system, or major fractional part thereof, unless the following criteria are satisfied:

(1) The Commission shall determine the functional division of utility property. If the function of the property intended to be sold by a utility will remain a utility function after the sale as determined by the Commission, the Commission retains jurisdiction;

(2) Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, after notice and hearing, no property shall be sold which may have a detrimental impact on rates or service levels of customers, shippers or producers;

(3) This Section shall not apply to discontinuance of service pursuant to OAC 165:35-21, nor to routine retirement or replacement of plant or equipment; and

(4) Any portion of a utility's plant or operating system which has previously been included in the rate base of such utility will remain as part of such utility's jurisdictional plant or operating system, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission

(b) When filing an application for the sale or transfer of ownership of a portion of its jurisdictional plant or operating system, the seller/transferor shall provide to the buyer or transferee all documents, from the previous two (2) calendar years, required by the Commission to be maintained, and customer deposit records required to be maintained pursuant to OAC 165:35-19-1.

(c) The buyer/transferee shall be required to maintain the records set forth in this Section for a period of two (2) years from the time of the date of the sale or transfer.

(d) Prior to approval of the sale or transfer, the seller/transferor shall be required to have all annual reports, monthly fuel filings and monthly reports current.

(e) The application for sale or transfer shall indicate whether the utility has any outstanding fines from the Commission, whether the utility has any outstanding Public Utility fee assessment, or whether the utility has any outstanding deficiencies which have been identified by ~~the Public Utility Division-PUD~~ or ~~Consumer Services Division of the Commission-CSD~~.

(f) This Subchapter shall not prohibit sale or exchange of individual items of equipment not affecting the service or area of service.

165:35-1-6. Submission of distribution system mapping [REVOKE]

~~No later than one (1) year after the effective date of this rule, each utility having a distribution system within the State of Oklahoma shall endeavor to provide the locations of the distribution lines within the utility's service territory, including all lines extending more than one mile outside of the utility's service territory, to the Director of the Public Utility Division using geographic information system data or standards as prescribed by the Director of the Public Utility Division.~~

**SUBCHAPTER 5. RATE, TARIFF, ~~AND MAP FILING SUBMISSION~~
REQUIREMENTS, ~~AND SUBMISSION OF SYSTEM MAPPING~~**

165:35-5-1. Filing of rate schedules, contracts, agreements, and rules

(a) It shall be unlawful for a utility to furnish, charge for, or receive payment for electric service, except strictly in accordance with a tariff, special contract, or rate schedule approved by and on file with the Commission.

(b) No jurisdictional tariff or rate schedule shall be instituted, added, deleted, changed, closed, or discontinued except pursuant to order of the Commission upon application, and after such notice and hearing as may be ordered by the Commission.

(c) Annual tariff submissions submitted for review and approval by the PUD Director, pursuant to prior Commission order, may be accepted or rejected. If there is a dispute and resolution is not accomplished, the tariff shall be subject to refund as of the date of notice of filing of a cause before the Commission to resolve the dispute.

~~(e)(d)~~ A special contract or agreement other than a filed tariff under which electric service is furnished to a consumer shall be deemed a tariff for the purpose for which approved and for purposes of this Chapter. No special contract for electric service shall become effective until it has been filed with and approved by order of the Commission, after notice and hearing when directed by the Commission.

~~(d)(e)~~ The utility shall maintain the following in each business office or furnish to a member of the public on request:

- (1) A copy of every tariff and rate schedule under which electric service is being furnished to consumers within the area serviced by that business office.
- (2) A copy of the approved rules and regulations of the utility which govern the furnishing of electric service.
- (3) A copy of this Chapter and all amendments thereto.

~~(e)(f)~~ An agency for collection of utility bills, not operated by utility employees, shall not be deemed a local office for purposes of this Section.

~~(f)(g)~~ A utility shall submit to ~~the Public Utility Division PUD~~ a copy of the following:

- (1) Every franchise, contract, irrevocable permit, or similar agreement between a utility and a municipality.
- (2) Each contract for the wholesale purchase of power or energy.
- (3) Every electric power exchange agreement.
- (4) Each rate schedule and contract approved by the FERC or the RUS applicable to purchases or sales of power and energy by the utility in Oklahoma.

165:35-5-2. ~~Filing of maps~~ Map Submission Requirements and Submission of System Mapping

(a) Each utility shall provide upon request within ten (10) business days to the Commission suitable, detailed maps, a size and media as agreed by the utility and the PUD Director, of its general system and shall maintain suitable, detailed maps of its entire system, which shall be made available to the Commission on request. The general system maps may be provided by sections or counties where necessary to meet the size requirements. Such maps shall be brought up to date annually, not later than ninety (90) days after the end of the utility's fiscal year. Electronic submission is preferred; however, all forms of submission will be accepted.

(b) No later than one (1) year after the effective date of this rule, each utility having a distribution system within the State of Oklahoma shall endeavor to provide the locations of the distribution lines within the utility's service territory, including all lines extending more than one mile outside of the utility's service territory, to the PUD Director using geographic information system data or standards as prescribed by the PUD Director. Electronic submission is preferred; however, all forms of submission will be accepted.

(c) For purposes of this subsection, transmission facilities shall be excluded from mapping submissions. Transmission facility maps shall be retained at the utility, and shall be made available onsite upon request by PUD, subject to other regulatory requirements.

(d) The Commission finds, pursuant to Article IX, Section 18 of the Oklahoma Constitution, and 51 O.S. § 24A.22, that all general system maps that are not otherwise publicly available are hereby classified as confidential. All documents and information considered to be confidential must be clearly marked as such. All information classified as confidential shall be used by PUD, an ALJ, any party to filed cause pending before the Commission, and the Commission solely in connection with the review and disposition of all matters relating to this Section. PUD, the ALJ, the Commission and all other parties that receive or review information deemed confidential herein shall keep all such information confidential.

165:35-5-4. Applications for streamlined approval

(a) The utility seeking approval of an application under the streamlined process shall file an application with the ~~Commission~~Commission's Court ~~Clerk~~Clerk's office stating the name of the applicant, the specific change or changes requested, and the anticipated annual revenue effect.

(b) When the utility files an application for approval under the streamlined process, it shall submit to ~~the Public Utility Division~~PUD a complete streamlined application package which conforms to the requirements set forth in this Subchapter. The streamlined application package shall contain a statement by the applicant that the package is in compliance with the filing requirements for streamlined application packages.

(c) Streamlined application packages shall contain at a minimum the following:

- (1) Evidence that the application meets the requirements contained at OAC 165:35-5-3.
- (2) Annual impact of such change or new service on the utility's customers, in aggregate and on a per customer basis for each customer class.
- (3) Documentation and schedules that quantify the annual revenue change anticipated, and the cost of providing the new service, when applicable.
- (4) Evidence that the change or new service is not unjustly discriminatory.
- (5) Evidence that good cause exists for the approval of the change or new service.
- (6) A list of all Commission orders applicable to the applicant issued within the twelve month period prior to filing pursuant to this streamlined procedure.
- (7) The amount per month of both projected and actual revenues or reductions derived from the applications approved relating to the orders identified within the filing package within the twelve month period prior to filing.
- (8) A statement containing the utility's jurisdictional gross operating revenues for the twelve month period immediately preceding the filing.

165:35-5-5. Response to application for streamlined approval and subsequent pleading

- (a) The tariff and/or terms and conditions of service will be effective pursuant to Commission order. If an objection to the streamlined application is filed within thirty (30) calendar days of the original filing, the Commission may set the matter for hearing and shall issue an order approving, denying or modifying the application within sixty (60) calendar days of the date the application was filed, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.
- (b) If an objection is not filed, the Commission shall issue an order approving, denying or modifying the application within forty-five (45) calendar days of the date the application was filed, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.
- (c) Applicant shall respond to data requests for additional data or information within five (5) business days of receiving the request.

165:35-5-6. Streamlined approval - notice and intervention

~~The applicant shall provide notice of the application for streamlined approval which shall include notice to the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Oklahoma.~~

(a) The applicant shall provide notice of the application for streamlined approval, which shall include notice to the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Oklahoma.

(b) If the application proposes a service or tariff that alters the current rate or offers a new rate for customers, the applicant shall provide notice of the application by publication for two (2) weeks. The first publication shall be no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the Commission approves the notice. Publication shall be in a newspaper of general circulation published in each county in which are located utility customers affected thereby, unless the Commission orders otherwise.

SUBCHAPTER 7. PROMOTIONAL POLICIES AND PRACTICES

165:35-7-7. Filing Submission of promotional practices

The utility shall submit, ~~to the Public Utility Division,~~ an annual submission of current promotional practices by May 1, and as programs are updated, to PUD. The report shall include a list and description of all promotional practices and activities. Although submission by the utility shall not assume approval by ~~the Public Utility Division-PUD,~~ it will allow ~~the Public Utility Division-PUD~~ and the utility to review and dialogue as to the appropriateness of the promotional practices, whether or not the expenses should be recovered through rates, and ensure that the promotional practices are provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.

SUBCHAPTER 9. EXTENT OF SERVICE

165:35-9-1. Extent of service

- (a) **Point of delivery.** The point of delivery of electrical service shall be the point at which the electrical supply system of the utility connects to the wiring system of the consumer.
- (b) **Service at primary distribution voltage.** When the consumer accepts service at primary distribution voltage, the delivery point shall be at or near the property line or point of transformation.
- (c) **Service at secondary voltage.**

(1) For overhead construction, the point of delivery is that point where the utility's overhead service drop connects to the consumer's service entrance conductors.

(2) For underground construction, the point of delivery is that point where the utility's service lateral connects to the consumer's service entrance conductors.

(d) Installation and maintenance responsibility.

(1) A utility shall furnish and install all transformation and/or conductors of proper voltage and adequate capacity and be responsible for maintenance of all electrical wiring and equipment up to the point of delivery for every bona fide applicant for service who has complied with this Chapter and the provisions of the utility's terms and conditions of service as approved by the Commission. Unless specifically designated in their terms and conditions to the contrary, a utility shall provide its standard size connectors and connect the consumer's service entrance conductors at the point of delivery.

(2) All standard metering equipment stocked by the utility shall be furnished and maintained by the utility. Meters shall be furnished, installed, and maintained by the utility. All meter bases, enclosures, and other associated equipment furnished by the utility shall be maintained by the utility and remain its property. Required installation of this equipment by the consumer shall be in compliance with this subsection. A consumer may locate submetering equipment beyond the point of delivery of electrical service and such equipment shall conform to the ~~current version of ANSI (ANSI C12) Standard, or equivalent ANSI standard as later amended~~ NEC.

(3) Subject to OAC 165:35-17-3, all electrical wiring and equipment including meter bases, enclosures, and other associated equipment furnished by the utility, except for the meter furnished by the utility, installed on the consumer's side of the point of delivery shall be at the consumer's expense and shall be installed and maintained by the consumer in accordance with the ~~2012 Edition of the National Electrical Code as approved by the ANSI and with all requirements prescribed by the governmental authority having jurisdiction~~ NEC. In ~~the~~ event of conflict between the ~~National Electrical Code~~ NEC and an applicable municipal code, the latter shall prevail. The utility has no duty to conduct inspections of electric wiring and equipment except for such wiring and equipment which is installed, owned, or controlled by the utility.

(e) Metering equipment at a point other than the point of delivery. A utility may locate metering equipment at a point other than the point of delivery of electrical service. In such cases where the metering equipment is located on the consumer's side of the point of delivery, the utility may establish requirements for conductors and equipment to provide proper operation, accessibility and security.

(f) Proper location of the point of delivery. Either before, or during construction of the consumer's facility, the utility shall, upon request, and, without charge, advise the consumer as to the proper location of the point of delivery. Whenever the consumer and the utility are unable to agree upon the point of delivery and equipment to be installed, the utility shall advise the consumer of the Commission's regulatory ability to resolve the dispute. The Commission, upon application of either, shall make a determination as to the appropriate location.

(g) Permanent discontinuance of delivery of electric service. When the utility permanently discontinues delivery of electric service to any consumer's premises, the utility shall have the right at any reasonable time thereafter, to enter upon the premises and remove its meter and any other property the utility has located there.

SUBCHAPTER 11. ALLOCATION OF TERRITORIES/CONSUMERS; CHANGES IN SERVICE/SUPPLIER

165:35-11-1. Allocating territories and/or consumers between utilities

An agreement between ~~utilites~~-utilities for the purpose of allocating territories or consumers shall be valid only if it is entered into by the utilities and approved by the Commission in accordance with the following provisions which provide "*Notwithstanding the effectuation of certified territories established by or pursuant to this act, and the exclusive right to service within such territory, a retail ~~electie~~-electric supplier may ~~eontact~~-contract with another retail electric supplier for the purpose of allocating territories and consumer between such retail electric suppliers and designating which territories and consumers are to be served by which of said retail electric suppliers. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, a ~~contrat~~-contract between retail electric suppliers as herein provided when approved by the Commission shall be valid and enforceable. The ~~commission~~-Commission shall approve such contract if it finds that the contract will promote the purposes of (Section 158.23 of this title) and will provide adequate and reasonable service to all areas and consumers affected thereby.*" [17 O.S. 1981, Section 158.26]

165:35-11-4. New large load equal to or greater than 1,000 kW notice

(a) Any retail electric supplier, not excluded by 17 O.S. § 158.28 of the Retail Electric Supplier Certified Territory Act, that intends to provide retail electric service to a new electric-consuming facility within the certified territory of another retail electric service provider shall notify that incumbent retail electric service provider and PUD, either in writing or by electronic mail, after a bid has been selected, and no less than three (3) business days prior to implementation of service. This notice shall provide information including but not limited to the following:

- (1) A description of the anticipated location of the new electric-consuming facility, and the identification of the certified territory retail electric service provider.
- (2) A general description of the size of the load to be added.
- (3) Identification of the tariff, on file with PUD, under which the retail electric supplier intends to serve the electric-consuming facility.

SUBCHAPTER 13. DISPOSITION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY

165:35-13-1. Resale of electricity

(a) Except as set forth in subsection (b) below, no utility shall knowingly furnish electricity under a retail tariff for purposes of resale, except pursuant to a tariff or special contract approved by and on file with the Commission.

(b) If it comes to the attention of the utility that any consumer is reselling electricity, it shall notify the ~~Commission's PUD~~ Director ~~of the Public Utility Division~~ of the name and address of any consumer reselling electricity. Unless otherwise directed, the utility may continue to provide electric service pending review by the ~~Commission's PUD~~ Director ~~of the Public Utility Division~~.

(c) Sales of charging services from an electric vehicle charging station, not owned by a regulated utility, for the purpose of fueling an electric vehicle, including the ability to sell on a kWh basis,

shall not be considered resale of retail electricity, and such sales from the electric vehicle charging station shall not be subject to rate regulation by the Commission. Utility service to an electric vehicle charging station shall be provided subject to the utility's terms and conditions.

165:35-13-2. Resale of power or energy

No utility shall knowingly sell power or energy to any consumer for resale under Commission jurisdiction pursuant to a tariff providing for resale unless the Commission has been advised fifteen (15) calendar days prior to commencement of deliveries. No such sale shall be made unless the purchaser from the utility has tariffs on file with and approved by the Commission, rate schedules, rules, and regulations covering such resale, or is exempt by law from such requirements.

165:35-13-6. Records and reports of measurement of input and output

(a) Each utility shall keep a record of the input and output of its system in kilowatt-hours per month.

(b) The totals of input and output measurements shall be reported each month to ~~the Commission~~ PUD on its Forms E.D. and E.T., "Comparative Monthly Report of Revenues and Expenses." A copy of RUS Form 7 may be filed in lieu thereof.

165:35-13-7. Multiple residence units

(a) The basic statewide standard for service to multiple residences, apartment complexes, or similar residential units shall be individual metering, one (1) meter per residence with billing under the applicable residential rate schedule.

(b) Exceptions to the standard for service to multiple residences set forth in (a) of this Section may be granted by the Commission with respect to new and future multiple residence units. A utility or the owner of such a multiple residence unit may submit an application seeking authorization to furnish service at one or more points of delivery. The Commission shall grant such authority if it determines that providing service in the manner requested will encourage:

- (1) Conservation of energy.
- (2) The efficient use of facilities and resources by the utility providing such service.
- (3) Equitable rates to the consumers of such service.

(c) Except as provided in this Chapter, no consumer shall separately meter and separately bill another consumer for electricity. A landlord or innkeeper may include the cost of electricity in rent.

(d) Multiple residences, apartment complexes, or similar residential units being served under and with a single or multiple meters and at a commercial rate schedule may be continued without block billing or, at the option of the consumer, may revert to and have service by individual meters at the applicable residential rate.

(e) As an alternative to (a), (b), (c), and (d) of this Section, residences, apartment complexes, or similar residential units and multicommercial unit complexes may be or may continue to be served with a single utility meter and consumer submeter system, if such measuring of electrical service is deemed to:

- (1) Encourage conservation of energy.
- (2) Contribute to the efficient use of facilities and resources of electric utilities.

- (3) Results in equitable rates to the electrical consumers affected by such meters.
- (f) Application for utilization of such electric utility meters and consumer submeters referred to in (e) of this Section may be made by a letter jointly submitted by both the affected utility and consumer of electric service to the PUD Director ~~of the Public Utility Division of the Commission~~, requesting administrative approval by the Commission. In the event the PUD Director ~~of the Public Utility Division~~ shall deny such a joint letter application or in the event such a joint letter application is not presented, either the affected utility or the consumer shall have the right to file a formal application with notice for hearing before the Commission seeking such approval. The applicable rate for such service shall be the applicable utility commercial rate without block billing or similar type billing.

SUBCHAPTER 15. METER REQUIREMENTS

PART 1. INSTALLATION, READING, AND RECORDS

165:35-15-2. Meter reading, meter reading records, cards, and charts

- (a) **Meter reading records.** The meter reading records shall show:
- (1) Consumer's name, address, and rate schedule symbol.
 - (2) Identifying number or description of the meter.
 - (3) Meter readings and dates thereof.
 - (4) If the reading has been estimated.
 - (5) Any applicable multiplier or constant.
- (b) **Meter charts.** All charts taken from recording meters shall be marked with the date of record, the meter number, consumer's name and location, and the chart multiplier.
- (c) **Meter constants or multipliers.** Each service meter shall clearly indicate the reading from which the charge is made to the consumer. In any case where the dial reading of a meter must be multiplied by a constant to obtain the units consumed, the proper constant to be applied shall be clearly marked on the face or dial of the meter.
- (d) **Meter reading information.** Each service meter shall be read by the utility, or a utility may by its rules prescribe a procedure for reading of meters by consumers.
- (1) **Meters read by the utility.** For each utility that regularly reads its own meters, each service meter shall be read at monthly intervals at least ten (10) times a year, weather permitting, on approximately the same day of each meter reading period. The utility may, if specified and approved in its tariffs, delegate the reading of the meter to the consumer; however, the reading must be verified by the utility every six (6) months. Whenever it is not possible, with reasonable diligence, to read a meter for a billing period, the utility may submit an estimated bill based upon previous usage and other available information, the amount of such estimated bill to be adjusted as necessary when the next actual meter reading is obtained. No more than two (2) consecutive estimated bills shall be rendered without the utility reading the meter. If it is necessary for the utility to estimate more than two (2) bills per year due to the actions of the consumer regarding meter accessibility, and where the inaccessibility is beyond the control of the utility, it will be permissible for the utility to submit an estimated bill based on consumer reading or past service records. The amount of such estimated bill will be adjusted as necessary when the next actual reading is obtained.
 - (2) **Meters read by the consumer.** For each utility whose normal procedure is to have its consumers regularly read their own meters, the procedure for meter reading by the consumer

shall provide for meter reading at approximately monthly intervals or annually, if an annual rate applies. The utility shall verify such readings not less than once every six (6) months. When the consumer fails to furnish meter readings, the utility may submit an estimated bill based on the consumer's previous usage and other available information, the amount of such estimated bill to be adjusted, as necessary, when the next actual reading is obtained. No more than two (2) consecutive estimated bills shall be rendered without the utility reading the meter. When by reason of a consumer's failure to furnish meter reading, the utility reads the meter, it may charge the service fee for reading the meter prescribed in its approved tariffs.

(3) **Access to meters and other property.** The utility shall at all reasonable times have access to meters, service connections, and other property owned by it on a consumer's premises. Refusal on the part of the consumer to provide reasonable access for the above purposes shall be deemed to be sufficient cause for discontinuance of service on the part of the utility, after at least ten (10) calendar days written notice. In the event the consumer is a tenant, the utility should attempt to notify the property owner of the access violation and pending disconnection of service. Service will be reconnected after a method of permanent access on the meter reading date is agreed upon by the customer consumer and utility. If the consumer and/or property owner does not correct unsafe conditions or obstructions, including aggressive animals, the utility may relocate the meter to a safe and accessible location at the expense of the consumer and/or property owner. The utility shall provide its employees with a means of identification to claim the right of access.

(4) **Special meter reading request.** Whenever a special meter reading is required following a request by a consumer, the utility shall not make a charge for the special meter reading, whether or not its applicable tariff authorizes a charge for a special meter reading, unless the consumer has requested and received special meter reading within the previous twelve (12) month period.

(e) **Consumer submeter record information.** Consumer submeter records shall contain the information set forth in (a) and (c) of this Section and such meters shall be read within three (3) business days of the applicable utility meter being read by the utility.

PART 3. METER LOCATION, TESTING, AND OPERATION

165:35-15-11. Meter testing facilities and equipment

(a) **General.** Each utility furnishing metered electric service shall own or arrange for equipment and facilities and follow test procedures necessary for testing its meters to limits of accuracy specified in this Chapter. The equipment facilities and procedures shall be available for inspection by ~~the Commission~~ PUD or its authorized representative. A utility may contract for testing of its meters by another utility or by a non-utility concern performing meter testing service.

(b) **Test standards.**

(1) Each utility furnishing metered electric service shall provide for and have available portable indicating electrical testing instruments or watt-hour meters of suitable range and type for testing service watt-hour meters, demand meters, switchboard instruments, recording voltmeters, and other electrical instruments.

(2) For testing the accuracy of portable watt-hour meters, commonly called "rotating standards", and other portable instruments used for testing service meters, each utility shall provide for and have available as reference or check standards suitable indicating electrical

instruments, watt-hour meters, watt meters, or any or all of them, hereinafter called reference standards. Service type of watt-hour meters may be used as a check standard, but if so, such watt-hour meters shall be permanently mounted in a meter testing facility and shall be used for no purpose other than for checking working rotating standards.

(c) **Reference standards.** Reference standards shall be submitted at least once each year to the National Bureau of Standards or to a laboratory approved by the Commission for the purpose of test, adjustment, and certification. Utilities maintaining standardizing laboratories will be permitted to make their own test and certifications of reference standards, provided the instruments and methods in use are acceptable to the Commission.

(d) **Portable test standards.** All working rotating standards (portable watt-hour meters) shall be compared with the reference standards at least once every three (3) months, and solid-state watt-hour standards every six (6) months, during the time such working standards are being regularly used. Each rotating standard (portable watt-hour meter) shall at all times be accompanied by a calibrating card, giving the date when it was last calibrated and adjusted. Records of calibration shall be kept on file in the office of the utility, for the life of the instrument.

165:35-15-20. Meter testing on request of consumer

(a) Upon receipt at an office of a utility of a written request of a consumer, the utility shall, within twenty (20) calendar days, test the accuracy of the meter through which the consumer is being served.

(b) No charge shall be made for a meter test requested by the consumer, unless the meter is found to test within limits of accuracy prescribed by this Chapter, in which case the utility may make the charge prescribed in its approved tariffs.

(c) A consumer may make written request to be present when the utility conducts the test on his/her meter and have an expert or other representative present at the time; in which case, the utility shall conduct the test in the presence of the consumer or the consumer's representative, but during regular working hours of the utility.

(d) A written report stating the name of the consumer requesting the test, the date of the request, the location of the premise where the meter has been installed, the type, make, size, and serial number of the meter, the date of removal, the date tested, and the result of the test shall be supplied to such consumer within ten (10) business days after the completion of the test.

(e) Each party affected by a consumer submeter may make demand of the consumer to test the consumer submeter, and the testing requirements and the time for such testing shall be as set forth in (a) through (d) of this Section.

165:35-15-22. Adjustment of bills

(a) **Fast meters.** Whenever any meter tested by ~~the Commission-PUD~~ or the utility is found to have an average error of more than two percent (2%) fast (or in favor of the utility), the utility shall refund to the consumer the overcharge based upon the ~~previous last~~ test, but not to exceed six (6) months, unless it can be established that the error was due to some cause, the date of which can be fixed with reasonable certainty, or the error was due to meter tampering or theft, in which case the overcharge shall be computed from that date.

(b) **Slow meters.** Whenever a meter tested by ~~the Commission~~PUD or the utility is found to have an average error of more than two percent (2%) slow (or in favor of the consumer), the utility shall charge for the electricity consumed, but not included, in bills previously rendered, based upon the corrected meter reading, for a period equal to one-half (1/2) of the time elapsed since the last previous test, but not to exceed six (6) months, unless it can be established that the error was due to ~~meter tampering or theft~~some cause, the date of which can be fixed with reasonable certainty, in which case the charge shall be computed from that date. The utility shall allow the consumer to pay the corrected amount, in installment payments, over the same period of time in which the incorrect billing took place, but not to exceed six (6) months, unless otherwise agreed to by the utility and consumer.

(c) **Nonregistering meters.** If a meter is found not to register or to register intermittently for any period, the utility may charge for an estimated amount of electricity used, which shall be calculated by averaging the amounts registered over corresponding periods in previous years, or in the absence of such information, over similar periods of known accurate measurement preceding or subsequent thereto. The estimated billing shall not exceed six (6) months, unless it can be established that the error was due to meter tampering or theft. The utility shall allow the consumer to pay the estimated billing amount, in installment payments, over six (6) months, unless otherwise agreed to by the utility and consumer.

(d) **Incorrect register, connection of the meter, or multiplier on meters.** If a meter is found to have an incorrect register, connection, multiplier, or constant, the error shall be corrected. Where the error is adverse to the consumer, the utility shall refund the excess charged for the amount of electricity incorrectly metered for the period of time the meter was used in billing the consumer. Where the error is adverse to the utility, the utility shall charge the consumer the undercharge for the amount of electricity incorrectly metered for the period of time, not to exceed six (6) months, the meter was used in billing the consumer, unless it can be established that the error was due to meter tampering or theft~~and if necessary the utility shall receive payment in installments over a reasonable period of time.~~ The utility shall allow the consumer to pay any unbilled amount over the same period of time in which the undercharge took place, but not to exceed six (6) months, unless otherwise agreed to by the utility and consumer.

(e) **Compliance.** This Section shall not apply to routine testing and replacement of meters.

(f) **Conformity.** Consumer submeters shall conform to the adjustments set forth in subsections (a) through (e) of this Section.

SUBCHAPTER 19. CONSUMER DATA, DEPOSITS, AND BILLING

PART 1. CONSUMER RECORDS, INFORMATION, AND INTERRUPTIONS OF SERVICE

165:35-19-2. Consumer information

(a) Each utility shall:

(1) Maintain maps, plans, or records of its transmission and distribution systems, with such other information as may be necessary to enable the utility to advise prospective consumers and others entitled to the information as to the facilities available for serving in any locality.

(2) Transmit to each of its consumers no less frequently than once each year:

(A) A clear and concise summary of the existing rate schedules applicable to each of the major classes of its consumers for which there is a separate rate.

(B) An identification of any classes whose rates are not summarized.

(3) Upon request of a consumer, but not more frequently than once each calendar year, provide a clear and concise statement of such consumer's actual consumption of electric energy for each billing period during the prior year.

(4) Assist the consumer or prospective consumer in selecting the most economical rate schedule.

(5) Provide information to each new consumer at the time of application or by enclosure with the first month's bill or by separate mailing, or by electronic notification to customers who make an affirmative election to receive electronic notification of such information, prior to the first month's bill as to the correct method of reading watt hour meters.

(b) Where economically feasible, each electric utility shall provide an office, agent, or authorized pay site in or convenient to each municipality serviced by it where the consumer may pay bills, which office, agency, or authorized pay site, shall be open for business during reasonable business hours at least five days per week, holidays excepted. Whenever service prescribed in this subsection is not furnished for economic reasons, the Commission may, upon application and after notice and hearing, prescribe the service to be furnished and conditions thereof.

(c) The utility shall provide, in each telephone directory covering any area it serves, a telephone listing of the number by which the utility can be notified at any time during a twenty-four (24) hour day of any utility service deficiency or emergency, or the information may be published in a regular newsletter or publication furnished to its subscribers. [In addition, the telephone number shall be published on the homepage of a utility sponsored website, if applicable.](#)

(d) The utility shall advise its residential consumers through its consumer mailing or by electronic notification to customers who make an affirmative election to receive electronic notification of such information, no less than once a year, of the Commission rules regarding the following:

(1) Disconnection information which states the rights listed in the "Disconnect Notice," as outlined in OAC 165:35-21-20 *et seq.*

(2) Commission-approved deferred payment plans;

(3) Twenty (20) day government and/or private financial aid assistance deferral;

(4) Life Threatening Certificate and consumer responsibilities;

(5) ~~Elderly/Consumers with Disabilities Notification~~ [Elderly or Consumers with disabilities can request their account to be flagged by the utility so that CSD can intervene on their](#)

behalf, when requested by the consumer, in the event of a disconnection of service notice and extend the disconnection date by up to five (5) business days;

- (6) Average Monthly payment plans;
 - (7) The address and telephone number of the Commission's ~~Consumer Services Division CSD~~;
 - (8) The limitations for disconnection, including days or periods of time when service shall not be disconnected as outlined in OAC 165:35-21-10(c); and
 - (9) The availability of a list of agencies providing assistance to consumers for their utility bills as outlined by OAC 165:35-21-3.
- (e) The utility shall provide the location of pay agents upon the consumer's request.
- (f) The utilities are strongly encouraged to have bilingual customer service personnel available to assist non-English speaking consumers regarding disconnection and related matters.

165:35-19-4. Restoration of service

This Section establishes general parameters to ensure timely communication to the Commission, of the utility's implementation of its restoration of service plan, following an unplanned service interruption. Each electric utility shall have a written restoration of service policy/plan, which shall include a telecommunication plan to be followed during unplanned or emergency interruptions, with a current copy ~~filed by September 30 of each year on file with the CSD Director of the Commission's Consumer Services Division. This No later than September 30 of each year, this~~ policy shall be reviewed by the utility at least annually, and updated as deemed necessary and appropriate. A statement detailing all changes from the previous edition shall be filed with the Commission and included at the front of the policy on file. Each electric utility shall provide and keep current, the phone number of any 24-hour emergency operations center or a list with a minimum of two individuals having 24-hour contact numbers, by September 30 of each year, to the ~~Commission's CSD Director of the Consumer Services Division~~. The following items are guidelines to be addressed in the policy:

- (1) Assessment of the extent of the service interruption and what resources (equipment, materials, and labor) will be required to restore service. The utility should also attempt to determine the number of consumers affected and the geographic extent of the service interruption.
- (2) Determination as to whether or not the service restoration can be accomplished by use of in-house personnel only, or if contractors (personnel obtained from other utilities or third-party entities) will be required. The objective is to have service restored as soon as possible.
- (3) Identification of priorities for service restoration, based upon emergency needs and upon ease of restoration for the greatest number of consumers for the least expenditure of money, time, and effort. Priority shall be given to any life-threatening situations known or discovered during restoration of service.
- (4) Once electricity to installations affected with the interest of public health and safety has been restored (such as hospitals, fire and police departments and 911 centers), service shall be restored to schools as quickly as feasible, during such time of the year that school is in session.
- (5) Attempted notification of high-priority consumers or major electric consuming facilities that are affected by the service outage, when possible. Radio and/or television should be utilized to notify larger numbers of consumers as to the type of service outage, extent of the service outage, and the expected time to restore service. Other means of notification may

also be utilized, so long as the result is mass notification on an efficient, effective, and timely basis.

(6) Commission notification through the CSD Director ~~of the Consumer Services Division and the Commission's Emergency Liaison~~ to implement the process outlined in paragraphs A through C below. The Commission notification process to the designated Consumer Services Division ~~CSD~~ individual(s) and the Commission's Emergency Liaison may be accomplished by one or more of the following methods: business telephone and/or e-mail address during the business hours of 8:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, or emergency cellular telephone number after normal business hours, weekends and holidays. The notification shall consist of the following:

(A) An initial contact to notify Staff of outages, which involve a major utility substation or facility; or which may cause a high degree of public interest or concern; or which have a duration of 4 hours or more and involve 1% or fifty (50) consumers or more, whichever is greater, of the utility's meter count.

(B) Intermediate contact to provide status reports, as deemed necessary by the utility, or as may be requested by Commission and CSD Staff.

(C) A conclusory contact detailing the results and completion of the restoration of service plan implementation.

PART 3. DEPOSITS

165:35-19-10. Deposits and interest

(a) Each utility shall prepare and submit a plan containing criteria for deposits to the Commission for approval. The plan shall include criteria for residential and nonresidential consumers with residential being defined in each utility's tariff.

(1) The residential plan shall conform to all subsections of this Section.

(2) The nonresidential plan shall conform to all subsections of this Section except (b), (c), (e), and (l).

(b) No utility shall require a deposit of a residential consumer who has received the same or similar type and classification of service for twelve (12) consecutive months and service was not terminated for nonpayment nor was payment late more than twice nor was a check for payment dishonored. The twelve (12) month service period shall have been within eighteen (18) months prior to the application of new service. The utility plan may establish other relevant criteria which will qualify the consumer for nonpayment of a deposit.

(c) No utility shall require a deposit of more than one-sixth (1/6) the estimated annual bill. The utility may allow smaller deposits to be made, in conformance with relevant, objective criteria written in the utility's plan. The utility plan may allow consumers to pay deposits in installments.

(d) A utility may require an advance deposit as a condition of service for consumers other than those addressed in (b) and non-residential consumers.

(e) A residential consumer may be required to post a deposit as a condition of continued service if undisputed charges have become delinquent, with delinquent meaning a payment not received on or before the due date as posted on the bill, in two (2) out of the last twelve (12) billing periods or if the consumer has had service disconnected during the last twelve (12) months pursuant to OAC 165:35-21-2 or has presented a check subsequently dishonored.

(f) A non-residential consumer may be required to post a deposit as a condition of continued service if undisputed charges have become delinquent, with delinquent meaning a payment not received on or before the due date as posted on the bill, in two (2) out of the last twenty-four (24) billing periods or if the consumer has had service disconnected during the last twenty-four (24) months pursuant to OAC 165:35-11-11 or has presented a check subsequently dishonored.

(g) Interest on cash deposits shall be paid by the utility at no less than the rate calculated as follows:

(1) For all consumer deposits returned within one (1) year or less, the interest rate shall be established on January 1 of each year to equal the average of the weekly percent annual yields of one (1) year U.S. Treasury Securities for September, October, and November of the preceding year. The interest rate shall be rounded to the nearest basis point.

(2) For all consumer deposits held by the utility for more than one (1) year, the interest rate shall be established on January 1 of each year to equal the average of the weekly percent annual yields of 10 year U.S. Treasury Securities for September, October, and November of the preceding year. The interest rate shall be rounded to the nearest basis point. The utility may pay the average of the one (1) year Treasury Security, as referenced in ~~(e)(g)~~(1) of this Section, for the first year the deposit is held.

(3) Provided, however that after the interest rates are initially established pursuant to this subsection, the interest rate shall not change unless the application of the formula in ~~(e)(g)~~(1) and/or (2) results in a change in interest rate(s) that is/are greater than fifty (50) basis points.

(4) The PUD Director ~~of the Public Utility Division~~ shall calculate the interest rate(s) as pursuant to ~~(e)(g)~~(1) and (2) of this Section, and shall ~~mail notice to the electric utility companies post notice on the Commission's website~~ by December 15 of each year, ~~only if a change in the rate(s) is/are necessary~~ pursuant to subsection ~~(e)(g)~~, otherwise the current interest rate(s) will remain in effect.

(h) If refund of deposit is made within thirty (30) days of receipt of deposit, no interest payment is required. If the utility retains the deposit more than thirty (30) days, payment of interest shall be made retroactive to the date of deposit. No interest shall accrue on a deposit after discontinuance of service.

(i) The deposit shall cease to draw interest on the date it is returned or credited to the consumer's account.

(j) The utility plan shall provide the date of payment of interest and whether the interest shall be paid by negotiable instrument, or by credit against current billing, or by issuance of a bank card.

(k) Each consumer posting deposit shall receive a nonassignable receipt in writing at the time of making the deposit, or within ten (10) days thereafter, or such deposit shall appear as a notation on the consumer's next bill. When a consumer pays a deposit as a portion of an electric service bill, payment of the bill shall serve as a receipt of the deposit. If the deposit is not paid by the due date, the amount of the deposit will become a part of the past due amount owed and monies paid shall be applied to the oldest past due amount. The utility plan shall provide reasonable means whereby a depositor who applies for the return of his/her deposit, or any deposit to which he/she is entitled, but who is unable to produce the original receipt may not be deprived of his/her deposit or balance.

(l) The utility shall automatically refund the deposit for residential service, with accrued interest, after twelve (12) months' satisfactory payment of undisputed charges and where payment was not late more than twice; provided, however, that service has not been disconnected within the twelve (12) month period. Payment of a charge shall be deemed satisfactory if received on or

prior to the date the bill is due. Payment of a charge shall be deemed not satisfactory if made by a check subsequently dishonored.

(m) The utility shall automatically refund non-residential service deposits of less than \$20,000, with accrued interest, after twenty-four (24) months' satisfactory payment of undisputed charges and where payment was not late more than twice; provided, however, that service has not been disconnected within the twenty-four (24) month period. Non-residential consumers, who meet the above-referenced eligibility criteria, must have a minimum of five (5) years continuous service at the service location with the utility before a deposit will be refunded.

(n) The utility plan shall provide for the review of all deposits for residential service at least annually and deposits for non-residential service at least once every twenty-four (24) months and shall provide whether refunds will be paid by negotiable instrument, upon request of the consumer, provided the consumer's bill is not delinquent, or by credit against current billing.

(o) The amount of the deposit, with accrued interest, shall be applied to any unpaid charges at the time of a discontinuance of service. The balance, if any, shall be returned to the consumer within thirty (30) days following the settlement of the consumer's account, either in person or by mailing it to the consumer's last known address.

(p) The utility shall provide payment of accrued interest for all consumers annually by negotiable instrument, or by credit against current billing, or by issuance of a bank card.

(q) The utility may withhold refund or return of the deposit, pending the resolution of a dispute with respect to charges secured by the deposit.

(r) The utility shall keep records to show:

(1) The name, account number, and address of each depositor.

(2) The amount of the deposit and date received.

(3) Each transaction concerning the deposit.

(s) Such records shall be retained for two (2) years after the deposit and/or interest is refunded or applied.

(t) Upon the sale or transfer of any public utility or operating units thereof, the seller shall file, with the application of transfer, a verified list of all consumers from whom a deposit is being held, the date such deposit was made, the amount thereof, and the unpaid interest thereon. The information provided shall be treated as confidential and shall not be available for public inspection unless ordered by the Commission after notice and hearing.

(u) Deposits shall not include membership fees in cooperatives.

(v) The deposit made by the consumer with the utility at the time of application for electricity shall not constitute an advance payment to cover service bills, but for all purposes it is to be considered as security for the payment of monthly bills or other proper charges.

PART 5. BILLING

165:35-19-30. Information on bills

The utility shall bill each consumer as promptly as possible following the reading of his/her meter. The bill shall show:

(1) The reading of the meter at the end of the period for which the bill is rendered.

(2) The date on which the meter was read, or the end of the billing period.

(3) The number and kind of units used for billing.

(4) The total amount due for electricity used.

(5) Items of tax separately billed, pursuant to OAC 165:35-27-2.

- (6) The date by which the consumer must pay the bill to avoid addition of a penalty.
- (7) The total amount due after addition of any penalty for nonpayment within a designated period. The terms "gross bill" and "net bill" or other similar terms implying the granting of a discount for prompt payment shall not be used where a penalty is added for nonpayment within a designated period.
- (8) A distinct marking to identify an estimated bill.
- (9) If there is a conversion from meter reading units to billing units, or any calculation to determine billing units from recording or other devices, or any other factors used in determining the bill, full information shall be furnished on request.
- (10) In the case of a special form of billing, such as a level payment plan, any of the above information which is inappropriate may be omitted.
- (11) The fuel adjustment or purchased power adjustment factor associated with the respective clauses on the consumer's bill.
- (12) The electric bill submitted by the utility furnishing electric service to the consumer shall be allocated to the party(ies) affected by such consumer submeters in a manner approved by and on file with the [Commission's PUD Director of the Public Utility Division](#).
- (13) Utilities that serve 150,000 Oklahoma customers or more shall provide historical usage information, e.g., a chart, table or graph, which shall be displayed prominently on each bill, and depict the actual usage of the residential consumer, at the place of service for which the bill is issued. Such historical usage shall be tracked and displayed over the previous twelve (12) month period.
- (14) Utilities that serve less than 150,000 Oklahoma Customers consumers shall provide, in a conspicuous manner, notice on each residential consumer bill that historical usage information is available at no charge, upon the consumer's request.
- [\(15\) The name and toll-free telephone number of the Commission's CSD, to which the end-user may direct complaints and questions regarding utility services.](#)

165:35-19-32. Penalty or charge for late payment of bills and dishonored negotiable instruments

- (a) **Meters read by the utility.** A utility may make a penalty charge in an amount not to exceed one and one-half percent (1.1/2%) for delay in receipt of payment by the utility past the due date of the bill. The due date shall be stated on the face of the bill and shall not be earlier than ten (10) days after the bill is mailed or provided by electronic notification to customers who make an affirmative election to receive electronic notification of such information, except that for residential consumers it shall not be earlier than twenty (20) days after the bill is mailed or provided electronically to consenting consumers.
- (b) **Late payment penalty.** A utility shall clearly state upon the face of its bills the amount of any late payment penalty, and the date on or before which payment must be received in order to avoid paying the late payment penalty. In its billing, the utility shall not use the term "prompt payment discount" or other words of similar import which suggest that the consumer will receive a discount or reduction of charges for electric service for payment prior to a certain date. The late payment penalty may be applied to any unpaid balance due at each monthly billing period.
- (c) **Meters read by the consumer.** A utility which allows its consumers to read their own meters may make a late payment charge on past due bills, not to exceed one and one-half percent (1.1/2%) of the amount due per billing period and, in such event, the due date stated on the bill shall not be earlier than twenty (20) days after the bill is mailed or provided by electronic

notification to customers who make an affirmative election to receive electronic notification of such information.

(d) **Payment acceptance.** The utility shall not refuse to accept payment by check from any consumer unless the utility has, within the preceding twelve (12) months, received as tendered payment of the consumer's account two (2) or more negotiable instruments which were dishonored by the financial institution on which they were drawn. The utility may make a charge outlined in its tariffs for negotiable instruments which are dishonored.

SUBCHAPTER 21. DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE

PART 1. DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE

165:35-21-2. Disconnection of service by a utility

(a) **Sufficient reasons for disconnection of service.** A utility may disconnect service to a consumer for any of the following reasons:

- (1) Nonpayment of all or any portion of undisputed utility bills or a utility bill which is no longer disputed or for which the Commission's dispute process has been completed.
- (2) Nonpayment of an account for service of a similar character previously supplied to such applicant or consumer by the utility.
- (3) Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of a settlement agreement or any type of deferred payment agreement or with a Commission order.
- (4) Failure to post a deposit as prescribed in OAC 165:35-19-10.
- (5) Failure to make application for service.
- (6) Misrepresentation of identity or facts for the purpose of obtaining service or use of an alias, trade name, business name, relative's name or another person's name as a device to escape payment of an unpaid obligation for utility service provided to the consumer.
- (7) Violation of any rule or regulation of the Commission or Commission-approved rule of the utility.
- (8) Unauthorized use of electricity accomplished through bypassing of the utility's measuring equipment or tampering with wires, pipes, meters, or other utility equipment.
- (9) Whenever the utility has reason to believe that continued service will create a condition on the consumer's premises that is dangerous to persons or property.
- (10) Refusal to grant access at reasonable times for the purpose of installation, inspection, maintenance, replacement, or reading of utility equipment installed upon the premises of the consumer, or maintaining any obstruction that would deny access for these purposes.
- (11) Potential adverse effect of the service required by the consumer on the service of other consumers of the utility, provided the consumer has been notified and given a reasonable opportunity to correct the adverse effect.
- (12) Abandonment of the premises served.
- (13) Upon request of the consumer pursuant to OAC 165:35-21-1.
- (14) Causing injury or threatening to cause injury to an employee of the utility or the family of an employee of the utility or the property of the utility for the purpose of preventing a utility employee from engaging in activities authorized by law or in retaliation for such activities.

- (15) Violation of the utility's rules regarding the operation of nonstandard equipment or unauthorized attachments, if the consumer was notified first and given a reasonable opportunity to comply with the rules.
 - (16) Violation of federal, state, or local laws or regulations through use of the service.
 - (17) Causing damage to utility property.
 - (18) A condition exists which poses a health or safety hazard.
- (b) **Insufficient reasons for disconnection of service.** A utility shall not disconnect service to a consumer for any of the following reasons:
- (1) Failure to pay for a different kind or classification of service from that requested.
 - (2) Failure to pay a bill correcting a previous underbilling, due to misapplication of rates, unless the utility offers the consumer a deferred payment agreement as provided elsewhere in this Chapter.
 - (3) Failure of a previous owner or occupant at the premises or user of the service to pay an unpaid or delinquent account, except where the previous occupant remains an occupant or user of the utility service.
 - (4) Failure of a consumer to pay any portion of an estimated billing which the consumer disputes, except where the consumer fails to allow a utility representative access to the meter, or if the consumer regularly reads the consumer's own meter and fails to supply a current meter reading.
 - (5) If a current consumer in good standing who accepts an additional household member owing a previous bill to the utility unless that additional household member is listed on the lease arrangements or another utility service as a responsible party, or unless the household member shared service with the subscriber at a different or same location.
 - (6) If a consumer or potential consumer for a previously unpaid account from a different utility beyond the boundaries of the utility's service territory.
 - (7) Pending verification, service cannot be withheld or disconnected from a consumer whose name was used to obtain service at another location without the consumer's permission or knowledge.
 - (8) Nonpayment of an amount past due for more than three (3) years if the utility cannot substantiate the charges with a copy of the consumer's complete billing history reflecting usage, consumption and relevant charges.
 - (9) Failure to pay a past due amount to another utility.
- (c) **Effective period of notice.** A utility may disconnect service on the date specified in the notice or within thirty (30) [calendar](#) days thereafter, during regular business hours, so long as the disconnection does not occur within the last two (2) hours of the business day, nor shall service be disconnected on a holiday, nor after noon (12:00 p.m.) on Fridays until Monday morning.
- (d) **Documentation of reason(s).** The utility shall provide documentation to the consumer indicating the reason(s) that service is being withheld or disconnected.

PART 3. SPECIAL PROVISIONS REGARDING RESIDENTIAL DISCONNECTION

165:35-21-10. Delays to disconnection of residential service

- (a) **Limitations on disconnections.** After notice and hearing, the Commission may issue an order that may include limitations on disconnection of residential utility service used or needed for the primary heating or cooling source.

(b) **Temporary ban on disconnections.** The Commission shall have the authority to order a temporary ban on any or all disconnections during periods of extremely severe weather or when circumstances exist such that disconnection could create a situation dangerous to the life or health of consumers or to property.

(c) **Severe weather.**

~~(1) If the high temperature is actually, or predicted to be, 32 degrees Fahrenheit or below on the day of disconnection or the nighttime low is predicted to be 20 degrees Fahrenheit or less the utility shall suspend its disconnection of service if the electric service is used for heating purposes. If the NWS issues a local forecast predicting the temperature will drop below 32 degrees Fahrenheit for any time period during the following twenty-four (24) hours, the utility shall suspend its disconnection of service if the electric service is used for heating purposes. The utility must obtain the most recent local forecast for the customer's location from the NWS reports between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on the morning of the day that the customer's shut-off is scheduled. If the NWS issues an updated forecast on the day of disconnection, then such updated forecast shall be used in place of the earlier obtained forecast.~~

~~(2) If the service is utilized for cooling and the temperature is actually, or predicted to be, 101 degrees heat index or higher on the day of disconnection, the utility shall suspend its disconnection of service activity. If the NWS issues a local forecast predicting the heat index will be 101 degrees Fahrenheit or higher on the day of disconnection, or if the actual heat index is 101 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, the utility shall suspend its disconnection of service activity if the electric service is used for cooling purposes. The utility must obtain the most recent local forecast for the customer's location from the NWS reports between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on the morning of the day that the customer's shut-off is scheduled. If the NWS issues an updated forecast on the day of disconnection, then such updated forecast shall be used in place of the earlier obtained forecast.~~

(3) Nothing in this Section shall prohibit a utility from establishing a higher temperature threshold for residential heating purposes below which it will not discontinue utility service or from establishing a lower temperature threshold for residential cooling purposes above which it will not discontinue utility service. The utility may continue to disconnect utility service for unauthorized use of the utility's measuring equipment or tampering with wires, pipes, meters, or any other utility equipment or obtaining service without contract.

(d) **Financial assistance delay.** When a residential consumer has applied for and is awaiting financial assistance, including social security income, from a federal, state, or local social service agency, and the utility has initiated written notice of disconnection, it shall delay disconnection of service for a period of at least twenty (20) calendar days from the date when such notice was either delivered or mailed to the premises where service is rendered, provided:

(1) The reason for disconnection is for nonpayment of the utility bill.

(2) The consumer has notified the utility that the consumer has applied for and is awaiting financial assistance.

(3) Verification from the involved agency must be provided in a form as prescribed by the utility upon its request.

(4) If the expected financial assistance is less than the amount owed for services, the utility may require the consumer to enter into a deferred payment agreement as prescribed pursuant to (e) of this Section.

(5) Under no condition is the utility required to furnish service to the consumer unless there is a reasonable expectation of payment for such service except where other rules of this Commission apply.

(e) **Deferred payment agreement.** The utility shall be required to offer a deferred payment agreement before disconnecting service when a residential consumer is unable to pay an account in full. The utility shall not disconnect service for nonpayment of a bill if the consumer enters into a deferred payment agreement with the utility. The utility shall mail, or by electronic notification to customers who make an affirmative election to receive electronic notification of such, a confirmation of the terms of the deferred payment agreement if it is made orally. A deferred payment agreement may be entered into by the consumer up to, but not including, the day of disconnection. Except where payment assistance for the total amount of the bill is pending, the utility may require a reasonable partial payment in accordance with paragraph one (1) of this subsection, at the time the deferred payment agreement is made.

(1) Deferred payment agreement means a just and reasonable agreement offered by the utility and agreed to by the consumer which provides for the payment of all future bills during the period of agreement by the due date and the payment of the balance of any outstanding bills in reasonable installments based upon:

- (A) Consideration of the consumer's gross income.
- (B) Size of the delinquent account.
- (C) Consumer's ability to pay.
- (D) Consumer's payment history with the utility.
- (E) Length of time and reasons why the debt has not been paid.
- (F) Other extraordinary expenses of the consumer.
- (G) Loss of income through unemployment or illness.
- (H) Any other relevant factors concerning the circumstances of the consumer.

(2) The payments under such an agreement need not be equal in amount.

(3) The consumer shall initiate renegotiation prior to breach of the deferred payment agreement. The deferred payment agreement shall be renegotiated if financial circumstances, such as loss of income through unemployment or illness or any other relevant factors concerning the circumstances of the consumer, change during the payment period.

(4) If a consumer fails to comply with the terms of the deferred payment agreement, the consumer will be subject to disconnection without further notice, so long as the disconnection date on the first and second notice has not been passed. If the disconnection date has passed, the utility shall provide at least twenty-four (24) hours' notice of disconnection to the consumer.

(5) Under no condition is the utility required to furnish service to the consumer unless there is a reasonable expectation of payment for such service except where other rules of the Commission apply.

(f) **Life-threatening situation.**

(1) For purposes of this Section, a life-threatening situation is defined as one where the consumer or other permanent resident of the household is dependent upon equipment that is prescribed by a physician, operates on electricity, and is needed to sustain the person's life. Examples of life-sustaining equipment would be: kidney dialysis machine, iron lung, oxygen concentrators and certain other oxygen machines, cardiac monitory, heating and air conditioning equipment, or any other equipment that is prescribed by a licensed medical doctor. If the life-sustaining equipment without a battery backup is prescribed by a licensed medical doctor, then it shall be considered life-sustaining equipment. The following are not

considered to be life-sustaining equipment: hot water heater, refrigerator, range/stove, nebulizers that are battery-driven or hand-driven or self-contained, battery-driven sleep apnea monitors, battery-driven cardiac monitors.

(2) When a consumer to whom service is provided is unable to pay the account in full, the utility shall suspend discontinuance of service, or reconnect if disconnected, if the consumer notifies the utility that disconnection of service will give rise to a life-threatening condition for the consumer or other permanent resident of the household should electric service be terminated, and within thirty (30) calendar days of the initial notification, the consumer shall return the Medical Certificate described in (3) of this subsection.

(3) The consumer shall use a Medical Certificate Form which verifies the existence of a life-threatening situation. The form shall be provided by the utility at no cost to the consumer. The form shall provide certification by a licensed medical doctor or osteopath. The consumer may choose the appropriate medical personnel. At a minimum, the Medical Certificate Form provided by the utility shall contain, substantially, the information in the form as set forth in Appendix A to this Chapter. The service account name holder shall sign the Medical Certificate Form at the appropriate space, indicating knowledge that a permanent resident of the household is applying for the life-threatening situation certificate and further acknowledging the responsibility for payment of bills rendered for electric service.

(4) Completion of (2) and (3) of this subsection will suspend disconnection of electrical service to the specified residence for a period of thirty (30) calendar days from the initial notification. This 30-day period allows the consumer, if eligible, to pay the account in full or enter into a deferred payment agreement with the utility and/or make alternative arrangements for the person(s) named on the certified form as having the life-threatening condition. After thirty (30) calendar days, normal collection action will resume. The 30-day period may be extended by the utility at the request of the service account name holder for one (1) additional contiguous 30-day period, but only if necessitated by the life-threatening condition (as indicated on the Medical Certificate Form). The request for the additional 30-day extension must be made before the end of the initial 30-day period. The utility is not required to furnish service to the consumer beyond a total of sixty (60) calendar days for the life-threatening condition without full payment of the account or acceptable payment arrangements on any unpaid balance.

(5) Verification of the medical condition of the consumer or other permanent resident in the household by the utility may include the following:

(A) Utility personnel may visit the consumer's residence with the consumer's permission to verify that life-sustaining equipment is being used.

(B) Utility personnel may verify the doctor's signature and clarify the medical terms of the diagnosis which is the reason for the life-threatening certificate.

(6) This collection abeyance in no way absolves the consumer from full responsibility for the payment in full of the utility services rendered, and is intended for the purpose of providing the consumer an opportunity to maintain service during the life-threatening situation within the prescribed time frames.

(7) Failure of the service account name holder to fully comply with this subsection may result in denial of life-threatening status and renewed collection activities of the utility, to include termination of service to said residence.

(8) Any consumer who uses this subsection to avoid disconnection or for reconnection of service and does not complete the required documentation will be subject to disconnection.

(9) A consumer is not prohibited from claiming life threatening situation once full payment of the account balance from a previous life-threatening claim is made and a Medical Certificate Form signed by a licensed medical doctor has been received by the utility.

(g) **False information.** If a consumer provides false or misleading information to the utility to avail the consumer of the provisions applicable to the financial assistance delay, deferred payment agreement, life-threatening situation, or Commission notification procedure for elderly and/or consumers with disabilities, the false information shall be grounds for disconnection of service by the utility. The utility may disconnect service upon the utility providing notice to the customer in accordance with OAC 165:35-21-20(a).

(h) **Consumer liability.** Reconnection or continuance of service under this Section shall not in any way relieve the consumer of the consumer's liability incurred for utility service.

165:35-21-11. Commission notification procedure for the elderly and/or consumers with disabilities

(a) At any time prior to disconnection of service, the ~~Commission~~-notification procedure shall be available to those elderly and/or consumers with disabilities who have notified the utility that they wish to be included in the following ~~Commission~~-notification procedure:

~~(1) A utility shall notify the Commission's Consumer Services Division in writing or electronically at least ten (10) business days prior to disconnection.~~

~~(2) The notification shall contain at a minimum:~~

~~(A) The name, address, telephone number, and account number of the involved parties.~~

~~(B) The words "NOTICE", "SERVICE SUBJECT TO CUTOFF", and "ELDERLY and/or CONSUMER WITH DISABILITIES" should be conspicuously placed on the notice in bold, capitalized letters.~~

~~(C) The scheduled date for disconnection.~~

~~(D) The unpaid balance amount.~~

~~(E) The name and telephone number of a contact person at the utility.~~

~~(3) The~~ For those who have registered with the utility as elderly and/or consumer with disabilities, the utility shall delay disconnection of service to the elderly and/or consumers with disabilities for five (5) additional business days upon request of the Commission's Consumer Services Division CSD.

~~(4)~~ (2) Elderly and/or consumers with disabilities are those consumers who have notified the utility in writing that they wish to be included in the Commission notification procedure available to them and who:

~~(A) Have a permanent impairment which substantially limits the disabled consumer's ability to pay for utility service; or~~

~~(B) Are sixty-five (65) years of age or older.~~

(b) The utility shall notify the consumer or other person responsible for the bill, during the initial application for service, annually thereafter, and at ~~anytime~~ any time disconnection is imminent, of this additional notification procedure.

(c) The utility may require verification of the consumer's qualifications.

~~(d) The Commission notification procedure is in addition to the other requirements set forth in this Subchapter which the utility shall meet prior to disconnection of service.~~

PART 5. NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

165:35-21-20. Notice of disconnection of service

(a) **Twenty-four hour notice.** Except as provided in subsections (b), (c) and (f) of this Section and OAC 165:35-21-30, service shall be disconnected only after at least twenty-four (24) hours written notice has been given to the consumer by leaving a copy of such notice with the consumer or by leaving a copy of such notice in a conspicuous place at the premises where service is provided. ~~This notice shall be in writing and shall state the reason for the action, the amount due, if applicable, the company to contact in bold print, the contact telephone number, in bold print, and the telephone number of the Commission's Consumer Service Division. This notice shall be in writing, in bolded lettering, and state the reason for the disconnection, the amount due, if applicable, and the utility company's name, telephone number, and contact information. After the utility company's contact information, the notice shall include the telephone number of CSD in a printed size smaller than the print size used for the utility company's contact information, not bolded, and shall include the following statement: "For clarification of statutes and rules governing services, or escalations of disputes, you may contact the Oklahoma Corporation Commission's Consumer Services Division." The utility shall submit a copy of the notice to PUD for approval prior to usage.~~

(b) **First residential notice.** When service to a residential consumer is to be disconnected for nonpayment of a bill for utility service or failure to make a required security deposit, the utility shall give at least ten (10) days written notice from the date of mailing to the consumer (when the deposit is required as a condition of service, the ten (10) day notice is not required. Refer to OAC 165:35-21-30(4) Disconnection of service without notice). Said written notice shall be sent by first-class mail, address correction requested, by the utility to the consumer's billing address, unless the mail is returned from that address as undeliverable, in which case the notice ~~may shall~~ be delivered to the premises at which the service was rendered.

(1) Notice will be deemed delivered to the consumer three (3) business days after mailing by the utility, which shall not extend the ten (10) days written notice from the date of mailing to the consumer requirement above.

(2) A notice of disconnection shall contain the following information:

(A) The words "DISCONNECTION NOTICE" or "CUT OFF NOTICE" in bold print no smaller than one-half inch (1/2") tall.

(B) The name and address of the consumer.

(C) A statement of the reason for the proposed disconnection of service.

(D) The date on or after which service will be disconnected unless appropriate action is taken.

(E) The telephone number in bold print of the utility where the consumer may make an inquiry.

(F) The approved charges for reconnection.

(G) A statement that the consumer must contact the utility regarding the disconnection, prior to contacting ~~the Commission's Consumer Services Division CSD, and should contact CSD if they cannot reach a resolution with the utility.~~

(H) The address and telephone number of ~~the Commission's Consumer Services Division CSD,~~ in print size which is smaller than the print size used for the utility's telephone number.

(I) A statement that advises the consumer of the availability of a deferred payment agreement.

(J) A statement that advises the consumer of the elderly/consumer with disabilities notification.

(K) A statement that advises the consumer of the life-threatening certificate.

(L) A statement that advises the consumer of the availability of the ~~20-day~~ twenty (20) day financial aid assistance delay.

(M) A statement that advises the consumer of the availability of a list of agencies providing assistance to consumers for their utility bills as outlined by OAC 165:35-21-3.

(3) The utility shall provide to consumers, upon request, the name and address of the authorized payment agencies, other than the utility's offices, where consumers may make payments.

(c) **Second residential notice.** During the time period of November 15 through April 15, the utility shall give a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours notice (at least two (2) business days) prior to disconnection of residential service that service will be disconnected unless the consumer enters into a deferred payment agreement as prescribed in OAC 165:35-21-10(e) or unless disconnection of service would create a life-threatening situation for the consumer or other permanent resident of the premises where the utility service is rendered. If the utility elects to give oral notice, it shall only be after it has complied with (b) of this Section. The second notice may be in writing, in person or by telephone.

(1) If the second residential notice is in writing, it shall be entitled "CUT OFF NOTICE" in bold letters of not less than one-half inch (1/2") in height and shall contain, in nontechnical language, the following information:

(A) The reason for service disconnection and the amount of the unpaid bills, if any.

(B) The date on or after which service will be disconnected unless the consumer takes appropriate action.

(C) The telephone number of the utility office, in bold print, where a consumer may call for assistance, make inquiries, enter into a deferred payment agreement, obtain information on utility assistance programs, pay the bill or notify the utility of a life-threatening situation.

(D) The telephone number of ~~the Commission's Consumer Services Division CSD~~ in print size which is smaller than the print size used for the utility's telephone number.

(2) The utility shall keep a written log of all oral communication with at least the following information when contact has been made:

(A) The date and time of call or personal visit and identity of utility representative.

(B) The name of the individual and relationship to the account. If the contact is with a designated representative for the consumer, a statement of authority to represent the account should be included.

(C) The nature of the call and telephone number called.

(D) A narrative of the communication between the utility and the consumer.

(E) A statement that the consumer must notify the utility on the day of payment, as to the place and method of such payment, when the bill is paid at a place other than the office of the utility.

(F) A statement that the consumer was advised of the telephone number of ~~the Commission's Consumer Services Division CSD.~~

(3) The oral communications log shall be maintained and retained in accordance with the record keeping requirements contained in this Chapter.

(4) A copy of the oral communications log shall be provided to ~~the Commission CSD~~ or to the consumer and/or their designated representative upon oral or written request.

- (5) Oral communications with the consumer shall not begin before 8:00 a.m. or continue beyond 9:00 p.m. during normal business days.
- (6) Oral communications shall be deemed as not to have occurred, including but not limited to the following circumstances:
- (A) When there is no answer, the telephone line is busy or no one is home.
 - (B) When a message is left on an answering device or made on a recording device.
 - (C) When the message or attempted message is left with an individual having a physical and/or mental impairment that impedes communication or mutual understanding.
 - (D) When the communication is with a minor under the age of eighteen (18), unless the minor is the consumer or the spouse of the consumer.
 - (E) When the communication is with an individual who is not either the consumer or the designated representative of the consumer.
 - (F) When the communication is with a consumer or consumer's designated representative whose primary language is other than English and the consumer or consumer's designated representative has a language barrier, unless the communication is made in the primary language of the consumer or the consumer's designated representative.
- (7) Unless otherwise directed by ~~the Consumer Services Division-CSD~~, the utility company shall not contact the consumer regarding the consumer's account after ~~the Commission-CSD~~ has notified the utility company of a complaint or inquiry from the consumer. ~~The Commission-CSD~~ shall be the intermediary between the utility and the consumer until the resolution of the problem has been completed.
- (8) Notice will be deemed delivered to the consumer three (3) business days after mailing by the utility company, which shall not extend the two (2) days written notice from the date of mailing to the consumer requirement above.
- (d) **Third party notice.** A utility shall permit residential consumers to designate a consenting individual or agency to receive the applicable notice of disconnection.
- (e) **Tenant notice.** Where a master metered apartment complex, building, or trailer court is subject to disconnection, the written notice to the consumer shall also be posted in a common area of the premises at least ten (10) days prior to disconnection of service. The utility may contract with tenants for residential service.
- (f) **Commercial or business notice.** Nonresidential service shall be disconnected for nonpayment of all or any portion of an undisputed utility bill only after at least five (5) business days written notice has been mailed to the consumer by the utility or after the notice is left in a conspicuous place at the premises where service is provided.

PART 9. MEDIATION AND COMMISSION REVIEW

165:35-21-40. Mediation

- (a) Whenever there is a dispute between the utility and the consumer as to the following, the matter may be brought by either party to ~~the Commission's Consumer Services Division-CSD~~:
- (1) The existence of or seriousness of a life-threatening situation.
 - (2) The existence of elderly or handicapped status.
 - (3) The question of financial assistance or guarantee of payment by a federal, state, or local social service agency.
 - (4) The provisions of a deferred payment agreement.
 - (5) The terms and conditions of payment of any part of a bill as rendered.

(6) The proper interpretation of this Section.

(7) Other issues addressed in this Chapter.

(b) ~~The Commission's Consumer Services Division CSD~~ shall review the matter and issue an informal review decision in writing, setting forth the terms and conditions for continued service, disconnection of service, or deferred payment agreement (DPA). If it is the desire of the consumer, they may be represented by a third party, if the consumer is available for verification. If the dispute can be resolved by telephone with the party seeking review, the review decision need not be in writing unless requested by either party. During any period of time when a disconnection dispute is before the Commission or in mediation, the utility shall suspend disconnection procedures.

(c) If ~~the Commission's Consumer Services Division CSD~~ is unable to resolve the dispute to the mutual satisfaction of the parties, either party may file a Complaint with the Commission for final determination.

(d) Whenever the consumer informs the utility that the consumer disputes a charge for service, the utility shall investigate the dispute promptly and thoroughly, and make a diligent effort to reach a mutually satisfactory settlement. If the consumer is dissatisfied with the decision of the utility, the consumer may report the dispute to ~~the Commission's Consumer Services Division CSD~~. Upon complaint by the consumer to the Commission, disconnection of service shall be held in abeyance provided the consumer pays the portion of the bill which is not in dispute.

SUBCHAPTER 23. SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

165:35-23-1. Denial of service to a consumer

(a) A utility may refuse to provide service to an applicant or consumer from whom there remains owing an unpaid account for service of a similar character previously supplied to such applicant or consumer at any location in Oklahoma by an electric utility governed by this Chapter. The utility shall not be required to provide service to an applicant or consumer who uses an alias, trade name, business name, the name of a relative or other person as a device to escape payment of an unpaid obligation for utility service provided to such applicant or consumer; however, subject only to the above, the utility may not require a payment of unpaid utility bills of any other person, except where the previous consumer remains an occupant or user, as a condition to furnishing utility service.

(b) A utility shall not deny service to a consumer for failure to pay any obligation to the utility except the amount due for utility service actually furnished.

(c) The utility may refuse to provide service to an applicant when the applicant has not provided an acceptable valid and non-expired proof of identity. Acceptable valid and non-expired proof of identity may include the following:

(1) Driver's license or state identification card;

(2) Department of Defense identification;

(3) Employment identification;

(4) Social Security card;

(5) Student identification card;

(6) Passport;

(7) Birth certificate; or

(8) Any other verifiable proof which would establish identity.

165:35-23-2. Records of complaints as to service

(a) Each utility shall make a full and prompt investigation of every complaint made to it by its consumers, and or members of the public, either directly or through the Commission. It shall keep a record of each complaint received, which record shall show the name and address of the complainant, the date and character of the complaint, and the adjustment or disposal made thereof, which record shall be retained for two (2) years. Records shall be kept of all complaints as defined by this Chapter.

(b) In the event of a dispute between the consumer and the utility as to the accuracy of a metering device, the utility shall make such investigation as shall be required by the particular case and report the result thereof to the consumer. In the event that the complaint is not reconciled, the utility or the consumer may make application to the Commission for review of the complaint.

(c) When a utility has been notified that a complaint regarding meter accuracy has been referred to the Commission, the questioned metering equipment shall not be changed in any manner without prior authorization of the Commission. Violation of this provision will be considered as a substantiation of the complainant's contentions.

165:35-23-7. Temporary service

(a) A consumer requiring temporary service shall pay the regular rates applicable to the class or classes of service rendered for all energy used and in addition shall pay the installation and removal cost, less salvage value, of facilities installed by the utility to furnish temporary service to the consumer.

(b) Temporary service is defined as service for purposes which by their very nature indicate short duration, and shall not exceed ninety (90) calendar days without notification and justification being provided to CSD prior to the expiration of the ninety (90) calendar day period.

165:35-23-8. Request for service

Every electric utility shall initiate service to each qualified applicant for service within its service area in accordance with this Section.

(1) Applications for new electric service under 500 kVA of connected demand not requiring line extensions or construction of new facilities shall be filled by the end of the fifth (5th) business day after the applicant has met the credit requirements and complied with all applicable state and municipal regulations. This requirement must be met at least ninety-five percent (95%) of the time, weather permitting, and after the customer's location is ready for service.

(2) Applications for new or upgraded electric service under 500 kVA of connected demand requiring construction of new facilities shall be filled by the end of the ninetieth (90th) business day, or within a time period agreed to by the customer and the electric utility, after the applicant has met the credit requirements, has made satisfactory payment arrangements for construction charges, and has complied with all applicable state and municipal regulations. This requirement must be met at least ninety-five percent (95%) of the time, weather permitting, and after the customer's location is ready for service.

(3) Applications for new or upgraded industrial electrical service over 500 kVA of connected demand requiring construction shall be completed within 180 calendar days, or within a time period agreed to by the customer and the electric utility, if the applicant has met the credit

requirements, has made satisfactory payment arrangements for construction charges, and has complied with all applicable state and municipal regulations. This requirement must be met ninety-five percent (95%) of the time, weather permitting, and after the customer's location is ready for service.

(4) For customers with less than 500 kVA of connected demand, if facilities must be constructed, then the electric utility shall contact the customer within ten (10) business days of receipt of the application. The electric utility shall provide a cost estimate and estimated completion date within sixty (60) calendar days of receipt of the application and all necessary information being provided by the customer.

(5) For customers with over 500 kVA of connected demand, if facilities must be constructed, then the electric utility shall contact and meet with the customer within ten (10) working business days of receipt of the application. The utility shall include customer representatives in the planning for the construction and assessment of the work during the actual construction, unless the customer affirmatively indicates no desire to be so involved. The electric utility shall provide a cost estimate and estimated completion date within ninety (90) calendar days of receipt of the application and all necessary information being provided by the customer.

(6) Unless the delay is beyond the reasonable control of the electric utility, where no construction is required for requests from customers with under 500 kVA of connected demand, a delay of more than ten (10) business days and where construction is required for requests from customers under and over 500 kVA of connected demand a delay of more than 180 calendar days, shall constitute failure to serve unless the customer and electric utility have otherwise agreed in writing, to a longer term.

165:35-23-9. Utility acknowledgement of customer complaint inquiries

If PUD contacts a utility concerning a customer complaint, the utility shall respond to PUD within the following time periods:

(1) Inquiries regarding disconnection, suspension, or termination of service shall be acknowledged by the utility within one (1) business day of receipt of inquiry from PUD.

(2) Inquiries other than for disconnection, suspension, or termination of service shall be acknowledged by the utility within three (3) business days of receipt of inquiry from PUD.

SUBCHAPTER 25. OPERATIONS REQUIREMENTS FOR UTILITIES

PART 1. OPERATION MAINTENANCE AND RECORDS

165:35-25-2. Extension of distribution systems

(a) **Free extension.** The utility shall extend its overhead distribution lines a distance of three hundred feet (300') to provide service to each ~~bonafide~~ bona fide application for residential service, without cost to the consumer. The utility may prescribe terms and conditions of extending service to applicants for other types of service, and for extensions for low load service such as wells, security lights, and fence charges, and for extension policy required by law or by the terms of a financing agreement; which provisions, when filed with and approved by the Commission, shall be deemed to constitute compliance with this Section.

(b) **Tariff requirements of extension.** A utility shall include in its filed tariffs, terms and conditions of furnishing underground service which shall provide for determining and recovery by the utility for the additional cost of providing underground service, and the responsibility for trenching and backfilling, and the method of calculating costs of construction.

(c) **Extension above free limit.** If the extension of the distribution system necessary to furnish service to an applicant or group of applicants is greater than specified in (b) of this Section, the utility shall require payment of the cost of the extension over the free limit before extending the distribution system.

(d) **Extension may be made above free limit when economically justified.** In lieu of making an extension pursuant to (a) and (b) of this Section, the utility may make an extension above the free limit upon receipt of a lesser payment or no payment, when the gross anticipated annual revenue from the extension will provide the utility with adequate return upon its investment, pursuant to a formula approved by the Commission or contained in its approved terms and conditions of service.

(e) **Determination of the length and cost of an extension.** For purposes of measuring extensions under this Section, the distance shall be measured along lines of proper construction from the nearest point of connection to the point of delivery on the property to be served. A required advance for construction shall be calculated from the total construction cost of the extension from which there shall be deducted:

(1) Any cost incident to excess capacity above that required to serve the applicant or group of applicants.

(2) Any cost incident to future expansions or to continue a construction plan of the utility.

(3) The cost of the free extension to which the applicant would be entitled.

(f) **Extensions applicable to prospective real estate subdivisions.**

(1) In lieu of extensions pursuant to other provisions of this Section, the utility may require a developer desiring an extension to a prospective real estate subdivision to make an advance for construction equal to the estimated total cost of the project before construction or the extension is started, which advance for construction shall not draw interest. The term "project" includes the entire distribution construction necessary to serve the subdivision and all line extensions to serve the individual parcels of said subdivision. In no case shall the total amount refunded exceed the amount advanced for construction with the utility. Consumers locating on an extension made pursuant to this paragraph shall not be required to make an extension advance for construction.

(2) The utility may require the developer desiring service to a prospective real estate subdivision to make an advance for construction equal to the estimated cost of the distribution system without line extensions. In such cases no refund to the developer will be made upon connection of individual line extension within the subdivision.

(3) A utility may enter into a contract with a developer which shall be deemed a special contract governed by OAC 165:35-5-1(c).

(g) **Appeals to the Commission.** If the extension above the free limits is of such length and the future anticipated revenues therefrom so small that it is doubtful that the extension would ever make a fair return on the investment, the utility or any interested person may apply to the Commission for an appropriate order.

(h) **Property of extension.** Every extension shall at all times be the property of the utility, regardless of whether an advance for construction is made in aid of its construction. At the end of five (5) years, any unrebated portion of a contribution or advance for construction made subject to refund shall become the property of the utility.

(i) **Adoption of policy by utility.** The utility may adopt a policy for extension to be made for the purpose of serving irrigation wells and/or oil field water flooding projects and for advances for construction for payment of all or part of the cost thereof by such consumer, which policy shall be prescribed in its approved tariffs.

165:35-25-3. Maintenance of plant, equipment, and facilities

(a) **Safety of plant and system.** Each utility shall install, operate, and maintain its entire plant and system in such condition as will enable it to furnish safe and adequate service, subject only to emergency conditions beyond its control. Utilities shall also perform routine inspections of overhead electric supply lines and accessible facilities for hazards to the public.

(b) **Accepted good practice.** The generating, transmission, and distribution system, including but not limited to generating plants and equipment, transmission lines, substations, overhead systems, underground systems, street lighting systems, service wires and support equipment attachments, transformers, meters and measuring equipment, and remote meter reading equipment shall be constructed, installed, maintained, and operated in accordance with accepted good practice up to and including the point of delivery to the consumer. "Accepted good practice" shall be defined by the applicable rules governing installation, operations, maintenance, and safety contained in the National Electrical Safety Code-NEC.

(c) **Compliance with the ~~National Electrical Safety Code-NEC.~~** ~~The Commission hereby adopts the minimum requirements of the 2012 Edition of the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) adopted by the ANSI (ANSI C2) as its rules and regulations governing safety of the installation and maintenance of electric utility systems. The installation and maintenance of electric utility systems shall comply with the NEC minimum standard requirements.~~

(1) Only the specific minimum clearances required by the ~~2012 Edition of the NESC-NEC~~ shall be required by this Chapter. Construction and facilities which meet the specific minimum clearances shall be deemed to meet the purpose of the ~~NESC-NEC~~ of the "practical safeguarding of persons." Any additional clearances provided will be at the discretion of the electric utility, or as directed by the Commission, and shall not be required or necessary to provide additional public safety.

(2) On all underground construction completed after the effective date of this Chapter, the utility shall place warning labels (of a Commission-approved design) at all locations where aboveground equipment and facilities are readily accessible to the public.

(3) The utility shall perform detailed inspections of its overhead facilities to identify any potential safety issues that could impact service or public safety. Utilities shall submit their inspection programs to PUD.

(d) Duties of pole owners and pole occupants

(1) A pole owner must establish, maintain, and make available to pole occupants its joint use construction standards for attachments to its poles, and for joint space in conduits. Standards for attachment must apply uniformly to attachments by all operators, including the pole owner.

(2) A pole owner must establish and maintain mutually agreeable protocols for communications between the pole owner, pole occupants, and PUD. Such protocols shall include, but not be limited to including, standards for notification of pole abandonment, replacements, or moves. Such protocols shall be available upon request to PUD.

(3) Primary responsibility to rectify safety problems shall lie with the pole occupant whose facilities are in violation. In the event facilities are abandoned, the pole owner shall work

with PUD to rectify the safety concern, and shall correct any unsafe condition to alleviate a safety risk, or a potential risk, to the general public and/or property.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as requiring pole owners to allow pole occupants access to their poles. Further, nothing in this section indicates that the Commission shall have any right to regulate the rates charged by pole owners for access to poles.

(5) After a major event, a utility shall be given a ninety (90) day grace period to complete service restoration to the affected area and to conduct any post-inspection analyses. Utilities may request an extension of the grace period from the PUD Director by submitting the request in writing.

~~(d)~~**(e) Reliability of supply.** The generating capacity of a utility's plant, supplemented by the electric power regularly available from other sources or firm contracts for electric power by a utility which operates no generating plants, must be sufficiently large to meet all normal demands for service and provide a reasonable reserve for emergencies.

~~(e)~~**(f) Quality of service.**

(1) In the event that any consumer operates or connects any electrical device to his/her electric system which causes an interference, noise, distortion of the 60 Hz sine wave, or other disturbance on the system of the utility which results in a disruption, disturbance, or interference to the utility, its consumers, or a communication company or its consumers, the utility shall:

(A) Require the consumer causing the problem to take corrective measures by installing suitable or special equipment necessary to eliminate or reasonably limit such adverse effect, or

(B) Install, at the consumer's expense, equipment specifically designed to reasonably limit such adverse effect.

(2) The consumer causing the problem shall bear all expenses necessary to eliminate the adverse conditions or be subject to a discontinuance of service after written notice so that other consumers are not deprived of the quality of service provided prior to the existence of the problem. Where the utility believes the condition creates a hazard to the public, the utility, or the property, the disconnection may be made without prior notice. However, the utility shall notify the consumer as soon as practical after the disconnection.

~~(f)~~**(g) Harmonics.** In 60 Hertz electric power systems, a harmonic is a sinusoidal component of the 60 Hertz fundamental wave having a frequency that is an integral multiple of the fundamental frequency. "Excessive harmonics," in this subsection, shall mean levels of current or voltage distortion at the point of common coupling (metering point) between the utility and the consumer outside the levels recommended in the IEEE standard referenced in subsection ~~(f)~~**(+)(g)(1)**. Each utility shall assist every consumer or communications provider affected with problems caused by excessive harmonics and consumers or communications providers affected in exceptional cases as described in subsection (f)(5).

(1) **Applicable standards.** In addressing harmonics problems, the utility and the consumer shall implement, to the extent reasonably practicable and in conformance with prudent operation, the practices outlined in IEEE Standard 519-1992, *IEEE Recommended Practices and Requirements for Harmonic Control in Electric Power Systems*, or any successor IEEE standard, to the extent not inconsistent with law, including state and federal statutes, orders, and regulations, and applicable municipal regulations.

(2) **Investigation.** After notice by a consumer or communications provider that it is experiencing problems caused by harmonics, or if a utility otherwise becomes aware of harmonics conditions adversely affecting a consumer or communications provider, the utility

shall determine whether the condition constitutes excessive harmonics. If so, the utility shall investigate and determine the cause of the excessive harmonics.

(3) **Excessive harmonics created by consumer.** If a utility determines that a consumer has created excessive harmonics that cause or are reasonably likely to cause another consumer or communications provider to receive unsafe, unreliable or inadequate electric service, the utility shall provide written notice to the consumer creating excessive harmonics. The notice shall state that the utility has determined that the consumer has created an excessive harmonics condition and that the utility has explained the source and consequences of the harmonics problem. The notice shall give the consumer two options to cure the problem.

(A) The utility may cure the problem by working on the consumer's electric facilities at a mutually agreeable time and assess the investigation and repair costs to the consumer.

(B) The consumer may elect to cure the problem at its option and its cost, but the remedy shall occur within a reasonable time, which will be specified in the notice.

(4) **Failure of the consumer to remedy the problem.** Failure of the consumer to remedy the problem may require the utility to disconnect the consumer's service. The utility shall then remedy the excessive harmonics condition, or the utility may determine that the consumer has remedied the condition within the time specified. In the event the consumer refuses to allow the utility to remedy the problem and does not stop creating excessive harmonics within the time specified, the utility may disconnect the consumer's service. Before disconnecting pursuant to this subsection, the utility shall provide written notice of its intent to disconnect at least five ~~working~~ (5) business days before doing so, unless the consumer grants the utility access to its electric facilities or ceases creating excessive harmonics. The utility may disconnect the consumer five ~~working~~ (5) business days after providing the notice, unless the consumer grants the utility access to its electric facilities or ceases creating excessive harmonics.

(5) **Excessive harmonics created by a utility or third party.** If a utility determines that its operation or facilities, or the operations or facilities of a third party other than a consumer, created excessive harmonics that causes, or is reasonably likely to cause, a consumer or communications provider to receive unsafe, unreliable or inadequate electric service, the utility shall remedy the excessive harmonics condition at the earliest practical date.

(6) **Excessive total harmonic distortion created by two or more harmonic sources within IEEE 519 limits.** If, in its investigation of a harmonics problem, an electric utility determines that two or more consumer's harmonic loads are individually within IEEE 519 limits but the sum of the loads are in excess of the IEEE 519 limits, the utility may require each consumer to reduce its harmonic levels below the limits specified in IEEE 519.

(7) **Cost responsibility.** Each utility or third party that created an excessive harmonics condition, or that investigated or remedied an excessive harmonics condition created by a third party other than a consumer, must bear the costs incurred in investigating and remedying the condition, and shall not assess any fees to the affected consumer.

~~(g)~~**(h) Power quality monitoring.** In addressing power quality monitoring, each utility shall implement, to the extent reasonably practicable and in conformance with prudent operation, the practices outlined in IEEE Standard 1159-1995, *IEEE Recommended Practice for Monitoring Electric Power Quality*, or any successor IEEE standard, to the extent not inconsistent with law, including state and federal statutes, orders, and regulations, and applicable municipal regulations.

(i) If PUD informs the utility of any safety issues concerning the utility's plant, equipment, or facilities by identifying the relevant NEC, Commission rule, or other applicable Federal or State

[laws implicated by the safety issue, the utility shall electronically provide photographic evidence to PUD showing completion of work and that the issue has been resolved.](#)

PART 3. RELIABILITY OF SERVICE AND RELIABILITY PROGRAM

165:35-25-18. Performance levels

(a) **Utility's responsibility and indices used.** It shall be the utility's responsibility to maintain and compile the data necessary to compute System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI) and System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI) (and to the maximum extent practicable, Momentary Average Interruption Frequency Index (MAIFI)). These indices shall be computed by the utility for each reporting year, or any sub-period thereof, as requested by ~~the Commission-PUD~~. The data maintained and compiled for the computation of the indices shall conform strictly to their respective definitions as set forth in this Part. The indices shall be computed for the utility's entire service territory, for each region, and for each distribution circuit. Computation of the indices shall not include interruptions that have resulted from operating conditions that are beyond the utility's control (such as a major event, as that term is defined and used under this subchapter). Each utility shall maintain the raw interruption and duration data as well as the computation of the indices for each reporting year, for a period of not less than three years after the annual report filing deadline. The utility shall maintain all data necessary to compute SAIDI and SAIFI (and to the maximum extent practicable, MAIFI), for all major events but is not required to make such computations except as requested by ~~the Commission-PUD~~.

(b) **Minimum performance level.** Upon receipt of the utility's annual report, ~~the Commission PUD~~ will compare the indices computed for the utility's service territory to the minimum performance level. The minimum performance level shall represent the lower threshold of adequate service below which further review, analysis, and corrective action may be required. The minimum performance levels shall be reached when the SAIDI and SAIFI values of each utility's service are equal to or better than the minimum performance levels for these indices. The base performance level for SAIDI and SAIFI for the period January 2005 through December 2009 shall be established through engineering and economic studies of historical performance and system operations prepared by each utility, in consultation with PUD Staff, and submitted as part of each utility's reliability report submitted March 1, 2005. This base performance level shall be recomputed by each utility every fifth (5th) year and submitted to ~~the Commission-PUD~~ in the next year's reliability report. After notice and hearing, the Commission may modify the minimum performance level of any utility. The minimum performance level for a utility with less than 100,000 customers shall be adjusted to account for variances in the rural nature or other special characteristics of their distribution system. The adjusted minimum performance level for a utility with less than 100,000 customers shall be determined by multiplying the annual minimum performance level by the ratio of miles of line per customer plus 1 for the reporting year. It will be the responsibility of the utility to determine the adjusted minimum performance level using this formula for each reporting year. The utility's average number of customers for the prior reporting year shall determine the standards to be applied to the current reporting year.

(c) **Objective performance level.** The objective performance level shall represent a fully adequate level of service that each utility should strive to achieve and maintain. It shall be reached when the SAIDI and SAIFI values of each utility's service territory are for the year is

within the bandwidth established based on the data gathered pursuant to the process described in OAC 165:35-25-18(b).

(d) **Commission Review.** In its review of a utility's cost of service and rate of return, the Commission may consider, in general rates cases, the utility's reliability reporting and levels for SAIDI, SAIFI, Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI), and MAIFI.

(e) **Limitations to technology.** Utilities that do not have the technological capability to maintain and compile all such data, shall maintain and compile such data that it has available and utilizes to define and identify system reliability levels as well as outline progress towards attainment of additional technologies.

165:35-25-20. Annual reliability report

(a) Each utility shall submit an annual reliability report to ~~the Commission~~ PUD by March 1st of each year, beginning March 1, 2005.

(b) The annual reliability report shall include the following:

(1) A description of all vegetation management it performed for the previous calendar year and the vegetation management it plans to perform for the current year.

(2) SAIDI and SAIFI (and to the maximum extent practicable, MAIFI) values computed for the entire service territory and displayed in tabular form. SAIDI and SAIFI events should be calculated using a sustained time of five (5) minutes or more for Root Mean Square (RMS) zero voltages; MAIFI events should be calculated using any time less than five (5) minutes for RMS zero voltages. Multiple interruptions within five (5) minutes are considered one momentary interruption event.

(3) SAIDI and SAIFI (and to the maximum extent practicable, MAIFI) values computed for each of the utility's regions and displayed in tabular form. SAIDI and SAIFI events should be calculated using a sustained time of five (5) minutes or more for RMS zero voltages; MAIFI events should be calculated using any time less than five (5) minutes for RMS zero voltages. Multiple interruptions within five (5) minutes are considered one momentary interruption event.

(4) A detailed report for each major event that is not included in the calculation of the reliability indices. The major event report shall include the interruption cause or causes, date, regional location, percentages of consumers without service in that region as a result of the event, the time or time frame in which service was lost to 10% or more of that region, the time the last consumer's service was restored in that region, and any other details that the utility or ~~the Commission~~ PUD believes will further justify the exclusion of the event from the calculations.

(5) A description of the program the utility has in place for analyzing and improving worst performing circuits and a summary of the results of the program for the reporting year.

(6) A description and map identifying the utility's service regions or operations divisions. Documentation and illustration of any changes in region boundaries as defined by the utility, and justification for such changes.

(7) For each utility with less than 100,000 consumers, show the data used to calculate as well as the calculation of the rural adjusted minimum performance level.

(c) ~~The Commission~~ PUD reserves the right to request additional data and/or documents if necessary.

(d) **Limitations to technology.** Utilities that do not have the technological capability to maintain and compile all such data, shall maintain and compile such data that it has available and

utilizes to define and identify system reliability levels as well as outline progress towards attainment of additional technologies.

PART 5. UTILITY SCORECARD

165:35-25-24. Utility performance scorecard

(a) Using the data submitted pursuant to OAC 165:35-25-20, ~~the Commission~~ PUD shall annually prepare a scorecard for each utility covering the following areas:

- (1) SAIFI;
- (2) SAIDI;
- (3) MAIFI (to the extent that this measure is utilized);
- (4) Vegetation management; and
- (5) Worst performing circuits.

(b) The scorecard shall be prepared such that the performance of utilities of differing sizes and number of consumers can be directly compared.

(c) ~~The Commission's~~ PUD's utility performance scorecards will be published annually not later than May 1.

SUBCHAPTER 27. COST REPORTING AND ACCOUNTING

165:35-27-1. Cost of services, materials, or facilities for other types of business or subsidiaries

(a) When a utility is engaged in any type of nonutility business or operations, through subsidiaries or otherwise, or in any business not considered in ratemaking process by the Commission, and personnel, material, equipment, or any facility of the utility is supplied for the operation of such other type of business or subsidiary, the utility shall keep an accurate account of allocation of all of the cost of personnel, services, material, equipment, or any facility between utility and nonutility operations. There shall be a written accounting thereof for utility and nonutility operations on a monthly basis. This accounting will clearly delineate company's utility and non-utility expenses and revenues for the purposes of accurate ratemaking.

(b) The cost of keeping the records and any other expense caused by furnishing such services, materials, or facilities shall be charged to the recipient thereof. The term "all of the cost" in this Section shall mean actual cost plus any direct or indirect charges related to the cost of services, materials, or facilities calculated on the same basis used in allocating direct or indirect charges to the utility operations.

(c) Records of and reports on services, materials, or facilities of other types of business or subsidiaries referred to in this Section shall be available to ~~the Commission~~ PUD or its representative.

165:35-27-2. Municipal fees, taxes, and other exactions

The aggregate amount of all franchise payments, or contributions or payments in lieu thereof, or other exactions imposed upon utilities or electric cooperatives by any municipality of this state for engaging in business within the municipality or for the use and occupancy of its streets and public ways is a matter between the municipality and the utility or electric cooperative. The

amount of the exactions charged to and collected from the consumers by the utility shall be in accordance with the respective municipal ordinance or statute. The amount of such exactions shall be charged to consumers within said municipality pro rata in accordance with actual revenue associated with the provided service. The amount of such ~~payments~~charges shall be separately stated as a line item on the regular billings to consumers as a dollar amount.

165:35-27-4. Accounting

(a) The Uniform System of Accounts of FERC prescribed for Public Utilities and Licensees (Class A, B, C, and D) or prescribed by the RUS or other uniform system acceptable to the Commission may be adopted by a utility.

(b) Electric utilities operating within Oklahoma shall be classed by revenue as follows:

CLASS	ANNUAL GROSS OPERATING REVENUE
A	\$2,500,000 or more
B	\$1,000,000 to \$2,500,000
C	\$150,000 to \$1,000,000
D	\$25,000 to \$150,000

(c) No change in or departure from the system used by the utility will be permitted except upon order of the Commission, made after notice and hearing.

(d) The Annual Report FERC Form 1 - Class A and B Electric Companies and FERC Form 1A - Class C and D Electric Utility Companies promulgated by the FERC and RUS Report Form 7A promulgated by the RUS are hereby adopted for purposes of the annual report to this Commission by all Class A, B, C, and D Electric Utilities filing such reports with the FERC and the RUS. Each utility having multistate utility operations, in addition to ~~filing~~submitting with the Commission a copy of its annual report to the FERC if any, shall ~~file~~submit an annual report on a form furnished or approved by the Commission, of its utility service and operations in the State of Oklahoma. Any allocation of costs or revenues necessary in developing results of utility operations for the State of Oklahoma shall be accomplished on a basis acceptable to the Commission.

(e) The results of operations reported by each electric utility in its annual report to the Commission shall be reconciled with the results of operations shown on its books, records and in its other reports to the Commission.

(f) Each utility shall report to the Commission at the end for the utility's fiscal year on forms furnished or approved by the Commission, the book value of its utility plant. These reports and annual reports required by (d) of this Section shall be delivered to the Commission within five (5) business days of the date such reports are filed with either the FERC or RUS; provided that the Commission may grant an extension for time for good cause shown. In the event that the utility has requested an extension of time from FERC or RUS, it will advise the PUD Director ~~of the Public Utility Division~~, in writing, of such filing delay.

**SUBCHAPTER 29. ELECTRICITY PURCHASES FOR
PRODUCERS AND PARALLEL OPERATION**

165:35-29-1. Purchase of electricity from cogenerators or small power producers

- (a) Purchases under this Section shall be from cogenerators and small power producers (producers) as defined and qualified under Section 201 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) of 1978. Producers shall not be utilities as defined elsewhere in the Chapter.
- (b) Unless otherwise provided for by this Section and in an approved experimental purchase tariff, the utility's Terms and Conditions of Service shall apply to joint consumer producers.
- (c) Each utility will maintain a list available to the Commission for all potential cogenerators and small power producers who have been in written contact with the utility and record the disposition of each such line of inquiry.
- (d) Each utility will maintain an experimental purchase tariff on file applicable to purchases from certain facilities of ~~100-300~~ KW or less. This tariff will consist of a Purchase Agreement form prepared by the utility and approved by the Commission; Purchase Rate Schedules for wind, photo-voltaic and stored water hydro power, which reflect the utility's avoided costs, as approved by the Commission; and the experimental standard Terms and Conditions of Purchase of the Commission.
- (e) Each utility will maintain on file for all other potential cogenerators ~~a~~ and small power producers information sufficient to guide such parties in regard to avoided costs and procedures. Such information shall include, but not be limited to:
 - (1) The utility's response to avoided cost interrogatories as requested by the Commission.
 - (2) A copy of this Chapter.
 - (3) A copy of the experimental tariff.
 - (4) Such reports and analyses as shall be prescribed by the Commission.
 - (5) For investor owned utilities, the information required by Section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) of 1978.
- (f) A cogenerator or small power producer has the right:
 - (1) To generate in parallel with the utility.
 - (2) To sell, at his/her option, his/her total generation or his/her generation net of electrical requirements.
 - (3) To receive for his/her generation a fair rate based on the costs avoided by the utility because of his/her delivery, reliability, dispatchability and other factors, as determined by the Commission.
 - (4) To other substantive rights granted by PURPA.
 - (5) To good faith negotiation by the utility.
 - (6) To bring complaint or dispute to the Commission for mediation, hearing or other resolution.
- (g) Nothing in this Section will prevent a qualified producer from executing a special purchase contract with a utility, provided that the contract must be approved by the Commission prior to its effective date.

165:35-29-2. Parallel operation of generation facilities

- (a) This Section applies to any party (interconnected party) who wishes to operate or who is operating generation facilities in parallel with a utility except the following:
 - (1) Other utilities subject to the rules of this Commission or FERC or its successor organization, if any.
 - (2) Parties qualifying under OAC 165:35-29-1, and who have not agreed with the utility to operate under this Section.

- (3) Parties operating in parallel according to an agreement signed prior to March 20, 1981, who have not agreed with the utility to operate under OAC 165:35-29-1.
- (b) As a condition of service, no interconnecting party may interconnect or operate generation facilities in parallel with a utility without prior written approval by the utility of such parallel operation and for the interconnection facilities.
- (c) Interconnection requirements shall be reasonable and all costs (over normal policies under the terms of service) shall be borne by the interconnecting party.
- (d) Any party meeting the requirements in (a) through (d) of this Section shall have the right to operate in parallel with the utility using a detented service meter so that no credits are obtained for amounts returned to the utility system. The utility may establish buy back rates or enter into special contracts that are otherwise consistent with this Chapter.
- (e) All agreements and contracts for such interconnection and parallel operation shall be submitted to the Commission for approval prior to interconnection, except as otherwise ordered by the Commission. In no event shall the terms of such agreement or contract be less favorable to the utility than those provided under OAC 165:35-29-1.
- (f) Upon interconnection, the [PUD Director](#) ~~of the Public Utility Division~~ shall be notified by the utility of the date, name, and legal address of the interconnecting party, and the location and description of the facilities.

SUBCHAPTER 31. AFFILIATE TRANSACTIONS AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS OF UTILITIES AND AFFILIATES

165:35-31-2. Determination of confidential information

- (a) If a utility that seeks to provide electric utility services is required by this Subchapter to submit information to the Commission that is alleged to be confidential, a motion for a protective order concerning said confidential information may be filed requesting a determination be made by the Commission to protect said information pursuant to 51 O.S. § 24A.22.
- (b) After a determination regarding approval of any protective order by the Commission, ~~the Public Utility Division~~ [PUD](#), and the Attorney General's Office may, at its option, review the information claimed to be confidential at a mutually agreed upon location.
- (c) In the absence of a protective order, all information considered by the Commission in establishing utility tariffs and in determining compliance with the rules of this Subchapter shall not be maintained in confidence by the Commission.

165:35-31-20. Sales of services, products, or assets between regulated and unregulated affiliates

- (a) **Transactions between a utility and its affiliates.** A utility shall not subsidize the business activities of any affiliate with revenues from a regulated service. A utility cannot recover more than its reasonable fair share of the fully allocated costs for any transaction or shared services.
- (b) **Contemporaneous record requirement.** A utility shall maintain a contemporaneous written record of all individual transactions with a value equal to or over one million dollars with its affiliates, excluding those involving shared services or corporate support services and those transactions governed by tariffs or special contracts. Such records, which shall include at a minimum, the date of the transaction, name of affiliate(s) involved, name of a utility employee knowledgeable about the transaction, and a detailed description of the transaction with

appropriate support documentation for review purposes, shall be maintained by the utility for three years.

(c) **Transfers of assets.** Except as otherwise required by federal statute or regulation, or pursuant to Commission authorized competitive bidding, tariffs, special contract, or as otherwise ordered by the Commission; cost recovery for property transferred from a utility to its affiliate shall be priced at the "higher of cost or fair market value." Except as otherwise required by federal statute or regulation, or pursuant to Commission authorized competitive bidding, tariffs, special contract or as otherwise ordered by the Commission; asset valuation and transfers of property transferred from an affiliate to its utility shall be priced at the "lower of cost or fair market value." No matter the origin of the transaction, all transfers between a utility and an affiliate will be individually scrutinized by the Commission on a case-by-case basis.

(d) **Sale of products or services.** Except as otherwise required by federal or state statute or regulation, or pursuant to Commission authorized competitive bidding, tariffs, special contract or as otherwise ordered by the Commission; any sale of products and services provided from the affiliate to the utility shall be priced at the "lower of cost or fair market value." Except as otherwise required by federal statute or regulation, or pursuant to Commission authorized competitive bidding, tariffs, special contract or as otherwise ordered by the Commission; any sale of jurisdictional products and services provided from the utility to the affiliate shall be priced at the "higher of cost or fair market value."

(e) **Joint purchases.** A utility may make a joint purchase with its affiliates of goods and services involving goods and/or services necessary for utility operations. The utility must ensure that all joint purchases are priced, reported, and conducted in a manner that permits clear identification of the utility's and the affiliate's allocations of such purchases.

(f) **Tying arrangements prohibited.** Unless otherwise allowed by the Commission through a rule, order or tariff, a utility shall not condition the provision of any product, service, pricing benefit, waivers or alternative terms or conditions upon the purchase of any other good or service from the utility's affiliate.

SUBCHAPTER 33. HOMELAND SECURITY AND CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

165:35-33-1. Purpose and scope

(a) The purpose of this Subchapter is to ~~encourage~~require utilities to take all reasonable measures necessary to protect their critical infrastructures from extended interruption of service from all extraordinary events, natural and man-made.

(b) The ~~Corporation~~ Commission ~~encourages~~requires electric utilities to develop, implement, and maintain Homeland Security and Critical Infrastructure Plans according to the industry standards enumerated in sub-section (d) below.

(c) To the extent that a utility seeks to recover costs for security measures outside of a general rate review for the implementation of Homeland Security and/or Critical Infrastructure protections, the utility shall comply with all provisions of this Subchapter.

(d) Each electric utility serving Oklahoma jurisdictional ratepayers is ~~encouraged~~required to follow the most current applicable North American Electric Reliability Corporation's (NERC's) Security Guidelines and Standards or equivalent cybersecurity framework, as may be amended from time to time, for use as guidelines for protecting the utility's Critical Infrastructure from extended service interruption.

(e) Each electric utility seeking to recover costs for security measures from Oklahoma

jurisdictional ratepayers outside of a general rate review shall develop, implement, and maintain a Critical Infrastructure and Security Plan as further set forth within this Subchapter.

(f) If the utility has implemented a Security Plan or process in accordance with the applicable industry guidelines but is not seeking or receiving cost recovery for security-related costs, the utility shall submit the Certification Letter required by OAC 165:35-33-7(f) and the Plan shall be subject to review pursuant to the Authorized Participation and Confidentiality provisions of OAC 165:35-33-10 and OAC 165:35-33-11. The utility is not otherwise required to comply with the provisions of this Subchapter.

(g) The Commission retains its jurisdictional and supervisory authority to address the reasonableness and/or prudence of any proposed security cost recovery.

(h) Nothing in this subchapter shall relieve any utility from any duty otherwise prescribed by the laws of the State of Oklahoma or this Commission's rules.

(i) Nothing in this Subchapter is intended to divest the utility of its right to object to any discovery requests from intervenors seeking access to "Highly Sensitive Confidential" materials.

(j) If any provision of this Subchapter is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Subchapter which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this Subchapter are declared to be severable.

165:35-33-5. Utility Security Plan

(a) Each electric utility is ~~encouraged~~required to prepare and make available for inspection, a "Homeland Security and Critical Infrastructure Plan" ("Plan") that has been prepared with reference to the applicable NERC Security Guidelines and Standards or equivalent cybersecurity framework and standard as guidance with a defined cybersecurity strategy.

(b) The Plan shall be marked as "Highly Sensitive Confidential" and designate those facilities that the utility considers to be Critical Infrastructure (physical assets and computer software as defined in OAC 165:35-33-3 above), and shall set forth the utility's measures to secure such facilities from extended service interruption. The Plan shall also include an estimate of the costs necessary to achieve such measures.

(c) The Plan shall remain on site at the utility's business office in accordance with OAC 165:35-33-7(g) below and shall have the most current version of the redlined Plan Update Report attached to the clean version of the utility's latest Plan. At the utility's option, changes will either be redlined or a history of changes may be maintained.

(d) The Plan shall list all locations deemed by the utility to be critical, as well as identification of any subsequently increased security measures. All locations and security measures shall be identified by code known only to the utility and designated state government officials and their designees.

(e) Any subsequent security measures identified in the Plan shall contain an estimate of the cost necessary to implement such measures, a description of the measures necessary to adequately secure each specific location and an estimated schedule for completion of each measure.

(f) All locations identified by the Plan that require additional security measures shall be prioritized by the utility.

(g) Beginning December 30, 2005 and on July 1 of each year thereafter, Commission Staff shall submit an Annual Report marked as "Highly Sensitive Confidential" to the Commission, summarizing the results of Staff's review of a utility's Plan (and any Plan Update Reports), along with any recommendations that Staff may have regarding such Plan(s).

(h) Beginning December 30, 2005, where the Attorney General elects to submit recommendations to the Commission regarding a utility's Plan, such recommendations shall be marked as "Highly Sensitive Confidential" and shall also be due by July 1 of each subsequent year thereafter.

165:35-33-7. Reporting requirements

(a) Subsequent to the preparation of the initial Plan prepared under OAC 165:35-33-5(a), each utility shall prepare a Plan Update Report by March 1 of each succeeding year, following the same format as the initial Plan with redlines of all new changes, marked "Highly Sensitive Confidential" and kept on site at the utility's business office.

(b) Each subsequent Plan Update Report shall update the previous year's report by indicating for each specific coded location, all costs and completion dates (actual and projected) for all current and prior additional security measures claimed under this Subchapter.

(c) The utility is required to report cybersecurity or infrastructure security events that affect customers immediately to the PUD Director or designee.

~~(e)~~(d) For those security measures previously reported that have not yet been completed, revised estimated costs and estimated completion dates shall be provided.

~~(d)~~(e) The Plan Update Report shall also include (by specific coded location) a description of each proposed security measure that has not been previously reported, the estimated costs for each, as well as the estimated completion date for each measure.

~~(e)~~(f) Costs reflected in the initial Plan and in subsequent Plan Update Reports, whether estimated or actual, shall be identified as either capital or expense costs.

~~(f)~~(g) Beginning August 1, 2005 and by March 1 of every year thereafter, and/or when a change is made, each utility shall submit a Certification Letter to the PUD Director ~~of the Public Utility Division~~, marked as "Highly Sensitive Confidential" and certifying that as of the date of the Certification Letter:

- (1) The utility does not have a Homeland Security and Critical Infrastructure Plan as contemplated and defined by this Subchapter;
- (2) The utility does not have a Homeland Security and Critical Infrastructure Plan as contemplated or defined by this Subchapter but has otherwise taken steps to secure Critical Infrastructure and is not seeking cost recovery under this Subchapter;
- (3) The utility does have a Plan but is not seeking cost recovery; or
- (4) The utility has a Plan and/or has prepared its Plan Update Report updating the Plan and/or previous year's Plan Update Report;
 - (A) The redlines contained within the current Plan Update Report encompass in the entirety, all of the changes made to the utility's Plan since the Plan's inception or the previous year's certification; and
 - (B) The Plan is available for Commission and/or Attorney General review at the utility's local place of business.

~~(g)~~(h) A utility shall not be required to file its initial Plan or any of its subsequent Plan Update Reports with the Commission. Each utility shall instead, secure and maintain on site, at the utility's local place of business, its initial Plan and all subsequent Plan Update Reports.

165:35-33-9. Cost recovery

(a) Each utility seeking cost recovery of expenditures outside of a general rate review related to securing its Critical Infrastructure shall prepare and make available for inspection, its Plan and

any subsequent Plan Update Reports in accordance with this Subchapter.

(b) A utility shall file an application with the Commission for cost recovery as provided for within this Subchapter. Such cost recovery shall only occur to the extent the utility has incurred all or a portion of its actual security-related costs.

(c) Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, the utility shall have the burden of proving compliance with all of the provisions of this Subchapter prior to obtaining any cost recovery for security related measures.

(d) Upon approval and Order of the Commission, a utility shall be allowed to recover a return based on its weighted cost of long-term debt and equity on all capital expenditures made for security measures. The utility shall also be allowed to recover related depreciation expense and ad valorem taxes. Such recoveries shall be based upon similar ratemaking treatment for corresponding cost elements from the utility's most recent general rate case.

(e) Upon approval and Order of the Commission, a utility shall be allowed to recover expenses typically classified as operations and maintenance expenses for ratemaking purposes. The utility may request inclusion of any such similar costs incurred as long as these costs are directly associated with the security measures taken.

(f) The total costs incurred under this Subchapter shall be combined for recovery purposes, for consideration by the Commission.

(g) All costs approved by the Commission for recovery, shall be recovered from the utility's customers through a "Security Cost Rider" based on the projected annual billing units for the utility and shall be subject to annual true-up.

(h) Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, a utility shall immediately discontinue recovery of the "Security Cost Rider" when the earlier of the following occurs: natural expiration due to the full recovery provided for in a Rider granted under this Subchapter or forced expiration required pursuant to OAC 165:35-33-9(i) and/or OAC 165:35-33-9(j). Under no circumstances, shall the utility be permitted to double recover Homeland Security and Critical Infrastructure related costs.

(i) Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, any utility with a "Security Cost Rider" currently in effect, that files for a general rate change, shall include in the rate case, all security-related costs and those costs shall be accorded standard ratemaking treatment. A utility shall discontinue its "Security Cost Rider" when the change in rates becomes effective upon Final Order in the rate case.

(j) Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, all "Security Cost Riders" approved by the Commission, shall expire five years from the initial date of the "Security Cost Rider's" implementation.

(k) Upon the filing of a cost recovery request by a utility, Commission Staff, the state Attorney General's office (based upon that entity's statutory authority) and all other Authorized Participants shall review the cost recovery proposal submitted by the utility and file testimony in accordance with:

- (1) Any applicable protective orders issued by the Commission in the security-related cost recovery cause;
- (2) OAC 165:35-33-11 (below);
- (3) The Commission's Rules of Practice (OAC 165:5); and
- (4) Any other protective measures or requirements prescribed by law or the Commission.

(l) Testimony of Commission Staff, the state Attorney General and all other Authorized Participants, shall detail each of the parties' respective recommendations and any objections to the utility's Plan and the utility's request for cost recovery related to the Plan. Also in accordance

with the Commission's Rules of Practice, Commission Staff, the state Attorney General and all other Authorized Participants shall provide copies of their respective individual testimonies to one another, with redacted versions of each individual testimony filed with the [Commission's Court Clerk](#) ~~at the Commission~~.

(m) Upon notice and hearing, the Commission shall issue an Order regarding any requests for security-related cost recovery.

165:35-33-10. ~~Commission PUD~~ authorized participation

(a) ~~Commission PUD Staff~~. Only ~~those Commission Staff PUD~~ and ~~Staff's PUD's~~ designees authorized by ~~the Commission shall PUD to~~ participate in a cause before the Commission regarding a utility's Plan and then, shall do so only after meeting all applicable requirements for ~~Commission PUD~~ authorization, which shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. All ~~Commission PUD~~ and ~~Staff's PUD's~~ designees authorized to participate in a security cause shall comply with the requirements for protecting information obtained under the "Highly Sensitive Confidential" designation.

(b) **Attorney General**. Only those Attorney General personnel who have formally entered an appearance pursuant to Oklahoma Statute and the Commission's Rules of Practice and that entity's Commission authorized designees shall be granted review of a utility's Plan and/or Plan Update Reports. All Attorney General personnel and their designees authorized to participate in a security cause shall meet all applicable requirements for Commission authorization, to be determined on a case-by-case basis, and shall comply with the protections afforded information obtained under the "Highly Sensitive Confidential" designation.

(c) **Intervenors**.

(1) For the purposes of this Subchapter, all intervenors, including but not limited to counsel and experts for intervenors, shall be deemed "Authorized Participants" in accordance with OAC 165:35-33-3 above. All Authorized Participants wishing to participate in a security-related cause before the Commission shall meet all applicable requirements for Commission authorization, which shall be determined on a case-by-case basis, and shall comply with the protections afforded information obtained under the "Highly Sensitive Confidential" designation.

(2) In addition to acquiring "Authorized Participant" status from the Commission, each intervenor and its designees desiring to participate in a cause before the Commission regarding a utility's Plan shall post a bond or other security acceptable to the Commission, in an amount to be determined by the Commission, to protect the utility from harm in the event the Authorized Participant breaches the confidentiality terms established under this Subchapter or as may otherwise be established by the Commission. A copy of such bond or other security shall be filed with the Commission's Court Clerk. This subsection shall not apply to the Attorney General of the State of Oklahoma or the Oklahoma Corporation Commission Commissioners and Staff.

(3) Any Authorized Participant found in violation of a Commission issued Protective Order and Proprietary Agreement, shall be liable for contempt penalties pursuant to the penalty provisions found in Article IX, § 19 of the Oklahoma Constitution, Title 17 of the Oklahoma Statutes and the Commission's Rules of Practice at OAC 165:5. This subsection shall not apply to the Attorney General of the State of Oklahoma or the Oklahoma Corporation Commission Commissioners and Staff.

(4) In addition to the above protections, all Authorized Participants may be required by the

Commission to enter into a separate non-disclosure agreement as a pre-requisite to being granted intervention and "Authorized Participant" status.

165:35-33-11. Confidentiality

(a) Pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction granted under Article IX, Section 18 of the Oklahoma Constitution, 51 O.S. (2001) §24A.22 of the Oklahoma Statutes and OAC 165:5, the Commission's Rules of Practice; all un-redacted documents related to a utility's Homeland Security and Critical Infrastructure Plan shall be considered "Highly Sensitive and Confidential" and shall only be admitted into evidence in en camera proceedings.

(b) "Highly Sensitive Confidential" designation and protection shall extend but not be limited to the following: initial Plans (including underlying documents), Plan Update Reports, Certification Letters, Annual Reports made by Commission Staff, recommendations submitted by the Attorney General of the State of Oklahoma and un-redacted documents used in cost recovery proceedings. For all other documents, the "Highly Sensitive Confidential" designation may be granted upon hearing and Final Order of the Commission.

(c) Each utility's Plan and/or Plan Update Report prepared in accordance with this Subchapter, shall be marked "Highly Sensitive Confidential" and shall be kept and maintained on site at the utility's business office in accordance with OAC 165:35-33-7(g), above. Only those individuals on the Staff of the ~~Corporation~~-Commission and in the State Attorney General's office and their respective experts who have been authorized by the Commission, shall have access to the Plan and Plan Update Reports prepared by each utility and any related or supporting documentation thereto. All other parties granted authorized intervenor status to a security cause pursuant to OAC 165:35-33-10(c) may also have access to the Plan, Plan Update Reports and supporting documentation after notice and hearing.

SUBCHAPTER 34. COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT

165:35-34-3. RFP Competitive Bidding Procurement Process for Long Term Fuel Transportation, Long Term Fuel Storage, Long Term Electric Generation and Long Term Purchase Power Agreements

(a) Competitive Bidding Structure and Process Guidelines for Long Term Fuel Transportation, Long Term Fuel Storage, Long Term Electric Generation and Long Term Purchase Power Agreements

(1) The soliciting utility shall notify the Commission of its intent to engage in a competitive bidding process at least ~~30~~thirty (30) calendar days before issuing a request for proposal ("RFP"), as required by subsection (4) below.

(2) The soliciting utility shall prepare the initial draft of the RFP documents, including but not limited to RFP procedures, and a pro forma power purchase agreement that, to the maximum extent practicable, utilizes industry standard contractual terms and contains all expected material terms and conditions and a solicitation schedule (collectively, the "RFP Document").

(3) In addition to the information required by (1) of this Section, the RFP and RFP Document, at a minimum, shall identify clearly:

(A) Term;

- (B) Amount of megawatts, if applicable, and types of products being solicited;
- (C) All price and non-price evaluation factors to be considered;
- (D) Respective weight for each price and non-price evaluation factor; and
- (E) Utility's preliminary analysis of transmission availability and the utility's plan for evaluation of transmission availability for each proposal received, including, but not limited to:
 - (i) Description of the role of transmission analysis to be conducted by the utility in the bid evaluation process. This analysis should use publicly available tools provided by the controlling entity, such as the Southwest Power Pool Scenario Analyzer; and
 - (ii) Any role of the transmission analysis to be conducted by the controlling entity, currently the Southwest Power Pool, in the bid evaluation process.

(4) The draft of the RFP Document, supporting documentation, and bid evaluation procedures shall be provided to the Commission, Attorney General, non-competitive representatives and Independent Evaluator and posted on the utility's website at least ~~15~~ fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the technical conference referenced below. After the draft RFP is issued, a technical conference shall be scheduled by the utility to discuss the draft RFP and the bidding process. After receiving input from interested persons, and holding the technical conference the soliciting utility shall post the draft RFP Document and any comments received, on the soliciting utility's website or electronic bulletin board, or by some other publicly accessible method. After due consideration of all comments, the soliciting utility will submit the final RFP Document to the Commission and post the final RFP Document on its website or electronic bulletin board, or by other publicly accessible method. RFPs shall include the Southwest Power Pool's time requirements to conduct transmission analyses, i.e. the aggregate study.

(b) **Independent Evaluator**

(1) The Commission may, at its discretion, retain and arrange compensation for an Independent Evaluator to monitor the RFP and competitive bidding process. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Commission shall retain an Independent Evaluator to monitor the RFP and competitive bidding process in the following instances: (i) when an affiliate of the utility is anticipated to participate in the competitive bidding process; (ii) when the RFP and bid resulting there from is expected to have a material impact on the ~~utilities'~~ utility's cost of providing electricity to its customers, or (iii) when it is anticipated that the utility may participate as a bidder in the competitive bidding process. The Commission shall establish the minimum qualifications and requirements for an Independent Evaluator and ensure the Independent Evaluator is financially and substantively independent from any soliciting electric utility or affiliate thereof, complaining entity, and any potential bidder.

(2) The Independent Evaluator will report to the Commission and the Attorney General.

(3) If the Independent Evaluator's conclusion is different from the conclusion of the soliciting utility about the winning bidder(s), the Independent Evaluator and utility may attempt to resolve such differences. In the event the Independent Evaluator and utility cannot resolve their differences, the soliciting utility will determine which bid(s) is successful. The Independent Evaluator shall submit its independent evaluation to the Commission.

(4) As part of its contract with the Independent Evaluator, the Commission shall require the Independent Evaluator, to enter into an agreement to keep all information confidential that pertains to the disclosure and use of any models, analytical tools, data, or other materials of a confidential or proprietary nature provided or made available by the soliciting utility in conjunction with the competitive bidding process.

(c) Affiliate Bidders' Requirements

(1) Each soliciting utility affiliate that intends to bid shall disclose publicly, in writing, the names and titles of the members of the affiliate's "Bid Team." Each soliciting utility shall disclose publicly, in writing, the names and titles of the members of its "Evaluation Team." A Bid Team develops the affiliate's bid and, to assure fairness, is not involved, directly or indirectly, in the evaluation or selection of bids. An Evaluation Team evaluates bids, selects the successful bidder and, to assure fairness, is not involved, directly or indirectly, in the development of the affiliate's bid.

(2) Each soliciting utility and bidding affiliate shall assure that the Bid Team and the Evaluation Team and any member of either do not engage in any communications, either directly or indirectly, regarding the RFP or the competitive bidding process. For bidder and Commission assurance, the soliciting utility and bidding affiliate shall execute an acknowledgement that the utility and affiliate have not and will not in the future so communicate, other than to submit and receive the bid at the appropriate time. The Bid Team and Evaluation Team may communicate as part of a bidding technical conference of which potential bidders or all actual bidders, if bids have already been submitted, are given adequate notice and opportunity to attend.

(3) The Evaluation Team shall report to the Independent Evaluator, any contact or communications by any bidder, including the Bid Team, and advise the bidder any future contact must be directed to the Independent Evaluator. Bidders and the Evaluation Team may communicate as part of a bidding technical conference of which potential bidders or all actual bidders, if bids have already been submitted, are given adequate notice and opportunity to attend.

(d) Evaluation of Responses to the RFP

(1) The evaluation of the responses to the RFP will proceed as follows:

(A) The soliciting utility will evaluate all timely submitted bids to determine the lowest reasonable cost for long-term reliable power or reliable long-term fuel sought that minimizes ratepayer cost, including but not limited to charges for or costs relating to long-term fuel supply, long-term fuel transport, long-term fuel storage, long-term fuel processing, or increased cost of capital, consistent with the principles and procedures contained in this Subchapter and in the utility's resource plan and associated procurement plans.

(B) The Commission, Attorney General, non-competitive representatives and Independent Evaluator will be included in the evaluation of all bids submitted to the soliciting utility. The soliciting utility shall include within the RFP the time and place for the opening of the bids so that the Commission, Attorney General, non-competitive representatives and the Independent Evaluator may attend and monitor the opening of bids. Bids shall be opened by the soliciting utility at the time and place so indicated in the RFP whether or not any or all of those parties are in attendance.

(2) All bids shall be evaluated on the basis of the bidder's final best offer. No bidder shall be permitted to unilaterally submit a refreshed bid unless all bidders are given a meaningful opportunity to submit a refreshed bid as a result of some material, documented change. The Independent Evaluator shall be charged with evaluating any such changes and ensuring that the changes are substantive and not an attempt to influence the final selection process in favor of a particular bidder.

(3) Should any bid be unclear to such extent that the lack of clarity could impact the outcome of the bidding, the soliciting utility, Commission, Attorney General, non-

competitive representatives or Independent Evaluator may request further information from any bidder regarding its bid, provided, any such communication between or among the soliciting utility, Commission, Attorney General, non-competitive representatives or Independent Evaluator and bidder should be conducted through an open process in which the utility, Independent Evaluator, Commission, non-competitive representatives and Attorney General are given adequate notice and an opportunity to attend.

(4) The Commission, Attorney General, non-competitive representatives and Independent Evaluator, as well as the soliciting utility, may rely on the Southwest Power Pool to conduct all necessary transmission analyses concerning bids received. Southwest Power Pool analyses provided to the Commission, Attorney General, non-competitive representatives or Independent Evaluator shall be equivalent in quality and content to that provided to the soliciting utility. No bidder, including any bidder that is an affiliate (including the Bid Team) of the soliciting utility, shall communicate with the Southwest Power Pool Transmission group during the course of the competitive bidding process regarding any aspect of the RFP or process.

(5) In conducting the evaluation of the responses, the soliciting utility shall not:

(A) Waive or otherwise modify any evaluation factor or evaluation weight for any bidder;

(B) Add any adjustments on the basis of expected effects on the utility's cost of capital if not already contained in the RFP;

(C) Impose any penalty on the price of purchased power; or

(D) Include any discount for utility self-generation on the basis of reliability as part of the utility's resource mix.

(e) Prior to a utility taking long-term procurement action other than the competitive procurement process set forth in this Subchapter, such utility shall seek a waiver of all or any part of these competitive bidding rules by filing a cause with the Commission.

(f) The utility shall promptly submit its decision concerning the successful bid with the Commission and mail copies of such submission to all bidders, non-competitive representatives, the Independent Evaluator, and the Attorney General. Included within that mailing, the utility shall provide the non-winning bidders the rationale and analysis used for the selection of the winning bid.

(1) Any unsuccessful bidder, non-competitive representatives, the Independent Evaluator, or the Attorney General shall have fifteen (15) [calendar](#) days following submission of the successful bid decision with the Commission to file with the Commission a complaint challenging the decision as not meeting the criteria for decision specified in this subchapter or waiver previously obtained pursuant to 165:35-34-3(e) and the RFP document and bid evaluation procedures developed pursuant to 165:35-34-3(a).

(2) In the event of the filing of such a complaint, after notice to all bidders and hearing, the Commission shall determine whether the utility's decision reveals either a clear departure from the criteria stated in these rules or previously obtained waiver, the RFP Document and bid evaluation procedures for decision or is erroneous, in which event the utility shall be required immediately to rebid, in accordance with this Subchapter, the items which were the subject of such determination.

(g) Upon determination of the successful bidder, the utility and successful bidder shall promptly proceed to finalize contracts necessary to implement the bid.

(1) The contract shall contain appropriate guarantees, as set by the Commission, regarding the reliability of services.

(2) At the request of either party and upon notice and hearing, the Commission shall have authority to determine any disputes between the parties as to terms incidental to the bid. All matters to be determined by the Commission under this provision shall be heard on an expedited basis and a decision rendered thereon within thirty (30) [calendar](#) days from filing.

165:35-34-4. Commodity fuel supply competitive bidding procurement process for a term greater than five years

(a) **Pre-approval filing.** When a Utility contracts for commodity fuel supply for self-generation of electricity for a term greater than five years, and seeks a pre-determination of prudence, the Utility shall file an application and receive the Commission's approval of the Utility's proposed Request for Proposal (RFP) Competitive Bidding Procurement Process prior to the Utility issuing the RFP. The evaluation and approval of the RFP shall contain, but not be limited to, the proposed bidding process, the evaluation process, consistency with the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), and a determination of need for the proposed fuel supply. The evaluation and approval of the RFP may contain a consideration of opt-out provisions. The process shall focus on and result in the lowest reasonable cost for ratepayers. The request shall be processed as follows:

- (1) An Independent Evaluator may be utilized pursuant to 165:35-34-4(b);
- (2) The soliciting Utility shall file a cause for pre-approval of the RFP and will provide notice to the Commission and Attorney General to engage in the RFP approval process at least ~~30~~ [thirty \(30\) calendar](#) days before issuing a request for pre-approval of the proposed RFP;
- (3) The soliciting Utility shall prepare the initial draft of the RFP documents that, to the extent practicable, utilizes industry standard contractual terms and contains all expected material terms and conditions and a solicitation schedule;
- (4) In addition to the information required by (3) of this Section, the RFP, at a minimum, shall identify clearly:
 - (A) Term and Renewals;
 - (B) Types and quantity of fuel being solicited;
 - (C) All price and non-price evaluation factors to be considered;
 - (D) Respective weight for each price and non-price evaluation factor;
 - (E) The Utility's preliminary analysis of desired delivery points or options as appropriate; and
 - (F) The extent to which a consideration of hedging and price volatility mitigation has been included in the RFP; and
- (5) A Commission order approving or disapproving the RFP shall be issued in no more than 180 [calendar](#) days following the filing of the Utility's application.

(b) **Independent evaluator**

(1) The Commission Staff or Office of the Attorney General may, at their discretion, file a request with the Commission for the assessment of specific costs, which shall be deemed recoverable costs associated with conducting the prudence review analysis, related to the retention of an Independent Evaluator to monitor the RFP and competitive bidding process. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Commission, or the Attorney General shall retain an Independent Evaluator to monitor the RFP and competitive bidding process in the following instances: (i) when an affiliate of the Utility is anticipated to participate in the competitive bidding process; (ii) when the RFP and bid resulting there from is expected to have a material impact on the Utility's cost of providing electricity to its customers, or (iii) when it is

anticipated that the Utility may participate as a bidder in the competitive bidding process. The Commission shall establish the minimum qualifications and requirements for an Independent Evaluator and ensure the Independent Evaluator is financially and substantively independent from any soliciting electric Utility or affiliate thereof, complaining entity, and any potential bidder.

(2) The Independent Evaluator will report to the Commission or the Office of the Attorney General.

(3) If the Independent Evaluator's conclusion is different from the conclusion of the soliciting Utility about the winning bidder(s), the Independent Evaluator and Utility may attempt to resolve such differences. In the event the Independent Evaluator and Utility cannot resolve their differences, the soliciting Utility will determine which bid(s) is successful. The Independent Evaluator shall submit its independent evaluation to the Commission.

(4) As part of its contract with the Independent Evaluator, the Commission shall require the Independent Evaluator, to enter into an agreement to keep all information confidential that pertains to the disclosure and use of any models, analytical tools, data, or other materials of a confidential or proprietary nature provided or made available by the soliciting Utility in conjunction with the competitive bidding process.

(c) Affiliate bidders' requirements

(1) Each soliciting Utility affiliate that intends to bid shall disclose publicly, in writing, the names and titles of the members of the affiliate's "Bid Team." Each soliciting Utility shall disclose publicly, in writing, the names and titles of the members of its "Evaluation Team." A Bid Team develops the affiliate's bid and, to assure fairness, is not involved, directly or indirectly, in the evaluation or selection of bids. An Evaluation Team evaluates bids, selects the successful bidder and, to assure fairness, is not involved, directly or indirectly, in the development of the affiliate's bid.

(2) Each soliciting Utility and bidding affiliate shall assure that the Bid Team and the Evaluation Team and any member of either do not engage in any communications, either directly or indirectly, regarding the RFP or the competitive bidding process. For bidder and Commission assurance, the soliciting Utility and bidding affiliate shall execute an acknowledgement that the Utility and affiliate have not and will not in the future so communicate, other than to submit and receive the bid at the appropriate time. The Bid Team and Evaluation Team may communicate as part of a bidding technical conference of which potential bidders or all actual bidders, if bids have already been submitted, are given adequate notice and opportunity to attend.

(3) The Evaluation Team shall report to the Independent Evaluator, any contact or communications by any bidder, including the Bid Team, and advise the bidder any future contact must be directed to the Independent Evaluator. Bidders and the Evaluation Team may communicate as part of a bidding technical conference which potential bidders or all actual bidders, if bids have already been submitted, are given adequate notice and opportunity to attend.

(d) Evaluation of responses to the RFP

(1) The evaluation of the responses to the RFP will proceed as follows:

(A) The soliciting Utility will evaluate all timely submitted bids to determine the lowest reasonable cost for fuel supply that results in the lowest reasonable cost with consideration given to all other bid terms outlined in the RFP; and

(B) The Commission, Attorney General, Independent Evaluator, and non-competitive representatives will be included in the evaluation of all bids submitted to the soliciting Utility pursuant to the provisions of the Protective Order. The soliciting Utility shall include within the RFP the time and place for the opening of the bids so that the Commission, Attorney General, the Independent Evaluator and non-competitive representatives may attend and monitor the opening of bids. Bids shall be opened by the soliciting Utility at the time and place so indicated in the RFP whether or not any or all of those parties are in attendance.

(2) All bids shall be evaluated on the basis of the bidder's final best offer. Bids will be evaluated on all relevant economic and non-economic factors. No bidder shall be permitted to unilaterally submit a refreshed bid prior to award unless all bidders are given a meaningful opportunity to submit a refreshed bid as a result of some material, documented change. The Independent Evaluator shall be charged with evaluating any such changes and ensuring that the changes are substantive and not an attempt to influence the final selection process in favor of a particular bidder.

(3) Should any bid be unclear to such extent that the lack of clarity could impact the outcome of the bidding, the soliciting Utility, Commission, Attorney General, Independent Evaluator and non-competitive representatives may request further information from any bidder regarding its bid, provided, any such communication between or among the soliciting Utility, Commission, Attorney General, Independent Evaluator and non-competitive representatives and bidder should be conducted through an open process in which the Utility, Independent Evaluator, Commission, Attorney General and ~~non-competitive~~ noncompetitive representatives are given adequate notice and an opportunity to attend.

(4) In conducting the evaluation of the responses, the soliciting Utility shall not: waive or otherwise modify any evaluation factor or evaluation weight for any bidder.

(e) **Bid award**

(1) The Utility shall submit its decision, rationale and analysis concerning the successful bid with the Commission, non-competitive representatives, the Independent Evaluator, and the Attorney General within 24 hours of the selection. The utility shall provide the non-winning bidders notice that they were not selected as the winning bid.

(2) The PUD Director ~~of the Public Utility Division~~, any unsuccessful bidder, the Independent Evaluator, Intervenors, or the Attorney General shall have two (2) business days following submission of the successful bid decision to file with the Commission a complaint challenging the Utility's adherence to the approved RFP and the resulting bid award.

(3) In the event of the filing of such a complaint, after notice to all parties and hearing, the Commission shall determine whether the Utility's decision reveals a clear departure from the criteria stated in the previously obtained waiver or the RFP Document in which event the bid award may not be pre-approved by the Commission.

(4) The Commission shall endeavor to hear the complaint in camera within three (3) business days of the filing of the complaint.

(5) The Commission shall endeavor to enter a final order within ~~15~~ fifteen (15) calendar days of the initial bid award letter. If the Commission has not entered a final order within ~~15~~ fifteen (15) calendar days, the winning bidder may be allowed to refresh their bid pursuant to the provisions of the RFP.

(6) The Commission shall endeavor to enter a final order no later than ~~30~~ thirty (30) calendar days after the initial bid award.

(7) Upon determination of the successful bidder, the Utility and successful bidder shall

promptly proceed to finalize contracts necessary to implement the bid.

(8) The final order, if awarding a pre-determination of prudence, will provide as follows:

(A) Purchases made according to the terms of the contract shall be deemed prudent;

(B) Variances from the terms of the contract shall be subject to additional prudence review and determination.

(f) **Waiver.** Prior to a utility taking competitive procurement action other than the competitive procurement processes set forth in this Subchapter, such Utility shall seek a waiver of all or any part of these competitive bidding rules by filing a cause with the Commission if the Utility will seek pre-approval.

SUBCHAPTER 35. PRUDENCE REVIEWS

165:35-35-1. Prudence Reviews

(a) The Commission shall conduct prudence reviews on all generation, purchased power and fuel procurement processes and costs. The first prudence review will be selected by March 31, 2006. Utilities serving four hundred thousand (400,000) consumers or more shall be reviewed at least once every two (2) years. The utility shall bear the burden of proof as to prudence. Utilities serving fewer than four hundred thousand (400,000) consumers shall be reviewed at least once every three (3) years.

(b) All fuel and generation expenses, including purchased-power-related expenses, shall be reviewed by the Commission in adjudicatory proceedings to determine that such expenses were prudently incurred. ~~The utility shall bear the burden of proof as to prudence.~~ Additional prudence reviews shall be conducted when the Commission determines that circumstances warrant such review.

(c) The Commission may impose any corrective action or penalty allowed explicitly or implicitly by law, including refund, as the result of a prudence review.

(d) Nothing in this Subchapter shall diminish the authority of the Commission to review for prudence or other reasons any utility contract, decision or other action for the provision of electric power capacity or energy.

SUBCHAPTER 37. INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANNING

165:35-37-3. Public Meeting

(a) A utility shall notify the Commission that it has prepared a proposed initial integrated resource plan at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to submission pursuant to 165:35-37-4. After giving notice, the Commission shall conduct a public meeting on the record concerning the utility's proposed initial integrated resource plan, allowing comment from interested persons as to the strengths and weaknesses of the proposed plan.

(b) The utility shall take into account the comments made at the public meeting and make such changes to the plan as seem reasonable.

(c) The utility shall make the proposed plan available prior to the public meeting to any person who requests it, except any portions subject to a Commission protective order.

(d) The Commission may conduct similar public meetings at its discretion concerning updates to the integrated resource plan as provided by 165:35-37-4.

165:35-37-4. Integrated Resource Plan Reviews

(a) Each utility shall submit to the Commission a proposed integrated resource plan. The utility's first integrated resource plan was due on October 1, 2006, and subsequent plans shall be due every three (3) years thereafter, unless ~~otherwise ordered by the utility requests an extension from the PUD Director or the utility requests a waiver from~~ the Commission. The extension granted by the PUD Director shall not exceed six (6) months. Subsequent plans shall be developed and submitted as provided by the procedure set forth in OAC 165:35-37-5. The proposed resource plan shall include, among other things, a fuel procurement plan, purchased-power procurement plans, a risk management plan, an environmental compliance plan, and other elements as described further in this Subchapter. This plan will be made available upon request by any person or entity to the soliciting utility, except any portions subject to a Commission protective order.

(b) Each utility shall have an ongoing obligation to monitor markets and inputs and to notify the Commission when material changes in planning assumptions occur. As the integrated resource plan changes from year to year, the utility shall submit updates to the Commission. The Commission may require the utility to submit an interim, updated integrated resource plan to reflect material change(s) in planning assumptions.

(c) The integrated resource plan shall include, at a minimum, a tabular summary of each of the following Sections:

- (1) Schedule A: An electric demand and energy forecast;
- (2) Schedule B: A forecast of capacity and energy contributions from existing and committed supply- and demand-side resources;
- (3) Schedule C: A description of transmission capabilities and needs covering the forecast period;
- (4) Schedule D: An assessment of need for additional resources;
- (5) Schedule E: A description of the supply, demand-side and transmission options available to the utility to address the identified needs;
- (6) Schedule F: A fuel procurement plan, purchased-power procurement plan, and risk management plan;
- (7) Schedule G: An action plan identifying the near-term (i.e., across the first five [5] years) actions that the utility proposes to take to implement its proposed resource plan;
- (8) Schedule H: Any proposed RFP(s), supporting documentation, and bid evaluation procedures by which the utility intends to solicit and evaluate new resources; and
- (9) Schedule I: A technical appendix for the data, assumptions and descriptions of models needed to understand the derivation of the resource plan.
- (10) Schedule J: A description and analysis of the adequacy of its existing transmission system to determine its capability to serve load over the next ten (10) years, including any planned proposed changes to existing transmission facilities.
- (11) Schedule K: An assessment of the need for additional resources to meet reliability, cost and price, environmental or other criteria established by the Commission, the State of Oklahoma, the Southwest Power Pool, North American Electric Reliability Council, or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. This assessment should address both base line forecast condition and important uncertainties, including but not limited to load growth, fuel prices, and availability of planned supplies.
- (12) Schedule L: An analysis of the utility's proposed resource plan and any alternative scenarios necessary to demonstrate how the preferred plan best meets the planning criteria.

Technical appendices should be included to document the planning analysis and assumptions used in preparing this analysis.

(13) Schedule M: A description and analysis of the Utility's consideration of physical and financial hedging to determine the Utility's ability to mitigate price volatility for the term covered by the IRP.

165:35-37-5. Procedure for subsequent integrated resource plans

(a) A utility shall notify the Commission that it has prepared a proposed update of its integrated resource plan at least sixty (60) calendar days prior to submission pursuant to 165:35-37-4.

(b) To allow all stakeholders the opportunity to review and provide input regarding utility objectives, assumptions, planning scenarios, and other information contained in the proposed updated integrated resource plan, after giving notice and prior to submitting the final integrated resource plan, the utility shall conduct at least one technical conference for all stakeholders. Stakeholders then may submit comments to the utility as to the strengths and weaknesses of the proposed plan.

(c) The utility shall make the proposed plan available prior to the technical conference to any person who requests it, except any portions subject to a Commission protective order or confidentiality agreement.

(d) The utility shall take into account any comments received prior to or at the technical conference and make such changes to the plan as seem reasonable.

(e) The utility shall provide a facilitator to coordinate and assist the stakeholders in their discussions at the technical conference. The facilitator provided by the utility shall prepare meeting minutes from the technical conference and prepare a summary of stakeholder input for inclusion as an exhibit in the final integrated resource plan.

(f) The Commission and/or the Attorney General may, at its discretion, retain third party consultants and/or expert witnesses to review the proposed plan and participate in the technical conference on its behalf. The utility shall be responsible for, and be allowed recovery of, the cost of such third party consultants and/or expert witnesses.

(g) The Commission may conduct similar technical conferences at its discretion concerning updates to the integrated resource plan as provided by OAC 165:35-37-4.

(h) After the above procedure has occurred, the utility shall present its final integrated resource plan at a public meeting held at the Commission.

SUBCHAPTER 38. RECOVERABLE COSTS

165:35-38-5. Self-build or Purchase Options

(a) An electric utility may elect to file an application pursuant to 17 O.S. Section 286(C), as amended, and this subchapter seeking approval by the Commission to construct a new electric generating facility, to purchase an existing electric generation facility or to enter into a long-term contract for purchased power and/or energy.

(b) Upon application by an electric utility pursuant to this Subchapter, the Commission shall review the requested cost recovery.

(c) If the soliciting utility wishes to consider an option for full or partial ownership of a self-build option, the utility must submit its construction proposal ("Self-build Proposal") to provide

all or part of the capacity requested in the RFP stated in 165:35-34 at the same time the bids are requested.

(d) Once submitted, the Self-build Proposal may not be modified by the soliciting utility. If a Self-build Proposal is selected and approved by the Commission, the amount the soliciting utility shall recover through the rate base or other cost-recovery methods without additional Commission approval is limited to the total project cost identified in the Self-build Proposal.

(e) A Cause shall be opened by the utility for cost recovery if the competitive bidding RFP process established in 165:35-34 is not utilized and the utility wishes to gain approval of cost before construction starts.

(f) Bid responses will be opened with the Independent Evaluator, Commission and the Attorney General present.

(g) Bid award terms and conditions shall be posted on the utility's web site or electronic bulletin board within sixty (60) [calendar](#) days after receipt, with a notice to the Commission.

(h) The Commission decision approving or denying the plan shall address the contents of the utility's resource plan, including its fuel procurement plan, purchased-power procurement plan, and risk management plan. If the record contains sufficient evidence, the Commission shall specifically approve or reject:

(1) The utility's proposed plans for resources in the planning period,

(2) The utility's proposed plans for acquiring additional resources through the competitive acquisition process, and

(3) The utility's proposed RFP(s).

(i) Upon the filing of an application pursuant to this Subchapter, the Commission will establish a procedural schedule, which shall provide for a Commission order within two hundred forty (240) [calendar](#) days of the date of such filing.

SUBCHAPTER 39. MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS

165:35-39-1. Purpose and Scope of this Subchapter

(a) The purpose of this Subchapter is to establish fair and reasonable rules and procedures for the Minimum Filing Requirements ("MFR") associated with the annual audit of fuel, purchased power cost recovery and purchased power supply acquisitions, of a utility ("Fuel Audit"), including but not limited to Prudence Reviews. These MFRs set forth the information to be filed and the documentation to be made available for examination by ~~the Public Utility Division~~ [PUD](#) Staff, [the](#) Attorney General, and to those parties that have intervened in the proceeding, subject to the appropriate confidentiality measures.

(b) It is the intent of the Commission to establish a set of standards for the filing of MFR Packages that will facilitate the Commission's responsibilities in conducting Fuel Audits and Prudence Reviews and reflect the practices and policies of the Commission.

165:35-39-2. Definitions and Acronyms

The following terms and acronyms shall have the meanings set forth below for the purpose of this Subchapter 39 to the Commission's Electric Rules (OAC 165:35):

"EIS market"; means the Energy Imbalance Service market implemented pursuant to FERC-approved amendments to SPP's OATT on February 1, 2007.

"FERC"; means the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

"Fuel Audit"; means the statutory audit of an electric utility's costs of fuel and purchased power costs as delivered into the utility's system pursuant to 17 O.S. §§251 *et seq.*

"Fuel Supply Portfolio and Risk Management Plan"; means the documentation required to be submitted to the Commission by each utility by Commission Order.

"Material Change," ~~"Material Deviation,"~~ ~~and~~ ~~or~~ **"Material Impact"**; means any change deviation from planned operations, or cost impact to the utility's customers equal to or greater than three percent (3%) for any single line item or event reflected in the utility's total cost of fuel burned and purchased power during the Review Period.

"Minimum Filing Requirements" or **"MFR"**; means the minimum filing requirements established by this Subchapter 39 of the Electric Rules to be filed or made available by a utility to the Commission, ~~the Public Utility Division PUD~~ Staff, the Attorney General, and interested parties, subject to appropriate confidentiality protection, upon the filing by ~~the Public Utility Division PUD~~ Staff of an application initiating a Fuel Audit or a Prudence Review.

"MFR Package"; means all of the documentation to be provided or made available by the utility as identified in this Subchapter.

"Monthly Fuel Adjustment Clause ("FAC") filings"; means the information electric utilities are required to file pursuant to 17 O.S. §253.B prior to implementing fuel and fuel related costs pursuant to a Commission approved fuel and purchased power adjustment tariff.

"OATT"; means an Open Access Transmission Tariff as approved by the FERC.

"Production Tax Credits" or **"PTCs"**; means an income tax credit available to owners or operators of electric generation facilities that produce electricity from "qualified energy resources". These include wind, geothermal, solar and hydropower. (26 USC 45 Electricity produced from certain renewable resources, etc.; Title 68 O.S. Section 2357.32A Credit for Electricity Generated by Zero-Emission Facilities).

"Prudence Review"; means the biennial review of the fuel, generation, and purchased power related expenses incurred by a utility pursuant to OAC 165:35-35-1.

"Renewable Energy Certificates," **"Green Tags,"** **"Renewable Energy Credits,"** **"Renewable Electricity Certificates,"** **"Tradable Renewable Certificates,"** or **"RECs"**; means tradable, non-tangible energy commodities in the United States that represent proof that 1 megawatt-hour (MWh) of electricity was generated from an eligible renewable energy resource (renewable electricity). Solar Renewable Energy Certificates are RECs that are specifically generated by solar energy.

"Review Period"; means the period of time, in calendar year increments, identified by ~~the Public Utility Division PUD~~ Staff in an application initiating a Fuel Audit or a Prudence Review.

"SPP", means the Southwest Power Pool, the Regional Transmission Organization recognized by the FERC and encompassing the State of Oklahoma and all or parts of surrounding jurisdictions.

165:35-39-4. Initiation of Fuel Audit or Prudence Review

(a) ~~The Public Utility Division PUD~~ Staff shall initiate a Fuel Audit or Prudence Review by filing an application identifying the utility or utilities subject to the Fuel Audit or Prudence Review and identifying the period of time the Fuel Audit or Prudence Review is intended to cover. ~~The Public Utility Division PUD~~ Staff shall file its application for a Fuel Audit or Prudence Review no sooner than one hundred fifty (150) calendar days subsequent to the end of the period identified for review.

(b) Each utility being reviewed shall make a filing meeting the MFRs, sixty (60) calendar days after ~~the Public Utility Division-PUD~~ has filed an application commencing a Fuel Audit or Prudence Review. The MFR Package shall contain documentation as described in this Subchapter covering January through December, of the period identified in the application.

(c) All Class A Electric Companies as outlined in OAC 165:70-1-4(a)(1)(A), whether for Fuel Audit or Prudence Review, shall file direct testimony concurrently with the filing of the MFR Package.

165:35-39-5. Actual Fuel and Purchased Power Expenses

Under this Section, a utility must file documentation of actual fuel expenses, purchased power expenses, and off-system power sales revenues that occurred during the Review Period. This information should be contained in Schedule A of the MFR Package, consisting of the following:

- (1) A thorough and detailed narrative of the fuel and purchased power expenses, procurement practices, and procedures;
- (2) An electronic spreadsheet summary of annual volumes and expenses and revenues for fuel and purchased power, consistent with the format of the utility's monthly Fuel Adjustment Clause (FAC) filings;
- (3) Electronic copies of the utility's monthly FAC filings. The spreadsheet should include a tabular summary of the type, volume and expense/revenues associated with affiliate fuel and purchased power transactions, and the summary should address energy production by separate fuel types;
- (4) A comparison in matrix form of fuel and purchased power expenses and off-system sales revenues for the Review Period identified in ~~the Public Utility Division's PUD's~~ application and for the previous two most recent years;
- (5) A narrative explanation of the key factors and events that had a Material Impact on the utility's actual fuel and purchased power expenses, and their relative magnitudes.

165:35-39-6. Fuel and Purchased Power Procurement, and REC Management Practices

Schedule B of the MFR Package shall include a thorough and detailed narrative for the fuel and purchased power procurement practices and procedures, both short-term and long-term, of the utility during the Review Period, and REC management practices, with the following information:

- (1) A list of the fuel and purchased power procurement practices, REC management practices, and Risk Management Plans relevant to the Review Period that are filed with the ~~Oklahoma Corporation~~ Commission together with copies of all such plans previously submitted but not filed;
- (2) A list of Material Deviations from the fuel and purchased power procurement and Risk Management Plans as the plans were implemented during the Review Period to include a discussion of any resulting price exposure and the causes for the Material Deviations from the plans to include material sales and/or purchases from the Southwest Power Pool Energy Imbalance Service (EIS) Market;
- (3) A description of the safeguards in place concerning affiliate transactions to ensure fair treatment of non-affiliated potential providers of commodities or services;

(4) A list of fuel and purchased power solicitations and actions during the Review Period, including the type of competitive procurement methods used, the timeline for each solicitation, a narrative description of each solicitation, and copies of major fuel and purchased power transactions resulting from such solicitations of one month or more in duration.

165:35-39-7. Fuel, Purchased Power, Wind Energy Purchased Power and Fuel-Related Contracts

Schedule -C- of the MFR Package shall include the following information related to fuel, purchased power, wind energy purchased power and fuel-related contracts in effect during the Review Period:

- (1) A list of all fuel and fuel-related contracts in effect during the Review Period between the utility and any affiliate of the utility that supplied fuel or fuel-related services to the utility;
- (2) A list of all natural gas contracts in effect during the Review Period including natural gas contracts having a term less than one year, which are considered "spot market" contracts. The utility may provide one or more "generic" contracts which represent the terms of individual spot market contracts, in lieu of the natural gas contracts. The following information relating to all gas purchase contracts, including contracts with affiliates, shall be provided in summary form:
 - (A) Contract number/serial number/other designation;
 - (B) Supplier;
 - (C) Negotiation date or date signed; and
 - (D) Term and specific service provided under the contract
- (3) Upon request, each contract identified in this schedule shall be made available, subject to any confidentiality provisions contained therein;
- (4) A list of all applicable fuel supply contracts in effect during the Review Period including coal purchases, oil purchases, and any other fuel commodity contracts;
- (5) A list of all purchase power contracts, including wind energy purchase power agreements, in effect during the Review Period for all purchases of energy, capacity or both having a term of thirty (30) calendar days or longer;
- (6) For those contracts requiring the use of government or other published indices to adjust the price, provide the monthly values for each index during the Review Period and identify the source of the values for each index;
- (7) With respect to each contract, provide monthly minimum, maximum and actual takes by contract for the Review Period;
- (8) Documentation for all occurrences when the minimum take or pay volumes under contract were not met during the Review Period;
- (9) Documentation of analyses performed to evaluate any fuel or fuel related solicitations having contract terms of thirty (30) calendar days or longer during the Review Period that affected fuel costs during the period. It is not necessary to provide documentation for contracts previously approved by the Commission; and
- (10) With respect to wind energy purchase power agreements and limited to those PTCs and RECs owned by the utility pursuant to the terms of any such agreements, the utility shall report the amount of PTCs and RECs generated in the reporting year; the PTC and REC balance carried forward from prior years; PTCs and RECs available to be used; PTCs and

RECs expected to be utilized; PTCs and RECs actually used and related credits and sales revenue, PTCs and RECs expiring unused and the PTC and REC balance carried forward.

SUBCHAPTER 41. DEMAND PROGRAMS

[PUD is not proposing any changes to this Subchapter during this rulemaking proceeding.]

SUBCHAPTER 43. TRANSMISSION ONLY UTILITY

165:35-43-2. Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this Sub-chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Interconnection" means two or more electric systems having a common transmission tie that permits a flow of energy between them. An Interconnection includes a common transmission tie between a Transmission Line and generation facilities, between a Transmission Line and load facilities, or between a Transmission Line and one or more other Transmission Line(s).

"NERC" means the North American Electric Reliability Corporation.

"SPP" means the Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

"Transmission Line" means a set of conductors, insulators, supporting structures, and associated equipment used to move power at 60 kilovolts (kV) or above.

"Transmission Only Utility" or "TOU" means an entity that builds, constructs, owns, operates, controls, manages, or maintains Transmission Line(s) within the State of Oklahoma and provides no retail service subject to the rate jurisdiction under 17 O.S. Section 151 et seq. by this Commission. This shall not include Utilities operated by municipalities, governmental bodies, or unregulated cooperatives.

165:35-43-4. Reporting

(a) For a ~~Transmission Only Utility~~ TOU providing electric transmission services, other than those facilities operating for the ~~sole~~ purpose of directly connecting generation resources to the existing grid, regular review of operations is reasonable to preserve the reliability of electric transmission service, to ensure public safety, and the enhancement of economic efficiency in the production and consumption of electricity for the electric consumer. This Subchapter establishes annual reporting requirement(s) to each ~~Transmission Only Utility~~ TOU under Commission jurisdiction.

(b) ~~On or before May 15 of each year, each Transmission Only Utility shall file a cause on the Public Utility Docket or shall file such required information in a filing otherwise required by the Commission. This filing shall provide to the Commission information about Transmission Line(s) the Transmission Only Utility has or planned to build, construct, own, operate, manage and or maintain based on the preceding calendar year. Within such cause, the Transmission Only Utility shall provide information required by the Public Utility Division of the Commission, which includes but is not limited to the following: On or before June 15 of each year, each TOU shall submit information to PUD about any Transmission Line(s) the TOU has built, constructed, owned, operated, managed and/or maintained based on the preceding calendar~~

year. Additionally, on or before June 15 of each year, each TOU shall submit information about any additional Transmission Line(s) it plans to build, own, operate, manage and/or maintain subsequent to June 15. Within such submission, the TOU shall provide information, which includes but is not limited to the following:

- (1) A description of any new transmission route(s) that the ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ has submitted to the SPP's regional planning process or other applicable regional planning process, or that has been approved by a Federal authority;
 - (2) A status report of any Interconnection proposal that the ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ has submitted to a regional planning process or that has been approved by a Federal authority;
 - (3) Identification of the allocation of transmission costs to Oklahoma Utilities from SPP;
 - (4) An analysis of the costs and benefits to Oklahoma rate payers of any transmission project or portfolio of transmission projects, if the ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ or regional planner has prepared such a study, and excluding projects done primarily to comply with NERC standards;
 - (5) The expected number of Oklahoma residents that will be employed during construction of any project and the specific type of job(s) utilizing Oklahoma residents;
 - (6) The expected number of Oklahoma residents that will continue to be employed after construction of any project and the specific type of job(s) utilizing Oklahoma residents;
 - (7) A statement reflecting any known annual property or ad valorem tax assessed to the ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ for Transmission Lines and related operations;
 - (8) Aggregate total payments made to private landowners for transmission right-of-way, reported after all right-of-way for a particular project has been acquired;
 - (9) Aggregate total payments made to public landowners for transmission right-of-way, reported after all right-of-way for a particular project has been acquired;
 - (10) Identification of any new energy resource(s) to which the transmission project is directly connected or, to the extent known, resources to which the transmission project could be connected to integrate existing natural gas or other resource generation;
 - (11) Copies of any impact studies previously provided to state or federal agencies concerning the environment and the wildlife in the area of any new Transmission Line(s) built by the ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ will be made available for onsite review as requested;
 - (12) An attestation that the ~~Transmission Only Utility's TOU's~~ insurance coverage will be made available for onsite review as requested.
- (c) Any additional information required by the Commission shall be requested from all ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ at such time as the Commission determines the need for such information.
- (d) Information submitted in the reports required by this section shall be deemed confidential records or trade secrets of the reporting ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ under the Open Records Act as provided for by 51 O.S. Section 24A.22 and shall be made available for Commission onsite review, unless such records are successfully challenged or become the subject matter of an enforcement action at the Commission. Utilities will clearly mark all confidential documents as confidential.

165:35-43-5. ~~Commission Public Utility Division~~ consideration

~~(a) The Commission shall review and may investigate all filed transmission information for compliance with reporting requirements~~

~~(b) After receiving an informational filing from a Transmission Only Utility pursuant to the preceding Section, the Commission:~~

~~(1) Will determine whether the filing is compliant with the requirements of the Commission rules; and~~

~~(2) Will issue an appropriate order determining compliance with these rules. In the event the Commission determines the Transmission Only Utility's filing is not in compliance with the rules, the Commission will issue an order rejecting the report or opening an investigation to inquire further into the report.~~

(a) PUD shall review and may investigate all reported transmission information for compliance with reporting requirements.

(b) After receiving a report from a TOU pursuant to the preceding Section, PUD:

(1) Will determine whether the report is compliant with the requirements of the Commission rules; and

(2) Inform the TOU of PUD's determination regarding compliance within ninety (90) calendar days of receipt of the report. In the event PUD determines the TOU's report is not in compliance with the rules, PUD shall contact the TOU to require additional information, and such information shall be provided within fifteen (15) calendar days of such notice. If the TOU fails to correct such non-compliance, PUD may reject the report or open an investigation to inquire further into the reported or submitted information.

165:35-43-6. Determining assessment fees

(a) In causes initiated on the Public Utility Docket to meet requirements of this subsection, fees shall be assessed upon a motion of ~~the PUD Staff of the Public Utility Division~~ or upon motion of the Attorney General.

(b) The Commission shall make a determination of the estimated costs of ~~the Public Utility Division PUD~~ and the Attorney General required to process, analyze and review filed information as required by this subsection. These estimated costs shall be the basis of the fee assessed on a ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ subject to this Subchapter.

(c) After notice to the ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ to be assessed and hearing, the Commission shall issue an order which shall include the following:

(1) Whether or not the ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ will be assessed fee(s);

(2) The amount of the fee(s) to be assessed; and

(3) The date payment(s) shall be paid.

165:35-43-7. Decommissioning of transmission lines

(a) A ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ shall be responsible, at its expense, for the decommissioning of any and all of its equipment upon abandonment or the end of the useful life of a Transmission Line or other electric transmission facility. After the decommissioning of any Transmission Line, a ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ shall restore the land upon which a decommissioned Transmission Line or other electric transmission facility was located consistent with the ~~Transmission Only Utility's TOU's~~ decommissioning plan.

(b) A ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~ shall submit a decommissioning plan to identify the methodology used to mitigate potential impacts resulting from the cessation of operation at the end of the project's useful life. The plan shall consist of but not limited to the following:

- (1) Identification of the specific project components that will be removed;
- (2) A description of the decommissioning process in the event of abandonment during construction and abandonment during operation;
- (3) A description of the process used for soil and road restoration; and
- (4) An attestation that a statement of financial capability or insurance coverage sufficient to decommission the project outlined in the plan will be made available to the Commission upon request.

SUBCHAPTER 45. WIND ENERGY

165:35-45-1. Purpose of this subchapter

The purpose of this Subchapter is to implement provisions of the Oklahoma Wind Energy Development Act, 17 O.S. §§ 160.11 *et seq.*, by establishing rules and procedures for an entity that builds, constructs, owns, operates, controls, manages or maintains a wind energy facility within the State of Oklahoma. This Subchapter applies to the components of wind energy facilities built, constructed, owned, operated, controlled, managed or maintained within the State of Oklahoma, provided however it does not apply to any ~~Transmission Only Utility TOU~~.

165:35-45-2. Definitions

In addition to terms defined in the Oklahoma Wind Energy Development Act, 17 O.S. § 160.11 *et seq.*, the following word(s) or term(s), when used in this Subchapter, shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Clearinghouse" means the Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse.

"Determination of No Hazard" means a document issued by the Federal Aviation Administration.

"FAA" means the Federal Aviation Administration.

"Mitigation plan" means a document issued by the Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse.

"Project description" means a graphic depiction of a wind energy facility's outer boundary, which should adequately demonstrate the project's outer perimeter, inclusive of all wind turbines.

165:35-45-3. Annual reporting requirements

On or before March 1 of each year, each wind energy facility owner or operator shall submit information required by ~~the Public Utility Division PUD~~. This submission shall provide to ~~the Public Utility Division PUD~~ information about wind energy facilities the owner constructs, owns, operates, manages or maintains within the State of Oklahoma. Within such submission, the wind energy facility owner or operator shall provide information, which includes but is not limited to the following:

- (1) The commercial generation date of each wind energy facility;

- (2) If a wind energy facility fails to generate power, an explanation of the cause of the failure to generate;
- (3) An attestation indicating that the wind energy facility's insurance coverage will be made available for onsite review by ~~the Public Utility Division~~ PUD as requested;
- (4) For the first annual report(s) associated with a wind energy facility's first year of commercial operation, the report shall also include: a final project description and a final location description for each turbine, as constructed, and an attestation indicating that setback and notice requirements have been complied with.
- (5) For those wind energy facility components that are otherwise subject to the rules applicable to the annual reports of ~~Transmission Only Utilities~~ TOUs, this Subchapter does not require duplicative reporting.
- (6) Electronic submission is preferred; however, all forms of submission will be accepted.

165:35-45-4. Notification of intent to build a wind energy facility and other notices

- (a) The owner of a wind energy facility shall electronically submit notification of intent to build a facility to the ~~Corporation~~ Commission within six (6) months of the initial filing pertaining to commencement of construction with the ~~Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)~~ FAA of an FAA Form 7460-1 (Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration) or any subsequent form required by the FAA ~~for evaluating the impact a proposed wind energy facility will have on air commerce safety and the preservation of navigable airspace.~~ Such notification shall be submitted to the ~~PUD Director of the Public Utility Division of the Corporation Commission,~~ and shall include any and all Notices of Proposed Construction, or Alteration required to be filed with the FAA concerning a specific wind energy facility.
- (b) ~~The Public Utility Division~~ PUD shall provide the owner of a wind energy facility with affirmation of submission of the notification of intent to build by either providing proof of receipt stamp or confirmation of receipt if submission is made electronically.
- (c) In the event that an owner of a wind energy facility submits notification of intent to build a facility with the ~~Corporation~~ Commission and files subsequent forms with the FAA, the owner is not required to submit amended or additional notification of intent to build a wind energy facility unless the project layout is expanded beyond the original project description. Movement within the original description will not require the notice process to start over. However, subsequent to submissions under (a) above, copies of FAA submissions for individual turbine modifications, additional turbines, or renewals shall be submitted to PUD within thirty (30) calendar days of submission to the FAA. If, during or after construction of an individual turbine, the FAA requires the developer to submit subsequent FAA filings, the developer shall submit all such subsequent submissions at the time the wind energy facility's first annual report is submitted.
- (d) The owner of the wind energy facility shall ~~submit~~ send copies of the notification with the board of county commissioners of every county in which all or a portion of the wind energy facility is to be located within twenty-four (24) hours of ~~filing~~ submission with the Commission. If all or a portion of the wind energy facility is to be located within the incorporated area of a municipality, copies of the notification shall also be ~~submitted~~ sent to the governing body of the municipality within twenty-four (24) hours of ~~filing~~ submission with the Commission.
- (e) Within thirty (30) calendar days of submitting the notification, as described above in (a), to the PUD Director, the owner of the wind energy facility shall cause a copy of the notification to be submitted to the Oklahoma Strategic Military Planning Commission. Subsequent 7460-1s required to be filed shall also be submitted to the Oklahoma Strategic Military Planning

Commission at the same time as submission to the PUD Director. When the Oklahoma Strategic Military Planning Commission submits its letter to the Clearinghouse, such letter shall be submitted at the same time to the PUD Director and the owner of the wind energy facility.

~~(e)(f)~~ Within six (6) months of submitting the notification with the Commission as provided for in subsection (a) of this section, the owner of the wind energy facility shall cause a copy of the notification to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties in which all or a portion of the wind energy facility is to be located. Proof of publication shall be submitted to the PUD Director ~~of the Public Utility Division of the Corporation Commission.~~

~~(f)(g)~~ Within sixty (60) calendar days of publishing the notification in a newspaper as provided for in subsection ~~(e)(f)~~ of this section, the owner of the wind energy facility shall hold a public meeting. Notice of the public meeting shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation and submitted to the board of county commissioners in the county or counties in which all or a portion of the wind energy facility is to be located. The notice shall contain the place, date and time of the public meeting. Proof of publication of the notice shall be submitted to the PUD Director ~~of the Public Utility Division of the Corporation Commission.~~ The public meeting shall be held in one of the counties in which all or a portion of the wind energy facility is to be located.

~~(g)(h)~~ The owner of a wind energy facility shall not commence construction on the facility until the notification and public meeting requirements of this section have been met. If an owner of a wind energy facility fails to submit the information ~~with the Commission~~ as required in this section, the owner shall be subject to an administrative penalty from the Commission not to exceed One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500) per day following hearing and issuance of a final order of the Commission.

(i) Subsequent to submitting the notification, as described above in (a), Determinations of No Hazard issued by the FAA, or, approved mitigation plans issued by the Clearinghouse shall be submitted to the PUD Director by the owner of a wind energy facility as follows:

(1) Within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of an active Determination of No Hazard issued by the FAA; or

(2) Within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of an approved mitigation plan from the Clearinghouse.

(3) Any Determination of No Hazard or mitigation plan issued prior to the initial submission of the notification described above in (a) shall be submitted to the PUD Director by the owner of a wind energy facility within thirty (30) calendar days of such initial notification submission.

(j) All notices, notifications, Determinations of No Hazard, mitigation plans, and proof of compliance with all provisions of the Oklahoma Wind Energy Development Act, shall be retained by the wind energy developer, for a period of three (3) years after commercial operation date; and, upon reasonable request, PUD may inspect these documents to ensure compliance.

(k) The owner of a wind energy facility shall electronically provide a notice to the PUD Director indicating that it has commenced the 60-day notice as required by 17 O.S. § 160.21(F). Such notice shall be sent to the PUD Director prior to commencement of construction of the wind energy facility. The notice to the PUD Director shall also include an affirmation that all required notices and notifications have been properly provided, and a list of the recipients of all required notices and notifications shall be retained by the wind energy developer and made available to PUD upon reasonable request.

(1) ~~Electronic submission is preferred; however, all forms of submission will be accepted~~ All submissions shall be submitted electronically to PUD, unless prior approval is granted by the PUD Director.

165:35-45-5. Commission consideration

(a) ~~The Public Utility Division-PUD~~ shall review and may investigate all wind energy facility information reported or submitted for compliance with the annual reporting requirements in this Subchapter or in 17 O.S. § 160.18 or with the notice requirements in this Subchapter or in 17 O.S. § 160.20 or 17 O.S. § 160.21.

(b) After receiving a report or submission from a wind energy facility pursuant to the annual reporting requirements in this Subchapter or in 17 O.S. § 160.18 or the notice requirements in this Subchapter regarding notice of intent to construct or in 17 O.S. § 160.21, ~~the Public Utility Division-PUD~~ will:

- (1) ~~Will determine~~ Determine whether the report or submission is compliant with the annual reporting or notice requirements; and
- (2) ~~Will inform~~ Inform the wind energy facility owner or operator of ~~the Public Utility Division's-PUD's~~ determination within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the report or submission if it is not in compliance. In the event ~~the Public Utility Division-PUD~~ determines the wind energy facility's report or submission is not in compliance, ~~the Public Utility Division-PUD~~ shall contact the owner or operator to require additional information; and, such information shall be provided within fifteen (15) calendar days of such notice. If the facility owner fails to correct such non-compliance, ~~the Public Utility Division-PUD~~ may reject the report or submission and may open an investigation to inquire further into the reported or submitted information.

165:35-45-6. Determining assessment of fees

(a) In wind energy facility causes initiated on the Public Utility Docket for alleged violation(s) of any provision of this Subchapter, fees shall be assessed upon motion of the PUD Staff of the Public Utility Division in wind energy facility causes.

(b) The Commission shall make a determination of the estimated costs of ~~the Public Utility Division-PUD~~ required to process, analyze and review wind energy facility causes initiated on the Public Utility Docket. These estimated costs shall be the basis of the fee assessed to a wind energy facility subject to this Subchapter.

(c) After notice to the wind energy facility to be assessed and hearing, the Commission shall issue an order which shall include the following:

- (1) Whether or not the wind energy facility will be assessed a fee(s);
- (2) The amount of the fee(s) to be assessed; and
- (3) The date payment(s) of the fee(s) shall be made.

(d) In causes wherein the wind energy facility owner is also a public utility, as defined in 17 O.S. § 151, required to pay the public utility assessment fee pursuant to 17 O.S. § 180.11 and OAC 165:5-3-20, the above assessment of fees shall not apply.

165:35-45-7. Decommissioning of wind energy facilities

- (a) The owner of a wind energy facility shall be responsible, at its expense, for the proper decommissioning of the facility upon abandonment or the end of the useful life of the commercial wind energy equipment in the wind energy facility. Decommissioning shall be in a manner consistent with 17 O.S. § 160.14 and 17 O.S. § 160.15.
- (b) Evidence of financial security to cover the anticipated costs of decommissioning may be in the form of a surety bond, collateral bond, parent guaranty, cash, cashier's check, certificate of deposit, bank joint custody receipt, or irrevocable letter of credit.
- (c) The owner of a wind energy facility shall submit to the PUD Director ~~of the Public Utility Division of the Corporation Commission~~, a notice of decommissioning for the proper retirement of the facility upon abandonment or the end of the useful life of the commercial wind energy facility. Such notice of decommissioning shall be submitted not less than sixty (60) calendar days prior to commencement of decommissioning in a manner consistent with 17 O.S. § 160.15.

**APPENDIX A. ~~TO VERIFIERS OF UTILITY CONSUMERS HAVING
LIFE-THREATENING CONDITIONS~~**

**Thirty (30) Day Medical Verification Certificate To Suspend Disconnection For Life
Threatening Health Conditions**

~~To Verifiers of Utility Consumers Having
Life-Threatening Conditions~~

~~—The Oklahoma Corporation Commission requires electric and gas utilities under its jurisdiction to honor certificates which attest to the fact that a utility consumer or a permanent member of the household has a medical condition such that discontinuance of service will give rise to a substantial risk of death or a grave impairment of the health of the utility consumer or other permanent resident of the premises where service is rendered. The respective consumer may initially certify the condition, but further verification of the condition is required if it persists beyond a 30-day period. Verification must be by medical personnel licensed by the state and/or county; these include medical doctors, doctors of osteopathy, and county medical directors. You are being asked to provide verification that the stated condition still exists and will continue to exist for a specified period of time.~~

~~—Please be advised that your actions in this matter may result in the person being permitted to use utility services without immediate payment if their financial condition so warrants. However, full restitution is required when the "life-threatening" condition ceases to exist.~~

~~—We appreciate your willingness to participate as a verifier and trust you will do so advisedly, considering the fact that energy consumed during this period must eventually be paid for by the utility consumer.~~

~~—We want to assure that those utility consumers having a genuine life-threatening condition in their homes are not mistaken for those who would abuse this privilege at the expense of other ratepayers.~~

CONSUMER INFORMATION

Name of Consumer: _____ Account Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: () _____ Place of Employment: _____

Name of impaired individual if other than consumer: _____

Relationship if other than consumer: _____

HEALTH CONDITION VERIFICATION

Name of Patient: _____ Nature of medical problem: _____

Is this situation considered life threatening without electric service? Yes ? No ?

What is the estimated duration of the life threatening condition?: _____

Specify the effect service discontinuance will have upon the health of the impaired individual: _____

Specify any electrical equipment which is necessitated by the medical problem: _____

Name: _____ Agency: _____

Title: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: () _____

A. INSTRUCTIONS

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission requires electric utilities under its jurisdiction to suspend disconnection of service, or reconnect if disconnected, when a utility consumer or a permanent member of the household has a medical condition wherein discontinuance of the electric service would be life-threatening. A life-threatening condition is defined as one where the consumer or other permanent resident of the household is dependent upon electric-operated equipment that is prescribed by a physician and is needed to sustain the person's life.

Examples of life-sustaining equipment include: kidney dialysis machine, iron lung, oxygen concentrator and certain other oxygen machines, cardiac monitor, heating and air-conditioning equipment, or any other equipment that is prescribed by a licensed medical doctor. If battery backup is normally available for the life-sustaining equipment, then the medical condition is not considered life-threatening. The following equipment is not considered to be life-sustaining equipment: hot water heater, refrigerator, range/stove, nebulizer that is battery-driven or hand-driven or self-contained, battery-driven sleep apnea monitor, battery-driven cardiac monitor.

The utility consumer may initially certify the condition by completing "Form For Utility Consumer Verification" which will suspend disconnection of electric service to the specified residence for a period of thirty (30) days from the initial notification. After the initial thirty (30) days, normal collection action will resume.

An additional thirty (30) day period shall be extended by the utility at the request of the utility consumer accompanied with verification by a medical or osteopath doctor (use "Form For Medical Or Osteopathic Doctor Verification"). The request for the additional thirty (30) day extension must be made by the consumer to the utility company before the end of the initial thirty (30) day period. The utility is not required to furnish service to the consumer beyond a total of sixty (60) days for a life-threatening condition without full payment of the account or acceptable payment arrangements on any unpaid balance unless otherwise directed by the Commission. Failure of the consumer to fully comply may result in denial of life-threatening status and renewed collection activity by the utility, including termination of service to the residence.

We appreciate your willingness to participate as a verifier and trust you will do so advisedly, considering the fact that energy consumed during this suspension period must eventually be paid for by the utility consumer. Our intent is to ensure that those utility consumers having genuine life-threatening situations in their homes are not mistaken for those who would abuse this privilege at the expense of others.

B. FORM FOR UTILITY CONSUMER VERIFICATION

(to be completed by the utility consumer for the initial thirty (30) day period)

Name of Consumer

Electric Account No.

Address

City

State

Zip

Home Phone

Place of

Employment

Name of Impaired Individual if other than
consumer

Relationship to Consumer if other than
consumer

By signing this Medical Certificate, I acknowledge that a permanent resident of the household is applying for the medical verification certificate to suspend disconnection of electric service for a period of 30 days from the date the request was made with the utility company due to a life-threatening conditions and, as the consumer, I am responsible for the payment of bills rendered for electric service during this suspension of disconnection. I acknowledge that I may be considered for an additional 30 days (total of 60 concurrent days) if my doctor submits the completed form to the utility company within 30 days of the forms request from the utility and I call the utility within the same period of time to confirm receipt of the form and if the claim is accepted by the company.

Consumer's Signature

Date

C. FORM FOR MEDICAL OR OSTEOPATHIC DOCTOR VERIFICATION

(to be completed by a medical or osteopathic doctor and returned by the medical or osteopathic doctor to the utility company via the method indicated on the form for the applicant to be considered for an additional thirty (30) days to pay the past due balance.)

Name of Patient

Nature of Medical Problem

Is this condition considered life-threatening without electric service Yes? No?
What is the estimated duration of the life-threatening condition?

Specify the effect that discontinuance of electric service might have upon the health of the impaired individual.

Specify any electric-operated equipment necessitated by the medical problem.

Doctor's Name

Business Phone

Address

City

State

Zip

Doctor's Signature

Date
