## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

## APPLICATION OF OWEN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF A PREPAY METERING PROGRAM TARIFF

CASE NO. 2013-00403

)

)

## <u>COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION</u> <u>TO OWEN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.</u>

Owen Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("Owen Electric"), pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, is to file with the Commission the original and eight copies of the following information, with a copy to all parties of record. The information requested herein is due no later than January 10, 2014. Responses to requests for information shall be appropriately bound, tabbed and indexed. Each response shall include the name of the witness responsible for responding to the questions related to the information provided.

Each response shall be answered under oath or, for representatives of a public or private corporation or a partnership or association or a governmental agency, be accompanied by a signed certification of the preparer or person supervising the preparation of the response on behalf of the entity that the response is true and accurate to the best of that person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

Owen Electric shall make timely amendment to any prior response if it obtains information which indicates that the response was incorrect when made or, though correct when made, is now incorrect in any material respect. For any request to which Owen Electric fails or refuses to furnish all or part of the requested information, it shall provide a written explanation of the specific grounds for its failure to completely and precisely respond.

Careful attention should be given to copied material to ensure that it is legible. When the requested information has been previously provided in this proceeding in the requested format, reference may be made to the specific location of that information in responding to this request.

1. Refer to Exhibit A of the application ("Application"), page 2, paragraph 4, which states, "Members may apply funds to their prepay account(s) as many times per month as they choose. Members may apply funds to their prepay account(s) by all methods of payment as post pay accounts (excluding automatic draft payments) as as listed on the Cooperative's website, www.owenelectric.com."

a. Provide the methods of payment that are available to members who post pay.

b. Provide the methods of payment that will be available to prepay members.

2. Refer to Exhibit A of the Application, page 2, paragraph 8. Explain why Owen Electric chose a threshold of \$30.

3. Refer to Exhibit A of the Application, page 3, paragraph 12 which states, "All voluntary prepay accounts will not be eligible for Winter Hardship Reconnect, Certificate of Need, or Medical Certificate as outlined in 807 KAR 5:006." Also, refer to Exhibit C-1, page 6 which states, "All voluntary prepay accounts will not be eligible for Winter Hardship Reconnect, Certificate of Need, or Medical Certificate as outlined in 807 KAR 5:006, Sections 13, 14, and 15." Explain whether Owen would be willing to

Case No. 2013-00403

-2-

add a reference to Sections 13, 14, and 15 to paragraph 12 of the proposed Prepay Metering Program tariff.

4. Refer to Exhibit B of the Application, page 1, paragraph 1, which states, "The term of the agreement is for one year. After one year, the member may elect to opt out of the prepay program at any time, by notifying the Cooperative in writing."

a. Explain what will occur if a customer requests to terminate before the one-year period has ended; if a charge will be assessed to the customer, provide cost support.

b. After the customer has completed the one-year term, explain whether the contract converts to a month-to-month agreement.

5. If a member wishes to disconnect service, explain whether the member will be refunded any balance on the Prepay Metering Program account. If yes, explain whether the refund will be processed in a manner similar to post-pay account refunds.

6. Explain whether Owen Electric will explain all the aspects of the Prepay Metering Program so that the member is fully informed before signing the agreement of participation.

7. Refer to Exhibit C-1, Prepared Testimony of Michael L. Cobb, page 6, where it states, "At this time, an In-Home Display option is not available from Owen Electric's CIS and AMI vendors."

a. Explain whether Owen has discussed future availability of an In-Home Display option with its CIS and AMI vendors and whether it could eventually become part of this program.

Case No. 2013-00403

-3-

b. Explain whether all of the residential meters that Owen Electric currently has in service are compatible with the hardware and software Owen Electric will deploy for the proposed prepay metering program.

8. Refer to Exhibit C-2, Prepared Testimony of Mary Elizabeth Purvis, page
3, Table A.

a. Provide the make and model of the \$90 disconnect collar.

b. Provide a breakdown of type of costs and amounts of benefits used to determine the 76 percent benefits.

9. Explain whether there is any additional required substation investment for communications in the operation of the Prepay Metering Program, and if so, provide the type of investment, cost, and whether it is included in the \$7.00 proposed monthly program fee.

10. Refer to Exhibit D of the Application, page 4.

a. Confirm that the Centron II meter is to be used in Owen Electric's Prepay Metering Program. If not, provide the make and model of the meter to be used.

b. Provide the cost of the meter to be used in the Prepay Metering

Program.

Jeff Derouen Executive Director Public Service Commission P. O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

DEC 1 9 2013 DATED

cc: Parties of Record

James R Adkins Jim Adkins Consulting 1041 Chasewood Way Lexington, KENTUCKY 40513-1731

Honorable James M Crawford Crawford & Baxter, P.S.C. Attorneys at Law 523 Highland Avenue P. O. Box 353 Carrollton, KENTUCKY 41008

Mark Stallons President Owen Electric Cooperative, Inc. 8205 Highway 127 North P. O. Box 400 Owenton, KY 40359