

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

REQUEST OF BLUE GRASS ENERGY	)	
COOPERATIVE CORPORATION FOR RELIEF	)	CASE NO.
OF THE FILING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE	)	2014-00045
PREPAY METER PROGRAM	)	

ORDER

On June 21, 2013, Blue Grass Energy Cooperative Corporation (“Blue Grass”) submitted a letter to the Commission requesting relief from certain data-collection requirements that were ordered in connection with the Commission’s approval of Blue Grass’s prepay metering program (“Prepay Program”) in Case No. 2012-00260.<sup>1</sup> Blue Grass proposes that it be allowed to file the same kind of information that Nolin Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation was ordered to file in Case No. 2013-00037.<sup>2</sup> This case has been established to address Blue Grass’s request. The matter now stands submitted to the Commission for a decision.

DISCUSSION

In Case No. 2012-00260, the Commission approved Blue Grass’s proposed Prepay Program and its associated tariff. In its June 21, 2013, letter, Blue Grass states that its Prepay Program has been very successful, and that since the end of 2012, its enrollment in the program has more than tripled. Blue Grass also notes that customer

---

<sup>1</sup> Case No. 2012-00260, Application of Blue Grass Energy Cooperative Corporation for Approval of a Prepay Metering Program (Ky. PSC Aug. 10, 2012).

<sup>2</sup> Case No. 2013-00037, Filing of Nolin Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation for Approval to Eliminate its Pilot Prepay Program and for Approval of a Permanent Prepay Regulatory Tariff (Ky. PSC Apr. 19, 2013).

interest in the Prepay Program continues to increase, and that as of June 14, 2013, 624 customers had requested to participate in the Prepay Program.

In Case No. 2012-00260, Blue Grass was required to file annually with its Annual Report seven specific items of information regarding its Prepay Program.<sup>3</sup> For calendar year 2012, Blue Grass was able to timely file the information requested, but noted that the effort to collect and organize the data requested by the Commission was “extremely time-consuming and burdensome.”<sup>4</sup> Blue Grass states that its computer software does not allow for electronic collection of the data requested and that it must manually collect and organize the data.<sup>5</sup> Blue Grass claims that as customers continue to enroll in the Prepay Program, “[t]he burdensome responsibility of tracking this data manually for each individual account including previous year information continues to increase.”<sup>6</sup>

#### FINDINGS

Having reviewed the evidence and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the Commission finds that Blue Grass has established good cause to permit it to be relieved of the filing requirements set forth in Case No. 2012-00260. The Commission has granted similar relief regarding data-collection requirements to Jackson Energy Cooperative Corporation and Owen Electric Cooperative, Inc. in Case Nos. 2013-00219<sup>7</sup> and 2013-00403<sup>8</sup> respectively. The Commission finds that Blue Grass should

---

<sup>3</sup> Appendix to the August 10, 2012 Order in Case No. 2012-00260.

<sup>4</sup> Blue Grass filing of June 21, 2013, page 1.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> Case No. 2013-00219, Application of Jackson Energy Cooperative Corporation for an Adjustment of Rates (Ky. PSC Feb. 27, 2014).

<sup>8</sup> Case No. 2013-00403, Application of Owen Electric Cooperative, Inc. for Approval of a Prepay Metering Program Tariff (Ky. PSC Feb. 7, 2014).

maintain and file the information it suggested related to the Prepay Program in the near term. Accordingly, for calendar years 2013, 2014, and 2015, Blue Grass should file the following information annually with its Annual Report:

1. The number of new and total participants;
2. The number of participants who left the Prepay Program and the reasons they left; and
3. The number of participants who allowed their accounts to deplete to zero and were disconnected.

Thereafter, Blue Grass should maintain records in such a way so as to be able to provide the above information upon request.

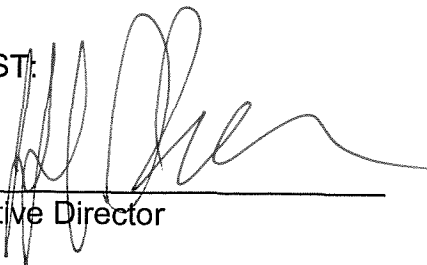
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Blue Grass's request to be relieved of the filing requirements set forth in Case No. 2012-00260 is granted.
2. Blue Grass shall track data and maintain records as it requested and as described above, and shall submit the information to the Commission in a supplemental report filed at the time it files its Annual Reports for 2013, 2014, and 2015. Thereafter, Blue Grass shall maintain its records so as to be able to provide the same information upon request.
3. Any documents filed in the future pursuant to ordering paragraph 2 shall reference this case number and shall be retained in the utility's general correspondence file.

By the Commission

ENTERED  
MAR 06 2014  
KENTUCKY PUBLIC  
SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:



Executive Director

Case No. 2014-00045

J. Donald Smothers  
Vice President, Financial Services  
Blue Grass Energy Cooperative Corp.  
1201 Lexington Road  
P. O. Box 990  
Nicholasville, KY 40340-0990