

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPLICATION OF NOLIN RURAL ELECTRIC )	
COOPERATIVE CORPORATION FOR AN )	
ORDER PURSUANT TO KRS 807 KAR 5:001 )	CASE NO.
AND KRS 278.020 REQUESTING THE )	2014-00436
GRANTING OF A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC )	
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO )	
INSTALL AN AMI SYSTEM )	

COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO  
NOLIN RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION

Nolin Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation ("Nolin"), pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, is to file with the Commission the original and ten copies of the following information, with a copy to all parties of record. The information requested herein is due no later than 14 days from the date of this request. 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.

Nolin 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 Nolin 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. When filing a paper containing personal information, Nolin shall, in accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(10), encrypt or redact the paper so that personal information cannot be read.

1. Refer to the Application, Exhibit 1, page 2, where it states that “Nolin currently has 33,611 meters deployed and over 70% of these meters’ endpoints are no longer supported by L+G.” Explain, in detail, the support situation of the nearly 30 percent of meters remaining.

2. Refer to the Application, Exhibit 1, pages 2 and 3, where it states that “Nolin has been researching and assessing various AMI solutions for the past 17 months,” and that “[v]arious AMI systems were reviewed.”

a. Provide details of the various AMI systems that were reviewed.

b. Explain why the General Electric Grid IQ Connect system was chosen and why the other systems reviewed were not chosen.

c. What are the alternatives to a radio frequency AMI system?

d. Explain, in detail, why an alternative system of sending and receiving data would or would not satisfy requirements.

e. Do the meters and system selected represent the most recent technology available? If not, explain the decision in selecting this system and these meters.

3. Refer to the Application, Exhibit 1, page 3, where it states, "Nolin decided to concentrate our efforts on vendors that utilize radio frequency (RF) technology which uses either licensed or un-licensed frequency to send and receive data."

a. Explain the difference between a licensed and an un-licensed frequency.

b. If an un-licensed frequency is used, explain the potential benefits and problems of using an un-licensed frequency versus a licensed frequency.

c. Explain whether there are any security issues with an un-licensed frequency versus a licensed frequency.

d. State whether one or both types of radio frequency will be utilized and why.

4. Refer to the Application, Exhibit 2, page 2, Figure 2, concerning meters, it states, "Last gasp meter reporting for power outage." Explain the nature of and how the meters achieve this outage reporting.

5. Refer to the Application, Exhibit 3, page 4, concerning Cyber Security, where it states that "GE prefers to use secure VPN tunnels, SAML..." and uses other terms with no definitions given. Provide definitions for the terms used in the Application where those definitions have not been provided elsewhere in the Application.

6. Refer to the Application, Exhibit 4, page 1. It states, "Studies have shown that members electing to move to pre-pay metering consume anywhere from 7% to 12% less electricity. Nolin will continue to offer pre-pay as an option for our members with this deployment."

a. Identify the studies that determined members electing to move to pre-pay metering consume from 7 to 12 percent less electricity.

b. What has been the interest in the pre-pay metering option and how many members have utilized pre-pay metering?

7. Refer to the Application, Exhibit 5, pages 1 - 4, Assumptions.

a. Explain how the present worth and evaluation period of 10 years for the AMI and AMR Systems were determined.

b. Explain how the present worth rate of 4.00% was determined.

c. Explain how costs will be reduced by eliminating PSC Voltage Recorders and how a savings of \$3,000 was determined.

8. Provide a detailed assessment of how voltage monitoring requirements, including compliance with 807 KAR 5:041, Section 7, will be met by the new system after eliminating PSC Voltage Recorders.

9. Refer to the Application, below numbered paragraph 7, where Nolin states that it is "requesting relief from periodic testing of single phase meters {807 KAR 5:041, Section 16} for the duration of this project . . . ." Is Nolin current on its periodic meter testing program schedule?



a. Provide information on policies and procedures for meters removed from service and tested that are found to be outside the manufacturer's accuracy specifications or experiencing other operational issues.

b. Provide information on policy and procedures for meters removed from service and tested that are found to be in error of +/- 1.0 to +/- 1.9 percent.

c. Provide information on policy and procedures for meters removed from service and tested that are found to be in error greater than +/- 2.0 percent.

10. Provide detailed operational specifications and warranty information on the individual metering devices to be deployed as part of this project. Include the following information for each Model/Class/Form/Voltage device:

a. Accuracy specifications for the device under environmental and load conditions.

b. Warranty period and specific defect conditions that would result in repair/replacement of device.

c. Manufacturer's documentation of testing and quality assurance procedures utilized to ensure devices are, and remain, in compliance with operational specifications throughout the warranty period.

11. a. Provide the estimated undepreciated balance of the metering equipment to be retired.

b. Explain how those remaining balances are to be handled.

12. Provide the number of years that the proposed AMI system will be depreciated.



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Jeff Derouen  
Executive Director  
Public Service Commission  
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DATED **DEC 24 2014**

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cc: Parties of Record

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