

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF BIG SANDY)	
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE)	CASE NO.
CORPORATION FOR A GENERAL)	2024-00287
ADJUSTMENT OF RATES)	

ORDER

On October 1, 2024, Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation (Big Sandy RECC) filed its application for an increase in rates based on a historical test year pursuant to KRS 278.180, KRS 278.190, and 807 KAR 5:001. The application proposed that the new rates become effective on November 1, 2024.

Pursuant to KRS 278.180(1), changes to any rate by any utility is prohibited except upon 30 days' notice to the Commission. Therefore, since the application was accepted for filing as of October 1, 2024, the earliest date that Big Sandy RECC's proposed rates can be effective is October 31, 2024. Having reviewed Big Sandy RECC's application, the Commission finds that an investigation is necessary to determine the reasonableness of the proposed rates, and that an investigation cannot be completed by October 31, 2024. Therefore, pursuant to KRS 278.190(2), the Commission will suspend the effective date of the proposed rates for five months, up to and including March 31, 2025.

The Commission further finds that a procedural schedule is necessary to review the reasonableness of the proposed rates. Therefore, the Commission establishes the procedural schedule attached as an Appendix to this Order.

Additionally, any hearing scheduled in this matter shall be held on the designated day or days and continued until called from the bench by the presiding officer. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 2, if the hearing is not concluded on the designated day, the hearing may be continued upon verbal announcement by the presiding officer. A verbal announcement made by the presiding officer shall be proper notice of the continued hearing. Hearings are held in the Richard Raff Hearing Room at the offices of the Public Service Commission at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky. Witnesses who sponsor schedules, testimony, or responses to requests for information are expected to participate in person at a hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Big Sandy RECC's proposed rates are suspended for five months, up to and including March 31, 2025.
2. The procedural schedule set forth in the Appendix to this Order shall be followed.
3. Big Sandy RECC shall respond to all requests for information propounded by Commission Staff, whether identified on the procedural schedule or otherwise, as provided in those requests.
4. Any party filing a paper with the Commission shall file an electronic copy in accordance with the electronic filing procedures set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8. Electronic documents shall be in portable document format (PDF), shall be searchable, and shall be appropriately bookmarked. The Commission directs the parties to the

Commission's July 22, 2021 Order in Case No. 2020-00085¹ regarding filings with the Commission.

5. As set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(11)(a), a person requesting permissive intervention in a Commission proceeding is required to demonstrate either (1) a special interest in the proceeding that is not adequately represented in the case, or (2) that the person requesting permissive intervention is likely to present issues or develop facts that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceedings. Therefore, any person requesting to intervene in a Commission proceeding must state with specificity the person's special interest that is not otherwise adequately represented, or the issues and facts that the person will present that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter. A mere recitation of the quantity of utility service consumed by the movant or a general statement regarding a potential impact of possible modification of rates will not be deemed sufficient to establish a special interest.

6. Any motion to intervene filed after the date established in the procedural schedule shall also show good cause for being untimely. If the untimely motion is granted, the movant shall accept and abide by the existing procedural schedule.

7. Big Sandy RECC shall give notice of the hearing in accordance with the provisions set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(2). In addition, the notice of hearing shall include the following statements: "This hearing will be streamed live and may be

¹ Case No. 2020-00085, *Electronic Emergency Docket Related to the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19* (Ky. PSC July 22, 2021), Order (in which the Commission ordered that for case filings made on and after March 16, 2020, filers are NOT required to file the original physical copies of the filings required by 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8).

viewed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov” and “Public comments may be made at the beginning of the hearing. Those wishing to make oral public comments may do so by following the instructions listing on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov.” At the time publication is requested, Big Sandy RECC shall forward a duplicate of the notice and request to the Commission.

8. At any public hearing in this matter, neither opening statements nor summarization of direct testimonies shall be permitted.

9. Any hearing scheduled in this matter shall be held on the designated day or days and continued until called from the bench by the presiding officer. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 2, if the hearing is not concluded on the designated day, the hearing shall be continued upon verbal announcement by the presiding officer. A verbal announcement made by the presiding officer shall be proper notice of the continued hearing.

10. Witnesses who sponsor schedules, testimony, or responses to requests for information shall participate in person at any hearing scheduled in this matter.

11. Big Sandy RECC shall file a witness list at least seven days prior to the hearing date.

12. Pursuant to KRS 278.360 and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(9), a digital video recording shall be made of the hearing.

13. The Commission does not look favorably upon motions for continuance. Accordingly, motions for extensions of time with respect to the schedule herein shall be made in writing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

14. The Commission does not look favorably upon motions to excuse witnesses from testifying at Commission hearings. Accordingly, motions to excuse a witness from testifying at a Commission hearing or from testifying in person at a Commission hearing shall be made in writing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Chairman



Commissioner



Commissioner

ENTERED
OCT 18 2024 AH
KENTUCKY PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:



Executive Director *File*

APPENDIX

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2024-00287 DATED OCT 18 2024

- Last day for intervention requests to be accepted..... 10/25/2024
- All initial requests for information to Big Sandy RECC shall be filed no later than 11/01/2024
- Big Sandy RECC shall file responses to initial requests for information no later than..... 11/15/2024
- All supplemental requests for information to Big Sandy RECC shall be filed no later than 12/06/2024
- Big Sandy RECC shall file responses to supplemental requests for information no later than 12/20/2024
- Intervenor testimony, if any, in verified prepared form shall be filed no later than 01/03/2025
- All requests for information to Intervenors shall be filed no later than 01/17/2025
- Intervenors shall file responses to requests for information no later than..... 01/31/2025
- Big Sandy RECC shall file, in verified form, its rebuttal testimony no later than 02/10/2025
- Last day for Parties to request a Public Hearing or submit a request for the matter be decided based upon the written record 02/14/2025
- Public Hearing to be held in the Richard Raff Hearing Room at the offices of the Public Service Commission at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of cross-examination of witnesses of Big Sandy RECC and Intervenors To be scheduled
- Post-Hearing Briefs, if any To be scheduled

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