

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE APPLICATION OF BIG SANDY RURAL)
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION)
FOR DEVIATION FROM THE PROVISIONS) CASE NO. 2007-000472
OF 807 KAR 5:041, SECTION 15(3))

O R D E R

On November 6, 2007, Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation (“Big Sandy”) filed a request for a deviation from the provisions of 807 KAR 5:041, Section 15(3), which, among other things, requires tests of single-phase customer meters at least once every 8 years. According to its application, from 2004 through 2007, Big Sandy replaced approximately 12,875 of its single-phase, self-contained meters—nearly its entire fleet—with automatic meter reading devices (“AMR”).¹

In its April 21, 2005 final Order in a prior case relating to the same issue,² the Commission granted Big Sandy a deviation from the provisions of 807 KAR 5:041, Section 15(3), for a period of 4 years or until the replacement of all its meters was

¹ Some of the AMR units were new devices, while others were retrofitted meters consisting of a 10-year or newer electromechanical meter fitted with an AMR module that was cleaned, tested, and calibrated for accuracy. Request for Deviation at 2.

² Case No. 2005-00048, Application of Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation for Deviation From the Provisions of 807 KAR 5:006, Section 6(5), and 807 KAR 5:041, Section 15(3).

complete.³ The Commission found that the meters not tested for the previous 6 or 7 years would be potentially affected by the deviation because they would be due a test during the period in which meters were being replaced with AMR units. If those meters were the last ones to be replaced, their tests might be delayed beyond the 8-year requirement. However, the Commission determined that 807 KAR 5:006, Section 18, which allows a customer to request a meter test, coupled with Big Sandy's tariff provision allowing a refund of the testing service charge if the meter is more than 2 percent fast, provided adequate protection to any Big Sandy customers who believed their meters might be malfunctioning.

On January 7, 2008, Big Sandy filed a motion to withdraw its November 6, 2007 request for a deviation. In its motion, Big Sandy states that it no longer believes the deviation is necessary.

Finding no reason to deny Big Sandy's motion to withdraw its request for deviation, the Commission finds that the motion should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Big Sandy's motion to withdraw its November 6, 2007 application for a deviation from the requirements of 807 KAR 5:041, Section 15(3), is granted.

³ According to Big Sandy, its meter replacement is scheduled to be completed in 2008.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 25th day of January, 2008.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Executive Director

Case No. 2007-00472