COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF BIG SANDY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION FOR A GENERAL ADJUSTMENT OF RATES

CASE NO. 2024-00287

<u>order</u>

On October 1, 2024, Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation (Big Sandy RECC) filed its application for an increase of rates based on a historical test year pursuant to KRS 278.180 and KRS 278.190. The application proposed that the new rates become effective on November 1, 2024.¹ On October 18, 2024, the Commission suspended the effective dates of the proposed rates for five months, up to and including March 31, 2025, and established a procedural schedule.² An evidentiary hearing was held on February 18, 2025. Big Sandy RECC responded to post-hearing requests for information on February 28, 2025, and the parties filed simultaneous post-hearing briefs on March 5, 2025. On April 25, 2025, Big Sandy RECC filed notice, pursuant to KRS 278.190(2), stating that it intended to place the proposed rates into effect for services rendered on and after May 1, 2025.³

¹ Application (filed Oct. 1, 2024) at 4.

² Order (Ky. PSC Oct. 18, 2024).

³ Big Sandy RECC's Notice of Intent to Place Rates into Effect Pursuant to KRS 278.190(2) (filed Apr. 25, 2025).

Pursuant to KRS 278.190(2), a utility is permitted to place proposed rates into effect at the end of the suspension period, upon written notice to the Commission and subject to refund, pending a final Order. The Commission may require a utility that provides such notice to maintain records that will allow the utility, the Commission, or any customer to determine the amounts to be refunded, and to whom, in the event a refund is ordered upon final resolution of the case. Further, upon final resolution, the Commission may order a refund to the extent the rates approved in the final Order are lower than rates proposed by the utility and placed into effect pursuant to KRS 278.190(2).⁴

Big Sandy RECC provided notice that it would place its proposed rates into effect pursuant to KRS 278.190(2) on May 1, 2025. The Commission is still reviewing the record in this matter such that a final Order was not issued by May 1, 2025. The Commission finds that because its review of the matter is not complete, Big Sandy RECC should be allowed to place its proposed rates identified in its April 25, 2025 notice into effect subject to refund.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that, in placing its proposed rates into effect pursuant to KRS 278.190(2), Big Sandy RECC shall maintain its records in such a manner as will allow it, the Commission, or any customer to determine the amounts to be refunded, and to whom, in the event a refund is ordered upon final resolution of this matter.

⁴ KRS 278.190(2).

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Commissioner

ATTEST:

idwell RP

Executive Director



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