



Control Number: 51812



Item Number: 132

Addendum StartPage: 0



Rusk County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

P.O. Box 1169, Henderson, Texas 75653-1169
Office: 3162 Highway 43 East • Phone 903-657-4571

RECEIVED

2021 MAR 10 PM 3: 22

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
FILING CLERK

March 10, 2021

Via Electronic Filing

Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

Re: Rusk County Electric Cooperative, Inc. Comments Regarding February 15, 2021 Order in Project No. 51812, Issues Related to the State of Disaster for the February 2021 Winter Weather Event

Dear Chairman D'Andrea:

Rusk County Electric Cooperative (RCEC) files this letter in support of the Joint Comments Regarding February 15, 2021 Order filed on March 9, 2021 by Bandera Electric Cooperative, Inc., Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, Inc., Pedernales Electric Cooperative, Inc., and the City of San Marcos, Texas and the comments filed by East Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc. on March 10, 2021.

RCEC is a not-for-profit electric cooperative that serves more than 15,000 members in Texas. RCEC respectfully requests that the Commission enforce, or, in the alternative, clarify, its February 15 Order¹ to ensure that immediately after consumer firm load shed ended at 23:55 on February 17, 2021, administrative price adders were removed from the real time energy market clearing prices. The economic effect of not enforcing or clarifying the February 15 Order will be hardship and financial detriment to our members for years to come. RCEC supports the comments and recommendations filed by Pedernales Electric Cooperative, Bandera Electric Cooperative, Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative and the City of San Marcos ("Joint Commenters") and East Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc. filed in this docket on March 9 and 10, 2021, respectively.

RCEC requests the Commission enforce its February 15 Order by directing the Electric Reliability Council of Texas ("ERCOT") to remove the system-wide offer cap price adder from the real-time energy prices for the 32 hours' firm load was not being shed. This action is entirely

¹ Project No. 51617, *Oversight of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas*, Order Directing ERCOT to Take Action and Granting Exception to Commission Rules (Feb. 15, 2021) (refiled in Project No. 51812) (the "February 15 Order"). The February 15, 2021 Order was replaced by an Order on February 16, 2021, but the February 16 Order did not change the section of the February 15 Order addressed here.

within the Commission's authority and would correct the financial penalty that Load Serving Entities incurred for acting quickly in a humanitarian way to stop the suffering of Texans and restore power as quickly as possible. Such an order would also clearly resolve this issue, providing regulatory certainty for the market participants, a result that all market participants desire. The Commission has authority to enforce, or clarify if necessary, its February 15 Order as explained in the comments filed by the Joint Commenters. For these reasons, the recommendation of the Independent Market Monitor should be followed, and the artificial \$9,000 price for energy should be reduced once ERCOT rescinded its order to shed load.

RCEC thanks the Commission for the opportunity to provide comments on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rhett Reid". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "R" and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rhett Reid
General Manager
Rusk County Electric Cooperative