

Filing Receipt

Received - 2021-10-08 01:14:15 PM Control Number - 52195 ItemNumber - 244

### SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-21-2606 PUC DOCKET NO. 52195

APPLICATION OF EL PASO \$ BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE \$ OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

# THE RATE 41 GROUP'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY

COMES NOW Anthony Independent School District, Canutillo Independent School District, Clint Independent School District, El Paso County, El Paso County Community College District, El Paso County Housing Authority, El Paso Independent School District, Fabens Independent School District, Housing Authority of the City of El Paso, Region 19 Education Service Center, San Elizario Independent School District, Socorro Independent School District, Tornillo Independent School District, and Ysleta Independent School District (collectively, the "Rate 41 Group"), by and through its attorneys of record, and request that El Paso Electric Company ("EPE") provide information and answer the attached questions under oath within the time provided by law. It is further requested that the questions be answered in the order in which they are asked with as much detail so as to fully present all of the relevant facts.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Please answer the attached questions on separate pages and copy the question immediately above the answer to each question. Following each answer, please identify the person who prepared the answer and the witness or witnesses who will sponsor each of your answers at the hearing in the above-referenced dockets. In producing documents pursuant to this request for information, please indicate the specific request(s) to which the document is being produced. These requests are continuing in nature and, should there be a change in circumstances which would modify or change any of your answers, then, in such case, please immediately change or modify each answer and submit such changed answer as a supplement to the original answer pursuant to 16 TAC § 22.144(i).

In answering this request for information, you are requested to furnish such information as is available to you, including information which you are able to obtain by due diligence from your

present or former attorneys, accountants, investigators, consultants, employees, agents, and persons acting on your behalf.

If you are unable to answer any request fully and completely after exercising the due diligence to make inquiry and to secure information, you are to answer such request as fully and completely as you can and to specify the portions which you are unable to answer in such request. In addition to specifying those portions, you are to state with regard to each portion:

- 1. The fact on which you base the contention that you are unable to answer that portion;
- 2. The knowledge, information, and belief you have concerning that portion; and
- 3. The acts done and inquiries made by you in attempting to answer such request.

The singular includes the plural and the plural includes the singular.

Masculine, feminine, or neuter pronouns do not exclude the other genders.

The words "document" and "documents" have the broadest meaning that can be ascribed to them pursuant to the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. Among other things, the words "document" and "documents" mean the final form and all drafts and revisions of any kind of written or graphic mater, original or reproduced copy, however produced or reproduced, of any kind and of every kind, and all copies there from which are different in any way from the original regardless of whether designated "confidential," "privileged," or otherwise restricted. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the words "document" and "documents" also include information stored or maintained on, or which could be reproduced from, film, microfilm, computer printout, disk or diskette, magnetic tape, cassette, phonographic disc, videotape or similar means.

"Concerning" means constituting, arising out of, incident to, referring to, mentioning, bearing upon, reflecting, evidencing, affecting, concerning or relating in any manner to the transaction, communication, document, individual, entry, act, object, conference, activity or thing identified.

The words "and" and "or" shall be construed conjunctively or disjunctively as necessary to bring within each request all documents which might otherwise be construed as outside its scope.

The words "communication" and "communications" include, without limitation of their generality, both written and oral: statements, representations, discussions, conversations, speeches, meetings, remarks, questions, answers, panel discussions and symposia. These words include, without limitation of their generality, both communications and statements which are face-to-face

and those which are transmitted by any writing or document or by media such as intercoms, telephones, email, television or radio.

The words "identify" and "identification," when used with respect to a natural person or persons, mean to state the name, address(es) and telephone number(s) of each such person. If any of the foregoing information is not available, state any other available means of identifying such person.

The words "identify" and "identification," when used in reference to a person other than a natural person, mean to set forth its:

- (1) full name or title;
- (2) nature or organization, including the state under which the same was organized or incorporated;
- (3) address and telephone number (with area code prefix); and
- (4) principal line of business.

If any of the foregoing information is not available, state any other available means of identifying such person.

The words "identify" and "describe," when used in reference to a fact, mean to state not only the fact itself, but also:

- (1) its date, time and place
- (2) the name, address and telephone number of each person with knowledge of the fact;
- (3) whether the act is supported by an oral communication, a document, or other event; and
- (4) any other evidence which supports such fact.

The words "identify" and "identification," when used in reference to a document, mean to state:

- (1) its date;
- (2) its author;
- (3) its addressee;
- (4) the type of document (e.g., letter, memorandum, receipt, invoice, schedule, report, telegram, chart, photograph, etc.); and

(5) its present location and identity of its custodian. If any document was, but is no longer, in your possession, custody, or control, or is no longer in existence, explain why.

If any of the foregoing information is not available, state any other available means of identifying such document. If a document is one of a series of pages contained in a book, pamphlet, binder, folder, microfilm (or other storage device), include in your identification of such document(s) any available numerical reference (or other aid) to the pages and line or other portion thereof at which the information referred to can be found. A true and correct copy of any document may be produced and filed with your Answers hereto in lieu of the above information.

The words "identify" and "describe," when used with respect to an oral communication mean:

- (1) to state the substance of each such oral communication;
- (2) to state the exact words used by each person participating in the oral communication;
- (3) to identify each speaker;
- (4) to identify each person present at the making or reception of such oral communication;
- (5) to specify the date, time and place of each oral communication;
- (6) to identify each person repeating such oral communication;
- (7) to identify every document which records, memorializes, or relates to all or part of such communication; and
- (8) to identify the mode of such communication (e.g., telephone, face-to-face, etc.)

The words "person" and "persons" as used herein, mean all individuals and entities, and shall be deemed to include natural persons, firms, partnerships, associations, organizations, joint ventures, corporations, and any other entities, including without limitation, any electric utility, cogenerator, independent power producer, qualifying facility, or any other entity which generates electricity.

The words "regarding," "relate," "related," "relates" and "relating," as used herein, mean involving, relating to, referring to, having any relationship to, pertaining to, evidencing or constituting evidence of, in whole or in part.

The term "Commission" refers to the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

The term "EPE" or "Company" shall refer to El Paso Electric Company.

The words "you," and "your" mean El Paso Electric Company and any person acting or purporting to act on its behalf, including without limitation, El Paso Electric Company's attorneys, agents, advisors, investigators, representatives, employees or other persons.

If you have any question concerning the attached requests or any of these instructions, please contact the undersigned.

If the information requested may be derived from publicly available sources, your response may simply provide the location or means of obtaining the information. If you have already produced any requested information in this case, please list the request in which the information was provided, or contact the undersigned to discuss whether it may be possible to withdraw the request.

#### Respectfully submitted,

# By: /s/Maria Faconti

J. Christopher Hughes State Bar No. 00792594 Maria Faconti State Bar No. 24078487 Alaina Zermeno State Bar No. 24098656 Javon Johnson State Bar No. 24120929 HUSCH BLACKWELL, LLP 111 Congress Avenue, Suite 1400 Austin, Texas 78701 Phone: (512) 479-1173 Fax: (512) 481-1101 chris.hughes@huschblackwell.com maria.faconti@huschblackwell.com alaina.zermeno@huschblackwell.com javon.johnson@huschblackwell.com

#### **ATTORNEYS FOR:**

ANTHONY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
CANUTILLO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
CLINT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
EL PASO COUNTY
EL PASO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
EL PASO COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY
EL PASO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
FABENS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF EL PASO
REGION 10 EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
SAN ELIZARIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
TORNILLO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
YSLETA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

	I hereby	certify	that	a true ai	nd com	rect	copy o	of the	foregoin	ig instr	ument	has bee	n fo	rward	ded
to all	parties of	record	via (	electroni	c mail	on	the 8 <sup>t</sup>	h day	of Octol	oer 202	21, in	accordar	ice	with	the
Order	Suspendir	ng Rule	s, iss	ued in P	roject	No.	50664	ļ. ·							

/s/ Maria Faconti
Maria Faconti

# RATE 41 GROUP'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO CITY EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY

- 1-1. Please provide a working Excel file copy of Schedule Q-7 with all formulas and links intact.
- 1-2 Please refer to page 64, lines 8 through 10, of the direct testimony of El Paso Electric ("EPE") witness Manuel Carrasco. Provide all information that demonstrates that customers on Rate 41 have consistently had monthly power factors below 0.90 and provide a list of the Rate 41 accounts that had power factors below 0.90.
- 1-3 Please provide a working copy of the Excel file, with all formulas and links intact, used to create Table MC-8 on page 16 of the direct testimony of EPE witness Manuel Carrasco. Include working computer file copies of all linked files and all workpapers used to create Table MC-8.
- 1-4 Please refer to WP Q-7(a), tab Rate 41. Provide a description of the basis for the percentages shown on lines 22 and 23. In addition, provide copies of all analyses, studies, cost support, and other supportive documents relied upon to support those percentages.
- In EPE's last rate case, Docket No. 46831, the Company proposed a three-step hours use of demand structure for the Rate 41 energy rate. In this case, the Company is proposing a Rate 41 flat energy rate. Please explain and support the change in the proposed energy rate structure in this case as compared to the prior case.
- Please calculate the test year monthly bill impacts on each Rate 41 account resulting from EPE's proposed power factor adjustment provision.
- 1-7 In EPE's last rate case, the Company limited the proposed increase in the Rate 41 customer charge to the percent increase in the Rate 41 revenue, or 20.247%. In this case, EPE is proposing to increase the Rate 41 customer charge by over 220%. Please explain and support the change to not limit the increase in the customer charge in this case.
- 1-8 Please provide a working computer file that contains the monthly billing determinants for the test year for each rate component for each Rate 41 customer under both the current and proposed rate structures.
- 1-9 Please provide a working computer file copy of all Rate 41 customer impact analyses and comparisons that show the impact of EPE's proposed rate increase on Rate 41 customers.

- 1-10 In addition to the proposed new rate structure for Rate 41, please provide all alternative rate structures considered by EPE for Rate 41. Provide a copy of all Rate 41 customer impact analyses that show the impact of all alternative rate structures considered for Rate 41.
- 1-11 Please provide a working electronic copy of EPE's jurisdictional cost of service study showing the FERC and New Mexico jurisdictions separately.
- 1-12 For the prior five rate cases in Texas and in New Mexico, please identify each instance in which EPE considered and applied the principle of gradualism for purposes of either distributing the overall revenue increase among the customer classes or determining the levels of or changes in class rate components. For each instance identified, provide an explanation of how gradualism was applied.
- 1-13 Please refer to Table AH-1. Did the Company consider applying gradualism to reduce the substantial base rate increases shown for Rate 03, Rate 07, Rate WH, and Rate 41? If not, explain why not. Also, if gradualism was considered and rejected, explain why EPE decided not to apply gradualism.
- 1-14 For each account receiving service under Rate 41, please provide the following information in an electronic file for each month of the test year:
  - a. The voltage level of service,
  - b. Metered energy (kWh),
  - c. Adjusted energy (kWh),
  - d. The amount of energy that would be billed under each energy charge for the current rates and standard base proposed rates,
  - e. The amount of energy that would be billed under each energy charge for the proposed time-of-use ("TOU") rate,
  - f. The metered peak demand (kW),
  - g. The adjusted peak demand (kW),
  - h. The billing demand (kW) under the current rates and proposed rates,
  - i. The amount billed for current standard base rates,
  - i. The amount billed under the proposed standard base rates,
  - k. The amount billed under the proposed TOU base rate option,
  - 1. The total amount billed under current standard rates,

- m. The total amount billed under the proposed standard rates, and
- n. The total amount billed under the proposed TOU rate option.
- 1-15 Please identify each Rate 41 account that currently has distributed generation ("DG") facilities. For each identified account, also provide the monthly test year billing determinants under the current Rate 41, the proposed standard Rate 41, and the proposed TOU Rate 41.
- 1-16 Please identify each Rate 41 customer that has indicated to EPE that it plans to install DG. For each customer identified, provide the following information:
  - a. The customer's account(s) that will have DG,
  - b. The size in kW of the planned DG,
  - c. The DG type (e.g., wind, solar, geothermal, etc.),
  - d. The expected monthly generation of the DG,
  - e. For each of the accounts identified in response to (a) above, provide the monthly test year billing determinants under the current Rate 41, the proposed standard Rate 41, and the proposed TOU Rate 41.
- 1-17 Please identify each Rate 41 account that currently has thermal energy storage ("TES") facilities. For each identified account, also provide the monthly test year billing determinants under the current Rate 41, the proposed standard Rate 41, and the proposed TOU Rate 41.
- 1-18 Please identify each Rate 41 customer that has indicated to EPE that it plans to install TES. For each customer identified, provide the following information:
  - a. The customer's account(s) that will have TES,
  - b. The size in kW of the planned TES, and
  - c. The expected monthly generation of the TES.
- 1-19 Please provide working computer file copies of WP A-01 and Exhibit AH-3 that separates the "other" jurisdiction into the New Mexico and FERC jurisdictions.
- 1-20 Please refer to page 8, line 11, though page 9, line 19, of the direct testimony of EPE witness Adrian Hernandez. Are any solar PPAs or Company-owned solar generation facilities assigned to EPE's FERC generation? Also, explain and support the answer.

- 1-21 Please identify all differences in how EPE proposes to allocate production demand- related costs to jurisdictions in this case with how those costs are allocated by the New Mexico and FERC jurisdictions.
- 1-22 Refer to pages 14 and 15 of the direct testimony of EPE witness Manuel Carrasco. Please explain and support the basis for the customer class rate increase cap of 1.5 times average system percent increase and the floor of one-half of the decrease for customer classes that get a rate decrease based on the Company's cost of service study
- 1-23 Refer to pages 6 and 7 of the direct testimony of EPE witness George Novela. For each Solar PPA and EPE-owned solar facility, provide all amounts by FERC account number that were specifically assigned to each jurisdiction. Please provide working electronic files of this information. In addition, provide working electronic file copies of all workpapers and supporting documents used to adjust the jurisdictional energy and demand allocators. Include information that shows the amount of the adjustment for each solar PPA and EPE-owned Solar facility.
- 1-24 Please provide the latest long-term power cost forecast for the following: (1) total EPE, (2) the EPE Texas jurisdiction, (3) the EPE New Mexico jurisdiction, and (4) the EPE FERC jurisdiction.
- 1-25 For each renewable energy PPA please provide the following information:
  - a. The parties to the agreement,
  - b. The type of renewable energy,
  - c. The contract term,
  - d. The effective date of the agreement,
  - e. The jurisdiction that receives the energy,
  - f. The annual energy delivered for 2019, 2020, and tear-to-date 2021,
  - g. The average cost per MWh for 2019, 2020, and year-to-date 2021.