

**BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF AN )  
IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY RULE PROHIBITING THE )  
DISCONTINUATION OF RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER ) CASE NO. 20-00069-UT  
PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICE DURING THE TIME )  
PERIOD OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS )  
2020-004 THROUGH -0010 )**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that **El Paso Electric Company's Quarterly Report NMPRC**

**Case No. 20-00069-UT Compliance Filing** was emailed on October 30, 2020, to each of the following:

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**DATED** this 30<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020.

/s/ Trish Griego  
**Trish Griego**  
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January 29, 2021

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**Subject:**

**El Paso Electric Company's Quarterly Report  
NMPRC Case No. 20-00069-UT – Compliance Filing**

Dear Ms. Sandoval,

El Paso Electric Company ("EPE" or "Company") files this quarterly report pursuant to New Mexico Public Regulation Commission's ("NMPRC") Case No. 20-00069-UT *Order Authorizing Creation of a Regulatory Asset by Public Utilities for Costs Associated with Emergency Conditions* issued on June 24, 2020 ("Order"), which ordered public utilities choosing to create a regulatory asset to quarterly report certain information related to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, Section E of the Order states:

"Public utilities choosing to create a regulatory asset shall file quarterly reports with the Commission concerning usage, increased costs and offsetting savings within 30 days of the end of each quarterly period within the deferral period."

EPE has recorded a regulatory asset as of December 31, 2020 for costs detailed in Exhibit II, excluding labor costs. EPE has not recorded a regulatory liability because it is unknown how much of the savings identified in Exhibit III are actual savings rather than costs that have been deferred due to the COVID-19 pandemic but will be incurred at a later date.

**Exhibit I Customer Usage by Rate Class from October 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.** This exhibit provides New Mexico customer kWhs billed by customer rate class for each month of the reporting period. While EPE continues to believe that the impact of the pandemic has had an overall adverse impact on kWhs sold to its customers, it also has resulted in a change in patterns of usage by customer class. Generally, declines in usage in the public authorities and commercial classes have been partially offset by increases in residential usage. EPE has not been able to specifically quantify the adverse impact of COVID-19 on sales volumes insofar as other factors such as weather and customer growth partially may offset this effect.

**Exhibit II Increased Costs from October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.** EPE continues with modified operations and continues to develop and adjust business processes and workflows to identify costs directly related to the pandemic. While every effort has been made to identify all costs related to the pandemic, as more information becomes available, modifications may be made to these reported costs. The costs presented in Exhibit II are on a total company basis because EPE does not jurisdictionalize all costs in its general ledger.

**Exhibit III Savings from October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.** The only quantifiable potential savings EPE currently identifies are potential savings related to training and travel, and office supplies. EPE quantified a reduction in training and travel costs related to the pandemic by comparing costs for the three months ended December 31, 2020 to the three months ended December 31, 2019. EPE has not

evaluated whether what portion, if any, is a permanent savings or whether such costs have merely been deferred. As additional information develops, EPE will assess whether such savings are permanent.

EPE has considered that there may be potential savings due to work at home provisions through the reduction of office supplies such as copy paper and printer toner; however, these potential savings appear to be more than offset by additional technology costs required to work from remote locations. Accordingly, EPE identifies incremental costs related to technology in Exhibit II. Potential savings related to office supplies reported in Exhibit III is measured by comparing costs incurred this year to the same periods last year.

EPE does not anticipate savings related to reduced activity at utility offices, payment centers and other facilities. EPE facilities were closed to walk-in customers, but drive through and drop box services continued, and EPE did not reduce staff at these facilities.

Finally, EPE has not identified savings due to reduced fuel and maintenance costs associated with reduced activity of line personnel; but rather believes there has been an increase in such costs. EPE has not been able to quantify the net increase in fuel cost due to the increase in maintenance projects and therefore has not included such costs in Exhibit II. EPE has experienced an increase in its maintenance programs rather than a decrease. The work requests completed and underway for the three months ended December 31, 2020 exceed those for the same period last year.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please feel free to contact me at 915-543-4354.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Curtis Hutcheson*

Curtis Hutcheson  
Supervisor-Regulatory Case Management

Exhibit I  
Exhibit II  
Exhibit III

Exhibit I: Usage by New Mexico Rate Class  
October 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

Exhibit I  
Page 1 of 1

New Mexico Rate Class:	October 2020 Usage (kWh)	November 2020 Usage (kWh)	December 2020 Usage (kWh)	Total Usage (kWh) by Rate Class for reporting period
NMRT01 Residential Service Rate	55,561,545	46,197,828	54,602,174	156,361,547
NMRT03 Small Commercial Service Rate	12,898,907	11,088,160	10,643,672	34,630,739
NMRT04 General Service Rate	25,143,287	21,652,976	19,846,179	66,642,442
NMRT05 Irrigation Service Rate	5,050,725	2,999,499	1,334,335	9,384,559
NMRT07 City and County Service Rate	4,084,697	3,468,603	3,261,914	10,815,214
NMRT08 Water, Sewage, Storm Sewage Pumping or Sewage Disposal Rate	3,308,122	2,619,051	2,566,352	8,493,525
NMRT09 Large Power Service Rate	10,792,014	11,130,373	11,544,624	33,467,011
NMRT10 Military Research and Development Rate	10,578,019	7,825,379	9,673,885	28,077,283
NMRT11 Street Lighting Service Rate	151,175	151,115	151,385	453,675
NMRT12 Private Area Lighting Service Rate	429,828	430,136	428,175	1,288,139
NMRT16 NM Purchased Power Net Metering	4,365,659	3,858,349	4,068,211	12,292,219
NMRT19 Seasonal Agriculture Processing Service Rate	424,472	1,170,179	1,521,409	3,116,060
NMRT25 Outdoor Recreational Lighting Service Rate	26,613	24,078	12,370	63,061
NMRT26 State University Service Rate	2,520,114	1,836,570	1,804,130	6,160,814
NMRT29 Noticed Interruptible Service for Large Power	765,390	850,947	721,488	2,337,825
NMRT32 Voluntary Renewable Energy	36,286	28,980	31,132	96,398
Total	136,136,853	115,332,223	122,211,435	373,680,511



Exhibit II: Costs related to COVID-19 pandemic  
October 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

Exhibit II  
Page 1 of 1

Description	October 2020	November 2020	December 2020	Total
Palo Verde Costs (1)	\$ 137,071	\$ 146,673	\$ 91,979	\$ 375,723
Operational Support (2)	25,628	27,825	21,298	74,751
Safety (3)	96,684	109,941	273,919	480,544
Medical Costs (4)	-	-	544,456	544,456
Information Technology (5)	-	-	158	158
Bad debt expense	252,000	607,000	184,000	1,043,000
Total non-labor impacts	\$ 511,383	\$ 891,439	\$ 1,115,810	\$ 2,518,633
Labor	154,306	165,428	114,945	434,678
Labor related allocations	91,194	93,804	68,121	253,119
Total labor impacts	245,500	259,232	183,066	687,798
Total	<u>\$ 756,883</u>	<u>\$ 1,150,670</u>	<u>\$ 1,298,877</u>	<u>\$ 3,206,430</u>

- (1) O&M charges from APS identified as COVID-19 related.  
(2) Security, medical consulting, food and accommodations (i.e. beds, freezers, washers, dryers, televisions), etc.  
(3) Personal protective equipment, janitorial services, disinfectants, etc.  
Medical claims and testing costs identified during December 2020 for costs incurred between March 2020 and  
(4) December 2020.  
(5) Third party support, software (webex and cell service), computer peripherals (headsets, printers, cables), etc.

Exhibit III: Available subsidies and the potential of cost savings related to COVID-19 pandemic  
October 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

Exhibit III  
Page 1 of 1

Description	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Total
Federal and State Subsidies (1)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Savings due to "work at home" provisions	41,978	45,864	9,511	97,353
Labor cost savings for furloughed employees (2)	-	-	-	-
Savings due to closure or reduced activities at utility offices, payment centers, and other facilities (3)	-	-	-	-
Savings due to reduced fuel & maintenance costs associated with reduced activity of line personnel (4)	-	-	-	-
Total excluding Other	\$ 41,978	\$ 45,864	\$ 9,511	\$ 97,353
Training & travel related savings	42,385	87,982	16,422	146,788
Total Other (5)	42,385	87,982	16,422	146,788
Total	<u>\$ 84,364</u>	<u>\$ 133,846</u>	<u>\$ 25,932</u>	<u>\$ 244,142</u>

- (1) EPE is not aware of any available federal or state subsidies at this time.
- (2) EPE has not furloughed any of its employees.
- (3) EPE does not anticipate savings related to reduced activity at utility offices, payment centers and other facilities. Facilities were closed to walk-in customers, but drive through and drop box services continued and EPE did not reduce staff at these facilities.
- (4) EPE has not identified savings due to reduced fuel and maintenance cost associated with reduced activity of line personnel; but rather believes there has been an increase in such costs.  
EPE is not currently aware of, nor tracking, any other miscellaneous costs savings beyond those
- (5) documented in this exhibit.

**BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF AN )  
IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY RULE PROHIBITING THE )  
DISCONTINUATION OF RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER ) CASE NO. 20-00069-UT  
PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICE DURING THE TIME )  
PERIOD OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS )  
2020-004 THROUGH -0010 )**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that **El Paso Electric Company's Quarterly Report NMPRC**

**Case No. 20-00069-UT Compliance Filing** was emailed on January 29, 2021, to each of the following:

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[nwinter@stelznerlaw.com](mailto:nwinter@stelznerlaw.com);  
[kherrmann@stelznerlaw.com](mailto:kherrmann@stelznerlaw.com);  
[tomf@donaanacounty.org](mailto:tomf@donaanacounty.org);  
[nelsong@donaanacounty.org](mailto:nelsong@donaanacounty.org);  
[ta.glasco@lacnm.us](mailto:ta.glasco@lacnm.us);  
[dnajjar@virtuelaw.com](mailto:dnajjar@virtuelaw.com);  
[astevens.law@gmail.com](mailto:astevens.law@gmail.com);  
[nelxong@donaanacounty.org](mailto:nelxong@donaanacounty.org);  
[fredk@donaanacounty.org](mailto:fredk@donaanacounty.org);  
[sed@las-cruces.org](mailto:sed@las-cruces.org);  
[jag@las-cruces.org](mailto:jag@las-cruces.org);  
[joprovincio@las-cruces.org](mailto:joprovincio@las-cruces.org);  
[jvega-brown@las-cruces.org](mailto:jvega-brown@las-cruces.org);  
[wtempleman@cmtisantafe.com](mailto:wtempleman@cmtisantafe.com);  
[mmoffett@cmtisantafe.com](mailto:mmoffett@cmtisantafe.com);  
[mavortrujillo@cityofanthonymn.org](mailto:mavortrujillo@cityofanthonymn.org);  
[jsmith.watsonlawlc@gmail.com](mailto:jsmith.watsonlawlc@gmail.com);  
[marcyd@las-cruces.org](mailto:marcyd@las-cruces.org);  
[mlsoules@hotmail.com](mailto:mlsoules@hotmail.com);  
[cfw@keleher-law.com](mailto:cfw@keleher-law.com);  
[steven.cordova@nmgco.com](mailto:steven.cordova@nmgco.com);  
[bjh@keleher-law.com](mailto:bjh@keleher-law.com);  
[jth@keleher-law.com](mailto:jth@keleher-law.com);  
[thomas.domme@nmgco.com](mailto:thomas.domme@nmgco.com);  
[rebecca.carter@nmgco.com](mailto:rebecca.carter@nmgco.com);  
[nicole.strauser@nmgco.com](mailto:nicole.strauser@nmgco.com);

ZNG-Joan E. Drake	<a href="mailto:jdrake@modrall.com"><u>jdrake@modrall.com</u></a> ;
ZNG-Leslie A. Graham	<a href="mailto:lgraham@zngc.com"><u>lgraham@zngc.com</u></a> ;
ZNG-Janeen Capshaw	<a href="mailto:jcapshaw@naturalgaspro.com"><u>jcapshaw@naturalgaspro.com</u></a> ;
ZNG-Tomas J. Sullivan	<a href="mailto:tsullivan@nucllc.com"><u>tsullivan@nucllc.com</u></a> ;
ZNG-Greg Macias	<a href="mailto:maciasge@bv.com"><u>maciasge@bv.com</u></a> ;
David Link	<a href="mailto:david@rngcompany.com"><u>david@rngcompany.com</u></a> ;
LaVanda Jones	<a href="mailto:lavanda.jones@nmgco.com"><u>lavanda.jones@nmgco.com</u></a> ;
Peter Gould	<a href="mailto:pgouldlaw@gmail.com"><u>pgouldlaw@gmail.com</u></a> ;
ZNG-Anne G. Wheatcroft	<a href="mailto:agabel@naturalgaspro.com"><u>agabel@naturalgaspro.com</u></a> ;
ZNG-K. Marit Coburn	<a href="mailto:mcoburn@zngc.com"><u>mcoburn@zngc.com</u></a> ;
Peter Auh	<a href="mailto:pauh@abcwua.org"><u>pauh@abcwua.org</u></a> ;
EPCORE Water	<a href="mailto:mywater@epcor.com"><u>mywater@epcor.com</u></a> ;
Jeffrey Wechsler	<a href="mailto:jweschler@montand.com"><u>jweschler@montand.com</u></a> ;
Cynthia Apodaca	<a href="mailto:capodaca@newmexicowater.com"><u>capodaca@newmexicowater.com</u></a> ;
Ralph Phelps	<a href="mailto:gloriabailey1953@yahoo.com"><u>gloriabailey1953@yahoo.com</u></a> ;
Cecil Phelps	<a href="mailto:cecilphelps@gmail.com"><u>cecilphelps@gmail.com</u></a> ;
Jeffrey H. Albright	<a href="mailto:ja@jalblaw.com"><u>ja@jalblaw.com</u></a> ;
Amanda Edwards	<a href="mailto:ae@jalblaw.com"><u>ae@jalblaw.com</u></a> ;
WRA - Steve Michel	<a href="mailto:smichel@westernresources.org"><u>smichel@westernresources.org</u></a> ;
WRA-Glenda Murphy	<a href="mailto:gmurphy@westernresources.org"><u>gmurphy@westernresources.org</u></a> ;
Charles Garcia	<a href="mailto:cgarcia@cuddymccarthy.com"><u>cgarcia@cuddymccarthy.com</u></a> ;
Jack Sidler	<a href="mailto:jack.sidler@state.nm.us"><u>jack.sidler@state.nm.us</u></a> ;
Timothy Martinez	<a href="mailto:timothy.martinez@state.nm.us"><u>timothy.martinez@state.nm.us</u></a> ;
John Badal	<a href="mailto:jbadal@sacredwindnm.com"><u>jbadal@sacredwindnm.com</u></a> ;
Adam Alvarez	<a href="mailto:adam.alvarez@pnm.com"><u>adam.alvarez@pnm.com</u></a> ;
Kelly Gould	<a href="mailto:kelly@thegouldlawfirm.com"><u>kelly@thegouldlawfirm.com</u></a> ;

**DATED** this 29<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021.

/s/ Trish Griego  
**Trish Griego**  
**Legal Assistant**

**From:** Rodriguez, David  
**To:** Baca, Karen  
**Cc:** Chagnon, Leslie A; Ortiz, Myrna A; Li, En  
**Subject:** RE: Question related to some reporting requirements for NM  
**Date:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 12:41:02 PM  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg  
image002.jpg  
image003.jpg  
image004.jpg

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Good afternoon.

Karen – I would say the answer is still “no.”

Please see table below:

	2019	2020
<b>Diesel:</b>		
Miles Driven	1,922,997	1,852,961
Gallons Consumed	277,955	281,178
Cost	\$742,792	\$566,283
	2019	2020
<b>Unleaded:</b>		
Miles Driven	2,591,598	2,527,897
Gallons Consumed	169375	171300
Cost	\$385,502	\$306,771

Looks like we drove less miles and spent less money year-over-year from 2019 to 2020, however, we consumed more gallons because we have more vehicles on the road every day as we try and keep our field employees separated. The reason our annual cost decreased was because the average price of fuel (diesel and unleaded) was lower in 2020 as compared to 2019, I would guess because there's less people driving, causing a decrease in demand, and resulting in a decrease in cost per gallon.

Furthermore, because we have more vehicles on the road we're spending more on maintenance and repair activities. We're about \$150K over budget in parts and another \$158K over in contractor services for Fleet. This overage more than offsets any price reductions we experienced last year.

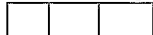
Hope this makes sense....

Thanks,

David Rodriguez | El Paso Electric Company



Sr. Director -Support SVCS & SCM  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 543-5981 | C: (915) 497-8176  
[david.rodriquez@epelectric.com](mailto:david.rodriquez@epelectric.com)



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**From:** Rodriguez, David  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 20, 2021 10:19 AM  
**To:** Baca, Karen <Karen.Baca@epelectric.com>  
**Cc:** Chagnon, Leslie A <leslie.chagnon@epelectric.com>; Ortiz, Myrna A <myrna.ortiz@epelectric.com>; Li, En <en.li@epelectric.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Question related to some reporting requirements for NM

Good morning.

I don't believe so since we still have field personnel riding in separate vehicles but let me verify with our Fleet folks and I'll get back to you as soon as we can compile the information.

Thanks,

**David Rodriguez | El Paso Electric Company**  
Sr. Director -Support SVCS & SCM  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 543-5981 | C: (915) 497-8176  
[david.rodriquez@epelectric.com](mailto:david.rodriquez@epelectric.com)



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**From:** Baca, Karen <[Karen.Baca@epelectric.com](mailto:Karen.Baca@epelectric.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 20, 2021 8:16 AM

**To:** Rodriguez, David <david.rodriguez@epelectric.com>  
**Cc:** Chagnon, Leslie A <leslie.chagnon@epelectric.com>; Ortiz, Myrna A <myrna.ortiz@epelectric.com>; Li, En <en.li@epelectric.com>  
**Subject:** Question related to some reporting requirements for NM

Good morning David,

We are working on the NM reporting for Q4 and I was checking to see if there might have been any changes to the previous conclusions related to the question, "Savings due to reduced fuel and maintenance costs associated with reduced activity of line personnel".

Please let us know and thank you for your help!

**Karen P. Baca, CPA | El Paso Electric Company**  
Staff Accountant - Financial Accounting  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 351-4249 | F: (915) 521-4751  
**karen.baca@epelectric.com**



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**From:** Rodriguez, David  
**Sent:** Monday, October 26, 2020 6:40 PM  
**To:** Ihorn, Sean <Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com>  
**Cc:** Chagnon, Leslie A <leslie.chagnon@epelectric.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Question related to some reporting requirements for NM

Good evening Sean.

Yes sir, we're still keeping crews and other field personnel in separate vehicles.

Thanks,  
-David

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 26, 2020, at 6:16 PM, Ihorn, Sean <Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com> wrote:

Hi David,

We are working on the NM reporting for Q3 and I was checking to see if there might have been any changes to the previous conclusions related to the question, "Savings due to reduced fuel and maintenance costs associated with reduced activity of line personnel".

Hope all is well.

Thanks,  
Sean

**From:** Rodriguez, David  
**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 3:42 PM  
**To:** Ihorn, Sean <[Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com](mailto:Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com)>  
**Cc:** Chagnon, Leslie A <[leslie.chagnon@epelectric.com](mailto:leslie.chagnon@epelectric.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Question related to some reporting requirements for NM

Good afternoon Sean, hope all is well.

I don't believe we'll see any cost savings relative to reduced activity from line crews. As you mentioned, we're now keeping crews on single occupancy per vehicle so we're very likely driving more miles than we did during the same period last year. I believe Distribution (Leslie Chagnon, copied herein) may be able to provide the number of jobs that have been completed this year versus previous years and I believe she had mentioned in a previous meeting that more work has been completed this year as compared to the same time period last year. Not sure if that would help you all make your point on there not being cost savings associated with line crews activity.

There may be some costs savings relative to the price of gas, since gas has been relatively low this year as compared to previous years. Do you want me to get our Fleet folks to provide a quick breakdown of gallons used and associated costs for gas? We may be able to break it down between diesel and unleaded to show gas usage for both the transportation and construction fleets.

I stayed up and watched the game yesterday; they started off slow but finally got going. Go Dodgers!!!

<[image001.jpg](#)>

**David Rodriguez** | **El Paso Electric Company**  
Sr. Director -Support SVCS & SCM  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960

T: (915) 543-5981 | C: (915) 497-8176

[david.rodriquez@epelectric.com](mailto:david.rodriquez@epelectric.com)

[<image002.jpg>](#)

[<image003.jpg>](#)

[<image004.jpg>](#)

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**From:** Ihorn, Sean

**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 3:07 PM

**To:** Rodriguez, David <[david.rodriquez@epelectric.com](mailto:david.rodriquez@epelectric.com)>

**Subject:** Question related to some reporting requirements for NM

David,

We are working on some reporting required by the NMPRC for COVID related impact. As part of that reporting they are asking to identify any potential cost savings resulting from the pandemic.

The specific request is as follows:

"Savings due to reduced fuel and maintenance costs associated with reduced activity of line personnel"

Before doing any detailed analysis, Bill asked me to see if you thought there would be any related savings, or if more likely, savings would probably be offset by the costs of using additional vehicles by operational personnel due to social distancing.

Thanks for the help and have a nice weekend (Dodgers may finally break that World Series drought).

Sean

[<image001.jpg>](#)

**Sean Ihorn, CPA, CGMA | [El Paso Electric Company](#)**

Director – Plant, Revenue and Technical Accounting

P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960

T: (915) 543-4132 | C: (915) 218-8561

[sean.ihorn@epelectric.com](mailto:sean.ihorn@epelectric.com)

[<image002.jpg>](#)

[<image003.jpg>](#)

<image004.jpg>

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**From:** [Garibay, Joe A](#)  
**To:** [Baca, Karen](#)  
**Cc:** [Ortiz, Myrna A](#); [Li, En](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Question related to NM reporting requirements for regulatory assets  
**Date:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 9:09:07 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)  
[image004.jpg](#)  
[image006.jpg](#)  
[image007.jpg](#)  
[image008.jpg](#)

---

No significant savings. We had a couple of retirements that I held up replacing since call volume was down, but that is about it.

**Thank You,**

**Joe Garibay | [El Paso Electric Company](#)**  
Director Customer Care  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 543-2058  
[Joe.Garibay@epelectric.com](mailto:Joe.Garibay@epelectric.com)



**From:** Baca, Karen  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 8:55 AM  
**To:** Garibay, Joe A <[joe.garibay@epelectric.com](mailto:joe.garibay@epelectric.com)>  
**Cc:** Ortiz, Myrna A <[myrna.ortiz@epelectric.com](mailto:myrna.ortiz@epelectric.com)>; Li, En <[en.li@epelectric.com](mailto:en.li@epelectric.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Question related to NM reporting requirements for regulatory assets

Good morning Joe,

Just wanted to follow up on the question below as we will be sending off this filing to Legal today and need to verify this information before sending it.

Please let us know.

Thanks!

**Karen P. Baca, CPA | [El Paso Electric Company](#)**  
Staff Accountant - Financial Accounting  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 351-4249 | F: (915) 521-4751  
[karen.baca@epelectric.com](mailto:karen.baca@epelectric.com)



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message and any attachments and immediately notify the sender.

**From:** Baca, Karen  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 20, 2021 8:15 AM  
**To:** Garibay, Joe A <[joe.garibay@epelectric.com](mailto:joe.garibay@epelectric.com)>  
**Cc:** Ortiz, Myrna A <[myrna.ortiz@epelectric.com](mailto:myrna.ortiz@epelectric.com)>; Li, En <[en.li@epelectric.com](mailto:en.li@epelectric.com)>  
**Subject:** Question related to NM reporting requirements for regulatory assets

Good morning Joe,

I am working on the updated reporting for NM for Q4. I wanted to see if there might have been any significant savings due to closures/reduced activity with payment centers, etc. or reduced call volumes during Q4?

Thanks for your help!

**Karen P. Baca, CPA | El Paso Electric Company**  
Staff Accountant - Financial Accounting  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 351-4249 | F: (915) 521-4751  
[karen.baca@epelectric.com](mailto:karen.baca@epelectric.com)



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**From:** Garibay, Joe A  
**Sent:** Monday, October 26, 2020 5:06 PM  
**To:** Ihorn, Sean <[Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com](mailto:Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Question related to NM reporting requirements for regulatory assets

No, we really have not changed the staffing much so our expenses are pretty close to budget. The only real increase is in the provision for uncollectible.

**Thank You,**

**Joe Garibay | El Paso Electric Company**  
Director Customer Care  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 543-2058  
[Joe.Garibay@epelectric.com](mailto:Joe.Garibay@epelectric.com)



**From:** Ihorn, Sean

**Sent:** Monday, October 26, 2020 5:00 PM

**To:** Garibay, Joe A <[joe.garibay@epelectric.com](mailto:joe.garibay@epelectric.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Question related to NM reporting requirements for regulatory assets

Hi Joe,

I am working on the updated reporting for NM for Q3. I wanted to see if there might have been any significant savings due to closures/reduced activity with payment centers, etc. or reduced call volumes during Q3?

Thank you,  
Sean

**From:** Garibay, Joe A

**Sent:** Thursday, July 30, 2020 3:04 PM

**To:** Ihorn, Sean <[Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com](mailto:Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Question related to NM reporting requirements for regulatory assets

This one is almost a wash. In May I reduced agents and had a cost savings. In June I ramped up agents in anticipation of the moratorium ending, same story for July. The issue here is I have to decide on my staffing 30 days before the beginning of the month.

Savings in May	(\$37,700)
Additional in June	\$ 5,800
Additional in July	\$ 17,400
Additional in August	<u>\$ 11,600</u>
Total	(\$2,900)

The July and August amounts may change dependent on actual headcount. I had requested six additional agents for June, but when the moratorium was extended the contractor worked with EPE to reduce the headcount for June. That may happen in July and August, but contractually this is what I committed to pay.

**Thank You,**

**Joe Garibay | El Paso Electric Company**

Director Customer Care

P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960

T: (915) 543-2058

**Joe.Garibay@epelectric.com**





**From:** Ihorn, Sean  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 30, 2020 2:08 PM  
**To:** Garibay, Joe A <[joe.garibay@epelectric.com](mailto:joe.garibay@epelectric.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Question related to NM reporting requirements for regulatory assets

Hi Joe,

There was a follow up question related to this from Jim asking about the impacts of reduced call volumes.


Thanks,  
Sean

**From:** Garibay, Joe A  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2020 8:34 AM  
**To:** Ihorn, Sean <[Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com](mailto:Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Question related to NM reporting requirements for regulatory assets

Hey Sean,

There are no significant saving due to the closure/reduced activity of the offices. There are two offices in New Mexico and both were closed to walk-in customers. The offices continue to offer drive through service and drop box service to customers. EPE did not reduce staff at the offices.

**Thank You,**

**Joe Garibay | El Paso Electric Company**  
Director Customer Care  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 543-2058  
**Joe.Garibay@epelectric.com**  


**From:** Ihorn, Sean  
**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 2:57 PM  
**To:** Garibay, Joe A <[joe.garibay@epelectric.com](mailto:joe.garibay@epelectric.com)>  
**Subject:** Question related to NM reporting requirements for regulatory assets

Hi Joe,

As part of the reporting requirements under the NM regulatory asset order, we were asked to identify any COVID 19 related cost savings as part of that reporting. One of the specific items they identify in the orders is as follows:

“Savings due to closure or reduced activity at utility offices, payments centers and other facilities”

Before we tried to do any detail analysis, Bill asked me to verify with you whether you thought there were any significant savings due to the closures/reduced activity with payment centers, etc.?

Have a nice weekend.

Thanks,  
Sean

**Sean Ihorn, CPA, CGMA | El Paso Electric Company**  
Director – Plant, Revenue and Technical Accounting  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 543-4132 | C: (915) 218-8561  
**sean.ihorn@epelectric.com**



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**From:** Sharon Kimoto  
**To:** Sara Karen Welch, Darcy Ortiz, Myrna A. U. En  
**Subject:** RE: Q4 2020 NPPRC COVID-19 Filing - Inquiry  
**Dates:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 12:38:44 PM  
**Attachments:** image005.png  
image001.png

Al,

I apologize for the delay. Please see below:

Date Range: Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2020

\* This work includes distribution designed work types (Residential, Commercial, and Service Delivery). This does not include Lighting, No-Designs, or Emergency WR Types.

Current YTD BCAs:															Current DDCM Workload by WR TYPE for 2020 Year to Date															Current YTD Construction Completions:																													
5,386															2,548															2,142															2,098														
4th quarter: 1150															4th Quarter 501															4th Quarter 556															4th Quarter 552														
Count	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Count	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Count	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Count	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total				
ADP Upgrade	17	19	28	42	39	35	29	24	21	11	17	306	907	53	54	161	74	63	75	91	105	29	35	46	90	907	42	47	43	81	105	82	74	79	64	66	36	36	600	907	42	49	46	61	85	58	74	69	69	59	65	68	91	620					
Hardware Costs	5	6	7	8	6	18	11	9	13	4	2	45	100	71	84	89	82	76	66	72	31	47	59	43	32	600	907	58	59	49	67	68	66	58	51	51	52	32	32	600	907	41	48	58	69	53	46	41	43	43	33	43	41	60	600				
New Customers	494	425	420	387	388	382	384	372	377	382	271	375	4,162	907	58	50	46	47	49	77	43	71	57	38	54	729	907	59	59	59	64	69	62	67	49	71	51	43	32	619	907	34	24	59	47	39	62	61	65	68	36	55	60	143	609				
Customer Requests	1	1	71	42	45	17	54	71	100	114	78	74	676	907	100	101	254	239	244	244	244	244	244	244	244	244	2,142	907	137	147	149	200	216	159	129	122	30	214	160	160	2,142	907	143	132	161	107	117	106	167	212	176	144	133	217	2,098	907			
Total	499	396	322	355	403	474	563	416	498	342	206	5,386	907														907														907														907				

Previous YTD BCAs:															Previous DDCM Workload by WR TYPE for 2019 Year to Date															Previous YTD Construction Completions:																													
4,839															2,004															1,755															1,715														
4th Quarter 1130															4th Quarter 444															4th Quarter 473															4th Quarter 459														
Count	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Count	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Count	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Count	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total				
ADP Upgrade	15	16	25	39	35	29	24	21	11	17	306	907	53	54	161	74	63	75	91	105	29	35	46	90	907	42	47	43	81	105	82	74	79	64	66	36	36	600	907	42	49	46	61	85	58	74	69	69	59	65	68	91	620						
Hardware Costs	5	6	7	8	6	18	11	9	13	4	2	45	100	71	84	89	82	76	66	72	31	47	59	43	32	600	907	58	59	49	67	68	66	58	51	51	52	32	32	600	907	41	48	58	69	53	46	41	43	43	33	43	41	60	600				
New Customers	455	410	383	443	418	323	462	419	354	439	349	354	4,839	907	99	60	75	92	72	60	65	64	57	79	45	59	629	907	62	41	57	43	66	56	55	42	56	41	51	63	626	907	62	32	58	54	57	56	59	33	42	41	45	49	66	618			
Customer Requests	408	469	383	442	406	304	452	439	364	439	346	354	4,839	907	58	45	36	46	50	40	54	41	41	43	29	37	625	907	25	16	46	36	32	37	45	36	45	39	38	36	426	907	25	15	39	41	44	33	41	36	31	47	35	33	476	907			
Total	468	384	306	444	402	287	466	459	379	452	334	354	4,839	907														907														907														907			

Jan 21, 2021

2

12:26:10 PM

The statement is still true for all steps of the process that we have more work in 2020 than we did in 2019. I have included all numbers for work above. Below I am showing only Betterment work which is maintenance related WRs.

[illegible]

So for trackable maintenance WRs we also have more work in 2020 than we did in 2019 for all steps of the process

Please let me know if you all need any additional information.

Respectfully,  
Ernie Chacón

**Ernesto Chacón | El Paso Electric Company**  
 Supervisor, Distribution Business Process  
 P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
 T: (915) 543-5813 | C: (915) 525-4648  
[ernesto.chacon@epelectric.com](mailto:ernesto.chacon@epelectric.com)  
  

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**From:** Baca, Karen  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 8:56 AM  
**To:** Chacon, Ernesto <ernie.chacon@epelectric.com>; Welch, Darcy <Darcy.Welch@epelectric.com>  
**Cc:** Ortiz, Myna A <myna.ortiz@epelectric.com>; Li, En <en.li@epelectric.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Q4 2020 NMPRC COVID-19 Filing - Inquiry

Good morning Ernesto,

Just wanted to follow up on the question below as we will be sending off this filing to Legal today and need to verify this information before sending it.

Please let us know.

Karen P. Baca, CPA | El Paso Electric Company  
Staff Accountant - Financial Accounting  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 351-4249 | F: (915) 521-4751  
[karen.baca@epel.com](mailto:karen.baca@epel.com)  
  

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**From:** Chacon, Ernesto  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 20, 2021 8:20 AM  
**To:** Welch, Darcy <[Darcy.Welch@epelectric.com](mailto:Darcy.Welch@epelectric.com)>; Baca, Karen <[Karen.Baca@epelectric.com](mailto:Karen.Baca@epelectric.com)>  
**Cc:** Ortiz, Myrna A <[myrna.ortiz@epelectric.com](mailto:myrna.ortiz@epelectric.com)>; Li, En <[en.li@epelectric.com](mailto:en.li@epelectric.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Q4 2020 NMPRC COVID-19 Filing - Inquiry

Let me look into it, and I'll get the info back to you.

Respectfully,  
Ernie Chacón

**Ernesto Chacón | EIPaso Electric Company**  
 Supervisor, Distribution Business Process  
 P.O. Box 982 | EIPaso Texas, 79960  
 T: (915) 543-6813 | C: (915) 525-4648  
[ernie.chacon@eipaso.com](mailto:ernie.chacon@eipaso.com)  
  

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**From:** Welch, Darcy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021 6:12 PM  
**To:** Baca, Karen <[Karen.Baca@epelectric.com](mailto:Karen.Baca@epelectric.com)>; Chacon, Ernesto <[ernie.chacon@epelectric.com](mailto:ernie.chacon@epelectric.com)>  
**Cc:** Ortiz, Myrna A <[myrna.ortiz@epelectric.com](mailto:myrna.ortiz@epelectric.com)>; Li, En <[en.li@epelectric.com](mailto:en.li@epelectric.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Q4 2020 NMPRC COVID-19 Filing - Inquiry

Ernie,

Do you have the Q4 number of work requests for 2019 and 2020, as related to completed and underway jobs?

Thanks

Darcy Welch | El Paso Electric Company  
Supervisor - TSD Financial Analysis & Planning  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 543-2295 | C: (915) 479-1949  
Darcy.Welch@epelctric.com

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**From:** Baca, Karen  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 12, 2021 5:49 PM  
**To:** Welch, Darcy <Darcy.Welch@epelectric.com>; Chacon, Ernesto <ernie.chacon@epelectric.com>  
**Cc:** Ortiz, Myrna A <myrna.ortiz@epelectric.com>; Li, En <en.li@epelectric.com>  
**Subject:** Q4 2020 NMFR/C COVID-19 Filing - Inquiry  
**Importance:** High

Hi Darcy,

We are preparing a quarterly filing for NM related to the COVID-19 impact for Q4 2020. In the filings we made related to Q1-Q3, the following sentence was included in reference to a discussion about cost savings due to decreased activity of line personnel.

**EPE has experienced an increase in its maintenance programs rather than a decrease. The work requests completed and underway for the three months ended September 30, 2020 exceed those for the same period last year.**

I wanted to check to see if these statements would still be valid, in general, for **Q4 2020 (three months ended December 31, 2020)**

Thank you for your help!

**Karen P. Baca, CPA / El Paso Electric Company**  
Staff Accountant - Financial Accounting  
P.O. Box 3923 | El Paso, Texas, 79965  
T: (915) 351-4248 | F: (915) 521-4751  
[karen.baca@epelectric.com](mailto:karen.baca@epelectric.com)  


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**From:** [Ihorn, Sean](#)  
**To:** [Baca, Karen](#)  
**Cc:** [Ortiz, Myrna A](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Quick question  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021 5:36:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [image005.png](#)

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FYI. This is who I reached out to in October.

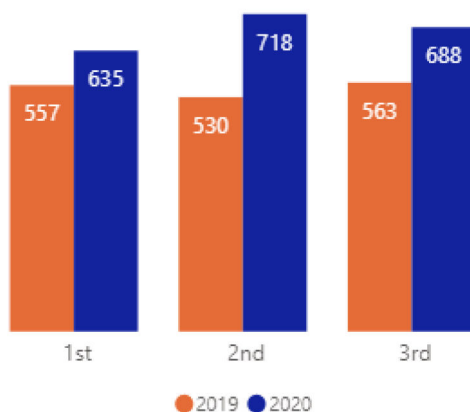
---

**From:** Chacon, Ernesto  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2020 12:46 PM  
**To:** Welch, Darcy <Darcy.Welch@epelectric.com>; Ihorn, Sean <Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Quick question

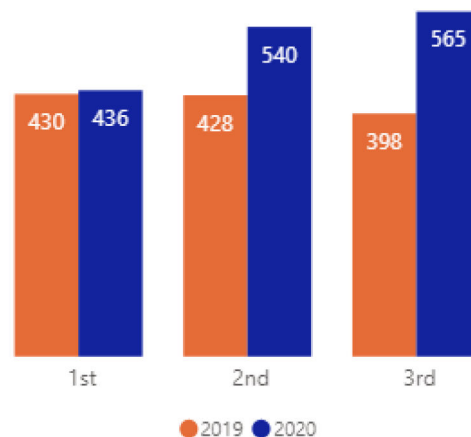
Sean and Darcy,

Yes we are still experiencing an increase in WR completes and creates. Please see the figure below:

DDCM Work Request Creates by Quarter



DDCM Construction Completes by Quarter



Respectfully,  
Ernie Chacón

**Ernesto Chacón** | [El Paso Electric Company](#)  
Supervisor, Distribution Business Process  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 543-5813 | C: (915) 525-4648  
[ernie.chacon@epelectric.com](mailto:ernie.chacon@epelectric.com)



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**From:** Welch, Darcy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2020 11:56 AM  
**To:** Ihorn, Sean <[Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com](mailto:Sean.Ihorn@epelectric.com)>; Chacon, Ernesto <[ernie.chacon@epelectric.com](mailto:ernie.chacon@epelectric.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Quick question

Hi Sean,

I believe that statement still holds true. I have copied Ernie Chacon who monitors these types of statistics for distribution.

Ernie – can you confirm our WR counts are still higher year to date than 2019?

Thank You  
Darcy

**Darcy Welch | El Paso Electric Company**  
Supervisor- T&D Financial Analysis & Planning  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 543-2295 | C: (915) 479-1949  
[Darcy.Welch@epelectric.com](mailto:Darcy.Welch@epelectric.com)  
  

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**From:** Ihorn, Sean  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2020 11:05 AM  
**To:** Welch, Darcy <[Darcy.Welch@epelectric.com](mailto:Darcy.Welch@epelectric.com)>  
**Subject:** Quick question  
**Importance:** High

Hi Darcy,

We are preparing a quarterly filing for NM related to COVID impact for Q3. In the filing we made related to Q1/Q2, the following sentence was included in reference to a discussion about cost savings due to decreased activity of line personnel.

EPE has experienced an increase in its maintenance programs rather than a decrease. The work requests completed and underway for the six months ended June 30, 2020 exceed those for the same period last year.

I wanted to check to see if these statements would still be valid, in general, for Q3?

Thanks,  
Sean

**Sean Ihorn, CPA, CGMA | El Paso Electric Company**

Director – Plant, Revenue and Technical Accounting  
P.O. Box 982 | El Paso Texas, 79960  
T: (915) 543-4132 | C: (915) 218-8561  
[sean.ihorn@epelectric.com](mailto:sean.ihorn@epelectric.com)



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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-23:

Please refer to *Table MC-7* in Carrasco Direct Testimony, page 13, which shows an adjustment of \$844,298 to Operating Revenues for Late Payment Fees to normalize the amounts for the Test Year due to COVID-19. Then, refer to the file *WP A-3 Adj 07 COVID-19 Costs*, which shows the Late Payment Fee amount for inclusion in the COVID-19 regulatory asset of \$944,710 (“Tab 2. Adj 7 P2” Line 31). Please explain why the adjustments are not the same between base rates and the regulatory asset, as is the case, for example, with Operating Expenses (\$3,987,723 adjustment on Line 25).

RESPONSE:

In page 13 of the El Paso Electric Company (“EPE”) witness Carrasco’s direct testimony, he describes the \$844,298 adjustment to Other Operating Revenue is to “normalize” these revenues to pre-pandemic amounts. That adjustment was to increase Other Operating Revenues to the three-year average recorded as Forfeited Discounts (FERC Account 450) for years 2017 through 2019.

The Late Payment Fee amount for inclusion in the COVID 19 regulatory asset of \$944,710 is what EPE recorded as late payment fees not assessed to customers between March 2020 and October 2020 per the PUCT moratorium orders.<sup>1</sup> That amount was calculated by EPE’s billing system in those months, but not charged to customers.

Preparer: Manuel Carrasco

Title: Manager – Rate Research

Sponsor: Manuel Carrasco  
Cynthia S. Prieto

Title: Manager – Rate Research  
Vice President – Controller

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<sup>1</sup> PUCT Project No. 50664, *Order Directing Certain Actions And Granting Exceptions To Certain Rules*, issued March 26, 2020; *Second Order Directing Certain Actions And Granting Exceptions To Certain Rules*, issued April 17, 2020; *Third Order Directing Certain Actions And Granting Exceptions To Certain Rules*, issued May 14, 2020; and *Fourth Order Directing Certain Actions And Granting Exceptions To Certain Rules*, issued July 16, 2020.



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QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-24:

Please provide the amount of monthly Late Payment Fees assessed by the Company for each month of the Test Year by rate class. Please include and separately identify the amounts actually assessed, and the amounts that would have been assessed absent the PUCT Orders Granting Exceptions to Certain Rules in Project No. 50664. Please also provide the amount of monthly Late Payment Fees collected by the Company for each month of the Test Year.

RESPONSE:

Please refer to DOD/FEA 1-24, Attachment 1, for the late payment fees for each month of the Test Year from Small and Large Commercial and Industrial customers. Late payment fees totaling \$944,710 were not assessed to Texas Small and Large Commercial and Industrial customers from March 13, 2020 through October 15, 2020 based on the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("PUCT") Orders Granting Exceptions to Certain Rules in Docket No. 50664 and therefore were not collected. The amount of Late Payment Fees collected is not available.

Preparer: Alma Arvizo  
En Li

Title: Manager – Revenue Accounting  
Manager – Financial Accounting

Sponsor: Cynthia S. Prieto

Title: Vice President – Controller

Line No.	Late Payment Fees	Year 2020												Total
		January	February	March	April	May (2)	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
1	Late Payment Fees assessed	\$ 70,390	\$ 48,049	\$ 63,198	\$ 104,051	\$ (160,538)	\$ (9)	\$ (2)	\$ (23)	\$ 32	\$ 69,573	\$ 133,838	\$ 103,321	\$ 431,880
2	Late Payment Fees Suspended per PUCT Docket No. 50664 (1)	-	-	-	-	277,957	109,878	148,023	152,655	126,178	130,019	-	-	944,710
3	Late Payment Fees absent Suspension per Project No. 50664	\$ 70,390	\$ 48,049	\$ 63,198	\$ 104,051	\$ 117,419	\$ 109,869	\$ 148,021	\$ 152,632	\$ 126,210	\$ 199,592	\$ 133,838	\$ 103,321	\$ 1,376,590

(1) Effective March 13, 2020 through October 15, 2020, assessment of penalty was suspended due to COVID-19 pandemic, in accordance to PUCT Docket No. 50664.  
(2) Refund in May of 2020 represents a refund of late payment fees charged from March 13th through April 30, 2020.

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EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-25:

Please provide supporting documentation for the calculation of the bad debt expense adjustment charged to expenses of \$803,227 included in the file *WP A-3 Adj 07 COVID-19 Costs* ("Tab 2. Adj 7 P2" Column I, Line 20).

RESPONSE:

Please refer to El Paso Electric Company's response to TIEC 3-4, a, and TIEC 3-5, a, for the calculation of bad debt expense included in Workpaper A-3, Adjustment No. 7, COVID-19 Costs.

Preparer: En Li

Title: Manager – Financial Accounting

Sponsor: Cynthia S. Prieto

Title: Vice President – Controller

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
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QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-26:

Please provide supporting documentation for the calculation of the bad debt expense adjustment included in the COVID-19 rider of \$3,213,000 included in the file WP A-3 Adj 07 COVID-19 Costs ("Tab 2. Adj 7 P2" Line 27).

RESPONSE:

Please refer to El Paso Electric Company's ("EPE") response to TIEC 3-4, a, and TIEC 3-5, a, for the calculation of bad debt expense included in Workpaper A-3, Adjustment No. 7, COVID-19 Costs. The \$3,213,000 plus the \$803,227 discussed in EPE's response to TIEC 3-5, a., is approximately the test year COVID-19 bad debt of \$4,016,247.

Preparer: En Li

Title: Manager – Financial Accounting

Sponsor: Cynthia S. Prieto

Title: Vice President – Controller

SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-21-2606  
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QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-27:

Please provide a reconciliation of the \$4,016,247 for bad debt expense attributable to COVID-19 (referenced in Prieto Direct Testimony, p. 17) with the amounts shown on Schedule G-3. In other words, how was the \$4,016,247 calculated using data from Schedule G-3? If the amount was not calculated based on data from Schedule G-3, please provide supporting documentation for the calculation.

RESPONSE:

Please refer to El Paso Electric Company's response to TIEC 3-4, a, and Staff 5-2 for the calculation of bad debt expense attributable to COVID-19 and a reconciliation to Schedule G-3, respectively.

Preparer: En Li

Title: Manager – Financial Accounting

Sponsor: Cynthia S. Prieto

Title: Vice President – Controller

SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-21-2606  
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APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
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RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

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QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-28:

Please confirm or deny that, in totality, the Company is seeking gross (Company-basis) recovery of \$6,062,276 of bad debt expense in this case (excluding carrying costs and other adjustments for requested revenues) through base rates and the COVID-19 rider, and that the amount reflects inclusion of \$2,046,029 in base rates from operating expenses (net of accounts 904000-CUST-UNCOLLECTIBLE ACCOUNTS and 904000- COVID-19 ADJ ONLY), and the inclusion of bad debt in the COVID-19 rider of \$4,016,247. If no, please provide the amount of bad debt expense that the Company is seeking recovery for in base rates and through the COVID-19 rider (excluding carrying costs, and other adjustments for requested revenues).

RESPONSE:

Deny. The total amount of bad debt expense that El Paso Electric Company (“EPE”) is seeking recovery for in base rates is \$2,229,476. For further details refer to Workpaper A-3, Adjustment No. 01 Uncollectible Accounts. Additionally, please see summary below:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Company</u>
904000- COVID-19 ADJ ONLY	(\$803,227)
904000-Bad Debt Revenue Incr Adj	\$194,390
904000-CUST-UNCOLLECTIBLE ACCOUNTS	\$2,838,313
	<b>\$2,229,476</b>

EPE is also requesting recovery of amortization of bad debt expense incurred during the test year of \$4,016,247 over a three-year period, related to COVID-19 through the COVID-19 rider.

Preparer: Adrian Hernandez  
En Li

Title: Senior Rate Analyst – Rates  
Manager – Financial Accounting

Sponsor: Adrian Hernandez  
Cynthia S. Prieto

Title: Senior Rate Analyst – Rates  
Vice President – Controller

SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-21-2606  
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APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
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QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-29:

Does the Company have an installment payment plan, deferred payment plan, or similar program in place for customers to enter into arrangements to pay past due amounts? If yes, please provide a file that shows the following:

- a. Description of program;
- b. Number of customers enrolled in the program, by month, by rate class, for the last 36 months through the present; and
- c. Dollar amount of the monthly cumulative balance in the program (to reflect the net cumulative balance after consideration of new customers entering the program and pay-downs).

RESPONSE:

- a. El Paso Electric Company ("EPE") has an installment payment program which provides for customers to pay their outstanding bill in installments that extend beyond the due date of the next bill. The delinquent amount is paid in equal installments and the installment plan is a minimum of three months. Installment plans may be started with an initial down payment and then the remaining balance is placed on installment payments. The amount of the down payment, the amount of each installment payment and the number of installment payments are negotiated with each customer.
- b. EPE does not track installment payment plans by rate class. Please see DOD/FEA 1-29, Attachment 1, for the number of customers enrolled in the installment payment plan by month from July 2018 through June 2021.
- c. Please see DOD/FEA 1-29, Attachment 1, for the dollar amount of customer balances for customers enrolled in the installment payment plan by month from July 2018 through June 2021.

Preparer: Joe Garibay

Title: Director – Customer Care

Sponsor: Cynthia S. Prieto

Title: Vice President – Controller

**Customers in the Installment  
Payment Plan**

---

Line No.	Month and Year	Number of customers enrolled	Dollar amount of the cumulative accounts receivable balance	
1	July 2018	1,643	\$	580,197
2	August 2018	1,571		557,386
3	September 2018	1,663		575,723
4	October 2018	1,836		622,182
5	November 2018	2,026		665,329
6	December 2018	2,112		662,281
7	January 2019	2,167		657,708
8	February 2019	2,029		601,804
9	March 2019	1,893		558,432
10	April 2019	1,726		539,951
11	May 2019	1,516		491,266
12	June 2019	1,384		457,088
13	July 2019	1,270		434,637
14	August 2019	1,259		419,406
15	September 2019	1,223		408,099
16	October 2019	1,438		454,520
17	November 2019	1,629		502,284
18	December 2019	1,714		508,172
19	January 2020	1,758		506,685
20	February 2020	1,797		514,548
21	March 2020	1,694		499,560
22	April 2020	1,462		460,900
23	May 2020	1,306		424,480
24	June 2020	1,330		470,553
25	July 2020	1,577		586,024
26	August 2020	2,062		787,558
27	September 2020	2,677		1,081,479
28	October 2020	3,401		1,496,762
29	November 2020	4,918		2,368,644
30	December 2020	6,097		2,709,846
31	January 2021	6,666		3,303,213
32	February 2021	8,116		4,051,926
33	March 2021	8,965		4,473,903
34	April 2021	8,838		4,392,698
35	May 2021	8,125		4,060,033
36	June 2021	7,263		3,571,125



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RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-30:

Please refer to *FEA 1-28* and *FEA 1-29* above. Did the Company make any adjustments, due to its deferred payment plan, to its request for inclusion of \$4,016,247 of bad debt expense in the COVID-19 rider?

RESPONSE:

El Paso Electric Company did not decrease the bad debt expense in the COVID-19 rider for the customer accounts enrolled in the installment payment plan. Future collection of accounts receivable will be allocated to COVID-19 amounts. These collections will be used to offset additional COVID-19 bad debts and included in the annual true-up of the COVID-19 rider.

Preparer: Joe Garibay

Title: Director – Customer Care

Sponsor: Cynthia S. Prieto

Title: Vice President – Controller

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-31:

Please refer to the file *WP A-03, Adjustment No. 01 – Revenue Requirement & Uncollectibles*, “Tab Uncollectible P2”. Please provide supporting documentation for the calculation of the system uncollectible rates of 0.002592 and 0.003609.

RESPONSE:

Please refer to the native file of WP A-03, Adjustment No. 01 – Revenues & Uncollectibles, “Tab Uncollectibles P3”.

Preparer: Adrian Hernandez

Title: Senior Rate Analyst – Rates

Sponsor: Jennifer I. Borden

Title: Director – Regulatory Accounting

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-32:

With the filing of the updated *Schedule G-3* for the 45-day update, is the Company anticipating updating the calculations of the COVID-19 rider in this application or a true-up? As applicable, please:

- a. Describe and provide the anticipated calculation changes to the rider; and
- b. Explain the significant variance in total uncollectible expense for the month of March 2021 of \$2,582,000.

RESPONSE:

El Paso Electric Company has not decided whether to make a change to the proposed COVID-19 rider for additional COVID-19 expenses incurred in 2021. A true-up of the COVID-19 rider is anticipated to be made at the end of 2022.

- a. N/A.
- b. In March 2021, El Paso Electric Company realized that the allocation between the COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 bad debts expense included only the increase in the arrears risk rate and did not take into account the overall increase in the accounts receivable balance. A true-up to the COVID-19 bad debts expense of approximately \$2 million was made at that time.

Preparer: Alma Arvizo

Title: Manager – Revenue Accounting

Sponsor: Cynthia S. Prieto  
Manuel Carrasco

Title: Vice President – Controller  
Manager – Rate Research

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-33:

As referenced in Prieto Direct Testimony, page 37 line 31 through page 38, line 4. Please provide a detailed description of how the bad debt true-up for the COVID-19 rider will work. To help FEA understand the adjustment, please provide an illustrative example of the calculations using an illustrative amount of post-test-year bad debt change. Please confirm or deny that the true-up will only be applicable to bad debt expenses and not to other expenses. If no, please provide an illustrative example of how the true-up would work for other post-test-year non-bad debt expenses.

RESPONSE:

The true-up for the COVID-19 rider will include both bad debt and other expenses offset by savings related to COVID-19. The true-up calculations are dependent on the final order to be issued by the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission"). The proposed annual true-up will take into account all COVID-19 related expenses incurred, along with allowed carrying costs, offset by savings through the end of each year, compared to the revenues received through the COVID-19 rider. The difference will then be divided by the remaining years approved for recovery by the Commission. The post-test year calculation will be similar to Workpaper B-1, Adjustment No. 3, page 3 of 3.

Preparer: En Li

Title: Manager – Financial Accounting

Sponsor: Cynthia S. Prieto

Title: Vice President – Controller

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-34:

For the last 36 months up to the present, please provide a file that shows the total number of accounts and corresponding dollar amounts that were past due (in arrears). Please provide the information by aging category (0-30 days, 31-60 days, 61-90 days, and over 90 days), and by rate class. Please also provide the monthly number of accounts by rate class and corresponding dollar amounts for accounts reported as charge-offs.

RESPONSE:

Please see DOD/FEA 1-34, Attachment 1, for the amount of accounts receivable in arrears by aging category for the period July 2018 through June 2021. The number of accounts in arrears is not available.

Please see DOD/FEA 1-34, Attachment 2, for the number of accounts and corresponding dollar amounts for the accounts receivable charged-off for the period of June 2018 through June 2021.

El Paso Electric Company does not specifically identify arrears dollar amounts and charge-offs by rate class.

Preparer: Joe Garibay  
Alma Arvizo

Title: Director – Customer Care  
Manager – Revenue Accounting

Sponsor: Cynthia S. Prieto

Title: Vice President – Controller

Line No.	Year	Accounts Receivable in Arrears	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1	2021	Total Active Accounts Receivable	\$ 58,478,064	\$ 51,514,031	\$ 47,506,963	\$ 47,104,594	\$ 56,361,511	\$ 77,421,402	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2		0-30 days in Arrears	40,326,133	33,849,721	31,562,384	33,595,189	41,673,131	60,355,064	-	-	-	-	-	-
3		31-60 days in Arrears	6,407,612	7,835,086	7,290,350	5,560,230	5,730,073	8,677,835	-	-	-	-	-	-
4		61-90 days in Arrears	3,299,196	2,913,307	3,470,251	2,939,589	3,705,110	2,835,874	-	-	-	-	-	-
5		Over 90 days in Arrears	8,445,124	6,915,917	5,183,977	5,009,587	5,253,196	5,552,629	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	2020	Total Active Accounts Receivable	31,056,983	32,302,016	33,998,420	35,077,871	41,710,747	58,242,565	68,876,422	70,589,832	79,007,165	68,675,432	51,802,583	47,845,441
7		0-30 days in Arrears	26,754,414	28,226,448	28,254,390	28,485,784	34,876,230	51,050,779	57,708,839	56,057,523	63,456,476	45,663,575	31,145,739	28,223,228
8		31-60 days in Arrears	2,494,331	2,502,318	3,975,643	4,029,278	3,973,374	4,368,480	7,376,733	9,580,559	8,717,655	13,350,439	8,712,416	6,468,598
9		61-90 days in Arrears	718,253	587,401	793,631	1,363,084	1,294,111	1,030,632	1,727,705	2,433,977	3,299,603	4,576,100	5,706,441	4,718,189
10		Over 90 days in Arrears	1,089,985	985,849	974,756	1,199,725	1,567,032	1,792,674	2,063,145	2,517,773	3,533,431	5,085,318	6,237,987	8,435,427
11	2019	Total Active Accounts Receivable	36,835,982	39,060,603	34,306,906	30,586,768	39,150,291	49,469,194	59,019,586	53,860,044	63,733,260	54,684,358	37,567,778	34,757,082
12		0-30 days in Arrears	30,638,189	33,694,256	28,430,131	26,198,139	34,407,413	44,011,854	52,568,166	48,408,276	57,791,402	45,069,962	29,901,782	27,897,764
13		31-60 days in Arrears	4,204,245	3,709,427	4,399,385	2,913,289	3,321,989	4,252,779	5,274,759	4,044,011	4,322,324	7,804,282	5,582,898	4,785,760
14		61-90 days in Arrears	721,164	579,547	507,918	555,979	493,963	388,305	352,816	569,063	744,514	891,087	1,164,623	968,644
15		Over 90 days in Arrears	1,272,384	1,077,373	969,472	919,361	926,926	816,256	823,845	838,693	875,020	919,027	918,476	1,104,914
16	2018	Total Active Accounts Receivable	-	-	-	-	-	-	68,487,704	58,429,879	66,920,445	55,382,828	36,793,492	40,489,163
17		0-30 days in Arrears	-	-	-	-	-	-	59,805,665	50,438,507	59,006,529	45,021,243	28,567,201	33,074,817
18		31-60 days in Arrears	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,275,839	6,423,674	5,954,300	8,389,584	5,682,022	4,822,454
19		61-90 days in Arrears	-	-	-	-	-	-	447,581	634,669	951,765	928,296	1,437,962	1,262,301
20		Over 90 days in Arrears	-	-	-	-	-	-	958,619	933,029	1,007,851	1,043,705	1,106,307	1,329,591

Line No.	Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1	2021 Total Accounts Receivable Charged-Off	\$ 471,775	\$ 315,881	\$ 452,779	\$ 349,648	\$ 400,199	\$ 601,189	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2	Number of accounts charged-off	10,862	6,876	10,196	8,074	8,447	10,856	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	2020 Total Accounts Receivable Charged-Off	\$ 486,210	\$ 283,657	\$ 369,498	\$ 178,271	\$ 309,118	\$ 229,090	\$ 173,239	\$ 130,031	\$ 203,330	\$ 265,658	\$ 341,466	\$ 379,470
4	Number of accounts charged-off	11,582	7,635	10,194	5,748	10,315	8,235	7,171	5,622	7,579	8,451	9,849	9,705
5	2019 Total Accounts Receivable Charged-Off	\$ 452,103	\$ 361,598	\$ 302,255	\$ 216,971	\$ 377,666	\$ 219,173	\$ 215,113	\$ 184,310	\$ 248,590	\$ 245,397	\$ 364,278	\$ 473,841
6	Number of accounts charged-off	11,240	8,720	8,887	6,568	9,787	6,232	6,278	6,013	8,165	7,865	8,494	10,805
7	2018 Total Accounts Receivable Charged-Off	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 261,085	\$ 224,142	\$ 258,671	\$ 321,012	\$ 459,892	\$ 419,592
8	Number of accounts charged-off	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,467	7,826	8,564	9,064	12,476	10,179

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-35:

Reference the response to *RFI UTEP 2-9, subpart b*. Please provide supporting documentation for the determination of the LABOR allocator as used to allocate the COVID-19 rider recovery among the Texas retail rate classes.

RESPONSE:

Refer to the “Dynamic Allocator” tab in El Paso Electric Company’s (“EPE”) Regulatory Case Working Model. Look for the LABOR allocator under the Rate Class category to see how the rate class LABOR allocator is derived.

Preparer: Adrian Hernandez

Title: Senior Rate Analyst – Rates

Sponsor: Adrian Hernandez

Title: Senior Rate Analyst – Rates



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

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ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-36:

Reference the response to *RFI TIEC 2-1, subpart b*. The response indicates that the files *TIEC 02-02, Attachment 3 and EPE Regulatory Case Working Model - As Filed – Dkt 52195* can be linked together. However, both files, when downloaded, do not have any placeholders for linking. Thus, FEA believes that the linkage cannot be completed without further assistance from the Company. Because of this, FEA is requesting that the Company please provide new copies of the files with the linkage between the files already included. Please also provide a new copy of the Excel file *Exhibit MC-4* with linkage to the two aforementioned files.

RESPONSE:

Please refer to the file “TIEC 2-2 Attachment 3 (P-6 with links).xlsx” in Kiteworks.

Exhibit MC-4 is not linked to any files. El Paso Electric Company simply copied and pasted the cost of service data from Schedule P-6 into Exhibit MC-4.

Preparer: Adrian Hernandez  
Manuel Carrasco

Title: Senior Rate Analyst – Rates  
Manager – Rate Research

Sponsor: Adrian Hernandez  
Manuel Carrasco

Title: Senior Rate Analyst – Rates  
Manager – Rate Research

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-37:

Reference the response to *RFI TIEC 2-1*. Are the files *TIEC 2-2, Attachment 1*, and *TIEC 2-2, Attachment 3* different? If yes, please describe the differences. If yes, please provide a new file *TIEC 2-2, Attachment 1* and corresponding linked copy of *EPE Regulatory Case Working Model - As Filed - Dkt 52195* and linked copy of *Exhibit MC-4*.

RESPONSE:

No. See El Paso Electric Company's response to DOD/FEA 1-36 for the linked version of TIEC 2-2, Attachment 3.

Preparer: Adrian Hernandez

Title: Senior Rate Analyst – Rates

Sponsor: Adrian Hernandez  
Manuel Carrasco

Title: Senior Rate Analyst – Rates  
Manager – Rate Research

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-38:

Please indicate whether the differences in proposed revenues from *Exhibit MC-4* and *Schedule Q.07.00* are due to rounding, or explain the reason for the differences. For example, *Exhibit MC-4*, “Tab P-6 Capping,” Cell D22, shows the cap-allocated R01 revenue requirement as \$310,823,371 while *Schedule Q.07.00*, “Tab Q-7 11-17 Base Proposed” shows it as \$310,833,147 (cell F14).

RESPONSE:

The differences in proposed revenues from Exhibit MC-4 and Schedule Q-7 are due to rounding. Exhibit MC-4 provides the revenue requirement target that the rate design aims to recover. Schedule Q-7 provides the proof of revenue of applying the designed rates to the billing determinants. The rounding in the Schedule Q-7 rates and revenue calculations result in the observed differences when compared to the Exhibit MC-4 amounts.

Preparer: Manuel Carrasco

Title: Manager – Rate Research

Sponsor: Manuel Carrasco

Title: Manager – Rate Research

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-39:

A review of *Schedule Q.07.00* shows that the revenue proof for proposed revenues (“Tab Q-7 11-17 Base Proposed”, line nos. 327-340) for Rate No. 38 does not include the revenues for power factor adjustments or for Suppl Fran. Fees, as is the case for the revenue proof for current base rates. *Schedule Q-8-8*, page 83, and Carrasco’s Direct Testimony at page 60 reference that the Power Factor Adjustment and Rider Provisions for this rate schedule are still applicable. Please explain why the proposed revenue proof file does not show any revenues that are proposed to be collected from these charges. If applicable, please update *Schedule Q.07.00* to include these revenues.

RESPONSE:

The billing determinants in the “Q-7 11-17 Base Proposed” tab, line nos. 327-340, have the power factor adjustment demand, in kW, combined with the interruptible demand kW. The proposed revenue proof, therefore, accounts for all billable demand.

On page 80 of the El Paso Electric Company (“EPE”) witness Carrasco’s direct testimony, he describes that test year revenue requirements in this proceeding now include the additional franchise fees imposed by the amendment to the franchise agreement between EPE and the City of El Paso and, therefore, this schedule is proposed for elimination in this proceeding. Thus, a separate revenue calculation is no longer applicable for this rider in the Q-7 11-17 Base Proposed tab.

Preparer: Manuel Carrasco

Title: Manager – Rate Research

Sponsor: Manuel Carrasco

Title: Manager – Rate Research

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-40:

Please provide supporting files showing the source data used to calculate the ratios E1, D1, and D2 for *Exhibit MC-5* for the Test Year.

RESPONSE:

Please see El Paso Electric Company's response to STAFF 4-4, Attachment 1.

Preparer: Juan Cardenas

Title: Economist – Staff

Sponsor: George Novela  
Manuel Carrasco

Title: Director – Economic and Rate Research  
Manager – Rate Research

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO § BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE  
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE § OF  
RATES § ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-41:

Reference the response to *RFI VS 1-14*. Please add a column to the table within the response, providing the rate class identification under which each of the nine customers receives firm service, e.g., "Rate 25 Large Power."

RESPONSE:

Customer	Firm Service Rate Class
Account G	Rate 25 - Large Power Service
Account D	Rate 25 - Large Power Service
Account C	Rate 30 - Electric Furnace Rate
Account E	Rate 25 - Large Power Service
Account B	Rate 15 - Electrolytic Refining Service
Account I	Rate 31 - Military Reservation Service Rate
Account H	Rate 25 - Large Power Service
Account F	Rate 25 - Large Power Service
Account A	Rate 26 - Petroleum Refinery Service

Preparer: Manuel Carrasco

Title: Manager – Rate Research

Sponsor: Manuel Carrasco

Title: Manager – Rate Research

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-42:

Please indicate whether any of the provisions of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116–136) provided any tax benefits to the Company. For example, indicate whether the provision to increase tax deductions for net operating losses for years 2018 through 2020 benefited the Company. If yes, please describe how the Company has incorporated the tax benefits in its filing.

RESPONSE:

The Coronavirus, Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) allowed employers to defer the deposit and payment of the employer's share of social security tax. The payroll tax deferral period began on March 27, 2020 and ended on December 31, 2020. Amounts deferred during this period are to be paid back in 2 equal instalments which are due on December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2022. The El Paso Electric Company's ("EPE" or "Company") deferral of its share of social security tax was \$3,826,497 but this deferral related only to the deposit of the payroll tax amounts and did not have any impact on associated payroll tax expense recorded by the Company. The payment deferral was evaluated as part of the EPE's Lead-Lag Study and was determined to be non-recurring and not reflective of going forward expectations. Please refer to the direct testimony of EPE witness Daniel S. Dane for full details. The Company did not receive any further tax benefits from the provisions of the CARES Act.

Preparer: Tamera L. Henderson

Title: Manager – Tax

Sponsor: Sean M. Ihorn  
Cynthia S. Prieto

Title: Director – Tax  
Vice President – Controller

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

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE	§	OF
RATES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE AGENCIES' FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
QUESTION NOS. DOD/FEA 1-1 THROUGH DOD/FEA 1-43

DOD/FEA 1-43:

Please indicate if the Company received any government or external financial assistance (e.g., local, state, or Federal) related to the COVID-19 pandemic. If yes, please describe how the Company has incorporated the received financial benefits in its filing.

RESPONSE:

El Paso Electric Company has not received any government or external financial assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic other than as stated in DOD/FEA 1-42.

Preparer: En Li

Title: Manager – Financial Accounting

Sponsor: Cynthia S. Prieto

Title: Vice President – Controller



**SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-21-2606**  
**DOCKET NO. 52195**

**APPLICATION OF EL PASO  
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO  
CHANGE RATES**

§  
§  
§

**BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE  
OF  
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

**CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT UNDER  
SECTION 4 OF THE PROTECTIVE ORDER**

The undersigned attorney for El Paso Electric Company (EPE) submits this statement under the section 4 of the Protective Order entered in this case. Materials provided in the responses to the following questions in the Department of Defense and all other Federal Executive Agencies' 1st set of discovery are exempt from public disclosure pursuant to section and 552.110 of the Public Information Act:

<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL</b>
DOD/FEA 1-13	Attachment 3 – Confidential
DOD/FEA 1-14	Attachment 1 – Confidential
DOD/FEA 1-15	Attachment 1 – Confidential

The information contained in DOD/FEA 1-13 Attachment 3, Confidential contains commercial and financial information that is not otherwise readily available to the public and if released could cause substantial competitive harm to EPE, the owner of the financial information, or the other party to the agreement provided as DOD/FEA 1-13, Attachment 3, Confidential. Specifically, the contents of DOD/FEA 1-13 Attachment 3, Confidential is one of EPE's credit agreements for its revolving credit facility. The contents of DOD/FEA 1-14, Attachment 1 and DOD/FEA 1-15, Attachment 1 are financial forecast data.

Respectfully submitted,

Bret J. Slocum  
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[bslocum@dwmrlaw.com](mailto:bslocum@dwmrlaw.com)

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State Bar No. 24041234  
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P.O. Box 1149  
Austin, Texas 78767  
(512) 744-9300  
(512) 744-9399 (fax)

By:   
Laura B. Kennedy

**ATTORNEYS FOR EL PASO ELECTRIC  
COMPANY**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a true and correct copy of this document was served by email on all parties of record on October 13, 2021.

  
Laura B. Kennedy

The following files are not convertible:

DOD-FEA 01-04\_Attachment 1.xlsx  
DOD-FEA 01-06\_Attachment 1.xlsx  
DOD-FEA 01-24\_Attachment 1.xlsx  
DOD-FEA 01-29\_Attachment 1.xlsx  
DOD-FEA 01-34\_Attachment 1.xlsx  
DOD-FEA 01-34\_Attachment 2.xlsx

Please see the ZIP file for this Filing on the PUC Interchange in order to access these files.

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