**Rules of**

**Department of Economic Development**

**Division 240 – Public Service Commission**

**Chapter 20 – Electric Utilities**

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

**AMEREN MISSOURI COMMENTS ON 9-29-15 STAFF DRAFT**

**4 CSR 240-20.090 Fuel and Purchased Power Rate Adjustment Mechanisms**

*PURPOSE: This proposed amendment modifies the definitions, structure, operation, and procedures relevant to the filing and processing of applications to allow fuel and purchased power costs and fuel-related revenues in an interim energy charge or a fuel adjustment clause which allow periodic rate adjustments outside general rate proceedings consistent with tariffs, commission orders and procedures that have been implemented since the effective date of the rule.*

(1) This subsection defines various terms as used in this rule

(A) Accumulation period means the time period set by the commission in the general rate proceeding over which historical fuel and purchased power costs and fuel-related revenues are accumulated for purpose of determining the actual net energy costs (ANEC). An accumulation period may be a time period between three (3) and twelve (12) months with the timing and number of accumulation periods to be determined in the general rate proceeding establishing, continuing, or modifying the FAC;

(B) Actual net energy costs (ANEC) means prudently incurred fuel and purchased power costs minus fuel-related revenues of a rate adjustment mechanism (RAM) during the accumulation period;

(C) Base energy costs means the fuel and purchased power costs net of fuel-related revenues determined by the commission to be included in a RAM that are also included in the revenue requirement used to set base rates in a general rate case;

 (D) Base factor (BF) means the base energy costs per kWh at the regional transmission organization’s price node for the electric utility’s load or, if the electric utility is not a participant in a regional transmission organization, at the generator. The base factor(s) shall be established in a general rate proceeding and may vary by season of the year;

(E) Base rates mean the tariffed rates that do not change between general rate proceedings;

(F) Electric utility or utility means electrical corporation as defined in section 386.020, RSMo, subject to commission regulation pursuant to Chapters 386 and 393, RSMo;

(G) FAC charge means the positive or negative dollar amount on each utility customer’s bill, which in the aggregate is to recover from or return to customers the fuel and purchased power adjustment (FPA) amount;

 (H) Fuel adjustment clause (FAC) means a mechanism established in a general rate proceeding which is designed to recover from or return to customers the fuel and purchased power adjustment (FPA) amounts through periodic changes to the fuel adjustment rates made outside a general rate proceeding;

(I) Fuel adjustment rate (FAR) means the rate used to determine the FAC charge on each utility customer’s bill during a recovery period of a FAC. The FAR shall be designed to recover from or return to customers the recovery period FPA. The FAR may be positive or negative;

(J) Fuel and purchased power adjustment (FPA) means the dollar amount intended to be recovered from or returned to customers during a given recovery period of a FAC. The FPA may be positive or negative. It includes:

 1. The difference between the ANEC and NBEC during the corresponding accumulation period taking into account any incentive ordered by the commission;

 2. True-up amount(s) ordered by the commission prior to or on the same day as commission approval of the FAR adjustment;

 3. Interest;

 4. Prudence adjustment(s) ordered by the commission since the last FAR adjustment; and

 5. Any other adjustment ordered by the commission.

(K) Fuel and purchased power costs means prudently incurred and used fuel and purchased power costs, including transportation costs. Prudently incurred costs do not include any increased costs resulting from negligent or wrongful acts or omissions by the utility. Fuel and purchased power costs may include prudently incurred actual costs of net cash payments or receipts associated with hedging instruments tied to specific volumes of fuel and associated transportation costs.

1. If off-system sales revenues are not reflected in the rate adjustment mechanism (RAM), fuel and purchased power costs shall only reflect the prudently incurred fuel and purchased power costs necessary to serve the electric utility’s Missouri retail customers.

2. Fuel and purchased power costs do not include environmental costs as defined in 4 CSR 240-20.091(1) or renewable energy standard compliance costs as defined in 4 CSR 240-20.100(1);

(L) Fuel-related revenues means those revenues related to the generation or purchase of energy. Fuel-related revenues may include, but are not limited to, off-system sales, emission allowance sales, and renewable energy credits or certificates whenever such renewable energy credits or certificates are not included in a RESRAM in compliance with 4 CSR 240-20.100;

 (M) General rate proceeding means a general rate increase proceeding or complaint proceeding before the commission in which all relevant factors that may affect the costs, or rates and charges of the electric utility are considered by the commission;

 (O) Interest means monthly interest at the utility’s short term borrowing rate to accurately and appropriately remedy any over- or under-billing during a recovery period, true-up or any commission ordered refund of imprudently incurred costs;

(P) Interim energy charge (IEC) means a mechanism that includes a refundable fixed amount billed through an interim energy rate (IER) established in a general rate proceeding that permits an electric utility to recover some or all of its fuel and purchased power costs separate from the fuel and purchased power costs included in its base rates. Base energy cost in the base rates is the floor of the IEC. The base energy cost plus the fuel and purchased power costs billed through the IER is the ceiling of the IEC. An IEC may or may not include fuel-related revenues and costs related to those revenues;

(Q) Mega-watt hour or MWH is one million (1,000,000) watt-hours or one thousand (1,000) kilo-watt hours (kWh);

(R) MCF is one thousand (1,000) cubic feet of natural gas;

(S) MMBtu is one million (1,000,000) Btus;

(T) Net base energy costs means the product of the utility’s base factor (BF) times the kWh measured at the regional transmission organization’s applicable price node for the electric utility’s load or, if the electric utility is not a participant in a regional transmission organization at the generator for the accumulation period;

(U) Rate adjustment mechanism (RAM) refers to either a commission-approved fuel adjustment clause (FAC) or a commission-approved interim energy charge (IEC);

(V) Rebase base energy costs means the resetting of the base energy cost in each general rate proceeding in which the FAC is continued or modified;

(W) Recovery period means the period over which the FAR is applied to retail customer usage on a per kilowatt-hour (kWh) basis in an effort to recover the FPA. A recovery period is determined in the general rate case and shall not be longer than twelve (12) billing months;

(X) Staff means the staff of the Public Service Commission; and

(Y) True-up amount means;

1. For a FAC, the true-up amount shall be the difference between the FPA and the utility’s aggregate FAC charges billed for a recovery period. If the aggregate FAC charges billed for recovery period are more than the FPA, the true-up amount will be negative. If the aggregate FAC charges billed for recovery period are less than the FPA, the true-up amount will be positive;

2. For an IEC, the true-up amount shall be determined as follows for each consecutive twelve-(12) month period:

A. If the actual fuel and purchased power cost is greater than the IEC ceiling, the true-up amount shall be zero;

B. If the actual fuel and purchased power cost is less than the IEC ceiling and greater than the IEC floor, the true-up amount shall be the difference between the actual fuel and purchased power cost and the combined IEC billed and the base energy cost. The customers will be credited/refunded this amount; or

 C. If the actual fuel and purchased power cost is less than the IEC floor, the true-up amount shall be the aggregate IEC billed. The customers will be credited/refunded this amount.

(2) Establishment, Continuance or Modification a RAM. An electric utility may only file a request with the commission to establish, continue or modify a RAM in a general rate proceeding. Any party in the general rate proceeding may seek to continue, modify or oppose the RAM. The commission shall approve, modify or reject such request only after providing the opportunity for a full hearing in the general rate proceeding. The commission shall consider all relevant factors that may affect the costs or overall rates and charges of the petitioning electric utility.

(A) The electric utility shall file the following supporting information, in electronic format where available (with formulas intact), as part of, or in addition to, its direct testimony:

1. An example of the notice to be provided to customers. The notice shall include a description of how its proposed RAM shall be applied to monthly bills, the electric utility’s estimate of the amount of the proposed change in rates arising from changes in the base energy costs and the estimated impact on a typical residential customer’s bill resulting from the proposed change to the base energy costs.
2. An example customer bill showing how the proposed RAM shall be separately identified on affected customers’ bills in accordance with subsection (12);
3. Proposed RAM tariff sheets;
4. A reasonably detailed description of the design and intended operation of the proposed RAM;
5. A reasonably detailed explanation of how the proposed RAM is reasonably designed to provide the electric utility a sufficient opportunity to earn a fair return on equity;
6. A reasonably detailed explanation of how the proposed FAC shall be trued-up for over-and under-billing, or how and when the refundable portion of the proposed IEC shall be trued-up;
7. A reasonably detailed description of how the electric utility’s monthly short-term interest rate will be defined and how it will be applied, during the accumulation period and the recovery period, to true-up amounts and prudence disallowances;
8. A reasonably detailed description of how the proposed RAM is compatible with the requirement for prudence reviews in 4 CSR 240-20.090(8);
9. A reasonably detailed explanation of fuel and purchased power costs that are to be recovered under the proposed RAM with identification of the specific account and any other designation ordered by the commission where that cost will be recorded on the electric utility’s books and records;
10. A reasonably detailed explanation of the fuel related revenues that are to be considered in determining the amount to be recovered under the proposed RAM with identification of the specific account and any other designation ordered by the commission where that revenue will be recorded on the electric utility’s books and records;
11. A reasonably detailed explanation of any incentive feature in the proposed RAM with the expected benefit and cost each feature is intended to produce for both the electric utility and its Missouri retail customers;
12. A reasonably detailed explanation of any rate volatility mitigation feature in the proposed RAM;
13. A reasonably detailed explanation of any feature of the proposed RAM and any existing electric utility policy, procedure, or practice that ensures only prudent fuel and purchased power costs and fuel-related revenue shall be recovered through the proposed RAM, including, but not limited to, competitive bidding practices;
14. If the proposed RAM includes incorporating fuel and purchased power costs and fuel-related revenue in the electric utility’s base rates, a reasonably detailed explanation of the methodology used to allocate fuel and purchased power costs and fuel-related revenue to specific customer classes in the base rates and in any subsequent rate adjustments during the term of the proposed RAM;
15. A reasonably detailed explanation of the rate design of the RAM for each customer class, including at a minimum the electric utility’s justification for the methodology chosen for determining the rate design and how that methodology is consistent with the methodology used to allocate fuel costs, purchased power costs and fuel-related revenue in base rates;
16. A reasonably detailed explanation of any change to the electric utility’s business risk resulting from implementation of the proposed RAM, in addition to any other changes in business risk the electric utility may experience;
17. A level of efficiency for each of the electric utility’s generating units determined by the results of heat rate tests and/or efficiency tests that were conducted on each of the electric utility’s steam generators, including nuclear steam generators, heat recovery steam generators, steam turbines and combustion turbines within the twenty-four (24) months preceding the filing of the general rate case proposing to establish, continue or modify the RAM. The electric utility may, in lieu of filing the foregoing results with the commission, provide them to the staff and to other parties granted intervention in the general rate proceeding as part of the workpapers it provides in connection with its direct case filing. If the electric utility submits the heat rate tests and/or efficiency tests in workpapers, it will provide a statement in its testimony as to where the results can be found in workpapers;
18. Information that shows that the electric utility has in place a long-term resource planning process, one of the important objectives of which is to minimize overall delivered energy costs and provide reliable service;
19. If the electric utility proposes to include emissions allowances costs or sales revenue in the proposed FAC and not in an environmental cost recovery mechanism, a reasonably detailed explanation of its emissions management policy, and its forecasted environmental investments, emissions allowances purchases and emissions allowances sales;
20. For each power generating unit the electric utility owns (in whole or in part) or controls, the electric utility shall file graphs, accompanied by the data supporting the graphs, for each month over the immediately preceding five (5) years, showing the monthly equivalent availability factor, the monthly equivalent forced outage rate, and the length and timing of each planned outage of that unit; and

 (B) In lieu of providing copies of information, an electric utility filing for modification or continuance of a RAM in which the information required in 4 CSR 20.090(2)(A) has been previously filed with the commission as part of a general rate proceeding and has not changed, may certify that the information has not changed and provide to all parties the reference location in EFIS to find the information. An electric utility filing to continue or modify a RAM must also provide to all parties any additional information the commission ordered the electric utility to provide when seeking to continue or modify its RAM.

(C) The commission may approve the establishment, continuation or modification of a RAM and associated tariff sheets provided that it finds that the RAM it approves is reasonably designed to provide the electric utility with a sufficient opportunity to earn a fair return on equity and so long as the tariff sheets that implement the RAM conform to the RAM approved by the commission. Moreover, during its determination of whether an electric utility should be allowed to establish, continue or modify a RAM, the commission may consider such factors that its judgment have a bearing on the request.

(D) The commission may take into account any change in business risk of the utility resulting from establishment, continuation or modification of the RAM in setting the electric utility’s allowed return on equity in any general rate proceeding, in addition to any other changes in business risk experienced by the electric utility.

(E) Any party to the general rate proceeding may oppose any RAM and/or may propose alternative RAMs for the commission’s consideration.

(H) The RAM, including the fuel adjustment rates, shall be based on historical fuel and purchased power costs and fuel-related revenues.

(I) The electric utility shall comply with the filing requirements in this rule to establish, continue or modify a RAM.

 (J) The electric utility must conduct heat rate tests and/or efficiency tests on each of the electric utility’s nuclear and non-nuclear steam generators, heat recovery steam generators (HRSGs), steam turbines and combustion turbines within twenty-four (24) months preceding the filing of a request to establish, continue or modify a RAM.

 1. The results of those tests shall be provided to the staff, Office of Public Counsel (OPC) and to intervenors in the general rate proceeding as part of the workpapers it provides in connection with the filing of its direct case filing and shall be presented in a table format by generating unit, unit type, rated megawatt (MW) output rating, the numerical value of the latest heat rate test and the date of the latest heat rate test; and

 2. The electric utility shall provide a statement in its testimony where the heat rate test results, the actual heat rate test documentation, the heat rate testing schedule for all generating units and the heat rate test procedures can be found in its workpapers; and

(L) For an electric utility with a FAC, the utility shall include in its proposed tariff sheets provisions which shall accurately and appropriately remedy any true-up amount as part of the electric utility’s determination of its FPA for a change to its FARs. The proposed tariff sheets shall include at a minimum:

1. When the electric utility will file for a true-up;

2. How the true-up amount will be determined including but not limited to any recalculation of the FPA; and

3. How and when the true-up amount will be recovered.

For an electric utility with an IEC mechanism, a true-up must be filed within sixteen (16) months of the operation of law date of the IEC and be filed annually thereafter.

 (M) Any party to the general rate proceeding may propose a cap on the periodic changes to the fuel adjustment rate (FAR), to mitigate volatility in rates, provided it proposes a method for the utility to recover all of the costs it would be entitled to recover in the FAC, together with interest thereon.

(3) Discontinuance of a RAM. The tariff sheets that define and implement a RAM shall only be discontinued and withdrawn after the opportunity for a full hearing in a general rate proceeding. The commission shall consider all relevant factors that affect ratepayers, the cost or overall rates, and charges of the petitioning electric utility.

(A)When an electric utility files a general rate proceeding in which it requests that its RAM be discontinued, the electric utility shall file with the commission, and serve on the parties, the following supporting information, in electronic format where available (with formulas intact), as part of, or in addition to, its direct testimony:

1. An example of the notice to be provided to customers regarding the general rate case to be approved by the commission, and a description of why it believes the RAM should be discontinued.;

2. A reasonably detailed explanation of how the electric utility proposes to discontinue its RAM.

A. If requesting to discontinue its FAC, the electric utility shall include the following in its explanation:

i. The ending date of the last FAC accumulation period;

ii. The beginning and ending dates of the recovery period for that accumulation period; and

ii. The procedure for the true-up associated with the recovery period for that accumulation period.

B. If requesting to discontinue its IEC, the electric utility shall include a reasonably detailed explanation of how any over-billing will be returned to the electric utility’s retail customers;

3. A reasonably detailed explanation of why the RAM is no longer necessary to provide the electric utility a sufficient opportunity to earn a fair return on equity;

4. A reasonably detailed explanation of any impact on setting the electric utility’s allowed return on equity in any rate proceeding as a result of the change to the electric utility’s business risk resulting from discontinuation of its RAM, in addition to any other changes in business risk experienced by the electric utility;

5. Any additional information that, in the previous general rate proceeding, the commission ordered the electric utility to provide when seeking to discontinue its RAM.

(B) Any party to the general rate proceeding may oppose the discontinuation of a RAM on the grounds that the utility is opportunistically discontinuing the RAM due to declining fuel or purchased power costs and/or increasing fuel-related revenues. If the commission finds that the utility is opportunistically seeking to discontinue the RAM for any of these reasons, the commission shall not allow the RAM to be discontinued, and shall order its continuation or modification.

 To continue or modify the RAM under such circumstances, the commission must find that it provides the electric utility with a sufficient opportunity to earn a fair rate of return on equity and the tariff sheets filed to implement the RAM must conform to the RAM approved by the commission. Any RAM and periodic adjustments to the FAR shall be based on historical fuel and purchased power costs and fuel-related revenues.

(C) The commission may take into account any change in business risk of the electric utility resulting from discontinuance of the RAM in setting the electric utility’s allowed return on equity in any general rate proceeding, in addition to any other changes in the electric utility’s business risk.

(4) Requirements for Electric Utilities That Have a RAM. If the commission grants, modifies or continues an electric utility’s RAM, the electric utility shall:

(A) Upon 30 days prior written notice to the electric utility, provide for~~Maintain for~~ review by staff at its corporate headquarters, or some other place mutually agreed upon by the electric utility and staff, a copy of each and every nuclear fuel, coal, natural gas and fuel transportation contract (to the extent related to generation of electricity), the utility’s hedging policies and the utility’s internal policy for participating in a RTOancillary services market (if applicable), including every amendment and modification to each such contract or policy, that was in effect during a RAM for the electric utility; and

(B) Notify the Staff through EFIS of every new nuclear fuel, coal, natural gas and fuel transportation contract and every new amendment and every new modification to currently existing contracts or to the policies referenced in (A) above within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the contract, amendment or modification. The notification shall include where the contracts, amendments, modifications, and related competitive bidding materials may be reviewed.

(5) Periodic Reports. So long as it has a RAM in effect, each electric utility shall submit a report that covers each accumulation period through EFIS. Each periodic report shall be verified by the affidavit of an electric utility representative(s) who has knowledge of the subject matter and who attests to both the veracity of the information and his/her knowledge of it. The information identified in this section shall be provided in electronic format where available (with formulas intact), and shall be submitted no later than the electric utility’s filing for an adjustment to its RAM based on that accumulation period. Each periodic report shall contain the following information by month:

(A) The billing month actual energy usage in kWhs by rate class and voltage level;

 (B) Net base energy costs billed in base rates by rate class and voltage level along with workpapers (with formulas intact) detailing the calculation;

(C) FARs by voltage level along with workpapers (with formulas intact) detailing the calculation;

(D) The fuel and purchased power costs and fuel related revenues for each month, year-to-date and prior calendar year by account and any other designation ordered. If accounts, sub-accounts and other designations are not comparable to costs and revenues listed in the electric utility’s FAC tariff sheets, the electric utility shall also include the costs as listed in the tariff sheets;

(E) Off-System Sales

* 1. If sold within an RTO market:
		1. Revenue net of the cost of any energy purchases in the RTO market.
		2. MWh’s net of the MWh’s for any energy purchases in the RTO market.
	2. If sold outside of an RTO market (physical bilateral transactions):
		1. Total MWh’s.
		2. Total revenues.
1. Capacity Sales
	1. If sold within an RTO market:
		1. MW capacity sold net of MW capacity purchased.
		2. Revenue received net of the cost of capacity purchased.
	2. If sold outside on an RTO market (third party bilateral transactions):
		1. MW capacity sold.
		2. Total Revenue.
2. Energy Purchases
3. If purchased within an RTO market:
	* 1. Cost net of the revenue of any energy sales from the RTO market.
		2. MWh’s net of the MWh’s for any energy sales from the RTO market.
4. If purchased outside of an RTO market (physical bilateral transactions):
	* 1. Total MWH’s.
		2. Total revenues.
5. Capacity Purchases
	1. If purchased within an RTO market:
		1. MW capacity purchased net of MW capacity sold.
		2. Cost net of the revenue received for capacity sold.
	2. If purchased outside on an RTO market (third party bilateral transactions):
		1. MW capacity purchased.
		2. Cost.
6. Reason for the purchase of capacity in the RTO markets;
7. The following information for the period, by generation facility, by fuel type and by total for the electric utility:

1. Quantity of fuel burned, with designation of the

units in which the quantity is reported (e.g. tons, MCF, MMBtu);

2. Million British Thermal Units (MMBtu) of fuel burned;

3. Average cost of fuel per MMBtu, by fuel type;

4. Aggregate megawatt hours (MWhs) of net energy generated by the generating facility at each generation station, where net energy generated is the gross generation net of the station use;

5. Average cost of fuel per MWh; and

6. The cost of fuel purchased by fuel type and, for coal, a breakdown between the cost of the coal commodity and the cost of coal transportation.

(K) A reasonably detailed description of the accounts or other designations ordered by the commission, where each fuel and purchased power cost or fuel-related revenue is recorded. The report shall identify any changes since the last periodic report to accounts or other designations of costs and revenue types ordered to be included by the commission in the last general rate proceeding

(L) Each revision to the electric utility’s internal policy

For participating in:

1. A RTO ancillary services market, if the RTO in which the electric utility participates has such a market;

2. RTO energy markets by RTO;

3. RTO capacity markets by RTO; and

4. Financial swaps or other financial-only transactions (if such financial transaction are included in the electric utility’s RAM)

(M) Any additional information that the commission has ordered the electric utility to provide in its periodic reports.

(7) Budget Report. Annually the electric utility shall submit in EFIS, its approved budget for the upcoming budget year, in electronic format (with formulas intact) and in a layout similar to its Surveillance Monitoring Report. The budget submission shall provide a quarterly and annual quantification of the electric utility’s income statement. The budget report shall be submitted within thirty (30) days of when the electric utility’s budget is approved by the electric utility’s management or within sixty (60) days of the beginning of the electric utility’s fiscal year, whichever is earliest. The budget submission shall be designated “highly confidential” and treated accordingly.

(8) Periodic Changes to Fuel Adjustment Rates. An electric utility that has a FAC shall file proposed tariff sheet(s) to adjust its FARs following each accumulation period. The FARs shall be designed to bill the electric utility’s customers, in the aggregate, the FPA if the FPA is positive, or return the FPA to the utility’s customers if the FPA is negative. When an electric utility files with the commission tariff schedule(s) to change its fuel adjustment rates and serves it upon parties, the filed tariff schedule(s) shall be accompanied by:

(A) Prefiled testimony that shall include:

1. The proposed FARs;

2. The change in the FARs;

3. The impact of the proposed FARs on the monthly bill of the electric utility’s typical residential customer, together with the definition of typical residential customer used to determine that impact;

 (B) The following information in electronic format where available (with formulas intact):

1. For the period of historical costs which are being used to propose the fuel adjustment rates:

A. The billing month and calendar month actual energy sales in kilowatt-hours, by rate class and voltage level;

B. The actual fuel costs of the types of fuel costs designated in the FAC, listed by generating station and fuel type;

C. The actual purchased power costs of the types of purchased power costs designated in the electric utility’s FAC, differentiated by:

(I) purchased power;

(II) Demand costs and energy costs, separately stated; and

(III) The actual fuel transportation costs of the types of fuel costs designated in the FAC;

D. The megawatt-hours and costs of purchased power of the type included in the electric utility’s FAC

E. Revenues, gross and net of off-system sales;

F. Fuel-related revenues other than off-system sales revenues separated by type of fuel-related revenue;

G. Net base energy costs collected in permanent rates; and

 (I) Any additional requirements the commission ordered;

 (II) Calculation of each of the proposed fuel adjustment rates;

 (III) Calculations of the voltage differentiation in the proposed FAC rates, if any, to account for differences in line losses by service voltage level;

2. The electric utility’s monthly short-term debt interest rate, along with:

A. An explanation of how that rate was determined;

B. The calculation of the short-term debt interest rate;

C. Identification of any changes in the basis(es) used for determining the short-term debt interest rate since the last FAC rate adjustment; and

D. If the there is a change in the basis(es) used for determining the short-term debt interest rate, a copy(ies) of the changed basis(es) or identification of where it/they may be reviewed; and

3.

(C) Workpapers, in electronic format where available (with formulas intact), supporting all items in subsections (A) and (B) shall be submitted in EFIS.

(D) Determinations of imprudence amounts, true-up amounts and any corrections shall be made in separate cases in EFIS, not in a FAR adjustment case.

(E) The electric utility shall initiate a new case with an ER designation for each periodic adjustment of its FARs.

(F) An electric utility with a FAC shall file an adjustment to its FARs within two (2) months of the end of each consecutive twelve (12) month period after the effective date of the FAC. It may also file up to three (3) additional adjustments to its FARs within each twelve (12) month time period, with the timing and number of such additional filings to be determined in the general rate proceeding establishing, continuing or modifying the FAC.

(G) The tariff sheets reflecting the RAM define the costs and revenues that can be included in the RAM, subject to the following:

1. If an RTO implements a new market settlement

type that the electric utility or another party believes possesses the characteristics of, and is of the nature of, an RTO revenue or cost type approved by the commission for inclusion in the electric utility’s FAC in the previous general rate increase, the electric utility shall include the new market settlement type subject to the following requirements:

A. The party proposing the inclusion of a new market settlement type shall make a filing before the commission.

(I) If the electric utility is proposing the inclusion of a new market settlement type, it will make a filing with commission giving notice of the new cost or revenue type no later than sixty (60) days prior to the electric utility including the new settlement type in the ANEC.

(II) If a party other than the electric utility is

proposing the inclusion of a new market settlement type, the filing shall be made sixty (60) days prior to the electric utility’s next periodic adjustment filing;

B. The filing shall include, but is not be limited to:

(I) Identification of the account affected by the change;

(II) A description of the new settlement type demonstrating that it possesses the characteristics of, and

is of the nature of a cost or revenue type allowed in the

electric utility’s FAC by the commission in the preceding

general rate case; and

(III) Identification of the preexisting schedule, or market settlement type which the new settlement type replaces or supplements; and

C. To challenge the inclusion of a new market settlement type, a party shall make a filing before the commission including the reasons why it believes the electric utility did not show that the new market settlement type possesses the characteristics of a cost or

revenue type allowed by the commission.

(I) The filing shall be made within thirty (30)

days of the electric utility’s filing;

(II) The party requesting the inclusion of the new market settlement type shall bear the burden of proof to show that the new market settlement type possesses the characteristics of, and is of the nature of a cost or revenue type allowed in the electric utility’s FAC by the commission in the preceding general rate case;

(III) If a party challenges the inclusion of the market settlement type, the challenge will not delay the FAR filing schedule; and

(IV) If the challenge is upheld by the

commission, the costs will be refunded or revenues, returned, along with interest in the next periodic adjustment.

(H) The electric utility must be current on its submission of its Surveillance Monitoring Reports required by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

(I) Staff shall review the information filed by the electric utility in accordance with this rule and additional information obtained through discovery, if any, to determine if the proposed adjustment to the FARs is in accordance with the provisions of this rule, section 386.266, RSMo and the FAC mechanism established in the utility’s most recent general rate proceeding. Within thirty (30) days after the electric utility files its testimony and tariff sheets to adjust its FARs, the staff shall submit a recommendation regarding its examination and analysis to the commission.

(J) OPC and other parties may file a response to the electric utility’s proposed FAR adjustment within forty (40) days after the electric utility files its testimony and tariff sheet(s) to adjust its FARs.

(K) Within sixty (60) days after the electric utility files its testimony and tariff sheet(s) to adjust its FARs, the commission shall either:

1. Issue an interim rate adjustment order approving the tariff sheets and the adjustments to the FARs;

2. Allow the tariff sheets and the adjustments to the FARs to take effect without commission order; or

3. If it determines the adjustment to the FAFs is not in accordance with the provisions of this rule, section 386.266, RSMo. and the FAC mechanism established in the electric utility’s most recent general rate proceeding, reject the proposed rate schedules, suspend the timeline of the FAR adjustment filing, set a prehearing date and order the parties to propose a procedural schedule. The commission may order the electric utility to file tariff sheet(s) to implement interim adjusted FARs to reflect any part of the proposed adjustment that is not in question.

 (K) If the staff, OPC or other party which receives, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.135, the information that the electric utility is required to submit and as ordered by the commission in a previous proceeding, believes that the information required to be submitted pursuant to this rule and the commission order establishing the FAC has not been submitted in compliance with that rule or order, it shall notify the electric utility within ten (10) business days of the electric utility’s filing of tariff sheets to adjust the FARs and identify the information required and not submitted in compliance with that rule or order. The electric utility shall supply the information identified by the party, or shall notify the party that it believes the information provided was in compliance with the requirements of this rule and the commission order establishing the FAC, within ten (10) business days of the request. If the electric utility does not timely supply the information, the party asserting the failure to provide the required information must timely file a motion to compel with the commission.

1. While the commission is considering the motion to compel, the processing timeline for the adjustment to increase the FARs shall be suspended. If the commission then issues an order requiring the information be provided, the time necessary for the information to be provided shall further extend the processing timeline for the adjustment to increase the FARs. For good cause shown the commission may further suspend this timeline. If the commission issues and order compelling discovery, interest will not be accrued by the utility from the time the commission receives a motion to compel until the time that the utility provides the requested information.

2. Except as provided herein, any delay in providing sufficient information in compliance with this rule and the commission order establishing the FAC in a request to decrease the FARs shall not alter the processing timeline.

(9) True-Ups of RAMs. The purpose of a true-up case is to accurately and appropriately remedy any over-billing or under-billing during a recovery period, including the interest accrued at the utility’s short-term interest rate.

(A) When an electric utility files with the commission to true-up its RAM the filing shall be accompanied by:

1. Pre-filed testimony that includes a discussion detailing the material factors which contributed to the true-up amount.

2. The following information in electronic format where available (with formulas intact)

A. Any revision to the calculation of the net base energy cost for the accumulation period;

B. The calculation of the monthly amount that was over-billed or under-billed through its RAM;

C. The electric utility’s monthly short-term debt interest rate along with:

i. An explanation of how that rate was determined;

ii. The calculation of the short-term debt interest rate;

iii. Identification of any changes in the basis(es) used for determining the short-term debt interest rate since the last RAM rate adjustment; and

iv. If the there is a change in the basis(es) used for determining the short-term debt interest rate, a copy(ies) of the changed basis(es) or identification of where it/they may be reviewed;

D. Any additional information that the commission has ordered the electric utility to include in its RAM true-up filing.

4. Workpapers, in electronic format where available (with formulas intact), supporting all items in subsections (A) and (B) shall be submitted in EFIS.

(B) Determinations of imprudence, adjustments to FARs and any corrections shall be made in a true-up case,

(C) The electric utility shall initiate a new case with an EO designation for each true-up of its RAM.

(D) The electric utility must be current on its submission of its Surveillance Monitoring Reports as required by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at the time that it files its true-up of its RAM in order for the commission to process the electric utility’s requested true-up of any under-billing.

(E) The staff shall examine and analyze the information filed by the electric utility pursuant to this rule and additional information obtained through discovery and as ordered by the commission, to determine whether the true-up amount is in accordance with the provisions of this rule, section 386.266, RSMo and the RAM established in the electric utility’s most recent general rate proceeding. The staff shall submit a recommendation regarding its examination and analysis to the commission not later than thirty (30) days after the electric utility files for a true-up amount.

(F) OPC and intervenors may file a response to the proposed true-up amount within forty (40) days of the electric utility true-up filing.

(G) Within sixty (60) days of the electric utility’s true-up filing the commission shall issue an order:

1. Allowing the tariff sheet(s) reflecting the true-up amount to take effect without commission order; or

2. If it determines that the true-up amount reflected in the tariff sheet(s) is incorrect, rejecting the proposed tariff sheet(s) containing the true-up amount, suspending the timeline of the true-up filing, and setting a prehearing date and order the parties to propose a procedural schedule. The commission shall allow the electric utility to file tariff sheet(s) to implement interim FARs reflecting any part of the true-up amount that is not in question, and questions about the correctness of the true-up amount will not delay adjustments to FAR rates unrelated to the true-up.

(H) If the staff, OPC or other party which receives, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.135, the information that the electric utility is required to submit and as ordered by the commission in a previous proceeding, believes the information that is required to be submitted pursuant to this rule and the commission order establishing the RAM has not been submitted or is insufficient to make a recommendation regarding the electric utility’s true-up filing, it shall notify the electric utility within ten (10) days of the electric utility’s filing and identify the information required. The electric utility shall supply the information identified by the party, or shall notify the party that it believes the information provided was responsive to the requirements, within ten (10) days of the request. If the electric utility does not timely supply the information, the party asserting the failure to provide the required information must timely file a motion to compel with the commission.

1. While the commission is considering the motion to compel, the processing timeline for the determination of the true-up amount shall be suspended. If the commission then issues an order requiring the information to be provided, the time necessary for the information to be provided shall further extend the processing timeline. For good cause shown the commission may further suspend this timeline. If the commission issues and order compelling discover, interest will not be accrued by the utility from the time the commission receives a motion to compel until the time that the utility provides the requested information.

2. If the party requesting the information can demonstrate to the commission that the true-up amount shall result in a reduction in the FAR, the processing timeline shall continue with the best information available. When the electric utility provides the necessary information, the FAR shall be adjusted again, if necessary, to reflect the additional information provided by the electric utility.

(10) Duration of RAMs and Requirement for General Rate Case. Once a RAM is approved by the commission, it shall remain in effect for a term of not more than four (4) years unless the commission earlier authorizes the modification, extension, or discontinuance of the RAM in a general rate proceeding, although an electric utility may submit proposed rate schedules to implement periodic adjustments to its FARs between general rate proceedings.

(A) If the commission approves a RAM for an electric utility, the electric utility must file a general rate case with the effective date of new rates to be no later than four (4) years after the effective date of the commission order implementing the RAM, assuming the maximum statutory suspension of the rates so filed.

1. The four (4)-year period shall not include any periods in which the electric utility is prohibited from collecting any charges under the RAM, or any period for which charges collected under the RAM must be fully refunded. In the event a court determines that the RAM is unlawful and all moneys collected are fully refunded as a result of such a decision, the electric utility shall be relieved of any obligation to file a general rate case. The term fully refunded as used in this section does not include amounts refunded as a result of reductions in fuel or purchased power costs minus fuel-related revenues or prudence adjustments.

(11) Prudence Reviews Respecting RAMs. A prudence review of the fuel and purchased power costs and fuel-related revenues subject to the RAM shall be conducted by staff no less frequently than at eighteen (18)-month intervals.

(A) All amounts ordered refunded by the commission shall include interest at the electric utility’s short-term borrowing rate.

(B) The staff shall file notice within ten (10) days of starting its prudence review and shall submit a recommendation regarding its examination and analysis to the commission not later than one hundred eighty (180) days after initiating its prudence review. Parties to the prudence review proceeding shall have ten (10) days after the staff files its recommendation to request a hearing. The commission shall issue an order not later than thirty (30) days after the staff files its recommendation if no party requests a hearing.

1. If the staff, OPC or other intervenor auditing the RAM believes that insufficient information has been supplied to make a recommendation regarding the prudence of the electric utility’s RAM, it may utilize discovery to obtain the information it seeks. If the electric utility does not timely supply the information, the party asserting the failure to provide the required information must timely file a motion to compel with the commission. While the commission is considering the motion to compel the processing timeline shall be suspended. If the commission then issues an order requiring the information to be provided, the time necessary for the information to be provided shall further extend the processing timeline. For good cause shown the commission may further suspend this timeline.

2. If the timeline is extended due to an electric utility’s failure to timely provide sufficient responses to discovery and a refund is due to the customers, the electric utility shall refund all imprudently incurred costs plus interest at the electric utility’s short-term borrowing rate.

 (12) Disclosure on Customers’ Bills. Any amounts charged under a commission-approved RAM shall be separately disclosed on each customer’s bill. Proposed language regarding this disclosure shall be submitted to the commission for the commission’s approval in the general rate proceeding establishing, modifying or continuing the RAM.

(13) Rate Design of the RAM. The design of the RAM rates shall reflect differences in losses incurred in the delivery of electricity at different voltage levels for the electric utility’s different rate classes as determined through the periodic conduct of Missouri jurisdictional system loss studies. When the electric utility initially seeks authority to use a RAM, the end of the twelve (12)-month period of actual data collected that is used in its Missouri jurisdictional system loss study must be within the twenty-four (24) months immediately preceding the date the utility files its general rate case requesting a RAM. When the electric utility seeks to continue or modify its RAM, the end of the twelve (12)-month period of actual data collected that is used in its Missouri jurisdictional system loss study must be no earlier than four (4) years before the beginning of the twelve (12)-month period the utility uses for developing the general rates it proposes the Commission approve in that general rate proceeding.

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(14) Incentive Mechanism or Performance-Based Program. During a general rate proceeding in which an electric utility has proposed establishment or modification of a RAM, or in which a RAM may be allowed to continue in effect, any party may propose for the commission’s consideration incentive mechanisms or performance-based programs to improve the efficiency and cost effectiveness of the electric utility’s fuel and purchased power procurement and/or off-system sales activities.

(A) The incentive mechanisms or performance-based programs may or may not include some or all components of base energy costs, designed to provide the electric utility with incentives to improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of its fuel and purchased power procurement and/or off-system sales activities.

(B) Any incentive mechanism or performance-based program shall be structured to align the interests of the electric utility’s customers and shareholders. The anticipated benefits to the electric utility’s customers from the incentive or performance-based program shall equal or exceed the anticipated costs of the mechanism or program to the electric utility’s customers. Customer rates shall include the cost of an incentive mechanism or performance-based program in any time period above what they would be without the incentive mechanism or performance-based program.

(C) If the commission approves an incentive mechanism or performance-based program, such incentive mechanism or performance-based program shall be binding on the commission for the entire term of the incentive mechanism or performance-based program. If the commission approves an incentive mechanism or performance-based program, such incentive mechanism or performance based program shall be binding on the electric utility for the entire term of the incentive mechanism or performance-based program unless otherwise ordered or conditioned by the commission.

(15) Pre-Existing Adjustment Mechanisms, Tariffs and Regulatory Plans. The provisions of this rule shall not affect:

(A) Any adjustment mechanism, tariff, incentive plan, or other ratemaking mechanism that was approved by the commission and in effect prior to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; and

(B) Any experimental regulatory plan that was approved by the commission and in effect prior to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(16) Nothing in this rule shall preclude a complaint case from being filed, as provided by law. . If a complaint is filed on the grounds that an electric utility is acting in violation of its approved RAM tariff sheets or on the grounds that its rates have become unjust and unreasonable, the commission shall issue a procedural schedule that includes a clear delineation of the case timeline no later than sixty (60) days from the date the complaint is filed.

 (17) Party status and party rights in RAM proceedings subsequent to the last general rate case where the commission establishes, continues or modifies the electric utility’s RAM.

(A) Each party to the most recent general rate proceeding in which the commission established, continued or modified the electric utility’s RAM shall be a party to each subsequent related RAM rate adjustment proceeding, RAM true-up proceeding and RAM prudence review proceeding, without applying to the commission for intervention, and shall be entitled to access the periodic reports and surveillance reports required by this rule or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ during the period of time when they are entitled to be a party to such proceedings without applying for intervention. In any subsequent general rate proceeding, such person or entity must seek and be granted status as an intervenor to be a party to that case and to consequently be a party, without seeking and being granted stated as an intervenor to RAM-related proceedings initiated after that case.

 (B) Anyone may seek to intervene, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.075, in any RAM rate adjustment proceeding, RAM true-up proceeding, RAM prudence review proceeding, or general rate proceeding to modify, continue or discontinue a RAM. If no party objects to the intervention request within ten (10) days of when it is filed, then the applicant for intervention shall be deemed to have been granted intervention without a specific commission order, unless within the above-referenced ten (10)-day period the commission denies the application for intervention on its own motion. If an objection to the application for intervention is filed on or before the end of the above-referenced ten (10)-day period, the commission shall rule on the application and the objection within ten (10) days of the filing of the objection.

(18) Discovery. Each discovery response that a party obtains in general rate proceedings where the the commission approves, modifies, rejects, continues or discontinues a RAM and in related subsequent RAM rate adjustment proceedings, RAM true-up proceedings and RAM prudence review proceedings may be offered as evidence in any subsequent RAM rate adjustment proceeding, RAM true-up proceeding, RAM prudence review proceeding or general rate proceeding to modify, contine or discontinue its RAM as if the response were made to a discovery request in that proceeding without requiring the party who made the request to resubmit the same discovery request (data request, interrogatory, request for production, request for admission, or deposition), subject to commission ruling on any evidentiary objection(s). Unless the commission orders otherwise, sua sponte or on a party’s motion, the discovery response shall have the same protection it was last afforded, by rule or by commission order.

 (19) Supplementing and updating discovery responses in subsequent related proceedings. A party who provided a discovery response in a prior case as described in section (18) shall be under no obligation to supplement or update that response in a subsequent proceeding, unless the requesting party issues a discovery request in the subsequent case which clearly identifies the particular discovery requests to be supplemented or updated and the particular period to be covered by the updated response. A party responding to a request to supplement or update a prior proceeding discovery response shall supplement or update the discovery response where the responding party has learned or subsequently learns its response is in some material respect in detailed or incorrect.

(20) The commission shall establish a new case for each general rate proceeding, RAM rate adjustment proceeding, RAM true-up proceeding and RAM prudence review proceeding.

(21) Right to Discovery Unaffected. In addressing certain discovery matters and the provision of certain information by electric utilities, this rule is not intended to restrict the discovery rights of any party.

(22) Waiver of Provisions of this Rule. Provisions of this rule may be waived by the commission for good cause shown after an opportunity for a hearing.

AUTHORITY: sections 386.250 and 393.140, RSMo 2000 and 386.266, RSMo Supp. 2005.\* Original rule filed June 15, 2006, effective Jan. 30, 2007.

\*Original authority: 386.250, RSMo 1939, amended 1963, 1967, 1977, 1980, 1987, 1988, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1996; 386.266, RSMo 2005; and 393.140, RSMo 1939, amended 1949, 1967.