Questions for Utilities

Case No. AW-2020-0356

- 1. What date did the company initiate the suspension of discontinuances of service as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency?
- 2. Please describe practices used prior to the suspension of customer discontinuances that were used to minimize past due accounts receivable.
- 3. Please describe efforts made since the suspension of discontinuances to mitigate past due accounts receivable.
- 4. Please provide examples of customer communication regarding changes in collection practices related to accounts subject to discontinuance.
- 5. Please describe any changes in procedures related to customer payment arrangements since initiating the suspension of discontinuances of service.
- 6. Please provide documentation of the number of customers with payment arrangements, on a monthly basis, by customer class, from March 2016 to 2020 YTD. For each period, provide the number of Cold Weather Rule and non-Cold Weather Rule payment arrangements for residential customers.
- 7. Please describe the alternatives discussed by company management to collect past due accounts receivable without unduly burdening vulnerable customers when discontinuances of service are resumed. For each alternative, please describe the associated advantages and disadvantages. Please describe how alternatives to collect past due accounts receivable will be communicated to customers.
- 8. What criteria will be used to determine the timing for resuming discontinuances of service?
- 9. If applicable, describe COVID-19 related changes to the company's community-funded assistance program (i.e. Dollar More, Dollar Help etc.). If eligibility requirements were modified in an effort to assist more customers, did the changes result in increased pledges on customer accounts, please explain.
- 10. Please identify the amount of revenues foregone as of June 30, 2020 due to the COVID pandemic by revenue type, such as late fees, reconnection fees, etc. (Note: This should not include any estimates of "lost revenues" due to a reduction in sales to customers attributable to the COVID pandemic or economic downturn, which is being requested separately below.) Also, please provide an estimation for the period of July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 for the revenues forgone.
- 11. Please provide the change in revenues on an overall basis, and by rate class, by month, starting with February 2020 through June 2020 and the amount attributable to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, please provide estimated revenue changes, by rate class for the period July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.
- 12. Please quantify for each of the following costs that has been incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic to date: incremental bad debt expense, incremental costs to allow employees to work at home, additional cleaning expense, protective supplies for employees, costs related to new

- assistance programs implemented to aid customers with payment of bills, costs incurred for possible sequestration, and any other cost tracked by your utility. Also provide a current annual projection for each of these costs.
- 13. Please quantify for each of the following categories the savings that has been realized due to the COVID-19 pandemic to date: external travel costs, external training costs, utilities expense for office use, or any other savings category tracked by your utility. Also provide a current annual projection for each of these savings categories.
- 14. Please provide a detailed estimate/projection of any Covid-19 related costs that might be covered by governmental reimbursement programs (federal and/or state). Have applications been made for any federal or state grants, loans or other measures of assistance associated with the COVID pandemic? If so, please provide a list of such.
- 15. Are limitations being placed on hiring, salary/benefit increases, discretionary construction expenditures, etc. due to the COVID-19 pandemic or any other reason? If yes, please provide documentation setting out the reasons for and the terms of such limitations.
- 16. Have employee layoffs occurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic? If so, how many employees were released? Have or will the implementation of any voluntary employee reduction programs in 2020 for Covid-19 or other reasons occur? If yes, please provide the timing of the program, and its rationale.
- 17. Please describe any programs now being implemented or planned to be implemented in the future to assist customers in returning to current status.
- 18. Please describe any programs now being implemented or planned to be implemented in the future to assist the most vulnerable or at risk customers.
- 19. For electric providers Please provide any class changes in load overall and by customer class by month starting in February 2020.
- 20. Please provide, and update as appropriate, the timing of the company's plans to restart collecting late fees from customers and when the company may begin disconnecting customers for non-payment.
- 21. If your utility has not already filed an application with the Commission requesting special accounting treatment of incremental COVID costs and/or "lost revenues," do you plan to do so at some point in the future? If yes, please discuss the timing of the application and the types of financial impacts you would request be included.

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