

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
AT RICHMOND, APRIL 15, 2024

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APPLICATION OF

CRAIG-BOTETOURT
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

CASE NO. PUR-2024-00012

For a streamlined increase in rates

ORDER

On March 19, 2024, Craig-Botetourt Electric Cooperative ("CBEC" or "Cooperative") filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application for a streamlined increase in rates ("Streamlined Application") pursuant to §§ 56-231.33, 56-231.34, 56-235, 56-236, and 56-585.3 of the Code of Virginia and under 20 VAC 5-200-21 C of the Commission's rules governing Streamlined rate proceedings and general rate proceedings for electric cooperatives subject to the State Corporation Commission's rate jurisdiction ("Streamlined Rate Case Rules"). Specifically, the Cooperative seeks to implement, on a permanent basis, a rate increase for bills rendered on and after May 1, 2024, designed to increase CBEC's revenues by approximately \$562,900 per year.¹

In support of its Streamlined Application, CBEC states that the proposed rates would result in an increase in total revenues of 3.68% and a Times Interest Earned Ratio of 1.93.² Further, pursuant to 20 VAC 5-200-21 C 11 and 12 of the Streamlined Rate Case Rules, the members of CBEC were generally notified of the proposed rate increase and tariff revisions by a bill insert in the Cooperative's January 2024 bills sent on February 1, 2024.³ Also, as required by

¹ Application at 2.

² *Id.* at 2-3.

³ *Id.* at 5.

20 VAC 5-200-21 C 13, the Cooperative provided copies of the public notice to the appropriate local officials, by letter dated March 11, 2024, and to the Division of Consumer Counsel, Office of the Attorney General ("Consumer Counsel"), by letter dated January 18, 2024.⁴

As noted in the Streamlined Application,⁵ the Commission may suspend the proposed rates under 20 VAC 5-200-21 C 4. Further, under 20 VAC 5-200-21 C 5, the Commission may suspend the proposed rates and shall schedule a hearing on the Streamlined Application if any of the following object to the proposed rates or tariff revisions: (i) the lesser of 150 or 5.0% of any of the cooperative's members; (ii) one-quarter of the customers within a rate class that is the subject of a revision or increase; or (iii) all of the customers within a rate class that is the subject of a revision or increase if the rate class contains 20 or fewer customers. Finally, pursuant to 20 VAC 5-200-21 C 6, the Commission may, in its discretion, suspend an electric cooperative's rate increase and proposed tariff revisions in a streamlined rate proceeding on the motion of the Staff of the Commission ("Staff"), Consumer Counsel, or any person subject to such rate change who requests a hearing and states a substantive reason why a hearing is necessary.

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of this matter, and being advised by the Commission's Staff through its action brief, and having considered the Cooperative's comments thereto, is of the opinion and finds that CBEC's Streamlined Application should be approved. As described in Staff's action brief, it appears that CBEC has complied with the requirements of the Streamlined Rate Case Rules. Upon our review of the record herein and having not received any requests for hearing, we further find that the Cooperative's request to implement the noticed rate increase should be granted and made effective for bills rendered on and after May 1, 2024.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.* at 4.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- (1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUR-2024-00012.

(3) CBEC forthwith shall file tariffs and supporting workpapers with the Clerk of the Commission and shall submit the same to the Commission's Divisions of Public Utility Regulation and Utility Accounting and Finance, as is necessary to comply with the directives set forth in this Order. The Clerk of the Commission shall retain such filings for public inspection in person and on the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case%20Information).

A COPY hereof shall be sent by the Clerk of the Commission electronically to all persons on the official Service List on this matter. The Service List is available from the Clerk of the Commission.