

Proposal Concerning Modifications to LIPA's Tariff for Electric Service

Requested Action:

The Long Island Power Authority ("LIPA") Staff proposes to modify the Tariff for Electric Service ("Tariff") to authorize a modification of the charge for historical customer bill information. Compared with the current charge, the proposed charge better represents the costs of providing the historical bill information to customers.

Proposal:

Staff proposes changes to the Tariff for Electric Service to authorize a modification to the charge for historical customer bill information. Currently, customers, energy service companies ("ESCOs"), and direct retail customers ("DRCs") may request up to twenty-four (24) months of hourly, monthly or bi-monthly historical meter reading information without charge to the customer. Information for historical periods beyond the twenty-four (24) months, and for 15 minute interval data covering any historical period, are provided at a charge of five and a half dollars (\$5.50) for each monthly or bi-monthly meter reading period. Staff proposes a charge of forty dollars (\$40.00) for all available information for historical periods between twenty-four (24) months and seventy-two (72) months of standard monthly or bi-monthly metering reading information (the maximum information available from LIPA's archive). The charge for 15 minute remotely read interval data would remain at \$5.50 per month.

The key change is that the charge for historical information is the same, regardless of the number of months requested or provided. It makes no difference, from a workload or cost perspective, how many months are provided; all available information is retrieved in one step. As such, the proposed charge better represents the costs of providing the historical bill information to customers. It also aligns with other New York State electric utilities' policies, which also impose a single fixed charge for historical bill information requests for up to twenty-four (24) months, and for historical periods between twenty-four (24) months and seventy-two (72) months inclusive.

Financial Impacts:

Fulfilling customer requests for historical bill information between twenty-four (24) months and seventy-two (72) months (inclusive) requires incremental labor, including speaking with the customer, retrieving the information from electronic systems, and billing the charges for the request. Approximately 32 minutes are required to fulfill each request, which translates into a total cost, including labor and materials, of approximately \$40.00. Since all of the historical data is stored on a single record, it makes no difference how many or which months are requested. All available information is retrieved in a single action, so the cost is the same regardless of how many months of historical information are desired.

Staff expects the financial impact from the proposed modification of the historical customer bill information charge to be minimal. The expected reduction in revenue generated by the forty dollar (\$40.00) flat charge as opposed to \$5.50 per month for up to 48 months (\$264 maximum) to be about \$8,000 per year, since there are only 2 or 3 requests received each month. Further, providing up to twenty-four (24) months of hourly, monthly or bi-monthly historical meter reading information will continue to be offered to customers at no charge, because they are available on-line and is relatively easy and inexpensive to provide.

Proposed Tariff Changes:

1. **Introduce the charge for information for historical periods beyond twenty-four (24) months and up to seventy-two (72) months.**

Affected Tariff Leaf: Leaf 107B.

Reason for Tariff Change

To update the charge for historical customer bill information to reflect current costs for labor and materials and the process by which historical information is retrieved and provided.

Summary of Proposed Changes:

In summary, the proposed changes to LIPA's Tariff for Electric Service will authorize a modification of the charge for historical customer bill information in a manner consistent with other New York State electric utilities.

The proposed revised Tariff Leaf No. 107B is attached.