

**THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS**

Before Commissioners: Pat Apple, Chairman
Shari Feist Albrecht
Jay Scott Emler

In the Matter of the Application of Southern)
Pioneer Electric Company Seeking Waiver of)
Minimum Standards for Payment Methods for)
Utility Bills and Allowing the Acceptance of) Docket No. 18-SPEE-241-TAR
Credit Cards and the Approval of Revisions to)
Their Schedule of Fees Related to the Assessment)
of Credit Card Convenience Fees)

SUSPENSION ORDER

The above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration and decision. Having reviewed its files and records, and being duly advised in the premises, the Commission makes the following findings:

1. On December 8, 2017, Southern Pioneer Electric Company, ("Southern Pioneer") filed an Application with the Commission requesting approval of (1) a waiver of certain minimum standards for payment methods for utility bills and allowing the acceptance of credit cards; and (2) approval to make certain revisions to Southern Pioneer's Schedule of Fees related to the assessment of credit card convenience fees as contained in the Commission-approved Southern Pioneer Rules and Regulations for the geographic service territory served by Southern Pioneer, and for other related relief that may be required.

2. K.S.A. 66-117(c) states in part: "The commission shall not delay the effective date of the proposed change in rate, joint rate, toll, charge or classification or schedule of charges, or in any rules or regulation or practice pertaining to the service or rates of any such

public utility or common carrier, more than 240 days beyond the date the public utility or common carrier filed its application requesting the proposed change. If the commission does not suspend the proposed schedule within 30 days of the date the same is filed by the public utility or common carrier, such proposed schedule shall be deemed approved by the commission and shall take effect on the proposed effective date.”

3. A full investigation of the proposed modifications to Southern Pioneer’s tariff, which may result in a hearing, is deemed necessary and proper. Absent suspension, Commission Staff is without sufficient time to fully review, consider, and analyze whether the requested tariff modification should be approved.

4. The Commission finds and concludes that suspension of any potential effectiveness of the revisions and/or terms proposed by Southern Pioneer is required to allow sufficient time for full investigation of this matter. The effective date of the rates and/or terms proposed shall be suspended for a period not to exceed 240 days from the date the Application was made, December 8, 2017 until Monday, August 6, 2018. A Commission decision may be issued before such date.

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

A. Pursuant to K.S.A. 66-117(c), the proposed tariff revisions in the above-captioned docket shall be suspended, and the effective date deferred, until August 6, 2018.

B. The parties have fifteen (15) days, plus three (3) days if service of this order is by mail, from the date this order was served in which to petition the Commission for reconsideration of any issue or issues decided herein.¹

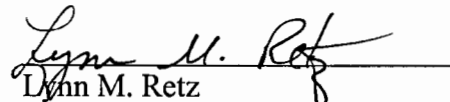
¹ K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 77-529(a)(1).

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties for the purpose of issuing such further order, or orders, as it may deem necessary and proper.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Apple, Chairman; Albrecht, Commissioner; Emler, Commissioner

Dated: DEC 21 2017


Lynn M. Retz
Secretary to the Commission

SLS

EMAILED

DEC 21 2017

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

18-SPEE-241-TAR

I, the undersigned, certify that the true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following parties by means of

Electronic Service on DEC 21 2017.

STEPHAN SKEPNEK, LITIGATION COUNSEL
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION
1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD
TOPEKA, KS 66604-4027
Fax: 785-271-3354
s.skepnek@kcc.ks.gov

RANDY MAGNISON, EXEC VP & ASST CEO
SOUTHERN PIONEER ELECTRIC COMPANY
1850 W OKLAHOMA
PO BOX 430
ULYSSES, KS 67880-0430
Fax: 620-356-4306
rmagnison@pioneerelectric.coop

LINDSAY SHEPARD, EXECUTIVE VP - GENERAL
COUNSEL
SOUTHERN PIONEER ELECTRIC COMPANY
1850 W OKLAHOMA
PO BOX 430
ULYSSES, KS 67880-0430
Fax: 620-356-4306
lshepard@pioneerelectric.coop

/s/ DeeAnn Shupe
DeeAnn Shupe

EMAILED

DEC 21 2017