

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

In the Matter of the Application of Southern)
Pioneer Electric Company for Approval of its) Docket No. 24-SPEE-540-TAR
Renewable Energy Program Rider Tariff.)
)

**JOINT MOTION FOR ORDER PERMITTING SOUTHERN PIONEER TO MAKE
CERTAIN CHANGES TO ITS RENEWABLE ENERGY RIDER**

Southern Pioneer Electric Company (“Southern Pioneer”), on its own behalf and on behalf of all parties hereto, including the Staff of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (“Staff”), the Citizens’ Utility Ratepayer Board (“CURB”), National Beef Packaging Company, LLC (“National Beef”), and Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. (“Air Products”), (collectively “the Parties”), all of which have agreed and consented to this Joint Motion, and hereby moves the Commission for an Order permitting Southern Pioneer to make certain agreed changes to its Renewable Energy Rider. In support thereof, Southern Pioneer states:

1. On January 31, 2024, Southern Pioneer filed its Application pursuant to K.S.A. 66-117 seeking approval to implement a voluntary Renewable Energy Program under and pursuant to a Renewable Energy Rider (“RE Rider”).

2. Southern Pioneer receives its power supply from Sunflower Electric Power Corporation (“Sunflower”), a generation and transmission cooperative headquartered in Hays, Kansas. Pioneer Electric (“Pioneer”) and Southern Pioneer are member-owners of Sunflower along with five other distribution cooperatives.

3. The Renewable Energy Program and RE Rider was developed by Sunflower and is administered at the retail level by Sunflower’s member-cooperatives. The Renewable Energy Program and RE Rider had been implemented by Pioneer prior to implementation by Southern

Pioneer, and the Southern Pioneer Renewable Energy Program and RE Rider was intended to closely mirror the same program implemented by Pioneer.

4. Because Pioneer is an electric cooperative as defined in K.S.A. 66-104d, it was able to implement its program, and has been able to implement changes to its program without obtaining separate approval from the Commission prior to making such changes. By contrast, because Southern Pioneer is not an electric cooperative, but is instead a not-for-profit corporate utility, which is rate-regulated by the Commission, Southern Pioneer must obtain approval from the Commission to make any changes to its Renewable Energy Program and RE Rider before such changes can be implemented.

5. On or about June 25, 2024, Southern Pioneer filed a non-unanimous settlement agreement between Southern Pioneer, CURB and Commission Staff wherein Southern Pioneer agreed to implement its Renewable Energy Program and RE Rider with certain specific stipulations included in the Staff Report and Recommendation filed therein on March 31, 2024. The settlement was approved by the Commission on September 24, 2024, and the Southern Pioneer Renewable Energy Program and RE Rider were implemented following such approval.

6. The Renewable Energy Program included a Residential Community Solar tier enabling participants to subscribe to the program by purchasing 125 kWh shares, with a monthly Renewable Energy Charge of \$5.00 per share. At the time the program was approved, Pioneer offered its Residential Community Solar subscription with a \$5.00 per share Renewable Energy Charge, and Southern Pioneer's program was intended to mirror the terms of Pioneer's program.

7. Recently, Sunflower elected to reduce the Renewable Energy Charge for its Residential Community Solar subscription from \$5.00 per share down to \$4.00 per share in order

to help incentivize additional participation from retail residential customers of Sunflower's distribution member-owners, including Pioneer and Southern Pioneer.

8. Southern Pioneer, and the other parties consenting to this motion, hereby request that the Commission approve a change to the Southern Pioneer Residential Community Solar tariff to reduce the Renewable Energy Charge from \$5.00 per share to \$4.00 per share.

9. In addition, in order to further align with the terms of the Pioneer Renewable Energy Program, Southern Pioneer also requests that customers participating in the Renewable Energy Program be subject to a one-time change, upon granting of the current motion, to a billing cycle that aligns with the related billing cycle within Sunflower, which includes a regular billing period from the first day of the month through the end of each billing month.

10. The Parties were all parties to the original proceeding in this docket. Southern Pioneer is making this motion on its own behalf, and on behalf of all of the Parties, all of which have confirmed with Southern Pioneer that they consent to this motion and the changes herein.

11. A copy of the new RE Rider with the above-stated revisions is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

12. The revisions set forth in this Motion, therefore, have been agreed to by all interested parties, and they are reasonable and in the interest of Southern Pioneer's customers.

WHEREFORE, Southern Pioneer respectfully requests that the Commission Order that Southern Pioneer may revise its RE Rider as reflected in the attached Exhibit B to reduce the Renewable Energy Charge from \$5.00 per share to \$4.00 per share, and to require that participants in the program agree to be billed on the necessary billing cycle as stated herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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**ATTORNEYS FOR SOUTHERN PIONEER
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of electronic service on 02/17/2025.

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