

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

Before Commissioners: Dwight D. Keen, Chair
 Shari Feist Albrecht
 Susan Duffy

In the Matter of the Application of Southern)
Pioneer Electric Company for Approval to) Docket No. 20-SPEE-169-RTS
Make Certain Changes in its Charges for)
Electric Service)

SUSPENSION ORDER: JUNE 8, 2020

NOW, 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 October 10, 2019, Southern Pioneer Electric Company (“Southern Pioneer”) filed an Application with the Commission to initiate its next rate case by requesting the Commission approve certain changes in its electric service.¹

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 rule 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.”

¹ Application of Southern Pioneer (Oct. 10, 2019) (Application).

3. A full investigation of the proposed changes to Southern Pioneer's electric service, which may result in further proceedings, is deemed necessary and proper. Absent suspension of the proposed changes to electric service found in Southern Pioneer's Application, Commission Staff is without sufficient time to fully review, consider, and analyze whether the requested changes should be approved.

4. The Commission finds and concludes that suspension of any potential effectiveness of the changes to service, as outlined in the Application submitted 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, October 10, 2019, until June 8, 2020.² A Commission decision may be issued before such date.

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

A. Any decision regarding Southern Pioneer's Application shall be deferred until June 8, 2020. The Commission may issue a decision before such date.

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. 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.

² K.A.R. 82-1-217 states that the last day of a time period shall be included in time computation, so long as the last day is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. In situations where the last day included in time computation falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the event period shall run until the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. The 240-day count ends on Saturday, June 6. In accordance with regulations, this docket is suspended until Monday, June 8, which is the first day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Keen, Chair; Albrecht, Commissioner; Duffy, Commissioner

10/17/2019

Dated: _____



Lynn M. Retz
Executive Director

CRM

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

20-SPEE-169-RTS

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of electronic service on 10/17/2019.

GLEND A CAFER, ATTORNEY
CAFER PEMBERTON LLC
3321 SW 6TH ST
TOPEKA, KS 66606
Fax: 785-233-3040
glenda@caferlaw.com

TODD E. LOVE, ATTORNEY
CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD
1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
Fax: 785-271-3116
t.love@curb.kansas.gov

CARLY MASENTHIN, LITIGATION COUNSEL
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION
1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
Fax: 785-271-3354
c.masenthin@kcc.ks.gov

RANDY MAGNISON, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT -
ASSISTANT CEO
PIONEER ELECTRIC COOP. ASSN., INC.
1850 W OKLAHOMA
PO BOX 368
ULYSSES, KS 67880-0368
Fax: 620-356-4306
rmagnison@pioneerelectric.coop

LINDSAY CAMPBELL, EXECUTIVE VP - GENERAL
COUNSEL
SOUTHERN PIONEER ELECTRIC COMPANY
1850 W OKLAHOMA
PO BOX 368
ULYSSES, KS 67880-0368
Fax: 620-356-4306
lcampbell@pioneerelectric.coop

JOSEPH R. ASTRAB
CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD
1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
Fax: 785-271-3116
j.astrab@curb.kansas.gov

Hand Delivered

DAVID W. NICKEL, CONSUMER COUNSEL
CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD
1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
Fax: 785-271-3116
d.nickel@curb.kansas.gov

ROBERT VINCENT, LITIGATION COUNSEL
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION
1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
Fax: 785-271-3354
r.vincent@kcc.ks.gov

ELENA LARSON, MANAGER, RATES AND REGULATORY
SERVICES
POWER SYSTEM ENGINEERING, INC.
3321 SW 6TH AVE
TOPEKA, KS 66606
larsone@powersystem.org

STEPHEN J. EPPERSON, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SOUTHERN PIONEER ELECTRIC COMPANY
1850 W OKLAHOMA
PO BOX 368
ULYSSES, KS 67880-0368
Fax: 620-356-4306
sepperson@pioneerelectric.coop

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

20-SPEE-169-RTS

RICHARD J MACKE, VP & LEAD ECONOMICS, RATES,
AND BUSINESS PLANNING DPT.
SOUTHERN PIONEER ELECTRIC COMPANY
10710 Town Square Dr NE Ste 201
Minneapolis, MN 55449
Fax: 620-356-4306
macker@powersystem.org

CHANTRY SCOTT, CFO, VP OF FINANCE AND
ACCOUNTING
SOUTHERN PIONEER ELECTRIC COMPANY
1850 WEST OKLAHOMA
PO BOX 403
ULYSSES, KS 67880
Fax: 620-356-4306
cscott@pioneerelectric.coop

/S/ DeeAnn Shupe

DeeAnn Shupe