

RIVER FALLS ELECTRIC UTILITY

ELECTRIC RULES

103 DEFINITION OF DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICE FACILITIES

103.1 Overhead Service Drop

The overhead service between the last pole or other aerial support of the distribution system and the point of attachment to the customer's service entrance equipment. It is normally located over the customer's property.

103.2 Underground Service Lateral

The underground service between the distribution system, including any risers at a pole or other structure, and the service entrance equipment. It is normally located on the customer's property.

103.3 Distribution Facilities

All primary and secondary voltage wire or cable and its supports, trenches, connection equipment, enclosures, and control equipment which is used to extend the distribution system from existing facilities to a point of connection with the service facilities. The cost of right-of-way preparation and restoration to the original condition where appropriate shall be included in the cost of distribution facilities.

103.4 Underground Service Extension

Consists of an underground service lateral and necessary distribution line, if any. In no case shall it consist of separate segments of underground construction separated by overhead construction. The length of each underground service extension shall be the length of the cable route from the beginning of the trench to the point of termination at the applicant's service facilities.

103.5 Service Entrance Equipment

Consists of the meter socket, cables and related overhead masthead or cables and conduit for underground service. This equipment is provided by the customer and is generally located on or in the customer's building.

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103.6 Service Facilities

The standard transformer, standard overhead service drop or standard underground service lateral and standard meter.

RATE FILE

Sheet No. 10 of 37

Schedule No. X-1

Amendment No. 56

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

RIVER FALLS ELECTRIC UTILITY

ELECTRIC RULES

104 UTILITY FACILITIES ON CUSTOMER'S PREMISES

This rule shall apply to the distribution facilities required to service either a group of customers in multi-tenancy premises or a single customer where, in either case, the utility finds that it is necessary to install portions of such facilities on the premises being served. Such customer or property owner, when requested by the utility, shall make provision on his property for the installation of utility-owned facilities required for service(s) in accordance with the following:

Utility facilities shall consist of those which, in the opinion of the utility, are necessary to furnish adequate service at the utility-owned junction boxes on or adjacent to the enclosure of the utility substation or at customer-owned service entrance facilities. The utility will not supply wiring in or on a building beyond the junction box or on a building beyond the service entrance facilities. The utility will design such installations and will install facilities, which in its opinion, are most economical or feasible to the utility, under the conditions met. At each installation the utility shall have the option of extending its primary conductors to two or more substations conveniently located with respect to the customers to be served or to furnish service to all customers from the substation. Where the utility's installation is located in a property owner's building, the applicable provisions of the Wisconsin State Electrical Code shall be observed.

A customer or property owner shall furnish, own and maintain the necessary indoor conduits, indoor or outdoor enclosures, vaults, building structural supports and accessories as specified by the utility.

If a customer or property owner requests any changes in the plan proposed by the utility, the customer shall pay the utility the estimated excess cost of the substituted installation. The utility may require that these costs be paid in advance of construction or may, at the utility's option, offer customers an installment payment plan.

105 CUSTOMERS' RESPONSIBILITY FOR UTILITY'S EQUIPMENT

The customer shall be responsible for all damage to the utility's equipment, and for all loss resulting from interference or tampering therewith, caused by the customer or the customer's permittees, including compensation for consumed energy not recorded upon the meter (see ch. PSC 113, Wis. Adm. Code.)

Meters, service entrance switches, and service entrance outlets are sealed by the utility and such seals shall not be broken or tampered with in any manner without the consent of the utility except in cases of emergency. The utility should be notified as soon as possible after a seal has been broken.

RATE FILE

Sheet No. 11 of 37

Schedule No. X-1

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Amendment No. 56

RIVER FALLS ELECTRIC UTILITY

ELECTRIC RULES

106 EXTENSION OF NEW SERVICE FACILITIES

106.1 Application For Extension of New Service

Each request for extension of new service will require a written application for service in which the applicant agrees to pay any required contribution in aid of construction. The utility may require that the contribution in aid of construction be paid in advance of construction or may, at the utility's option, offer customers an installment payment plan.

106.2 Wiring Affidavit

The contractor or person responsible for the installation of the customer's electric wiring, appliances and other equipment related to each type of service shall deliver a notarized affidavit on a form supplied by the utility attesting to the fact that the work complies with the Wisconsin State Electrical Code and the service rules of the utility. Affidavits must clearly indicate the nature of the work done (such as residential wiring, residential fixtures, garage wiring, range, heaters, motors, or other wiring or equipment). For those cases involving wiring changes or additions which require the meter(s) to be replaced or relocated, or which require inspection by the utility or the utility's agent, the affidavit shall include an itemized copy of the connected load, including lights, motors and appliances. Where such changes require new service entrances at a new location, the existing service entrance should not be disconnected before the new service entrance is ready for connection and operation.

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If, upon inspection by the utility or the utility's agent, installations are found to contain discrepancies, such discrepancies shall be corrected before permanent connection of service will be completed. Or, at its option, the utility may mail the customer a written request demanding conformity within a 10-day period or any prior service connection made by the utility will be disconnected.

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The utility normally connects the service entrance wires to the service wires. No one else shall make these connections without the specific approval from the utility or the utility's agent, in which case the customer shall assume responsibility for any damage which may result from making these connections. The utility will not be responsible for damage or injury resulting from unauthorized disconnection or reconnection of service wires.

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106.3 Ownership of Extension

The title to every extension at all times is with the utility. The utility reserves the right at all times to add additional customers to an extension and make new extensions to an existing extension, under the provisions of these rules, without procuring the consent of any customer or customers contributing to the original construction costs, and without incurring any liability for refunding contributions except as additional customers may be added as provided for herein. (See ch. PSC 113, Wis. Adm. Code, Refunds.)

RATE FILE

Sheet No. 12 of 37

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Schedule No. X-1

Amendment No. 56

RIVER FALLS ELECTRIC UTILITY

ELECTRIC RULES

106.4 Right-of-way For Extensions

106.4a Overhead Facilities

The applicant(s) for service shall furnish right-of-way easements and permits with clearing rights, without cost to the utility adequate for the line extensions necessary to serve them and along a route approved by the utility. Clearing shall either:

- (1.) Be done by the applicant(s); or
- (2.) Be done by the utility. In this case, the applicant shall, in advance of the clearing work, make a contribution to the utility in an amount equal to the utility's estimate of the cost thereof. Such a contribution shall be nonrefundable, except that after completion of the extension the utility will determine the actual cost of clearing work, recompute the contribution required, and will refund the excess, if any, of the contribution over that required as based on such actual cost.

106.4b Underground Facilities

The applicant(s) shall secure for the utility, without cost to the utility, such easements as the utility may require for the installation, maintenance or replacement of the underground lateral and necessary distribution line extension.

The applicant shall inform the utility of any known or expected underground obstructions within the cable routes on his property (septic tanks, drainage tile, etc.). Any earth fill added to bring the cable route to final grade prior to the underground construction shall not contain large rocks, boulders, debris or rubbish.

In the event of future changes in grade levels by the customer that would materially change the depth of cover over underground conductors, or affect transformer locations, the landowner shall notify the utility in advance of grading, and shall pay the utility its cost of moving or replacing its equipment to accommodate the change in grade. Such charge will also be made for changes in buildings, structures, foundations, walls, or other obstructions.

106.5 Construction Standards and Facilities Provided by Utility

The utility shall provide safe, reliable service with extensions that conform, to the extent possible, to each of the following standards:

RIVER FALLS ELECTRIC UTILITY

ELECTRIC RULES

106.5 Construction Standards and Facilities Provided by Utility (continued)

- (1.) **Route.** The utility shall make the extension over the most direct route which is the least expensive and least environmentally degrading. The customer shall provide or shall be responsible for the cost of all right-of-way easements, and permits necessary for the utility to install, maintain or replace distribution facilities. The customer shall either clear and grade such property or pay the utility to clear and grade such property. The customer is responsible for the cost of restoration of the property after the utility has completed installation and backfilling where applicable.
- (2.) **Design.** The utility shall design and install facilities to deliver service to the customer and the area at the lowest reasonable cost. The facilities shall comply with accepted engineering and planning practices. The design shall consider reasonable needs for probable growth in the area and local land use planning. Unwarranted excess capacity which would result in unnecessary cost increases to the utility and its customers shall be avoided. The utility shall be responsible for the incremental cost of distribution facilities which are in excess of standard design for the customer and normal area growth.
- (3.) **Efficient Use.** The utility's extension rules shall discourage the inefficient use of electricity by appropriately relating costs to the charges made for extensions.
- (4.) **Cost Estimates.** The utility shall engineer and estimate the cost of each extension based on reasonable current costs. Current costs may be estimated using job specific costs, average costs per foot or unit, or other costing method as appropriate.

106.6 Point of Termination

The applicant for new service may select, with the approval of the utility, the point at which the utility will deliver service at applicant-owned terminating facilities. The applicant will furnish, own and maintain circuits, meter socket and equipment beyond such point, except for metering equipment.

It is necessary that a customer's service entrance facilities be located at a point most readily accessible to the utility's distribution system. It is desirable, and often necessary, to avoid crossing adjacent property with service drops or laterals. If the distribution system is established in the rear of the premises, the service entrance must be brought to the rear of the building. Where the distribution system is located on the street or where no distribution system has been established, the customer shall request the utility to specify an acceptable location of the service entrance facilities. The utility will furnish this information in writing upon request.

RATE FILE

Sheet No. 14 of 37

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Schedule No. X-1

Amendment No. 56

RIVER FALLS ELECTRIC UTILITY

ELECTRIC RULES

106.7 Meters

Meters will be furnished and installed by the utility. The customer, however, must furnish the meter socket and all necessary extra wiring which meets the utility's specifications to meet the meter connection and must furnish a safe and convenient place for the meter(s). U

In the event a customer desires an additional meter installed for their own convenience, the installation shall be entirely at the cost of the customer, including the cost of the meter.

106.8 Metering Facilities

Meter sockets shall be installed by the customer on the exterior of the building.

In rural areas, a yard pole may be furnished by the utility and located at a point central to the buildings to be served. The meter socket shall be installed by the customer on this pole. All service equipment beyond this point is the responsibility of the customer.

When only a residence is built in the rural area and underground service is used, the meter may be placed on the pole if permission is obtained from the utility prior to installation. A customer-owned yard light may not be installed on this pole unless permission is obtained from the utility. Any meter located other than as described above shall be approved in writing by the utility prior to installation or it shall be changed by the customer to conform to the utility standards.

106.9 Number of Service Drops or Laterals Per Customer

The utility shall provide standard overhead service drops and standard underground service laterals at no charge to the customers.

Not more than one service drop or service lateral will be installed to the same building or utilization point except:

- (1.) Where more than one point of delivery is necessary because of voltage regulation, governmental requirements or regulatory orders.
- (2.) In large installations (large power only) where, in the opinion of the utility, more than one service drop or lateral is necessary to meet the load requirements.
- (3.) In row houses and other multiple occupancy buildings having areas separated by fire walls in compliance with the Wisconsin State Electrical Code.

RIVER FALLS ELECTRIC UTILITY

ELECTRIC RULES

106.9 Number of Service Drops or Laterals Per Customer (continued)

If an existing customer with a single-phase service drop or lateral requests three-phase service, the customer shall rewire his equipment to operate from the three-phase service drop or lateral before three-phase service will be extended. The single-phase service drop or lateral will be removed from service after the three-phase service has been extended.

106.10 Overhead Service Drop

A standard overhead service drop shall be furnished by the utility to a suitable support on the customer's premises. The utility will provide supplemental information to the customer indicating the equipment that the customer shall install, own and maintain. This material will also indicate what Wisconsin State Electric Code provisions and city ordinances must be complied with for the installation of this equipment.

106.11 Underground Service Lateral

A standard underground service lateral shall be furnished by the utility to suitable service equipment on the customer's premises. This equipment shall be installed on the customer's building at a location approved by the utility.

The utility will provide supplemental information indicating what equipment the customer shall install, own and maintain for underground service and indicate what provisions of the Wisconsin State Electric Code and city ordinances must be complied with for the installation of this equipment.

106.12 Transformers

The utility shall provide standard design transformers necessary to serve the customer's load at no charge.

RATE FILE

Sheet No. 16 of 37

Schedule No. X-1

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Amendment No. 56

RIVER FALLS ELECTRIC UTILITY

ELECTRIC RULES

106.13 Nonstandard Service Facilities

If the proposed extension requires nonstandard service facilities or if the customer requests nonstandard facilities, the utility may require that the customer pay a contribution in advance of construction for the cost of the facilities in excess of the cost of standard design facilities.

106.14 Extraordinary Investment by Utility for Extension

Proposed extensions may be reviewed for economic considerations. If the cost of an extension exceeds five times the average embedded cost to serve a customer in the same class as the customer for whom the extension is to be made, the utility may require a contract with the customer. Under the terms of the contract, the customer may be required to pay the recurring estimated operation and maintenance expenses associated with that portion of the extension that is in excess of five times the average embedded cost at the time the extension was made. The reasons and supporting analysis for each contract will be furnished the customer and the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission), in writing. The utility will inform the customer of the customer's right to ask the Commission for a review of the extension costs and contract provisions. The utility will notify the Commission in writing, when a service extension is denied, including the reasons for denial.

107 INSTALLATION CHARGES AND EMBEDDED COST CREDITS

107.1 Definition of Equipment, Installation Charges and Embedded Cost Credits

For purposes of implementing these installation charges the following definitions shall apply:

107.1a Customer Classifications

Customer classifications are based on usage characteristics. Each classification has a distinct installation charge and embedded cost credit. For definitions of distribution and service facilities installed in new installations see Section 103. Examples of customer classifications are as follows:

- (1.) Residential Service
- (2.) General Service
- (3.) Power Service
- (4.) Street Lighting

RIVER FALLS ELECTRIC UTILITY**ELECTRIC RULES****107.1b Total Cost of Installation**

The total cost of an extension shall be defined as the cost of the extension of primary and secondary lines, (excluding the standard meter, the necessary standard service drop or service lateral and individual standard transformer capacity); reconstruction of existing main feeders including changing from single-phase to three-phase or construction of new feeders made necessary solely by addition of such customers; the cost of tree trimming or right of way clearing; securing easements; moving conflicting facilities; and all other costs incident to furnishing service. The customer is responsible for the cost of restoration of the property after the utility has completed installation and backfilling where applicable. This definition applies to both the overhead and underground distribution system. If it is found to be advisable for the utility to install facilities in excess of that required to serve the new customer applying for service, the added cost of these facilities will not be used in determining the cost of the extension.

107.1c Installation Charge

The installation charge is the total cost of installation less the average depreciated embedded cost of the distribution system (excluding cost of the standard transformer and service facilities). Seasonal customers shall receive one-half the average embedded cost allowance of a year-round customer for the same customer classification.

107.1d Average Depreciated Embedded Cost

The embedded cost of the distribution system (excluding the standard transformer and service facilities) is determined by the Public Service Commission for each customer classification, as indicated below. The average depreciated embedded cost by customer classification is listed in Schedule OC-1.

- (1.) **Residential Service:** The average depreciated embedded cost is determined by dividing the original cost less the estimated accrued depreciation of the distribution system and less customer contributions and advances for construction allocated to this customer classification by the number of customers in the group.
- (2.) **Apartment and Rental Units Separately Metered:** The owner of an apartment or rental unit applying for an extension of service shall receive the same average depreciated embedded cost credit, that applies for residential service, per unit metered.

RATE FILE

Sheet No. 19 of 37

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Schedule No. X-1

Amendment No. 56

RIVER FALLS ELECTRIC UTILITY

ELECTRIC RULES

107.2c Installation Charges for Multi-Family Residential Housing Units:

Will be the total installation cost less the average depreciated embedded cost, as defined in Section 107.1d, per each living unit in the multi-family building.

107.2d Other Installation Charges

In addition to the installation charges provided above, the utility may require the customer to pay, in advance of construction, the estimated direct costs for those distribution service facilities which,

- (1.) Are in excess of standard utility design and construction,
- (2.) Follow a route different than the most direct route as in ch. PSC 113, as determined by the utility, or
- (3.) Require abnormally high installation costs due to abnormal soil conditions, including trenching in rocky soil, frozen ground, or other similar conditions. (Winter construction will normally apply between November 1 and April 1 depending on the specific soil conditions.)

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All such payments for these conditions are subject to partial refund as additional customers connect.

107.2e Adjustments to Estimates of the Total Cost of Installation

Section 107.2 explains the method for estimating the total cost of installation. The utility shall adjust its estimate of construction costs to reflect the costs that are actually incurred. Upon completion of an installation which differs from the utility's original cost estimate, a recalculation of the customer contribution shall be made.

108 REFUNDS OF CUSTOMER CONTRIBUTIONS BY TYPE OF CUSTOMER

108.1 Eligibility for Refunds

The utility shall make refunds to a customer who made a contribution for an extension (a contributed extension) when the utility makes an extension from the contributed extension to a second customer which does not require a contribution from the second customer (a non-contributed extension).

In all cases, refunds to the customer making the original contributions shall be limited to the first five years from the installation date. The utility shall make the refund to the customer who made the original contribution or the current property owner of record unless it has a written record from that customer assigning the refund rights to another customer.

RATE FILE

Sheet No. 20 of 37

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Schedule No. X-1

Amendment No. 56

RIVER FALLS ELECTRIC UTILITY

ELECTRIC RULES

108.2 Application of the Refund

- (1.) When additional customers are connected to an existing extension, which required an installation charge from the original customer for whom the extension was first made, that original customer may receive a refund from the utility.
- (2.) If the cost of adding a new customer to an existing extension is less than the average depreciated embedded cost, the new customer will be charged nothing. The original contributor of the extension shall be refunded the difference between the average depreciated embedded cost and the cost of adding the new customer.
- (3.) If the cost of additional distribution facilities exceeds the average depreciated embedded cost of a customer classification, the construction will be considered a new extension. In this case no refund is due the original contributor.
- (4.) The original contributor shall receive refunds, if any, for only the first five years from the date the original extension is energized.
- (5.) Refunds shall be made to the original contributing customer by the utility within 20 days after the additional customer's cost of installation is determined.

The amount of the refund shall be based on the embedded cost allowance in effect at the time the contributed extension was installed or the current embedded cost allowance, whichever is greater. In no case shall the total refund exceed the total installation charge.

109 OVERHEAD SERVICE EXTENSIONS

109.1 Applicability

The rules of this section apply to the extension of overhead electric service to all classes of retail customers requesting new service in all areas served by the utility.

The utility will extend electric service to a new customer(s) or existing customer(s) furnished by means of extending its overhead distribution system, except that three-phase service may be furnished by means of phase conversion equipment from a single-phase line.

109.2 Contributions for Overhead Extension

The charge for all overhead extensions shall be the total cost of installation as defined in Section 107.2 less the average depreciated embedded cost (see Section 107.1d).

RATE FILE

Sheet No. 21 of 37

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Schedule No. X-1

Amendment No. 56

RIVER FALLS ELECTRIC UTILITY

ELECTRIC RULES

109.3 Combination Single-Phase and Three-Phase Construction

In the event an extension is partially or completely supported on structures used for supporting transmission circuits, or in the event the extension is built to serve both single-phase customers and three-phase customers, the utility will compute, and apportion among the customers served, the extension contribution requirements and contribution refund rights in a fair and equitable manner consistent with the pertinent facts, and will retain in its files a memorandum of such computation and apportionment. The contribution requirement of the single-phase customers shall not be greater than would have been the case if an extension (complying with present engineering standards) had been constructed to only serve single-phase customers.

110 UNDERGROUND SERVICE EXTENSIONS

110.1 General Rules on Underground Service Extensions

The utility will extend utility-standard underground service to all classes of retail customers requesting new service in all areas served by the utility.

110.2 Stipulations on Availability of Underground Service Extensions

Underground service extensions to be furnished by the utility are limited to those which may be placed in locations where grade levels and other conditions are satisfactory to the utility, such as across residential or farm yards or commercial premises or along driveways. The route of the underground construction must be clear of any trees, brush, fences or other surface obstructions that would interfere with normal operation of trenching equipment. Trench backfill shall consist of the original soil and shall not be power tamped. Lawn and landscaping restoration shall be the applicant's responsibility.

Underground service extension in locations such as beneath undeveloped land, quarries, gravel pits, swamps and water will not be furnished except by written approval of the utility for each installation.

The utility will not install an underground service extension where engineering, operating, construction, safety or legal problems would, in the utility's judgment, make it inadvisable to perform the installation, unless these problems can be resolved by the payment of contributions and/or the charges as provided for in these extension rules.

Notification must be given to the utility sufficiently in advance of construction so that a sequence of construction can be provided for and the work coordinated with other utilities involved.