



**Utility Payment Deferral Program:  
Rate Rider – Electricity**

**August 18, 2021**

**Alberta Utilities Commission**

Decision 26684-D01-2021

Utility Payment Deferral Program:

Rate Rider – Electricity

Proceeding 26684

August 18, 2021

Published by the:

Alberta Utilities Commission

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## 1 Introduction

1. In this decision, the Alberta Utilities Commission has approved an Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) rate rider, Rider L, in a total amount of no greater than \$8,776,854.70 to recover the uncollected electricity customer bill amounts that were deferred under the Utility Payment Deferral Program (UPDP).

2. Under the UPDP, enrolled electricity customers deferred payment of approximately \$65.8 million in electricity bills.<sup>1</sup> Of this amount, approximately \$57.1 million was collected from enrolled electricity customers between June 19, 2020 and June 18, 2021. The remaining uncollected bill amounts of \$8,776,854.70 equates to an estimated rate rider of \$0.45 per megawatt-hour (MWh)<sup>2</sup> which will result in a monthly charge of approximately \$0.27<sup>3</sup> on an average residential bill.

## 2 Applications and background

3. On March 18, 2020, the Government of Alberta announced that “Albertans who are experiencing financial hardship directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic can work with their utility company to defer electricity and natural gas bills until June 18, 2020 without any late fees or added interest payments.” This payment deferral option applied to residential, farm, small commercial and other electricity consumers with sites that consumed less than 250,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity per year (eligible electricity customer) and to residential, farm, small commercial and other natural gas consumers with sites that consume less than 2,500 gigajoules per year (eligible gas customer). The program was known as the UPDP.

4. On May 12, 2020, the *Utility Payment Deferral Program Act* (UPDP Act) was enacted to enable electricity service providers, natural gas service providers and natural gas distributors to fulfill their obligations pursuant to the UPDP.

5. The Commission established two periods for electricity service providers and natural gas service providers to submit their applications for approval of funding for bill payment

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<sup>1</sup> The total amount of electricity bills that were deferred under the UPDP set out in this decision does not include amounts that were deferred but not reported to the Commission. For example, electricity bills from rural electrification associations (REAs) and other service providers who self-funded their enrolled electricity customers are not included in this total.

<sup>2</sup> Exhibit 26684-X0072, \$8,776,854.70/19,625,822 MWh = \$0.45/MWh, based on the AESO’s actual cumulative volumes for September to December 2020.

<sup>3</sup> Assumption of average Alberta residential consumption of 600 kWh per month. \$0.45 per MWh is equivalent to 0.045 cents per kWh. 600 kWh x 0.045 cents per kWh = \$0.27 or 27 cents.

amounts deferred by their enrolled electricity or gas customers. The first application deadline was May 22, 2020, and covered deferred billing amounts for the period March 18, 2020 to May 8, 2020. The second application deadline was July 10, 2020, and covered deferred billing amounts for the period May 9, 2020 to June 18, 2020.

6. The Commission issued decisions:

- a) Approving the applications of the electric service providers seeking funding from the Balancing Pool for the deferred bill payment amounts from enrolled electricity customers, other than for the portion of the electricity bill payments relating to transmission charges.<sup>4</sup>
- b) Approving the application of the AESO to grant the “necessary approval to enable the Alberta Electric System Operator to fulfill the direction given to it by the Associate Minister of Energy” to support the UPDP.<sup>5</sup>
- c) Approving the establishment of deferral accounts for regulated rate providers, gas distributors and default supply providers to administer payments under the UPDP.<sup>6</sup>
- d) Approving the applications of the gas service providers seeking loans from the Minister for the gas bill payment amounts deferred by enrolled gas customers, other than the portion of the natural gas bill payments that relate to gas transmission charges.<sup>7</sup>

7. The AESO was responsible for funding the portion of the deferred electricity bill payments related to transmission charges for enrolled electricity customers.

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<sup>4</sup> Decision 25591-D01-2020: Direct Energy Marketing Limited, Decision 25585-D01-2020: Just Energy Alberta L.P. and Hudson Energy Canada Corp., Decision 25575-D01-2020: Utility Network & Partners Inc., Decision 25600-D01-2020: Link Energy Supply Inc., Decision 25594-D01-2020: ATCO Energy Ltd., Decision 25592-D01-2020: 1772387 Alberta Limited Partnership (Encor), Decision 25599-D01-2020 (Corrigendum): ENMAX Energy Corporation, Decision 25721-D01-2020: Blue Mountain Power Co-op, Decision 25713-D01-2020: XOOM Energy Canada, ULC, Decision 25661-D01-2020: Battle River Power Coop, Decision 25595-D01-2020: Sponsor Energy Inc., Decision 25590-D01-2020: PowerBill Utility Billing Solutions Inc., Decision 25589-D01-2020: Alberta Co-operative Energy, Decision 25586-D01-2020: Campus Energy Partners LP.

<sup>5</sup> Decision 25508-D01-2020: Alberta Electric System Operator, Request for Deferral of Payment of 2020 Interim Refundable Demand Transmission Service Charges, Proceeding 25508, April 27, 2020.

<sup>6</sup> Decision 25574-D01-2020: AltaGas Utilities Inc., Decision 25568-D01-2020: ATCO Gas Ltd., Decision 25593-D01-2020: EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc.

<sup>7</sup> Decision 25573-D01-2020: Gas Alberta Energy, Decision 25595-D01-2020: Sponsor Energy Inc., Decision 25590-D01-2020: PowerBill Utility Billing Solutions Inc., Decision 25589-D01-2020: Alberta Co-operative Energy, Decision 25586-D01-2020: Campus Energy Partners LP, Utility Payment Deferral Program: Application for Funding Approval, Proceeding 25586, May 28, 2020. Decision 25576-D01-2020: Access Gas Services Inc., Decision 25713-D01-2020: XOOM Energy Canada, ULC, Decision 25594-D01-2020: ATCO Energy Ltd., Decision 25592-D01-2020: 1772387 Alberta Limited Partnership (Encor), Decision 25591-D01-2020: Direct Energy Marketing Limited, Decision 25585-D01-2020: Just Energy Alberta L.P. and Hudson Energy Canada Corp., Decision 25575-D01-2020: Utility Network & Partners Inc., Decision 25599-D01-2020 (Corrigendum): ENMAX Energy Corporation.

8. The gas distributors were responsible for funding the portion of the deferred natural gas bill payments related to transmission charges for enrolled gas customers.
9. Under sections 6 and 16 of the UPDP Act, enrolled electricity customers and enrolled gas customers, respectively, were required to repay their electricity and natural gas bills that were deferred and they had until June 18, 2021, to make these repayments (repayment period). Notwithstanding this requirement, it was anticipated in the UPDP Act that there would be some customer bills that were deferred that would not be repaid.
10. Consequently, under Section 11 of the UPDP Act, the AESO and the Balancing Pool were directed to apply to the Commission for approval of an AESO rate rider, Rider L, to recover:
- a) The uncollected amounts outstanding from each electricity service provider;
  - b) The expenses incurred by the Balancing Pool to administer the funding agreements between itself and the electric service providers; and
  - c) The outstanding electric transmission charges.
11. Similarly, under Section 21 of the UPDP Act, an application to the Commission must be brought for a natural gas rate rider to recover:
- a) The uncollected amounts outstanding from each gas service provider;
  - b) The expenses incurred by the Minister to administer the loans to the gas service providers; and
  - c) The outstanding natural gas transmission charges.
12. Subsequent to the enactment of the UPDP Act, the *Utility Payment Deferral Program Regulation* (UPDP Regulation) was enacted to enable self-funded electricity service providers and self-funded gas service providers to include any unpaid deferred electric or gas bill amounts within the AESO rate rider or the natural gas rate rider.
13. During the repayment period of the UPDP, electricity service providers and gas service providers<sup>8</sup> submitted a monthly statement to the Commission setting out the aggregate deferred amounts that were still outstanding from enrolled electricity and gas customers. Service providers also submitted reporting including the number of customers enrolled in the UPDP, the aggregate dollar amount of the deferred bills associated with the customers who were dropped<sup>9</sup> or that switched retailers, and the efforts made to collect from customers who were dropped or that switched.

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<sup>8</sup> The electricity service providers and gas service providers that reported monthly are those who received funding from the Balancing Pool or the Minister, who deferred transmission charges, or who self-funded under the UPDP. The details of the outstanding amounts were itemized in a template provided by the Commission.

<sup>9</sup> A customer is “dropped” when a retailer no longer wishes to continue serving a customer or when a customer no longer wishes to be served by that retailer.

14. The Commission has considered the applications for the electricity rate rider in this decision. A separate decision will be issued for the natural gas rate rider.

*Electricity rate rider applications*

15. On July 16, 2021, the AESO and the Balancing Pool filed a joint application for approval of a new electricity rate rider, Rider L, pursuant to Section 11 of the UPDP Act and Section 4 of the UPDP Regulation. AESO Rider L will recover transmission, energy, administration and distribution-related charges deferred by enrolled electricity customers, carrying costs approved for recovery by the Commission, funding amounts that the Balancing Pool provided to electricity service providers and expenses incurred by the Balancing Pool to enter into and administer the associated funding agreements. It will be applied to Rate DTS and Rate Demand Opportunity Service (Rate DOS), excluding the City of Medicine Hat and BC Hydro at Fort Nelson.<sup>10</sup>

16. In the AESO's application, it sought approval to determine its Rider L charge on the basis of its most currently available forecast volumes for Rate DTS and Rate DOS. On August 6, 2021, the AESO provided supplemental information disclosing its actual volumes from September 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 and its current forecast volumes from September 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

17. The Commission received the following applications for recovery from the AESO of the unpaid deferred electric bill amounts that were self-funded pursuant to Section 3 of the UPDP Regulation:<sup>11</sup>

- Hudson Energy Canada Corp.
- Just Energy Canada Corp.
- The City of Lethbridge
- EQUUS REA Ltd.
- 1772387 Alberta Limited Partnership (Encor)
- EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc.

18. On August 12, 2021, EPCOR Energy provided supplemental information disclosing its weighted average cost of capital (WACC) calculations.<sup>12</sup>

19. For the purposes of this decision, the Commission considers the close of record to be August 12, 2021, the date that the last application document was filed on the record.

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<sup>10</sup> Section 4(2) of the UPDP Regulation requires the amounts in AESO Rider L to be recovered from DFOs, customers who are industrial systems and persons who have made arrangements under Section 101(2) of the *Electric Utilities Act*. The City of Medicine Hat and BC Hydro were not part of the UPDP.

<sup>11</sup> ENMAX Power Corporation's application to recover costs was denied in a separate Commission ruling. See Exhibit 26679-X0006, July 28, 2021.

<sup>12</sup> Exhibit 26684-X0073.

### 3 Electricity rate rider – applied for amounts by the applicants

20. The total uncollected outstanding amounts applied for, for inclusion in the electricity rate rider, are shown in Table 1: *Electricity rate rider applied for amounts*. Table 1 includes all amounts that were applied for by the applicants. For the reasons that follow, the Commission has not approved all the amounts claimed in Table 1. The approved amounts included in the electricity rate rider are set out in Table 2: *Maximum amounts approved to be recovered through AESO Rider L* found at the end of this section.

**Table 1. Electricity rate rider applied for amounts**

	Outstanding amounts	Carrying costs	Legal fees	Banking fees	Late payment fees	Additional outstanding	Connection fees	Total
AESO	\$817,426.20	\$35,587.38 <sup>13</sup> <sup>14</sup>						\$853,013.58
Balancing Pool	\$4,265,303.12	\$30,111.43	\$278,950.50	\$420.00				\$4,574,785.05
Just Energy	\$428,923.14							\$428,923.14
Hudson Energy	\$156,464.15							\$156,464.15
City of Lethbridge	\$26,265.78							\$26,265.78
EQUS REA	\$9,025.00							\$9,025.00
Encor	\$67,873.00	\$17,999.00			\$133,086.00			\$218,958.00
EPCOR Energy	\$2,080,278.00	\$768,701.00 <sup>15</sup>			\$1,702,490.00	\$2,384,223.00	\$216,436.00	\$7,152,128.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,851,558.39</b>	<b>\$852,398.81</b>	<b>\$278,950.50</b>	<b>\$420.00</b>	<b>\$1,835,576.00</b>	<b>\$2,384,223.00</b>	<b>\$216,436.00</b>	<b>\$13,419,562.70</b>

#### *AESO and Balancing Pool*

21. The AESO and the Balancing Pool filed the following documents in support of their application for AESO Rider L:

- Exhibit 26684-X0002 AESO and Balancing Pool Rider L Application
- Exhibit 26684-X0003 Appendix A - Proposed Rider L
- Exhibits 26684-X0004 to 26684-X00014 Balancing Pool Invoices
- Exhibit 26684-X0015 Appendix B12 - Retailer Funding Interest Calculation for AUC
- Exhibit 26684-X0016 Appendix B13 - Retailer Funding Cost Tracking for AUC

<sup>13</sup> Decision 25508-D01-2020: Alberta Electric System Operator, Request for Deferral of Payment of 2020 Interim Refundable Demand Transmission Service Charges, Proceeding 25508, April 27, 2020. Section 4 approved the AESO to recover accrued carrying costs based on its actual incurred borrowing rate.

<sup>14</sup> Exhibit 26684-X0002, Application, pdf page 4. Amount comprised of \$27,618.40 carrying costs as of June 30, 2021 and \$7,968.98 additional estimated carrying costs from September 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

<sup>15</sup> Exhibit 26684-X0061.01. Amount comprised of \$0.58 million carrying costs associated with the deferred payment amounts and \$0.19 million for carrying costs associated with the \$2.38 million of bad debt, the \$1.70 million of late payment fees and the \$0.22 million in connection fees.



22. The Commission has reviewed the application and supporting documentation and accepts the representations from the AESO and the Balancing Pool that:

- a) The loan funding outstanding accurately represents the difference between the amount of funding provided by the Balancing Pool to each electric service provider and the amount repaid during the repayment period.
- b) The expenses incurred by the Balancing Pool to enter into and administer the funding agreements between itself and each electric service provider who received funding from the Balancing Pool are accurate and have been reasonably incurred.
- c) The transmission charges that are outstanding from each distribution facility owner (DFO) to the AESO accurately represent the difference between the deferred transmission charges and the amounts recovered by the DFOs during the repayment period.
- d) The AESO's carrying costs are based on its actual incurred borrowing rate.

23. For these reasons, the Commission approves amounts no greater than the \$853,013.58 submitted by the AESO and the \$4,574,785.05 submitted by the Balancing Pool to be included in the electricity rate rider, AESO Rider L.

*Just Energy, Hudson Energy, City of Lethbridge and EQUUS REA*

24. Each of these self-funded electric service providers filed applications (see Table 1 above), which included a cover letter, senior officer's attestation letter and UPDP self-funded service provider rate rider template (which included uncollected outstanding amounts and information about their reasonable efforts to collect) in support of their application.

25. The Commission has reviewed these applications and the supporting documentation for the amounts that these electric service providers self-funded. The Commission finds that the amounts claimed accurately reflect the difference between the deferred electric bill amounts of enrolled electricity customers and the uncollected bill amounts. The Commission further finds that the self-funded electric service providers made reasonable efforts to collect the deferred electric bill amounts from enrolled electricity customers during the repayment period. For example, the City of Lethbridge explained that:

A notice on the final bill was included to state that if the invoice is not paid in full by "Date" then the account will be forwarded for collections action. Customers who contacted us and were unable to pay by the due date were set up with payment arrangement plans, however customers who did not make contact with us and whose accounts were not paid in full had their accounts forwarded to a collections agency for further collection action.<sup>16</sup>

26. For these reasons, the Commission approves amounts no greater than the \$428,923.14 submitted by Just Energy, the \$156,464.15 submitted by Hudson Energy, the \$26,265.78

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<sup>16</sup> Exhibit 26684-X0042, page 2. Other self-funded electric service providers reported similar collection practices.

submitted by the City of Lethbridge and the \$9,025.00 submitted by EQUUS REA to be included in the electricity rate rider, AESO Rider L.

### *Encor*

27. Encor, a competitive retailer and self-funded electricity service provider,<sup>17</sup> filed an application for recovery of \$218,958.00 which included a cover letter, senior officer's attestation letter and the UPDP self-funded service provider rate rider template (which included uncollected outstanding amounts and information about their reasonable efforts to collect) in support of its application. Encor submitted that in addition to deferred transmission charges that it self-funded<sup>18</sup> it had suffered other incremental financial losses as a result of the UPDP Act, namely, a shortfall in late payment penalty revenues resulting from the restrictions included in the UPDP Act,<sup>19</sup> and carrying costs. Encor requested compensation for these losses through the rate rider mechanism contemplated by sections 3 and 6 of the UPDP Regulation.

28. In a ruling issued on July 30, 2021, the Commission denied Encor's application to recover \$133,086.00 for late payment revenue shortfalls and \$17,999.00 for carrying costs, and excluded these costs from recovery through the UPDP electricity rate rider, AESO Rider L.<sup>20</sup>

29. Concerning the remaining costs claimed for deferred transmission charges of \$67,873.00, the Commission has reviewed Encor's application and supporting documentation and finds that the amounts claimed accurately reflect the difference between the deferred electric bill amounts of enrolled electricity customers and the uncollected bill amounts. The Commission further finds that Encor made reasonable efforts to collect the deferred electric bill amounts from enrolled electricity customers during the repayment period. Encor explained that it monitored payments and once payment arrangements were terminated, it initiated its established collections processes in order to attempt collection of overdue balances. Activities included issuing an urgent notice for payment, advising that if no further payments were received, the customer would be dropped for non-payment, and referring overdue customers to collection agencies as a final resort.<sup>21</sup>

30. For these reasons, the Commission approves an amount no greater than the \$67,873.00 submitted by Encor to be included in the electricity rate rider, AESO Rider L.

### *EPCOR Energy*

31. EPCOR Energy, a regulated rate option provider and self-funded electricity service provider, filed an application which included a cover letter, senior officer's attestation letter and the UPDP self-funded service provider rate rider template (which included uncollected outstanding amounts and information about their reasonable efforts to collect) in support of its

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<sup>17</sup> Encor self-funded outstanding deferred transmission charges.

<sup>18</sup> In its application, Encor described its deferred transmission charges as "transmission related bad debt costs."

<sup>19</sup> Encor referenced subsections 5(3) and 5(4) of the UPDP Act regarding the inability to charge late payment penalties or to undertake collections during the deferral period against enrolled electricity customers. The mirror provisions for gas are found in subsections 15(3) and 15(4).

<sup>20</sup> Exhibit 26684-X0057, paragraphs 11 and 17.

<sup>21</sup> Exhibit 26684-X0052, page 6.

application. EPCOR Energy also submitted the following additional amounts for recovery in the electricity rate rider:

- \$0.58 million for carrying costs associated with the deferred payment amounts.<sup>22</sup>
- \$2.38 million for bad debt expense for balances due prior to March 18, 2020 and for balances due after June 18, 2020.
- \$1.70 million as a result of the inability to charge late payment fees.
- \$0.22 million for a shortfall in revenues associated with connection fees.
- \$0.19 million for carrying costs associated with the \$2.38 million of bad debt, the \$1.70 million of late payment fees and the \$0.22 million in connection fees.

32. In a ruling issued on July 28, 2021, the Commission found that any applications for recovery through the UPDP rate rider should only reflect unpaid amounts outstanding from enrolled electricity customers from March 18, 2020 to June 18, 2020, and associated carrying costs for those amounts eligible. The Commission denied EPCOR's request to recover any costs other than the outstanding deferred amounts not repaid by enrolled electricity customers, and the \$0.58 million for the associated carrying costs within the UPDP electricity rate rider and directed EPCOR Energy to file a revised application by August 4, 2021.<sup>23</sup>

33. EPCOR Energy filed a revised application with the Commission on August 4, 2021.<sup>24</sup>

34. The Commission has reviewed EPCOR Energy's revised application and supporting documentation for the outstanding deferred amounts and carrying costs that EPCOR Energy self-funded. The Commission finds that the outstanding deferred amounts claimed accurately reflect the difference between the deferred electric bill amounts of enrolled electricity customers and the uncollected bill amounts and that the carrying costs claimed are properly calculated using weighted average cost of capital as permitted by Subsection 7(2) of the UPDP Act.<sup>25</sup>

35. The Commission further finds that EPCOR Energy made reasonable efforts to collect the deferred electric bill amounts from enrolled electricity customers during the repayment period. EPCOR Energy explained that once payment arrangements were terminated, it initiated its established collections processes in order to attempt collection of overdue balances. Standard activities included issuing a friendly reminder notice, an urgent notice for payment, a

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<sup>22</sup> The carrying costs are calculated monthly from March 2020 to August 2021, by applying the weighted average cost of capital rate to the mid-month outstanding balances. Details of the carrying costs calculations are in Exhibit 26684-X0067, and details of the derivation of the weighted average cost of capital rate are in Exhibit 26684-X0073.

<sup>23</sup> Exhibit 26684-X0069, paragraphs 9, 18 & 20.

<sup>24</sup> Exhibits 26684-X0061.01, 26684-X0064.01 and 26684-X0065.01.

<sup>25</sup> Exhibit 26684-X0073, When the Commission has considered the use of weighted average cost of capital for determining carrying costs, it included a debt component and an equity component. In the materials provided, EPCOR Energy calculated its weighted average cost of capital using a debt component, a cost of debt, an equity component and a return on equity.

disconnection notice and finally a disconnection order. It also referred overdue customers to collection agencies as a final resort.<sup>26</sup>

36. For the reasons discussed above, the Commission approves amounts no greater than the \$2,080,278.00 uncollected outstanding amounts and the \$580,227.00 associated carrying costs submitted by EPCOR Energy in its revised application to be included in the electricity rate rider, AESO Rider L.

37. Pursuant to Section 7 of the UPDP Act, the Commission approves a total amount of no greater than \$8,776,854.70, as shown in Table 2 below, to be recovered through AESO Rider L:

**Table 2. Maximum amounts approved to be recovered through AESO Rider L**

	Outstanding amounts	Carrying costs	Legal fees	Banking fees	Total
AESO	\$817,426.20	\$35,587.38			\$853,013.58
Balancing Pool	\$4,265,303.12	\$30,111.43	\$278,950.50	\$420.00	\$4,574,785.05
Just Energy	\$428,923.14				\$428,923.14
Hudson Energy	\$156,464.15				\$156,464.15
City of Lethbridge	\$26,265.78				\$26,265.78
EQUUS REA	\$9,025.00				\$9,025.00
Encor	\$67,873.00				\$67,873.00
EPCOR Energy	\$2,080,278.00	\$580,227.00			\$2,660,505.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,851,558.39</b>	<b>\$645,925.81</b>	<b>\$278,950.50</b>	<b>\$420.00</b>	<b>\$8,776,854.70</b>

38. In its application, the AESO proposed a method to determine the dollar per MWh charge and a commencement date for AESO Rider L as of September 1, 2021. The Commission has reviewed the AESO's proposed method, summarized in paragraphs 15 and 16 above, and its proposed commencement date and finds them both to be reasonable and they are approved.

#### 4 DFO rate rider

39. On July 12, 2021, the Commission issued Bulletin 2021-14, which directed DFOs to file an application as part of the electricity rate rider process. On July 16, 2021, the Commission received rate rider applications from the following DFOs to establish an electricity rider known as the Utility Deferral Adjustment Rider<sup>27</sup> on a per kWh basis.

- ENMAX Power Corporation
- ATCO Electric Ltd.

<sup>26</sup> Exhibit 26684-X0061, paragraph 24.

<sup>27</sup> Each electric distribution utility has its own specific name for the rate rider but "Utility Deferral Adjustment" was common to all the utilities.

- EPCOR Distribution & Transmission Inc.
- FortisAlberta Inc.

40. All of the DFOs proposed to flow through AESO Rider L to the Utility Deferral Adjustment Rider using an equivalent collection period and an equivalent cents-per-kWh charge with no other adjustments, effective November 1, 2021.

41. The Commission has reviewed the DFO rate rider applications and approves them as filed.

## 5 Order

42. It is hereby ordered:

- (1) Pursuant to Subsection 9(2) of the UPDP Act and Subsection 3(6) of the UPDP Regulation, it is possible that electricity service providers may still receive payments from enrolled electricity customers notwithstanding the end of the repayment period. In this event, the total amount approved for recovery in AESO Rider L shall be adjusted to reflect receipt of these payments from the electricity service providers to the AESO. The Commission directs that retailers, DFOs, self-funded electricity service providers and the Balancing Pool inform the AESO of any payments received after the end of the repayment period by emailing [settlement@aesocanada.com](mailto:settlement@aesocanada.com).
- (2) Pursuant to Section 11 of the UPDP Act and Section 4 of the UPDP Regulation, the Commission approves the establishment of a new AESO rate rider, Rider L, effective September 1, 2021, in a total amount no greater than \$8,776,854.70, to be recovered in full no later than June 18, 2022, which is the last day of the rate-rider period as defined in Subsection 1(d) of the UPDP Act.
- (3) AESO Rider L shall be calculated in accordance with the approved methodology as summarized in paragraphs 15 and 16, charged on a per-MWh basis and shall be applied to:
  - a) Owners of electric distribution systems to which Part 7 of the *Electric Utilities Act* applies.
  - b) Customers who are industrial systems within the meaning of the *Electric Utilities Act*.
  - c) Persons that have made arrangements under Section 101(2) of the *Electric Utilities Act*.
- (4) The AESO is directed to file post-disposition submissions to the Commission, at least monthly, showing:

- a) the receipt of any payments received from retailers, DFOs, self-funded electricity service providers and the Balancing Pool that have been paid by enrolled electricity customers after the end of the repayment period reported to the AESO;
  - b) the status of collected AESO Rider L amounts; and
  - c) amounts still outstanding
- until the completion of the AESO Rider L collection process.
- (5) Pursuant to Section 25 of the UPDP Act, the Commission may exercise its jurisdiction to conduct an audit of the amounts provided in this decision if necessary.

Dated on August 18, 2021.

**Alberta Utilities Commission**

*(original signed by)*

Douglas A. Larder QC  
Panel Chair

*(original signed by)*

Neil Jamieson  
Commission Member

*(original signed by)*

Vincent Kostas  
Acting Commission Member