Decision 26891-D01-2021



# EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc.

# 2021 Revised and 2022 Interim Regulated Rate Tariff Application

October 25, 2021

#### **Alberta Utilities Commission**

Decision 26891-D01-2021 EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. 2021 Revised and 2022 Interim Regulated Rate Tariff Application Proceeding 26891

October 25, 2021

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# 1 Decision summary

1. In this decision, the Alberta Utilities Commission approves EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc.'s (EEA) revised 2021 interim non-energy rates and 2022 interim non-energy rates, effective December 1, 2021 (the application).

# 2 Background

2. On September 29, 2021, EEA filed the application with the Commission requesting approval to adjust its interim non-energy rates, effective December 1, 2021, and to continue the same rates into 2022.

3. The Commission issued a notice of application on October 1, 2021. Any parties who wished to intervene in this proceeding were invited to file submissions, registering their concerns or support for the application, by October 8, 2021. The Commission did not receive any submissions in response to its notice, including from parties that often participate in the Commission's hearing processes, such as the Office of the Utilities Consumer Advocate, which has the responsibility to represent the interests of Alberta residential, farm, and small business consumers of electricity in proceedings before the Commission.

4. The Commission considers that the record of this proceeding closed on October 8, 2021.

# **3** Details of the application

- 5. In the application, EEA requested approval of the following:
  - Non-energy charges for EPCOR Distribution & Transmission Inc. (EDTI) and FortisAlberta Inc. service areas;<sup>1</sup>
  - Schedule A-1 (EDTI service area) and Schedule A-2 (Fortis service area): Price Schedules and Miscellaneous Fees Price schedules, including Miscellaneous Fees;
  - Schedule B-1: EEA's regulated rate tariff (RRT) terms and conditions; and
  - A hearing cost reserve account and short-term incentive deferral account on a interim refundable basis, as applied for in EEA's 2021-2022 RRT application (Proceeding 26694).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Tables 1 and 2 of this decision.

6. On December 1, 2020, the Commission approved EEA's current 2021 interim rates, as effective January 1, 2021, in Decision 26023-D01-2020.<sup>2</sup>

7. On August 26, 2021, EEA filed a final 2021-2022 RRT application with the Commission, which included EEA's forecast 2021 and 2022 non-energy rates. EEA submitted that the differences between the current interim rates and forecast non-energy rates are considerable.<sup>3</sup>

8. The application compared EEA's existing and proposed interim rates. Tables 1 and 2 include the current approved non-energy charges, the forecast non-energy charges, and the revised interim rate charges.

	Α	В	C	D	E
Customer class	2021 Approved interim non-energy rate (\$/day/site) <sup>1</sup>	2021 Forecast non-energy rate (\$/day/site) <sup>2</sup>	Half of rate difference (B-A)/2	2021 Proposed revised interim Rate (A+C)	2022 Proposed interim rate
Residential	0.202	0.241	0.020	0.222	0.222
Small Commercial	0.184	0.210	0.013	0.197	0.197
Lighting	0.192	0.246	0.027	0.219	0.219

# Table 1. Non-energy charges EDTI service area4

# Table 2. Non-energy charges Fortis service area<sup>5</sup>

Customer class	A 2021 Approved interim non-energy rate (\$/day/site) <sup>1</sup>	B 2021 Forecast non-energy rate (\$/day/site) <sup>2</sup>	C Half of rate difference (B-A)/2	D 2021 Proposed revised interim rate (A+C)	E 2022 Proposed interim rate
Residential	0.207	0.254	0.024	0.231	0.231
Farm	0.188	0.241	0.027	0.215	0.215
Irrigation	0.126	0.230	0.052	0.178	0.178
Small Commercial	0.232	0.228	(0.002)	0.230	0.230
Oil and Gas	0.378	0.230	(0.074)	0.304	0.304
Lighting	0.202	0.267	0.033	0.235	0.235

<sup>1</sup> Decision 26023-D01-2020, Table 1 and Table 2.

<sup>2</sup> EEA's 2021-2022 Regulated Rate Tariff Application, Financial Schedule 5.

9. EEA requests to increase/decrease rates by half the difference between 2021 approved interim rates and 2021 forecast rates for each customer class, effective December 1, 2021, with those rates remaining in effect until the earlier of the approval by the Commission of a final RRT for 2021 and 2022 or a revised interim RRT.

10. EEA stated that the interim tariff is just and reasonable, and that it is in the public interest to approve the interim tariff for the following reasons:<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Decision 26023-D01-2020: EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc., 2021 Regulated Rate Tariff Interim Rates Application, Proceeding 26023, December 1, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Exhibit 26891-X0002, application, PDF page 6, paragraph 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Exhibit 26891-X0002, application, PDF page 5, Table 2.0-1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Exhibit 26891-X0002, application, Table 2.0-2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Exhibit 26891-X0002, application, PDF pages 8-9, paragraph 20.

- There is insufficient time for the Commission to consider its 2021-2022 RRT Application and approve a final 2021 and 2022 RRT for EEA in time for implementation by January 1, 2022.
- EEA's proposed 2021 revised interim non-energy rates are based on EEA's applied-for 2021 non-energy rates which differ from EEA's current 2021 interim non-energy rates which the Commission recently approved in Decision 26023-D01-2020.
- Reducing the rate differential between its 2021 approved interim rates and 2021 Forecast rates will result in a smaller true-up once final 2021 rates are approved than would be the case if EEA were to continue to collect its approved 2021 nonenergy charges on an interim basis. The proposed increase will ease possible future rate shock.
- The fifty percent of the applied-for rate increase for purposes of interim rates is consistent with the Commission's approval in Decision 3461-D01-2015<sup>[7]</sup> and 22879-D01-2017<sup>[8]</sup> in respect of EEA's 2015 Interim RRT and 2018 Interim RRT Applications, respectively.
- The residential sites make up the majority of the total RRT sites and the changes in residential rates are an increase of 9.7% for EDTI and an increase of 11.4% for FortisAlberta residential sites. These changes in rates would not result in rate shock for the residential customers, who represent the majority of RRT customers.
- Maintaining the same 2021 proposed revised interim rates into 2022 would provide the RRT customers with consistent year-over-year interim non-energy rates and is expected to result in a smaller true-up once final 2022 rates are approved than would be the case if EEA were to continue to collect its approved 2021 interim rates on an interim basis.
- The applied-for 2021 Revised and 2022 Interim RRT would be approved on an interim refundable basis. Therefore, the Commission's approval of this Application, and ultimately final 2021 and 2022 RRT rates for EEA that differs from the 2021 Revised and 2022 Interim RRT, would cause no prejudice to customers.

# 4 Issues

# 4.1 **Revising interim rates**

11. The Commission recognizes that EEA is already on interim rates and has requested a change in those interim rates. Although EEA has not provided any applicable precedent, the Commission has previously adjusted an RRT provider's interim rates within a one year period in Decision 25727-D01-2020.<sup>9</sup>

12. The Commission considers that the applied-for interim rates are in the public interest. In reaching this conclusion, the Commission assessed EEA's application with reference to the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Decision 3461-D01-2015: EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc., 2015 Interim Regulated Rate Tariff, Proceeding 3461, Application 1610915-1, January 23, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Decision 22879-D01-2017: EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc., 2018 Interim Regulated Rate Tariff, Proceeding 22879, October 13, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Decision 25727-D01-2020: Direct Energy Regulated Services, 2020 Default Rate Tariff and Regulated Rate Tariff Interim Rates Application, Proceeding 25727, September 14, 2020.

factors used by the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board, predecessor to the Commission, in Decision 2005-099<sup>10</sup> to evaluate interim rates. Taking this approach, the Commission finds that the EEA's forecast 2021 and 2022 rates are materially different from current interim rates for most customer classes. The revised interim rates ease a possible rate shock to these customers in the future, including the residential customer classes which make up the majority of EEA's RRT customers.

13. The Commission finds EEA's proposal to maintain its revised 2021 interim rates into 2022 to be reasonable. This approach is efficient because it will reduce any future regulatory burden connected with a subsequent 2022 interim rate application.

# 4.2 **Possible rate shock**

14. The Commission calculated the percentage rate change from the existing 2021 interim rates to the revised 2021 interim rates in the table below:

Service area	Customer class	Per cent rate change from proposed to revised rates	
	Residential	9.65	
EDTI	Small Commercial	7.07	
	Lighting	14.06	
	Residential	11.35	
	Farm	14.10	
Fortis	Irrigation	41.27	
Forus	Small Commercial	-0.86	
	Oil and Gas	-19.58	
	Lighting	6.93	

Table 3.Calculated rate change

15. The Commission also recognized rate increases of interest in several rate classes in the proposed revised rates. The Residential rate class represents a majority of RRT customers, and the Commission finds that the increases in the EDTI Residential and Fortis Residential customer classes are around 10 per cent and, as a result, the amount would not be considered to result in a rate shock.

16. The Commission notes there is a larger rate increase in the revised rates for the Fortis Irrigation and Farm customer classes, and EDTI Lighting customer class. The Commission considers that while the increases are significant, approving the revised interim rates and carrying them into 2022 would ease any potential rate impact on these customers when compared to EEA's current interim rates. Moreover, issues such as rate shock for these customers can be fully addressed in EEA's 2021-2022 non-energy RRT application,<sup>11</sup> which is currently before the Commission in Proceeding 26694.

17. Based on its considerations above, the Commission considers that EEA's proposed revised interim rates are reasonable. Consequently, the Commission considers that EEA's

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Decision 2005-099: ATCO Gas, 2005-2007 General Rate Application, Interim Rate Application, Proceeding 14790, Application 1404168-1, August 29, 2005.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Proceeding 26694, EEA 2021-2022 Non Energy Regulated Rate Tariff Application.

request for a revision to its 2021 RRT interim rates and proposed 2022 RRT interim rates is justified.

18. The Commission approves the revised interim 2021 rates and 2022 interim rates as requested by EEA on a refundable basis, effective December 1, 2021. These interim rates will continue from that date until final rates are set for the applicable year or the Commission approves updated interim rates.

# 5 Order

- 19. It is hereby ordered that:
  - (1) The proposed daily rate charges in Table 1 and Table 2, for the EPCOR Distribution & Transmission Inc. and FortisAlberta Inc. service areas, respectively, are approved on an interim basis, effective December 1, 2021.
  - (2) The regulated rate tariff rate price schedules for EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc., as set out in Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 for the EPCOR Distribution & Transmission Inc. and FortisAlberta Inc. service areas, respectively, and attached to this decision are approved on an interim basis, effective December 1, 2021.
  - (3) The regulated rate tariff rate terms and conditions, as set out in Appendix 4 for EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc., are approved on an interim basis effective December 1, 2021.
  - (4) The hearing cost reserve account and short term incentive deferral account, as applied for in EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc.'s 2021-2022 regulated tariff rate application, are approved on an interim basis, effective December 1, 2021.

Dated on October 25, 2021.

# Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Chris Arnot Acting Director, Retail Energy and Water On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission

# **Appendix 1 – Proceeding participants**

Name of organization (abbreviation) Company name of counsel or representative

EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. (EEA)

Alberta Utilities Commission

Delegated authority C. Arnot, Acting Director, Retail Energy and Water

Commission staff

P. Khan (Commission counsel)

E. Chu L. Bondad

# Appendix 2 – Schedule A-1 – EDTI price schedule

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# Appendix 3 – Schedule A-2 – Fortis price schedule

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(consists of 9 pages)

# Appendix 4 – Schedule B-1 – RRT terms and conditions

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# **EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc.**

Acting in its capacity as the general partner of EPCOR Energy Alberta Limited Partnership

Price Schedule Applicable to Regulated Rate Tariff Customers within the City of Edmonton

### **Residential Service**

### Applicable:

1. Available to regulated rate customers within the EPCOR Distribution & Transmission Inc. ("EDTI") service area. Residential service is only available to single-phase service at secondary voltage through a single meter and for normal use by a single and separate household. This rate applies to all residential rate customers who obtain service pursuant to the EDTI Distribution Tariff. Not applicable to any commercial or industrial use.

# Price:

• $(cents/kWh)^{1}$
<b>\$•</b> (\$/Day/Site) $^{2}$
As per the EDTI Tariff

# **Regulations:**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rates subject to change monthly. For current rate information go <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-</u> services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-residential-power-rates.aspx

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Administration charges subject to change. For current administration charge information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-residential-power-rates.aspx</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Shall be the amounts, either actual or estimated, that EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. ("EEA") is billed by EDTI, for the site, for the applicable billing period.

### **Commercial Service**

### Applicable:

3. Available to each separate electrical service, within the EDTI service area, which is not eligible for residential or lighting service and for which total annual consumption of electric energy is forecast by EDTI to be less than 250 megawatt hours of electric energy at the site with a single or three-phase electric service at secondary voltage. This rate applies to all commercial customers which obtain service pursuant to the EDTI Distribution Tariff.

### Price:

Energy Charge• (cents/kWh)1Administration Charge\$ • (\$/Day/Site)2System Access Service Charge3As per the EDTI TariffDistribution Access Service Charge3As per the EDTI TariffEDTI Riders3As per the EDTI TariffLocal Access Fee3As per the EDTI Tariff

### **Regulations:**

4. Service under all EEA's Rates, Charges and Riders is subject to the Regulated Rate Tariff Terms and Conditions as approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission.

<sup>2</sup> Administration charges subject to change. For current administration charge information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rates subject to change monthly. For current rate information go <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-</u> services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Shall be the amounts, either actual or estimated, that EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. ("EEA") is billed by EDTI, for the site, for the applicable billing period.

# **Lighting Service**

### **Applicable:**

5. Available to existing lighting service customers within the EDTI service area. This price is not available to new services. This rate applies to all lighting service customers who obtain service pursuant to the EDTI Distribution Tariff and whose annual consumption at the site is forecast by EDTI to be less than 250 megawatts of electric energy.

# Price:

Energy Charge	• $(cents/kWh)^1$
Administration Charge	$ (\text{May/Site})^2 $
System Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the EDTI Tariff
Distribution Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the EDTI Tariff
EDTI Riders <sup>3</sup>	As per the EDTI Tariff
Local Access Fee <sup>3</sup>	As per the EDTI Tariff

# **Regulations:**

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rates subject to change monthly. For current rate information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx</u>
 <sup>2</sup> Administration charges subject to change. For current administration charge information go to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Administration charges subject to change. For current administration charge information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Shall be the amounts, either actual or estimated, that EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. ("EEA") is billed by EDTI, for the site, for the applicable billing period.

### Miscellaneous Fees & Credits

#### 1. <u>Expedited Connection Charge</u>

An Expedited Connection Charge is applied as follows:

- a) Three business days notice is required prior to the service being transferred to the responsibility of the new Customer. Expedited service is available at an additional charge of \$10.00.
- b) Where a service exists but has been physically turned off at the time of application, three business days notice is required. Expedited service is available at an additional fee of \$24.00

#### 2. <u>Reconnection of Service</u>

The fee for reconnection of service after cut-off for non-payment of account is \$41.00.

#### 3. <u>Dishonoured Payment Charge</u>

Where a customer's payment is not honoured by the customer's bank or financial institution, a charge of \$25 will apply for each such payment received by EEA.

#### 4. <u>Collection Fee</u>

Where EEA delivers a "Turn-Off Notice" to a customer due to non-payment of amounts owing, a collection fee of \$15.00 will be applied to the customer's account.

#### 5. <u>Cost Recovery Charges</u>

For miscellaneous service request including providing historical data and other record searches, the charge will be based on the estimated cost of providing the service.

#### 6. <u>Customer Notification Fee</u>

Where a customer fails to notify EEA that they have taken possession of a site and EEA is required to undertake an investigation to identify the customer, a fee of \$20.00 will be applied to the customer's account.

# 7. <u>E-Bill Credit</u>

This E-Bill Credit will be applied to customers who have elected to be billed electronically. The credit will be applied to the customer's account only where the customer will be charged an Administration Charge for the billing period. The amount of the credit will be prorated based on the number of days in the billing period for which the customer is on electronic billing and will not exceed \$0.85 per bill in 2021 and 2022.



# EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. Acting in its capacity as the general partner of EPCOR Energy Alberta Limited Partnership

# **Price Schedule Applicable to Regulated Rate Tariff Customers Outside the City of Edmonton**

#### **Residential Service**

#### Applicable:

1. Available to residential regulated rate customers within the FortisAlberta Inc. ("Fortis") service area. Residential service is only available to individually metered single family dwelling units that are used for domestic purposes only. This rate applies to all residential rate customers who obtain service pursuant to the Fortis Distribution Tariff. Not applicable to any commercial or industrial use.

#### Price:

Energy Charge	• $(cents/kWh)^1$
Administration Charge	$ (\text{May/Site})^2 $
System Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Distribution Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Fortis Riders <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Local Access Fee <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff

#### **Regulations:**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rates subject to change monthly. For current rate information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-</u> <u>services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-residential-power-rates.aspx</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Administration charges subject to change. For current administration charge information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-residential-power-rates.aspx</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Shall be the amounts, either actual or estimated, that EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. ("EEA") is billed by Fortis, for the site, for the applicable billing period.

#### **Commercial Service**

#### Applicable:

3. Available to Customers, within the Fortis service area that are not eligible for any of the other Regulated Rate Tariff Rate Classifications and are served directly by the Fortis Distribution System that are eligible for the Regulated Rate Tariff. This rate applies to all commercial customers who obtain service pursuant to the Fortis Distribution Tariff and whose annual consumption at the site is forecast by Fortis to be less than 250 megawatts of electric energy.

#### Price:

Energy Charge	• (cents/kWh) <sup>1</sup>
Administration Charge	$ (\text{S/Day/Site})^2 $
System Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Distribution Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Fortis Riders <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Local Access Fee <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff

#### **Regulations:**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rates subject to change monthly. For current rate information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-</u> services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Administration charges subject to change. For current administration charge information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Shall be the amounts, either actual or estimated, that EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. ("EEA") is billed by Fortis, for the site, for the applicable billing period.

#### **Lighting Service**

#### **Applicable:**

5. Available to lighting services that are within the Fortis service area. This rate applies to all street and yard lighting service customers which obtain service pursuant to the Fortis Distribution Tariff and whose annual consumption at the site is forecast by Fortis to be less than 250 megawatts of electric energy.

#### Price:

Energy Charge	• $(cents/kWh)^1$
Administration Charge	$ (\text{S/Day/Site})^2 $
System Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Distribution Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Fortis Riders <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Local Access Fee <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff

#### **Regulations:**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rates subject to change monthly. For current rate information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-</u> services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Administration charges subject to change. For current administration charge information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Shall be the amounts, either actual or estimated, that EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. ("EEA") is billed by Fortis, for the site, for the applicable billing period.

#### **Farm Service**

#### **Applicable:**

7. Available to Customers in rural areas within the Fortis service area who are involved in a farming operation. This rate applies to all farm rate classification customers who obtain service pursuant to the Fortis Distribution Tariff.

#### Price:

Energy Charge	• $(cents/kWh)^1$
Administration Charge	$ \bullet (\text{May/Site})^2 $
System Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Distribution Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Fortis Riders <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Local Access Fee <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff

#### **Regulations:**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rates subject to change monthly. For current rate information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Administration charges subject to change. For current administration charge information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Shall be the amounts, either actual or estimated, that EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. ("EEA") is billed by Fortis, for the site, for the applicable billing period.

#### **Irrigation Service**

#### **Applicable:**

9. Available to customers within the Fortis service area who have individually metered motors driving irrigation pumps that operate only in the irrigation season. This rate applies to all irrigation rate classification customers who obtain service pursuant to the Fortis Distribution Tariff.

#### Price:

Energy Charge	• $(cents/kWh)^1$
Administration Charge	$ (\text{S/Day/Site})^2 $
System Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Distribution Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Fortis Riders <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Local Access Fee <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff

#### **Regulations:**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rates subject to change monthly. For current rate information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-</u> services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspxx

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Administration charges subject to change. For current administration charge information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Shall be the amounts, either actual or estimated, that EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. ("EEA") is billed by Fortis, for the site, for the applicable billing period.

#### **Oil and Gas Service**

#### **Applicable:**

11. Available to oil and natural gas field metered or unmetered services, within the Fortis service area, that normally require less than 75 kW. These services include pumping and related operations such as rectifiers, cathodic protection, radio transmitters, and water pumping services. This rate applies to all oil and gas service customers who obtain service pursuant to the Fortis Distribution Tariff and whose annual consumption at the site is forecast by Fortis to be less than 250 megawatts of electric energy.

#### Price:

Energy Charge • (cents/kWh	
Administration Charge	$ \bullet (\text{May/Site})^2 $
System Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Distribution Access Service Charge <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Fortis Riders <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff
Local Access Fee <sup>3</sup>	As per the Fortis Tariff

#### **Regulations:**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rates subject to change monthly. For current rate information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-</u> services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Administration charges subject to change. For current administration charge information go to <u>https://www.epcor.com/products-services/power/rates-tariffs-fees/Pages/regulated-commercial-power-rates.aspx</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Shall be the amounts, either actual or estimated, that EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. ("EEA") is billed by Fortis, for the site, for the applicable billing period.

#### Miscellaneous Fees & Credits

#### 1. <u>Expedited Connection Charge</u>

An Expedited Connection Charge is applied as follows:

- a) Three business days notice is required prior to the service being transferred to the responsibility of the new Customer. Expedited service is available at an additional charge of \$10.00.
- b) Where a service exists but has been physically turned off at the time of application, three business days notice is required. Expedited service is available at an additional fee of \$24.00

#### 2. <u>Reconnection of Service</u>

The fee for reconnection of service after cut-off for non-payment of account is \$41.00.

#### 3. <u>Dishonoured Payment Charge</u>

Where a customer's payment is not honoured by the customer's bank or financial institution, a charge of \$25.00 will apply for each such payment received by EEA.

#### 4. <u>Collection Fee</u>

Where EEA delivers a "Turn-Off Notice" to a customer due to non-payment of amounts owing, a collection fee of \$15.00 will be applied to the customer's account.

#### 5. Cost Recovery Charges

For miscellaneous service request including providing historical data and other record searches, the charge will be based on the estimated cost of providing the service.

#### 6. <u>Customer Notification Fee</u>

Where a customer fails to notify EEA that they have taken possession of a site and EEA is required to undertake an investigation to identify the customer, a fee of \$20.00 will be applied to the customer's account.

### 7. <u>E-Bill Credit</u>

This E-Bill Credit will be applied to customers who have elected to be billed electronically. The credit will be applied to the customer's account only where the customer will be charged an Administration Charge for the billing period. The amount of the credit will be prorated based on the number of days in the billing period for which the customer is on electronic billing and will not exceed \$0.85 per bill in 2021 and 2022.



# **EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc.**

acting in its capacity as the general partner of EPCOR Energy Alberta Limited Partnership

# **Regulated Rate Tariff – Terms and Conditions**

# Effective December 1, 2021

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#### **ARTICLE 1 – PREAMBLE**

#### **1.1 Provision of Regulated Rate Service**

EDTI and Fortis have made arrangements with EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc. ("EEA") to perform EDTI and Fortis' obligations to provide Regulated Rate Service to eligible Customers in their service area. EEA provides Regulated Rate Service under its Regulated Rate Tariff that has been approved by the Commission and includes these RRT Terms and the Price Schedules. These Price Schedules set out the rates, charges and fees approved by the Commission for Regulated Rate Service provided by EEA.

These RRT Terms are the terms and conditions upon which EEA offers and provides Regulated Rate Service to Eligible Customers.

The Regulated Rate Tariff is available for public inspection at EEA's website www.epcor.ca and during normal business hours at EEA's business offices at 2000 - 10423 101 Street, Edmonton, Alberta.

#### **ARTICLE 2 – DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

#### 2.1 Definitions

The following words and phrases, whenever used in the Regulated Rate Tariff, shall have the following meanings:

"Account" means a written and/or digital record that EEA uses to track and record customer information, service types and financial transactions that affect a Customer of Record. EEA will only discuss Account information with the Customer of Record and parties authorized by the Customer of Record. A Customer of Record can have more than one Account.

"Alberta Interconnected Electric System" or the "AIES" means the "interconnected electric system" as defined in the EUA.

**"Business Day"** means a day, which is not a Saturday, Sunday or statutory holiday in the Province of Alberta, and "day" means any calendar day.

"Commission" or "AUC" means the Alberta Utilities Commission and any successor organization with jurisdiction under the RRO Regulation.

#### "Company" means EEA.

"Customer" means a "regulated rate customer" as defined in the RRO Regulation who accepts, uses or receives Service from EEA at a Site located in the service area of EDTI or Fortis, including any Tenant, Landlord or Property Owner at the Site.

"Customer of Record" means the Customer for whom EEA has an Account pursuant to Article 4.2 or Article 8.10.

**"Deposit"** means a cash security amount deposited by the customer with EEA pursuant to Article 5.

**"Distribution Access Service"** means "distribution access service" as defined in the EUA provided to Customers by means of EDTI's or Fortis' Distribution System.

"Distribution System" means an "electric distribution system" as defined in the EUA.

**"Distribution Tariff"** means, at any point in time, EDTI or Fortis' tariff for the provision of Distribution and System Access Service approved by the Commission and in effect at such time.

"EDTI" means EPCOR Distribution & Transmission Inc.

**"EDTI Terms and Conditions"** means the terms and conditions for distribution and system access service set out in EDTI's Distribution Access Tariff and System Access Tariff.

"EEA" means EPCOR Energy Alberta GP Inc.

"Electricity Services" means "electricity services" as defined in the EUA.

"Energy" means "electric energy" as defined in the EUA, expressed in kilowatt hours.

"EUA" means the *Electric Utilities Act*, S.A. 2003, c. E-5.1, including the regulations enacted thereunder, as re-enacted, amended or replaced from time to time.

"Exchange" means "exchange" as defined in the EUA.

**"Facilities"** means physical plant (including, without limitation, transmission and distribution lines, transformers, meters, equipment and machinery).

**"Force Majeure"** means circumstances not reasonably within the control of EEA including acts of God, strikes, lockouts or other industrial disturbances, acts of the public enemy, wars, blockades, insurrections, riots, epidemics, landslides, lightning, earthquakes, fires, storms, floods, high water, washouts, inclement weather, orders or acts of civil or military authorities, civil disturbances, explosions, breakdown or accident to equipment, mechanical breakdowns, interruption of supply, goods or services including electricity or the electricity Distribution Access Service, the intervention of federal, provincial, or local government or from any of their agencies or boards, excluding decisions and/or orders made by the Commission in the normal course of exercising its authority to establish the revenue requirement of the parties to this agreement, the order or direction of any court, and any other cause, whether of the kind herein enumerated or otherwise.

"Fortis" means FortisAlberta Inc.

**"Fortis Terms and Conditions"** means the terms and conditions for distribution and system access service set out in Fortis' Distribution Access Tariff and System Access Tariff as amended or replaced from time to time.

**"Indemnity Bond"** means a written undertaking of a financial institution on behalf of a Customer to cover any losses suffered by EEA arising from non-payment by the Customer of money the Customer owes to EEA.

"Independent System Operator" has the meaning provided in the EUA.

"Irrevocable Letter of Credit" means a financial institution's letter of credit guaranteeing a Customer's payment to EEA.

**"Landlord"** means (i) a Person who is the Property Owner of a property that is leased or rented or otherwise in the possession of another Person, called the Tenant; or (ii) a Person authorized to manage such a property on behalf of the Property Owner.

"Load" means Energy consumed by Customers together with allocated Losses and other unaccounted for Energy.

**"Losses"** means the Energy that is lost through the process of transmitting and distributing electric Energy.

"Non-Regulated Rate Services" means the various services, other than Regulated Rate Service, provided to a Customer by EEA and other Persons from time to time.

"Non-Sufficient Funds" means a reason provided by a financial institution for dishonouring a cheque, credit card or authorized withdrawal payments because the amount of funds available in the customer's account with the financial institution is less than the attempted payment by cheque, credit card or authorized withdrawal.

"Owner" means the owner of a Distribution System.

#### "Permissible Disconnection Period" means

- (a) the period between April 16 to October 14 of any year, and
- (b) when the temperature will be above 0 degrees Celsius in the 24-hour period after the proposed disconnection.

"**Person**" means a person, firm, partnership, corporation, organization or other association, and includes an individual member thereof.

"**Point of Service**" means the point at which EDTI or Fortis' service conductors are connected to the wires or apparatus of a Customer.

"Price Schedule" means EEA's Regulated Rate Tariff Price Schedules, approved by the Commission.

#### "Property Owner" means:

- (a) the registered owner of a parcel of land in the register maintained by the Registrar of Titles under the *Land Titles Act*; or
- (b) a person who has purchased the parcel from the person mentioned in sub clause (a) pursuant to an agreement for purchase and sale.

"RRO" means Regulated Rate Option.

**"RRO Regulation"** means the *Regulated Rate Option Regulation*, AR 262/2005 as amended from time to time.

"Regulated Rate Service" means:

- (a) arranging for the Exchange or purchase of Energy on behalf of a Customer in accordance with the RRO Regulation;
- (b) arranging for Distribution Access Service on behalf of a Customer in accordance with EEA's Regulated Rate Tariff.

**"Regulated Rate Service Agreement"** means an agreement respecting Regulated Rate Service between EEA and a Customer in a form acceptable to EEA.

**"Regulated Rate Tariff"** means EEA's Regulated Rate Tariff approved by the Commission for Regulated Rate Tariff Customers, including these RRT Terms and the Price Schedules.

"Retailer" means a "retailer" as defined in the EUA.

**"RRT Arrangement Agreement"** means the Agreement between EDTI and EEA, and Fortis and EEA for EEA to provide a RRT service to Eligible Customers in the EDTI and Fortis service area.

"RRT Terms" means these terms and conditions, as they may be amended from time to time.

**"Rule 003"** means AUC Rule 003 Service Quality and Reliability Performance Monitoring and reporting for regulated Rate Providers and Default Supply Providers as amended from time to time.

"Security" includes, but is not limited to, Deposit, Indemnity Bond or Irrevocable Letter of Credit acceptable to EEA.

"Service" means Regulated Rate Service.

"Service Connection" means all Facilities required for providing services up to the Point of Service.

"Site" means, in relation to a Service Connection for a Customer, the Point of Service for the Customer.

"Tenant" means any Person who has the use of or occupies a premises or property owned by another Person.

**"Transmission Tariff"** means, at any point in time, EDTI's or Fortis' tariff for the provision of System Access Service approved by the Commission and in effect at such time.

#### 2.2 Conflicts

If there is any conflict between a provision expressly set out by an order of the Commission and these RRT Terms, the Commission order shall govern.

If there is any conflict between these RRT Terms and a provision of the EUA, the provision of the EUA shall govern.

If there is any conflict between these RRT Terms and the corresponding Price Schedules, the Price Schedules shall govern.

#### 2.3 Headings

The division of these RRT Terms into sections, subsections and other subdivisions and the insertion of headings are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of these RRT Terms.

#### 2.4 Extended Meanings

In these RRT Terms, words importing the singular number only shall include the plural and vice versa, words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine and neuter gender and vice versa and words importing persons shall include individuals, partnerships, associations, trusts, unincorporated organizations and corporations.

#### 2.5 Charges and Fees

All rates, charges and fees referred to in these RRT Terms are as set out in the Price Schedule.

#### ARTICLE 3 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### 3.1 Effective Date

These RRT Terms have been approved by the Commission in Decision 24034-D01-2019 and are effective as of December 1, 2021.

#### 3.2 Customers Bound by Regulated Rate Tariff

The Regulated Rate Tariff and Price Schedules approved by the Commission apply to each Customer. As a condition of accepting, using or receiving Regulated Rate Service, the Customer agrees to be bound by these RRT Terms and agrees to pay the rates, charges or fees applicable for such service, as prescribed in the Price Schedule whether the Customer signs a Regulated Rate Service Agreement or not. Each Customer is also bound by EDTI and/or Fortis' Distribution Tariff.

#### 3.3 Modification of Regulated Rate Tariff

No agent, employee or other representative of EEA is authorized to modify any provision or price contained in the Regulated Rate Tariff or to bind EEA to perform in any manner inconsistent with the Regulated Rate Tariff. Any request for the waiver or alteration of any part of the Regulated Rate Tariff must be filed with and approved by the Commission. EEA may make minor or routine changes by filing updated RRT Terms with the Commission.

#### 3.4 Regulatory Approval and Amendment

Other than minor or routine changes in accordance with Article 3.3, EEA may only amend the RRT Terms with approval of the Commission. Whenever the Commission approves an amendment to the RRT Terms or an amendment otherwise takes effect, the applicable section(s) of the RRT Terms will be revised to incorporate the amendments and the effective date of the amendments will be indicated in the revised section(s). The Commission will acknowledge the notice of the amendment to the RRT Terms within 60 days after such notice is filed, or the Commission will direct a further process to deal with the requested changes as the Commission deems to be appropriate.

#### 3.5 Applicable Taxes

The Customer shall pay all taxes, fees or assessments that EEA is required to collect from time to time as required pursuant to any statute, regulation, or other governmental directive or order or decision of the Commission that applies to Regulated Rate Service.

#### 3.6 Landlord Information

EEA may require the Customer to indicate if the Customer is the Property Owner, Landlord or Tenant of the Site.

EEA will provide Landlords with the opportunity to register all Sites that they own or are responsible for such that in the case of a vacancy, the Landlord will automatically become the Customer of Record. This registration will not bind the Landlord to be responsible for past charges of a Tenant, incurred before the date of vacancy, unless specifically requested by the Landlord.

#### ARTICLE 4 – REGULATED RATE SERVICE

#### 4.1 Availability

Service is available to Eligible Customers strictly in accordance with the Regulated Rate Tariff.

#### 4.2 Requirements for Obtaining Regulated Rate Service

A Customer who wishes to receive Service from EEA must apply over the phone, complete an application in writing, or apply electronically through the EPCOR website for Service at a Site notwithstanding that EEA may, at its sole discretion, put the Customer into service at a site for an account prior to the completion of the application. EEA requires notice that a Customer has taken possession of a Site such that EEA may issue a bill to the Customer. Failure to provide such notice may result in an administrative fee as set out in EEA's Price Schedules. EEA may require any Customer to provide a photo proof of identification or other documentation which confirms the commercial Customer's identity to become the Customer of Record. EEA may require proof from the Customer of the date the Customer took possession of the Site or took over responsibility for payment of the Service at the Site from the previous Customer of Record.

EEA requires at least three Business Days' prior notice to ensure a timely connection of Service at a Site. Expedited connection of Service is available on request and is subject to the payment by the

Customer of any additional charges that EEA is obligated to pay on behalf of the Customer to EDTI or Fortis in relation to the expedited connection. EEA may declare at any time, that 30 days' notice is required to obtain Service, provided that the Customer is able to obtain electricity services during such 30-day notice period.

If EEA accepts a Customer's application, EEA will open an Account for the Customer for Service at the applied for Site and the Customer shall be the Customer of Record for the Site. The Customer will be responsible to pay to EEA all amounts charged to the Account from the time the Customer of Record begins receiving service until the date the Account is closed as provided in Article 6.

### 4.3 Refusal of Regulated Rate Service

EEA reserves the right to refuse to provide Service when:

- (a) a previous Customer at the Site had a history of non-payment and EEA believes, on reasonable grounds, that the defaulting Customer would continue to occupy the premises located at the Site;
- (b) the Customer has not complied with the RRT Terms or the applicable provisions of the Regulated Rate Tariff;
- (c) the Customer has failed to provide the Security required by EEA;
- (d) EEA is not satisfied with the Customer's credit rating or credit history, unless the Customer has provided a deposit satisfactory to EEA in accordance with Article 5.1; or
- (e) the Customer has an outstanding balance with EEA for Service.

### 4.4 Customer Information

EEA is committed to protecting the personal information of its Customers. By establishing or maintaining an Account a Customer's consent is implied for the collection, use and disclosure of personal information only for the purpose of ongoing services and support, unless a Customer indicates otherwise in writing.

Complete details of EEA's privacy policy and practices are available online at www.epcor.ca, or in printed form by request of the Customer to EEA.

EEA may at any time request from a Customer, such information that EEA considers reasonably necessary to determine the Customer's credit history and credit risk. The requested information may include:

- (a) full name, address, telephone number (home, work, and cellular), birthdates to allow EEA to determine a Customer's credit rating,
- (b) financial information and credit references to aid in assessing credit-worthiness; and/or
- (c) other personal information to identify the Customer.

Customers returning from a competitive retail service or existing Customers may be required to provide the same information as new Customers.

### 4.5 Customer Change of Name or Information

The Customer must notify EEA as soon as reasonably possible of a change of name, mailing address or telephone number. Such notification shall be provided in writing if requested by EEA

#### 4.6 Failure to Provide Information

If, after notice of a failure to provide sufficient information, and reasonable opportunity to remedy any deficiencies, a prospective Customer or existing Customer fails to provide information requested in accordance with Article 4.4 and does not provide Security in accordance with Article 5, EEA may:

- (a) refuse to provide Service to the new Customer,
- (b) discontinue or request a disconnection of Service to the existing Customer, or
- (c) terminate the Customer as Customer of Record.

### ARTICLE 5 – FINANCIAL SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

# 5.1 **Requirement for Security**

EEA may require a Security or an increase in Security from a Customer in circumstances it considers appropriate, including, without limitation, the following circumstances:

- (a) if the Customer or prospective Customer applying for service cannot demonstrate a satisfactory credit rating to EEA as outlined in Article 4.4 or the Customer has refused to provide credit information to EEA;
- (b) the Customer has paid two consecutive bills late, in accordance with Article 8.5, in any twelve-month period,
- (c) the Customer has issued more than one payment that has been returned for non-sufficient funds in any six-month period;
- (d) there has been more than a 50% increase in the Customer's average monthly consumption of Energy over the prior six-month period; or
- (e) the Customer was previously terminated as Customer of Record and requests a new connection or reconnection of service; or
- (f) the Customer's service was disconnected for non-payment by EEA and requests a reconnection of service.

## 5.2 Waiver of Security Requirement

EEA may waive the requirement for Security by a Customer in the following circumstances:

- (a) where the Customer has a previous satisfactory credit history with EEA; or
- (b) where a result satisfactory to EEA is obtained from an external credit check; or
- (c) where the Customer provides to EEA an Indemnity Bond or Irrevocable Letter of Credit from a financial institution satisfactory to EEA.

#### 5.3 Maximum Security

The maximum Security EEA will require from a Customer under this Regulated Rate Tariff is equal to 30% of the annual total charge payable by the Customer, as reasonably estimated by EEA. At the discretion of EEA, EEA may allow an initial payment for a portion of the Deposit and payment of the remainder of the Deposit over a reasonable time period.

#### 5.4 Use of Security for Non-Payment

At the discretion of EEA, a Security provided by a Customer, or a portion thereof may be applied against any amounts owed for Service. At the discretion of EEA a new Security may be assessed in this case.

#### 5.5 Return of Security

A Security provided by a Customer will be returned to the Customer or credited to the Account in case of a Deposit, after the Customer has demonstrated satisfactory credit history over a period of twelve (12) consecutive months. Where a Customer's Service is terminated and the Customer's Account is closed, and any outstanding amount remains, the Deposit will be applied to the balance owing by the Customer to EEA.

#### 5.6 Interest Payable on Deposits

Interest will be paid on Deposit at the end of each calendar year or when the Customer's Account is closed. Interest will be calculated using simple interest on the daily balance of any cash deposit held by EEA in respect of the Customer. The interest rate applicable for each year will be the interest rate specified under the *Residential Tenancies Act*.

### ARTICLE 6 – CLOSING AN ACCOUNT

#### 6.1 Notice to End Service at a Site

Subject to Article 6.2, a Customer may end Service at a Site by giving EEA notice to end the Service. In order to end service at a site on a specified date, EEA requires at least three Business Days' prior notice. EEA may request proof that the Customer will no longer be responsible for the Site after that date. If a final meter reading is taken, the Customer will pay EEA all charges for a final meter reading incurred by EEA in accordance with EDTI or Fortis' Distribution Tariff.

# 6.2 Notice to Transfer to an Unregulated Retailer

A Customer transferring to an unregulated retailer must provide EEA with 30 days' notice prior to the intended transfer date, such notice to be in effect for 60 days.

#### 6.3 Relocation of Customer

If the Customer wishes to continue to receive Service but to relocate from their current Site to a new Site, for example, as in the case of a move of residence, the Customer must notify EEA at least three Business Days prior to the Customer's requested relocation date. EEA may request proof that the Customer will no longer be responsible for the original Site after the relocation date. If a final meter reading is taken at the previous Site, the Customer will pay EEA all charges for a final meter reading incurred by EEA in accordance with EDTI or Fortis' Distribution Tariff.

#### 6.4 No Assignment

Service under the Regulated Rate Tariff is not assignable. The benefits and obligations of any service shall begin when EEA commences to supply Service, and shall enure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Customer's respective heirs, personal representatives, and successors.

This limit on assignment is not intended to infringe on or limit the right of the Customer to sell, remove or otherwise lawfully dispose of Customer's property, subject to the termination clauses of these RRT Terms. Upon termination, any outstanding balances will remain the obligation of the Customer.

#### 6.5 **Refund Cheques**

EEA will issue a refund cheque when an Account is closed if, after all amounts due are paid, there remains a credit balance of \$5.00 or more on the Account.

### 6.6 Termination of Customer of Record

EEA may, at is sole discretion, terminate the Customer as Customer of Record where the Customer fails to comply with Article 4.6, 5.1 or 8.1 but only after following the processes set out in Articles 8.3 and 8.12, and where EDTI or Fortis is unable to disconnect the Customer's Service Connection.

### **ARTICLE 7 – MEASUREMENT OF ENERGY CONSUMPTION**

### 7.1 Measurement Provided by EDTI and Fortis

EDTI and Fortis provide to EEA under their Distribution Tariffs meter readings and estimates of consumption of Energy by Customers. Billings to Customers under these RRT Terms shall be based on those meter readings and estimates. EEA assumes no liability to the Customer for meter readings and estimates provided by EDTI and Fortis.

# 7.2 Meter Testing

If a Customer believes the meter to be in error, the Customer will arrange to have the meter tested by EDTI or Fortis. The Customer will pay EEA all charges for meter testing incurred by EEA in accordance with EDTI or Fortis' Terms and Conditions and associated Price Schedules.

# ARTICLE 8 - BILLINGS AND PAYMENT

### 8.1 Billing Practices

EEA does not require payment for Service in advance, except where a deposit is required in accordance with these RRT Terms. EEA will bill in accordance with Commission directives on billing processes and quality.

Payment for charges for Regulated Rate Services must be received within 20 days of the statement date as noted on the Customer's bill.

Once per month, or within a time period reasonably close to a month, EEA will send a Customer a bill for Service provided to the Customer during the previous month, or an amount of time reasonably close to a month, calculated in accordance with the Price Schedules. The bill may be combined with a bill for other services that are not subject to the RRO Regulation provided to the Customer by EEA. In the event that a Customer does not provide EEA with notice in accordance with Article 4.2, the issuance of the bill may be delayed. The Customer's obligation to pay the amount set out in the bill shall continue despite any failure of EEA to provide a bill in a timely fashion. EEA will not issue bills for charges pertaining to periods greater than 12 months prior to the billing date except in circumstances outside of EEA's control.

# 8.2 Responsibility for Payment after Account Closure

The Customer is responsible for payment for all Services provided to the Customer up to the time EEA has closed the Account and until payment for final charges for any applicable non energy, consumption and Distribution and Transmission Tariffs has been made. If a Customer's Service is discontinued by EEA or disconnected under the EDTI or Fortis' Terms and Conditions or if a Customer is terminated as the Customer of Record, the Customer is responsible for payment for all Regulated Rate Service provided to the Customer up to the time of such discontinuation or disconnection or termination as the Customer of Record, for any Distribution and Transmission Tariffs incurred by EEA in accordance with EDTI or Fortis' Terms and Conditions up to and after the disconnection or discontinuance date or termination as the Customer of Record, for any applicable non-energy charges and until payment for final charges for consumption, Distribution and Transmission Tariffs and any applicable non-energy charges has been made.

### 8.3 Responsibility to Pay and Remedies for Non-Payment

Subject to Article 8.1 and 8.2, each Customer shall pay the full amount of any bill issued by EEA by the due date specified on the bill, without prejudice to the Customer's right to contest any rate or fee charged. A failure to pay any amount billed by EEA with the exception defined in Article 10.1 shall be a default of payment under these RRT Terms and the Customer shall be subject to

EEA's collection policies as outlined in this Article 8.3 and to the discontinuance or termination of Service and disconnection of the Customer's Service Connection(s) as provided under this Article 8.3.

Without limitation of other remedies available to it, EEA may take one or more of the following actions should the Customer fail to pay billed amounts in full on time:

- (a) request a Deposit or an increased Deposit;
- (b) provide notice to the Customer that payment has not been received, and stipulating the timing for future action if payment or other arrangements are not made;
- (c) provide notice indicating pending notice of disconnection and timing of disconnection action;
- (d) subject to limitations on disconnection outlined in applicable laws, initiate disconnection;
- (e) use collection agencies; and
- (f) take legal action.

Prudent and reasonable collection costs incurred by EEA may be added to the Customer's bill. If a Customer has any unpaid charges or other amounts owing on any of its current or previously held Accounts, the debt may be transferred to any other Service Account held by the same Person as the Customer and any Security held in respect of such Account may be applied against the unpaid charges.

#### 8.4 Adjustments to Bills

Bills rendered by EEA shall contain the information prescribed in applicable legislation. Bills rendered by EEA under these RRT Terms may be adjusted from time to time to, among other things, reflect adjustments by EDTI and Fortis under their Distribution Tariff and EEA will issue charges or credits as appropriate to affected Customers.

# 8.5 Late Payment Charge

If a Customer does not pay a bill in full by 20 days after the statement date specified on the bill, subject to disputed charges as outlined in Article 10, the payment will be considered late and a late payment charge may be applied. The Customer will be liable to pay to EEA, in addition to the amount of the bill, a late payment charge equal to 2.5% of the unpaid amount of the bill that applies to the current billing period. The outstanding unpaid amount, including the late payment charge, shall be added to the charges that become due and payable in the next bill. Should the bill remain outstanding after the due date, EEA may commence collection action in accordance with Article 8.3. In addition, EEA may require Security or an increase in the amount of an existing Security. If considered to be interest payable for credit advanced, then the late payment charge is equivalent to a maximum yearly rate of 45.6%.

#### 8.6 **Restoration of Regulated Rate Service**

In order for Service to be restored after it has been discontinued or disconnected for non-payment, the Customer must pay all outstanding charges in full. EEA will apply a reconnection fee prescribed

in the EEA Price Schedule, and EDTI and Fortis Distribution Tariffs after Service restoration. The Customer may be required to provide Security to EEA. At EEA's discretion, EEA may allow the Customer to make payment arrangements to settle arrears amounts over a reasonable amount of time.

# 8.7 Partial Payments

Partial payments on an Account will be applied to the unpaid amounts (including amounts for any other services not included in Services) outstanding on the oldest bills. If a payment does not cover the total unpaid amount outstanding on a bill, and the bill includes charges for both Service and any other service, then the payment will be applied to the unpaid charges for Service and any other service pro rata, on the basis of the respective amounts for those charges.

### 8.8 Over Payments

If the Customer pays EEA an amount in excess of what is owed to EEA, the excess amount will be carried as a credit balance on the Customer's Account and applied to bills for future Services unless the Customer requests a refund. Interest will not be paid on a credit balance.

#### 8.9 Legal Tender

EEA accepts the legal tender of Canada as defined in the *Currency Act*, S.C 1985, C-52 for payments. EEA may refuse to accept payment when the Customer attempts to make payment by a cheque drawn on a form other than a bank cheque. EEA follows the coin acceptance limitations specified in the *Currency Act*, S.C. 1985, c. C-52 as follows:

Payment in coin may be made to the maximum amount of:

- Forty dollars if the denomination is two dollars or greater but does not exceed ten dollars,
- Twenty-five dollars if the denomination is one dollar,
- Ten dollars if the denomination is ten cents or greater but less than one dollar,
- Five dollars if the denomination is five cents, and
- Twenty-five cents if the denomination is one cent.

# 8.10 Other Occupants' Liability for Payment and Change of Customer of Record

Where the Customer of Record for a Site has vacated the premises where the Site is located or defaulted on payment of a bill for Service, other occupant(s) of the premises who continue to receive Service shall be deemed to be the Customer(s) of Record and shall be liable for payment for Services provided in accordance with the Regulated Rate Tariff.

When a prospective Customer is applying for Service or an existing Customer of Record has applied for and received Service at a Site and the preceding Customer of Record for the Site has a history of non-payment, EEA may request the prospective Customer or the current Customer of Record to provide additional information requested by EEA to determine the identity, organization and/or control of the Person(s) occupying the Site, including, but not limited to, lease agreements and records describing the organization and control of business entities occupying the Site.

### 8.11 Owner's Liability for Payment

In circumstances where:

- (a) there is no Customer of Record registered on the accounting records of EEA; and
- (b) there are no other occupants of the Site who continue to receive Service,

the Property Owner shall be deemed to be the Customer of Record and shall be liable for payment for Services provided in accordance with the Regulated Rate Tariff until the date a new Customer of Record is determined by EEA provided that a rural Property Owner will not be deemed to be the Customer of Record or made responsible for paying Regulated Rate Tariff charges related to Service for an energy company's oil and natural gas facilities located on the rural Property Owner's site or sites unless the rural Property Owner directly requested the Service or will receive a benefit from the continuation of the Service. The Property Owner when deemed to be the Customer of Record under this provision shall be liable for all charges relating to identifying, searching for and contacting the Property Owner as a result of there being no Customer of Record for the Site.

### 8.12 Disconnection of Service by EEA

EEA must not request the disconnection of a Customer unless

- (a) the Customer requests the disconnection;
- (b) the Customer's account is in arrears and the disconnection will occur within the Permissible Disconnection Period;
- (c) the Customer is receiving electricity service but fails to provide information or provides incorrect information for billing purposes and the disconnection will occur within the Permissible Disconnection Period; or
- (d) the premises or property served by a Site reasonably appears to be vacant or unoccupied.

EEA must not refer a Customer to a credit agency unless the Customer's account is in arrears.

EEA must not provide written notice of:

- (a) a pending disconnection except for the reasons set out in section 8.12 (b) (d), or
- (b) a pending referral to a credit agency unless the Customer's account is in arrears.

### 8.13 Lost Bills

If a Customer's bill is lost or not received, the Customer should contact EEA to determine the amount owed. Failure to receive a bill does not release a Customer from the obligation to pay the amount owing to EEA. EEA may in its discretion apply the late payment charge according to Article 8.5, in circumstances where a Customer requires a duplicate copy of the bill.

# 8.14 Responsibility for Collection Costs

Recovery of any balance on a Customer's bill that has not been paid by the date that payment is due in accordance with Article 8.1, may be referred to a collection agency or other legal action taken to collect the outstanding amount.

Prudent and reasonable collection costs incurred by EEA, including external legal and collection fees, will be added to the Customer's bill.

### 8.15 Dishonoured Payments

In addition to any late payment charge under Article 8.5 of these RRT Terms, a Customer whose payment is dishonoured shall pay the charge as specified in the Price Schedule.

A Customer will be charged a fee in accordance with the Price Schedule for each payment dishonoured for Non-Sufficient Funds. A dishonoured payment may trigger immediate collection action which could lead to disconnection of the Customer's Service Connection(s) as provided under Article 8.3. In addition, a Customer may be assessed a security deposit under Article 5.1. A dishonoured payment may include, but is not limited to cheques, credit cards or authorized withdrawal payments.

# ARTICLE 9 - RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY

### 9.1 **Requirements in the EUA**

In addition to any rights and obligations contained in these RRT Terms, EEA and the Customer are bound by the EUA and other applicable legislation.

EEA shall maintain security standards, including control of access to data and other information, consistent with applicable legislation and business practice in the industry.

## 9.2 Interruption of Regulated Rate Service

EEA does not own or operate the Distribution System or any other part of the AIES and does not guarantee continuous Service.

### 9.3 Force Majeure

EEA is relieved of its obligations under its Regulated Rate Tariff and these RRT Terms, and shall not be liable for any failure to perform any service under the Regulated Rate Tariff or any term of these RRT Terms to the extent that and when such failure is due to, or is a consequence, any event of Force Majeure.

Should a residence or business being served be suspended or discontinued, due to fire or other causes beyond the control of the Customer, any services, and related fees and charges except pass through charges from Owners, upon request by the Customer, shall become inoperative until business is resumed, except for unbilled amounts due EEA for Service already provided, at which

time any Service and related fees shall again become operative. Upon resumption of Service, the Customer's credit standing with EEA will be no worse than it was prior to the suspension of Service.

#### 9.4 Limitation on EEA Liability to Customer

Except for direct physical loss, injury or damage to a Customer or the Customer's property resulting from the negligence or wilful misconduct of, or breach of these RRT Terms by EEA or its employees or agents or contractors acting within the scope of their employment, EEA shall not be liable to a Customer, whether in tort, contract, strict liability or otherwise, for any loss, damage, expense, charge, cost or other liability of any kind suffered or incurred by the Customer arising out of or in any way connected with any interruption, defect, irregularity, failure, curtailment or reduction in Service. Under no circumstance or for any reason shall EEA be liable for any loss, injury or damage of an indirect, special, exemplary, punitive or consequential nature including, without limitation, loss of revenues, loss of profits, loss of earnings, loss of contract, loss of opportunity, cost of capital, business interruption, claims of a Customer, Customer's customers, contractors or other third parties or any other similar loss, damage, expense, cost or liability whatsoever, whether or not any such loss, damage, must be filed with EEA within two years from the date of occurrence of the incident that is the subject of the claim, failing which EEA shall have no liability to the Customer for any such loss, injury or damage.

#### 9.5 Distribution Tariff

Each Customer shall be responsible for the Service Connection to a Site to permit the Customer to receive Regulated Rate Service. As a condition of receiving Regulated Rate Service, each Customer agrees to be bound by, and shall comply with, all provisions of the Distribution Tariff applicable to the Customer. At the request of EEA, a Customer will enter into an agreement with EDTI or Fortis confirming that the Customer is bound by the applicable provisions of the Distribution Tariff.

### 9.6 Indemnification by Customer

Each Customer shall indemnify and hold EEA and its employees, agents and contractors harmless from and against any claim for any loss, damage, expense, charge, cost (including legal fees), fine, penalty or other liability of any kind suffered or incurred by EEA (including charges or liability arising under EDTI's and Fortis' Tariff) arising out of or in any way connected with any failure by the Customer or its Facilities to comply with any of the provisions of EDTI or Fortis' Distribution Tariff applicable to the Customer or its Facilities or any legal or regulatory requirement related to Distribution Access Service required to be complied with by the Customer. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Customer shall be liable to compensate EEA for any costs, expenses or liabilities that it incurs under the provisions of any Owner's terms and conditions arising out of or connected with any action or inaction of the Customer related to Service.

### 9.7 EEA Indemnification

EEA shall indemnify and hold a Customer harmless from and against direct physical loss, injury or damage to the Customer or the Customer's property resulting from the negligence or wilful misconduct of EEA or its employees, agents or contractors acting within the scope of their employment or breach of these RRT Terms. For the purpose of this Article 9.7, "direct physical loss, injury, or damage" shall not include any loss, injury or damage of an indirect, special,

exemplary, punitive or consequential nature including, without limitation, loss of revenues, loss of profits, loss of earnings, loss of contract, loss of opportunity, cost of capital, business interruption, claims of a Customer's customers, contractors and other third parties or any other similar loss, damage, expense, cost or liability whatsoever, whether or not any such loss, damage, expense, cost or liability was foreseeable. Any claim by a Customer for indemnity for loss, injury or damage, must be filed with EEA within two years days from the date of occurrence of the incident that is the subject of the claim, failing which EEA shall have no obligation to indemnify the Customer for any such loss, injury or damage.

### 9.8 EEA Service Guarantee

**9.8.1** EEA shall provide a credit of \$150 to a Customer who is subject to one of the following errors made by EEA, in accordance with Rule 003:

If EEA provides written notice of:

- (1) a pending disconnection for any reason other than:
  - (a) the Customer's account is in arrears and the disconnection will occur within the Permissible Disconnection Period;
  - (b) the Customer is receiving Regulated Rate Service but fails to provide information or provides incorrect information for billing purposes and the disconnection will occur within the Permissible Disconnection Period;
  - (c) the premises or property served by a Site reasonably appears to be vacant or unoccupied.
- (2) a pending referral to a credit agency when the Customer's account is not in arrears.
- **9.8.2** Payment of the \$150 credit will not be provided where no error has been made by EEA, and in particular the credit shall not be provided in the following circumstances:
  - (1) EEA's written notice of pending disconnection [or pending referral to a credit agency] was not issued in error, and such notice and the customer's payment crossed in the mail.
  - (2) EEA's written notice of pending disconnection [or pending referral to a credit agency] was not issued in error, and such notice was in mail transit at the time the customer made or attempted to make payment by visiting the premises of an authorized payment acceptance establishment, such as a bank, trust company or credit union.
  - (3) The electric distributor disconnected a customer in error, rather than as instructed by EEA.
  - (4) EEA's written notice of pending disconnection [or pending referral to a credit agency] was not issued in error, and such notice was properly mailed, but the customer did not pick up the mail from locations such as a post office, super mail box, or home mail box.
  - (5) EEA's written notice of pending disconnection [or pending referral to a credit agency] was not issued in error, and such notice was undelivered by the mail delivery service.
  - (6) The customer attempted to make payment to the person dispatched by the electric

distributor to disconnect the service, where such disconnection was not made in error, but that person was not authorized to accept payment.

### **ARTICLE 10 - DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

Without limiting any party's right under the EUA or to make complaints to the Commission, both parties, acting in good faith shall endeavour to resolve differences prior to taking any action to the Commission. Customers are encouraged to contact EEA first with any issues prior to escalating the issue to the Utilities Consumer Advocate or the AUC.

#### **10.1 Disputed Charges**

The Customer has the right to dispute any charge shown on the Customers' bill by contacting EEA either in writing or by telephone. EEA will investigate all disputes and make any adjustments EEA determines appropriate. If the dispute is within EEA's control and is not resolved within 30 calendar days from the notice, the Customer may escalate the dispute as provided in Articles 10.2 and 10.3 and the Customer will not be required to pay any charges for the disputed period that are in excess of the average monthly bill of the Customer as reasonably determined by EEA. The Customer will be responsible to pay all past and future charges while the specific charge in dispute is being resolved. Any outstanding disputed amount shall be due and payable within 10 Business Days of resolution. No additional charges intended as compensation for the dispute resolution process will be applied to disputed amounts.

#### **10.2** Resolution by EEA and Customers

If any dispute between EEA and a Customer arises at any time in connection with the RRT Terms, EEA and the Customer, acting reasonably and in good faith, shall use their reasonable efforts to resolve the dispute as soon as possible in an amicable manner. If the dispute cannot be otherwise resolved pursuant to this Article 10.2, a representative of EEA and the Customer shall attempt to resolve the dispute through telephone, written communication or meeting.

During the course of a dispute that has been escalated to the AUC in accordance with Article 10.1 EEA shall not terminate or suspend Service for reasons of the escalated dispute, but may terminate or suspend Service if the Customer is in contravention of other aspects of the RRT Terms or is in violation of EDTI's or Fortis' terms and conditions.

#### **10.3** Resolution by a Third Party

If any dispute had not been resolved pursuant to Article 10.2 within a reasonable time, EEA and the Customer may pursue the matter with the AUC if the matter is within the AUC's jurisdiction or pursue in Alberta any remedies available to them under applicable laws, including arbitration pursuant to the *Arbitration Act (Alberta)*.

# **ARTICLE 11 - MISCELLANEOUS**

### **11.1** Compliance with Applicable Legal Authorities

EEA and the Customer are subject to, and shall comply with, all existing or future applicable federal, provincial and local laws, all existing or future orders or other actions of the AUC, Independent System Operator or other governmental authorities having applicable jurisdiction. Neither EEA nor the Customer will be required to violate, directly or indirectly, or become a party to a violation of any requirement of the Independent System Operator or any applicable federal, provincial or local statute, regulation, bylaw, rule or order in order to provide or receive Regulated Rate Service. EEA's obligation to provide Service is subject to the condition that all requisite governmental and regulatory approvals for the provision of Service will have been obtained and will be in force during the period Service is provided.

### 11.2 No Waiver

The failure of EEA or a Customer to insist on any one or more instances upon strict performance of any provisions of the RRT Terms, or take advantage of any rights hereunder shall not be construed as a waiver of any such provisions or the relinquishment of any such right or any other right hereunder, which shall remain in full force and effect. No provision of the RRT Terms shall be deemed to have been waived and no breach excused unless such waiver or consent to excuse is in writing and signed by EEA or a Customer claimed to have waived or consented to excuse.