



Control Number: 50219



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PROJECT NO. 50219

APPLICATION OF AEP TEXAS INC., §  
CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON §  
ELECTRIC, LLC, ONCOR ELECTRIC §  
DELIVERY COMPANY LLC, AND §  
TEXAS-NEW MEXICO POWER §  
COMPANY TO MODIFY CERTAIN §  
SMART METER TEXAS PORTAL §  
BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS §  
APPROVED IN DOCKET NO. 47472 §

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

2020 MAY 11 10  
OF TEXAS

ORDER

This Order addresses the application of AEP Texas Inc., CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC, Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC, and Texas-New Mexico Power Company (collectively, the applicants) to modify business requirements 11 and 83 of the Smart Meter Texas (SMT) portal approved in the order issued in Docket No. 47472.<sup>1</sup> The Commission approves the revisions to SMT business requirements 11 and 83 as described by this Order and in Commission Staff's final recommendation filed on January 24, 2020.

I. Findings of Fact

The Commission makes the following findings of fact.

Applicants and Interested Parties

1. AEP Texas is a foreign for-profit corporation registered with the Texas secretary of state under filing number 802611352.
2. AEP Texas provides electric transmission and distribution services in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas region (ERCOT region).
3. CenterPoint Energy is a domestic limited liability company registered with the Texas secretary of state under filing number 800119842.
4. CenterPoint Energy provides electric transmission and distribution services in the ERCOT region.

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<sup>1</sup> Commission Staff's Petition to Determine Requirements for Smart Meter Texas, Docket No. 47472, Order (Jul. 12, 2018).

5. Oncor is a foreign limited liability company registered with the Texas secretary of state under filing number 800880712.
6. Oncor provides electric transmission and distribution services in the ERCOT region.
7. Texas-New Mexico Power Company (TNMP) is a domestic for-profit corporation registered with the Texas secretary of state under filing number 19241500.
8. TNMP provides electric transmission and distribution services in the ERCOT region.
9. Mission:data Coalition, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization of approximately 30 technology companies that advocates for data access policies based on widely adopted national standards and best practices.

#### **Application**

10. On November 12, 2019, the applicants filed an application to modify two of the 190 SMT business requirements approved in Docket No. 47472. Specifically, the applicants seek permission to modify SMT business requirements 11 and 83.
11. SMT is an interoperable, web-based information system that, among other things, (a) stores retail customers' electric-usage data in increments of 15-minute intervals recorded by advanced meters and (b) provides secure access to those data to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc., retail customers, retail electric providers of record, and other parties that retail customers authorize to have access to their electric-usage data.
12. SMT was jointly established and is jointly maintained by the applicants.
13. The Commission approved a list of 190 SMT business requirements in Docket No. 47472.
14. The approved list of the 190 SMT business requirements was filed by the applicants on September 7, 2018 in Docket No. 47472.
15. In Order No. 2 filed on December 16, 2019, the administrative law judge (ALJ) found the application sufficient.

#### **Intervenor**

16. On December 30, 2019, Mission:data filed its motion to intervene.
17. In Order No. 3 filed on January 15, 2020, the ALJ granted Mission:data's motion to intervene.

**Notice**

18. On December 16, 2019, Oncor filed the affidavit of Teri L. Smart, director of regulatory support and compliance for Oncor, attesting that notice of the proceeding was provided by first class mail to all parties of record in Docket No. 47472.
19. In Order No. 2 filed on December 16, 2019, the ALJ found the proposed notice sufficient.

**Proposed Revision to SMT Business Requirement 11**

20. The existing SMT business requirement 11 reads as follows:

Ability for each SMT user administrator account (e.g., retail electric provider of record (ROR), competitive service provider (CSP), business customer, ERCOT, or Public Utility Commission of Texas (the Commission) to be associated with multiple data universal numbering system (DUNS)) and for the transmission and distribution service providers (TDSP) to validate that the DUNS match the ROR, CSP, business customer, ERCOT, or the Commission.
21. With the revision proposed by the applicants, SMT business requirement 11 will read as follows:

Ability for each ROR or CSP user administrator SMT account to be associated with multiple DUNS and for the TDSP to validate that the DUNS match the ROR or CSP.
22. With the revision, the requirement that a business customer, ERCOT, or the Commission must have the ability to be associated with multiple DUNS numbers will be removed.
23. The revision is warranted because, as determined by the applicants, only ROR and CSP SMT customers are required to have DUNS numbers to use SMT functionality.

**Proposed Revision to SMT Business Requirement 83**

24. The existing SMT business requirement 83 reads as follows:

Ability for SMT to (i) maintain the most recent customer authorizations of a CSP's access to SMT in order to restore a CSP's access to SMT if the Commission orders the restoration; and (ii) restore the CSP's authorizations within three weekdays and issue renewal notices within five weekdays to those authorizing customers whose prior authorization expired during the period of suspension or termination.

25. With the revision proposed by the applicants and Mission:data, SMT business requirement 83 will read as follows:
- Ability for SMT to continue all customer communications and authorization workflows during the period of suspension or termination of CSP access to customer data, and restore the CSP's access to SMT data and authorizations within three weekdays if the Commission orders the restoration.
26. To avoid the need to manually interrupt or restart the process through which customers automatically renew their agreements with a customer service provider, the applicants propose a revision to SMT business requirement 83 that would allow SMT to continue all customer communications and authorization workflows during a period of customer service provider suspension or termination of access to customer data.
27. An automated process, as is proposed by the applicants, is more efficient, avoids potential technical issues that arise when automated processes are manually interrupted or restarted, and creates less chance for discrepancies in data after the suspension or termination is resolved.
28. With the proposed revision, there will be no need to restore customer service provider authorizations or issue renewal notices as required in current SMT business requirement 83 because the automated process would not be interrupted if a customer service provider is suspended or terminated.
29. With the proposed revision, after a suspension or termination and upon Commission order, SMT must restore the customer service provider's access to SMT data and authorizations within three workdays.

**Informal Disposition**

30. More than 15 days have passed since the completion of notice provided in this docket.
31. Mission:data filed a motion to intervene on December 30, 2019. No other person filed a motion to intervene, and no person filed a protest.
32. AEP Texas, CenterPoint Energy, Oncor, TNMP, Mission:data, and Commission Staff are the only parties to this proceeding.
33. No party requested a hearing and no hearing is needed.

34. Commission Staff recommended approval of the application.
35. This decision is not adverse to any party.

## **II. Conclusions of Law**

The Commission makes the following conclusions of law.

1. The Commission has authority over this application under PURA<sup>2</sup> §§ 14.001 and 39.107.
2. AEP Texas, CenterPoint Energy, Oncor, and TNMP are electric utilities as defined in PURA § 31.002(6).
3. The applicants provided notice of this proceeding in compliance with 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 22.55.
4. Under PURA §§ 14.001, 17.004(a)(6), 39.101(a)(2), and 39.107, the Commission may approve revisions to the SMT business requirements.
5. The revisions to SMT business requirements 11 and 83 approved in this Order provide convenient and secure access to customers' advanced-meter data under 16 TAC § 25.130(j)(1).
6. The Commission processed this docket in accordance with the requirements of PURA, the Administrative Procedure Act,<sup>3</sup> and Commission rules.
7. The requirements for informal disposition in 16 TAC § 22.35 have been met in this proceeding.

## **III. Ordering Paragraphs**

In accordance with these findings of fact and conclusions of law, the Commission issues the following orders.

1. The Commission approves the revisions to SMT business requirements 11 and 83 as described by this Order and in Commission Staff's final recommendation filed on January 24, 2020.

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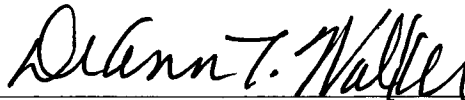
<sup>2</sup> Public Utility Regulatory Act, Tex. Util. Code §§ 11.001–66.016.

<sup>3</sup> Tex. Gov't Code ch. 2001.

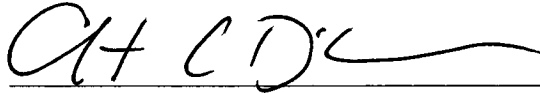
2. Within 60 days of the date of this Order, the applicants must submit an updated list of the SMT business requirements reflecting the changes made by this Order.
3. The Commission denies all other motions and any other requests for general or specific relief that have not been expressly granted.

Signed at Austin, Texas on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 2020.

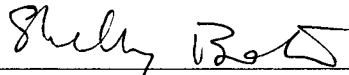
**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS**



**DEANN T. WALKER, CHAIRMAN**



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