**B&E Prep**

April 26, 2023

Ex. 1. Announce the Climate Action Task Force presentation to be held in May hopefully, possibly later

Ex. 2. Bonton Associates’ EE Study: Aye!

Ex. 3. Same EE docket as Ex. 2

1) An amendment to eliminate the deadline for Public Entity EE project proposals within the Quick Start program, allowing school districts, local governments, state agencies, higher education institutions, and other public entities more time to develop their EE programs. This should lead to more applications and more opportunities to review

2) An amendment to extend the Quick Start EE program while Phase II is developed this year and hopefully implemented next year

Context: This is year 14 of what was only supposed to be a 2-year program design.   
Action item: We should consider pressing for passage of the draft proposal/rule. We would be the third vote (a simple directive to Kathryn), and that majority would allow the draft to be shared with stakeholders for feedback, not necessarily approval.

Year 14 when it was only supposed to last 2 years

Ex. 4. Lafayette’s application to expand its telecom carrier designation to offer Federal Lifeline benefits

* This was Ex. 5 from last month, and no interventions or protests were received since
* This would allow more affordable plans for low-income customers, spur competition, and be in the public interest

Ex. 5. Uncontested Stipulated Settlement regarding SLECA’s emergency rate relief

* In District III (mainly II and Greene has no big complaints)
* Related to significant Ida damage and 2022 interest rate increases
* $6.4m rate increase; near doubling storm rider charge; schedule of FRP updates to Commission; accounting updates regarding the sale of TESI, their water operation
* Rate increase of 5.12%, $6.40 per 1000 kWh; 5.24%, $9.60 per 1500 kWh
* These terms were agreed to by AAE
* Commission’s Audit Supervisor: the terms are fair, reasonable, and in the public interest

Ex. 6. Uncontested Stipulated Settlement regarding SWEPCO’s certification of 999 MW of new wind and solar and of up to 350 MW of natural gas Capacity Purchase Agreements

* SPP increased SWEPCO’s required planning reserve margin, so SWEPCO needs new capacity
* SWEPCO did not include PPAs in its RFPs, leading to expensive projects relative to average costs
* So Staff required conditions for settlement: the terms are fairly rigorous and meant to ensure that that the renewable projects would be a net economic benefit to customers
* Rate impact of renewables: $6.86 per 1250 kWh. This will decrease over time, lowering rates in future years, and resulting in a net savings to customers over the life of the facilities
* Rate impact of gas contract: $0.55 per 1250kWh
* United recommends approving the application

Ex. 7. Uncontested Stipulated Settlement regarding WST’s FRP and modification of base rates

* WST has not increased rates in more than 10 years
* No interventions or protests received
* This would change a variety of customer charges – some up, some down – but ultimately in a revenue neutral manner
* Would decrease volatility in their receipts and allow them to obtain long term debt financing
* Commission’s Audit Supervisor: the FRP will allow WST to meet their creditors’ requirements.   
  The terms are fair, reasonable, and in the public interest

Ex. 8. Proposed recommendation to approve the “overlay method” for 318 area code

* Rather than form a new area code as this service area grows, this proposal would mean that all 10 digits of a phone number must be dialed
* This is the preferred approach in recent years and has been employed in 504 and 225
* An overlay plan is less costly to customers than a geographic split
* Staff recommends directing NANPA to begin the process of conducting an overlay

Ex. 9. Deferred to next month

Ex. 10. Outside consultant to service ELL’s proposal for 3,000 MW of solar, Geaux Green Option Rider expansion, and new renewable tariff

* ELL’s proposal could threaten the Commission’s jurisdiction, bypassing our RFP and MBM rules
* While the Commission has not received Phase II, the crux of ELL’s proposal, preemptively hiring consultants is common for matters of this scope and import
* London Economics - $56,826 - worked the renewable tariffs/green tariffs docket
* United Professionals Co - $79,950 - worked on Entergy’s FRPs since 2017; was the consultant on Entergy’s IRP prior to the pending one; assisted in the EGS-ELL merger
* United emphasizes that their budget allows it to go to trial “so that (ELL) understand(s) that they have to deal in good faith in the negotiations and can’t just run the process out of budget”
* United seems better equipped to service this matter

Ex. 11. Undocketed matters

1) Reports

- Report from Staff on the Martha Wright Reed Just and Reasonable Communications Act of 2022: FCC’s update on prison pay phones

2) Resolutions

- Resolution in support of Entergy Louisiana, LLC’s grant application before the United States Department of Energy and requesting Department of Energy Secretary Jennifer M. Granholm to approve Entergy Louisiana, LLC’s grant application to assist in funding Entergy’s Line Hardening and Microgrid project in Baton Rouge, Louisiana

3) Discussions

4) OMS:

* Discussion and possible vote to ratify vote taken by Commissioner Greene acting as the Commission’s representative on the Board of Directors of OMS
* This would approve OMS’ comments in a FERC docket about RTOs’ transmission planning
* Comments identify a lack of oversight, transparency, and expertise on the local transmission bottom-up process that some states would need to effectively analyze and approve those projects
* Comments endorse a FERC proposal to create a new Independent Transmission Monitor if it is merely advisory and does not impinge on state authority

FERC/RTO:

* Discussion and possible vote to ratify interventions of the Commission in RTO or ERSC related FERC proceedings
* 5 interventions related to SPP and MISO were filed at FERC on the Commission’s behalf
* Staff recommends ratification of these actions

5) Directives