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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Memorandum

To: L. Massaro
Commission Clerk

From: D. R. Stearns 
Division of Public Utilities & Carriers

Date: January 19, 2010

Re: Pascoag Utility District Tariff Advice: Street Lighting Tariff
Docket 4137

On December 22, 2009 Pascoag Utility District ("Company, or "Pascoag") filed with the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC", or "Commission") a tariff advice requesting modification to the manner in which it recovers its costs associated with the provision of streetlighting service from those customers in the village of Pascoag who are residents of the Pascoag Fire District (this change will not apply to customers of PUD located in Harrisville). The filing however, did not contain any amended tariff, though it did contain the existing tariff number RIPUC 604, Pascoag's Public and Private Lighting Rate. In the past, the Company billed the Pascoag Fire District ("District"), which in turn passed the costs through to Pascoag Residents as part of a tax levied on all Pascoag Residents. In early 2009 the District, in an executive session, decided to stop paying Pascoag for the monthly street light charges.

In May 2009, the Company and the District entered into a "Settlement and Release Agreement", whereby the District agreed to continue paying the street lighting bills rendered by Pascoag through December 2009. Pascoag Utility District has assumed responsibility of providing streetlighting service as a result of the aforementioned Settlement.

On January 8, 2010, in response to data request Div. 1-3, the Company submitted a revised Streetlighting Tariff No. 604, modifying the tariff language and clarifying the method by which the Company would recover the street lighting costs from customers of Pascoag through a fixed charge. If the tariff change is approved, the Company intends to bill Pascoag Residents directly for street lighting, by way of a uniform monthly charge on all Pascoag customers' electric utility bills: residential, commercial and industrial.

Pascoag has provided customers in the village of Pascoag a letter informing them of the change in the method of street light billing.

After reviewing the information provided by the Company, the Division does not object to Pascoag's request for Commission approval of the tariff change. If approved, the revised tariff provided in response to data request Div. 1-3 would be effective January 1, 2010 and be designated Tariff No. RIPUC No. 605.

Cc: Thomas Ahern,
Administrator, Division of Public Utilities and Carriers