

LCB File No. R110-99

PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

Docket No. 97-8001 (Load Profiling Regulation)
LCB File No. R110-99
(For Hearing September 20, 1999.)

Authority: NRS 703.025, 704.978(2), 704.981.

Section 1. Chapter 704 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as Sections 2 to 12, inclusive, of this regulation.

Section 2. *Introduction.*

The development of competition in the retail electricity market requires that load profiles be developed and utilized in lieu of interval metering. This regulation prescribes the load profiling responsibilities of the electric distribution utility.

Section 3. *“Load Profile” means the quantified relationship between electricity load (in kilowatt-hours) and time (each hour of the day) for a particular (group of) customer(s) in a particular period of time.*

Section 4. *“Load Profiling Service” means the production of load profiles using statistical or engineering methods.*

Section 5. *“Electric Distribution Utility” (EDU) has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 704.971.*

Section 6. *“Interval meter” means a device for registering and recording electricity demand in discrete time intervals. Electricity demand is the average value of power over a specified interval of time and is expressed in kilowatts.*

Section 7. *“Settlement Day” means the day on which the independent scheduling administrator receives the preliminary monthly settlement data.*

Section 8. *“customer” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 704.968.*

Section 9. *General Responsibilities of an EDU.*

1. An EDU shall conduct sampling, collect data, and prepare load profiles for all non-interval metered customers in accordance with a load profiling plan approved by the commission.

2. The EDU shall make available on a public website in a format readily

accessible and capable of being processed by interested persons, Commission Staff, and the Bureau of Consumer Protection hourly load profiles no later than 2 days prior to the settlement day, including a complete description of all supporting models, documentation and data obtained from the tasks performed pursuant to Section 9(1). The EDU shall also post on a public website two years of historic hourly load profile data, associated weather information, and information showing the penetration of interval meters within the EDU. The hourly load profile data and associated weather information shall be updated on a monthly basis.

3. The requirements of this section shall be operational by the starting date of retail competition, with all necessary systems in place to provide the load profiling service from that date.

Section 10. EDU Application for Approval of a Load Profiling Plan.

1. No later than 30 days following adoption of this regulation, the EDU shall file an application for approval of a complete load profiling plan and appropriate distribution tariff provisions to implement the requirements of Section 9(1). The load profiling plan shall include:

a. All sampling and data collection methods and protocols to be utilized, including procedures for determining sample sizes and use of interval meters for load profile production; for example, if stratified random sampling is used, report the methodology and procedure used for determining the strata of the market and the sample size for each stratum;

b. All load profiling statistical methods and protocols to be utilized, including:

i. The criteria and procedure for examining, editing, and verifying the sample meter data, and how these criteria and procedures comply with meter and data standards and protocols approved by the commission;

ii. The statistical methodology for producing the load profiles posted on the website pursuant to sections 9(1) and 9(2);

iii. The methodology for collecting the hourly load information required by sections 9(1) and 9(2) from the sample of interval meters;

iv. Information supporting whether load profiles based on engineering estimates (deemed load profiles) are appropriate for particular market segments;

v. Detailed documentation on the methodology and results of studies conducted to support the market segmentation for distinct load profiles, if the proposed market segments differ from the existing rate schedules. The documentation should include the impact of the chosen market segmentation on the costs of

load profiling;

c. An explanation of results, equations and formulae for each of the requirements of sections b(i) through b(v) above;

d. An incremental cost estimate of providing the new load profiling service recommended in the EDU's application;

e. A detailed description of the final recommendations of the load profile study, including, but not limited to, the frequency, customer classes, applicable time frames, market segmentation, and file format information for posting pursuant to section 9(2); and

f. A cost recovery proposal and the justification for such proposal for the incremental costs associated with providing the load profiling service.

Section 11. *Future Applications for Approval of Changes to Load Profiling Plan.*

Following the date on which customers may begin purchasing from alternative sellers, any interested person, Commission Staff, or the Bureau of Consumer Protection may file an application to change an EDU load profiling plan. Such application shall include all information required in Section 10 as well as a detailed description and other analyses of any deficiencies in the load profiling plan previously approved.

Section 12. *Commission Staff Report to the Commission on the Status of Load Profiling Service.*

Not later than July 1, 2001, and each year thereafter until the EDU load profiling service has fully ceased, Commission Staff shall file a report for consideration by the Commission on the status of the EDU load profiling service. The report must include, at a minimum:

- 1. The status of the market penetration and use of interval metering in Nevada;*
- 2. The status of available metering technology;*
- 3. Recommendations of dates for phase-out of load profiling based on customer groups, load levels, and consumption behavior;*
- 4. Recommendations for the discontinuance of service to distribution customers, unless interval metering is utilized; and*
- 5. Relevant documentation, data and information supporting the foregoing.*