

STATE OF ILLINOIS

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

Commonwealth Edison Company	:	
	:	
Petition for consent to and approval	:	
of the use of an online version of the	:	13-0449
applications for interconnection of	:	
distributed generation facilities	:	
pursuant to Part 466 of the Illinois	:	
Administrative Code Title 83	:	

ORDER

By the Commission:

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On July 23, 2013 Commonwealth Edison Company (“ComEd”) filed a verified petition with the Illinois Commerce Commission (“Commission”) requesting approval to use an online version of the applications for interconnection of distributed generation facilities, in compliance with Section 466.50 of the Commission’s Rules. (83 Ill. Adm. Code 466.50).

Pursuant to due notice as required by law and by the rules and regulations of the Commission, a hearing was held in this matter on September 25, 2013, before a duly-authorized Administrative Law Judge at the Commission’s offices in Chicago, Illinois. ComEd, Commission Staff, (“Staff”) the Environmental Law and Policy Center (“ELPC”), the Citizens Utility Board (“CUB”) and the City of Chicago (“City”) all appeared through legal counsel. At that hearing the petitions for leave to intervene by ELPC and CUB were granted. At the conclusion of the hearing the record was marked “Heard and Taken.”

There were no contested issues at the completion of the September 25, 2013 hearing. On September 26, 2013, ComEd filed a Draft Order that had been previously reviewed by Staff, ELPC, CUB and the City. No party objected to the Draft Order.

II. BACKGROUND AND COMED PROPOSAL

Section 466.50 requires applicants that seek to interconnect distributed generation (“DG”) facilities to ComEd’s electric distribution system to submit a Commission-approved request form. (83 Ill. Adm. Code 466.50). The current Commission-approved request forms are found in appendices A and C of Part 466, and can be filled out and submitted in hard copy format. In an effort to expedite the application process and make it more user friendly for customers, ComEd developed an optional online version of the Commission-approved request forms, also known as

ComEd's Online Applications ("Online Applications"), in partnership with the City of Chicago ("City"). The language for the Online Applications is set forth in Attachment A to this Order. The Online Applications were considered a process improvement supporting the City's application and receipt of the US Department of Energy Sun Shot Initiative Grant. The information requested on both the Online Applications and the Commission-approved request forms in appendices A and C of Part 466 is substantially the same. The Online Applications request a limited amount of additional information, and include a few necessary format changes.

As described in ComEd's Petition, the information requested within appendices A and C of Part 466 and ComEd's Online Applications is substantially the same. The Online Applications request a limited amount of additional information to allow ComEd to maintain data that improves its customer service, such as: a description of the customer's DG facility property, whether the desired location has a multi-meter account, and if the DG facility utilizes a Micro-Inverter.

Additionally, during the development of the Online Applications, ComEd found it was necessary to change the location of some information, and make some format changes to the application to facilitate a user-friendly electronic format. An example of this would be ComEd's addition of automatically populated data fields through the use of "yes" or "no" questions. This feature does not change the information that is gathered, and it saves the customer time because it is not necessary to re-enter identical information. For example, if the Electrical Contractor is the same as the Equipment Contractor the data is automatically updated for the later by answering "no" when the customer is asked if they are different. ComEd clearly illustrated this example and others in Attachments A and B to its Petition filed on July 23, 2013.

ComEd requests Commission approval of its petition for consent to use the Online Applications for interconnection of DG facilities pursuant to Sections 16-107.5 and 10-101 of the PUA and Section 466.50 of the Code.

III. POSITIONS OF STAFF, ELPC AND CUB

Counsel for Staff, ELPC, CUB and the City each stated at the hearing that they support ComEd's proposed Online Applications.

IV. COMMISSION ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

ComEd's proposed Online Applications seek to improve upon the hard-copy application forms approved in Part 466 of the Commission's Rules. Based on ComEd's verified petition, and the fact that the Commission Staff, ELPC, CUB and the City each support ComEd's requested relief, the Commission concludes that ComEd's optional Online Applications should be approved. The Commission acknowledges and appreciates the Staff and the parties working together to improve the application process for potential distributed generation installers.

V. FINDINGS AND ORDERING PARAGRAPHS

The Commission, having given due consideration to the entire record and being fully advised in the premises, is of the opinion and finds that:

- (1) Commonwealth Edison Company is a corporation engaged in the sale and distribution of electricity in Illinois and, as such, is a public utility within the meaning of the Public Utilities Act;
- (2) the Commission has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this proceeding;
- (3) the Commission has the authority to approve Commonwealth Edison Company's Online Applications pursuant to Section 466.50 of the Illinois Administrative Code and Sections 16-107.5 and 10-101 of the Illinois Public Utilities Act;
- (4) the statements of fact set forth in the prefatory portion of this Order are supported by the evidence and the record and are hereby adopted as findings of fact;
- (5) Commonwealth Edison Company's proposed Online Applications are substantially similar to previously approved applications in Appendices A and C of the Illinois Administrative Code;
- (6) the parties to this docket are in agreement that the Commission should approve Commonwealth Edison Company's proposed Online Applications for customer use.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Petition for approval of Commonwealth Edison Company's Online Applications submitted by Commonwealth Edison Company is hereby approved. Commonwealth Edison Company is authorized to use the Online Applications in a form consistent with Attachment A to this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, subject to the provisions of Section 10-113 of the Public Utilities Act and 83 Illinois Administrative Code 200.880, this Order is final; it is not subject to the Administrative Review Law.

By Order of the Commission this 6th day of November, 2013.

(SIGNED) DOUGLAS P. SCOTT

CHAIRMAN