

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY,)
)
)
Regarding a Complaint and Petition By)
Commonwealth Edison Company For An Order) No. 02-0277
Finding PDV Midwest LLC In Violation Of The)
Prohibition On Resale Of Retail Electric Service)
Contained In the Illinois Public Utilities Act And)
Set Forth In Rider 12, Conditions Of Resale Or)
Redistribution Of Electricity By The Customer To)
Third Persons, And For Other Relief.)

**Direct Testimony of
LAWRENCE S. ALONGI
Director, Distribution Pricing
Commonwealth Edison Company**

April 25, 2003

1 **Q: Please state your name and business address.**

2 A: My name is Lawrence S. Alongi. My business address is Commonwealth Edison
3 Company, Three Lincoln Centre, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181-4260.

4 **Q: By whom are you employed and in what position?**

5 A: I am employed by Commonwealth Edison Company (“ComEd” or the “Company”) in the
6 position of Director, Distribution Pricing.

7 **Q: Please describe your educational background and business experience.**

8 A: I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Northwestern
9 University. I have been employed by ComEd since July 1974. During my employment
10 by ComEd I have had assignments in field engineering, project engineering, distribution
11 planning, system planning, distribution engineering, and distribution pricing. I have held
12 positions as District Engineering Supervisor, Area Engineering Supervisor, Planning
13 Supervisor, Assistant Division Engineer, Division Engineer, and Senior System Rate
14 Administrator. In March 1998, I assumed my present position as Director, Distribution
15 Pricing (the Distribution Pricing Department then was called the Rate Department, and
16 thus my position then was called “Director of Rates”). I have also been a member of the
17 Edison Electric Institute Economic Regulation and Competition Committee since I
18 assumed my present position in 1998.

19 **Q: Please describe your current duties and responsibilities.**

20 A: My primary duties are to plan and direct the development and implementation of
21 ComEd’s retail tariffs and revisions to such tariffs. These duties include the planning and
22 direction of ComEd’s rate design, cost of service activities, and rate administration. I also

23 direct the preparation of the necessary filings of such tariffs with the Illinois Commerce
24 Commission (the “Commission” or “ICC”).

25 **Q: What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?**

26 A: In this proceeding, ComEd seeks a declaration by the Commission that PDV Midwest
27 Refining, L.L.C., (“PDV”) on its own or through its authorized agent, Citgo Petroleum
28 Corp., (“Citgo”) has engaged in the prohibited resale of electricity to separate entities
29 operating a needle coking plant, Needle Coker, and a calciner plant, Chicago Carbon,
30 adjacent to PDV’s refinery facility in Lemont, Illinois, (collectively the “Lemont
31 Facilities”). In addition, ComEd requests the Commission’s assistance to determine the
32 amount of charges that properly should be billed for retail electric service provided to the
33 refinery, calciner plant and needle coking plant. My testimony will show that, under
34 applicable tariffs and ComEd practices, PDV is not entitled to (1) be billed for electric
35 usage of the needle coking and calciner plants on a combined basis with the electric usage
36 of its refinery at the reduced rate under Rate CS – Contract Service (“Rate CS”) provided
37 for in its Rate CS contract with ComEd or under other applicable ComEd rates or (2)
38 resell electric service to Needle Coker and Chicago Carbon. In addition, I will discuss the
39 appropriate billing arrangements for the Lemont Facilities.

40 **Q: Please explain what is meant by the term “combined billing”.**

41 A: Under combined billing ComEd adds together the usages and demand registrations on
42 more than one electric meter owned by ComEd (or a Meter Service Provider as defined in
43 ComEd’s Rate MSPS – Meter Service Provider Service) and located on a single
44 customer’s premises – or on multiple contiguous premises of a single customer – to
45 determine the customer’s bill. That is, the usages of all the electric meters owned by

46 ComEd (or a Meter Service Provider) and located on the contiguous premises of a single
47 customer are added together, and the demand registrations are added together, for
48 purposes of applying charges to the customer's bill. For combined billed accounts, only
49 one Monthly Customer Charge is charged to the customer, while other charges are
50 assessed for optional facilities, such as monthly rental for multiple meters.

51 **Q: What are the historical ownership relationships applicable to the facilities in**
52 **question?**

53 A: As indicated in the testimonies of Mr. David Geraghty and Mr. Robert Preuss, prior to
54 1997, all three of the Lemont facilities in question – the refinery, the needle coking plant
55 and the calciner plant – were under the common ownership of a partnership called Uno-
56 Ven.

57 **Q: Under these circumstances, was combined billing appropriate?**

58 A: Yes.

59 **Q: Please explain.**

60 A: Since all of the facilities were commonly owned and located on the contiguous premises
61 of that single owner, the usage from all of the facilities qualified for combined billing.
62 And, prior to 1997, ComEd did combine bill the usage of each of the facilities on one
63 general service account under Rate 6L – Large General Service (“Rate 6L”), resulting in a
64 bill to Uno-Ven that was lower than it would have been had the electric service provided
65 to the three facilities been billed separately, primarily because of the structure of the
66 demand charge under Rate 6L.

67 **Q: In what way did the ownership interest in the Lemont Facilities change?**

68 A: As indicated in the testimonies of Messrs. Geraghty and Preuss, in 1997, the Uno-Ven
69 partnership ceased ownership of the Lemont Facilities and, unbeknownst to ComEd at the
70 time, the resulting changes in ownership left PDV owning the refinery, Unocal owning
71 the calciner plant through Chicago Carbon, and Unocal and PDV owning 75% and 25%
72 of the needle coking plant, respectively, through Needle Coker.

73 **Q: Under these circumstances, is combined billing to PDV appropriate for electric**
74 **service used at all three facilities?**

75 A: No.

76 **Q: Please explain.**

77 A: Although the needle coking and calciner plants are contiguous to the refinery in Lemont,
78 they are not PDV facilities (i.e., PDV does not have more than 50% ownership of either
79 the needle coking plant or the calciner plant) and, therefore, the electric service for the
80 needle coking and calciner plants does not qualify for combined billing with the electric
81 service used by PDV at the refinery.

82 **Q: What tariff provisions apply to this case?**

83 A: Between August 1997 and August 2002, PDV obtained electric service from ComEd
84 under a reduced rate contract executed under the provisions of Rate CS (“the Rate CS
85 Contract”) which, at paragraph 1.3(a) of the Rate CS contract, incorporates the tariff
86 provisions of ComEd’s Rate 6L and Terms and Conditions. ComEd’s Rate 6L provides,
87 under the heading “Measurement of Demand and Kilowatt-hours Supplied”, that “[w]here
88 two or more metering installations are provided on the customer’s premises . . .” demands
89 and kilowatt-hours supplied shall be combined for billing purposes. (Emphasis added.)
90 In addition, the tariff provisions state, “The Maximum Demands and kilowatt-hours

91 supplied for two or more premises will not be combined for billing purposes hereunder.”
92 The provisions of Rate 6L do not define in any way the meaning of “customer” or
93 “premises” for purposes of combining demands and kilowatt-hour usages. (Copies of
94 Rate 6L tariff sheets describing “Measurement of Demand and Kilowatt-hours Supplied”
95 and other tariff sheets addressed in my testimony are attached as Exhibit 3.1.)

96 **Q: Are any other tariff provisions applicable?**

97 A: Yes, the provisions of ComEd’s tariff Terms and Conditions apply. Specifically, it states:
98 “Customer shall have the same meaning as “retail customer” defined in Section 16-102 of
99 the [Public Utilities] Act.” In addition, since August 2002, PDV has been taking service
100 at the Lemont Facilities under Rate RCDS – Retail Customer Delivery Service
101 (“Rate RCDS”) and Rider PPO-MI – Power Purchase Option (Market Index)
102 (“Rider PPO”). An identical provision referring to Section 16-102 of the Public Utilities
103 Act appears in the definition section of the Rate RCDS tariff. Section 16-102 of the Act
104 provides: “ ‘Retail customer’ means a single entity using electric power or energy at a
105 single premises...” (Emphasis added.) (Copies of the relevant tariff pages are included
106 in Exhibit 3.1.) Thus, because the Lemont Facilities are owned and operated by at least
107 two different and distinct entities (not one) with a majority ownership (ownership of more
108 than 50%), there are at least two customers for the electric services provided by ComEd
109 to the Lemont Facilities.

110 **Q: Please explain your latter statement.**

111 A: Because Unocal owns 100% of the calciner plant through Chicago Carbon and more than
112 50% (i.e., 75%) of the needle coking plant through Needle Coker, and because those two
113 plants are on contiguous property, they could be regarded as one customer and electric

114 service provided to both of those plants could be combined billed with each other. They
115 would nonetheless still be regarded as a different customer from the PDV refinery.

116 **Q: Is there anything else that that applies to this situation?**

117 A: Yes. ComEd explains the meaning of the terms “customer” and “premises” in its Rate
118 Memorandum: General No. 5, dated January 24, 1966 (“General No. 5”), informational
119 copies of which were provided to the Staff of the Illinois Commerce Commission by
120 ComEd in its normal course of business. (A copy of General No. 5 is attached as Exhibit
121 3.2.) In General No. 5, ComEd makes it clear that a “customer” means a single entity
122 requesting service for a single premises – consistent with the statutory definition.
123 General No. 5 also states that if there are two or more entities involved, then each entity
124 must be treated as a separate customer and those customers are not entitled to combined
125 billing. Thus, the calciner and needle coking plants, which are not owned by PDV, do not
126 qualify for combined billing with PDV’s refinery.

127 **Q: Would it be permissible for PDV to resell some of the electric service to Unocal for**
128 **use at the needle coking and calciner plants?**

129 A: No.

130 **Q: Please explain.**

131 A: ComEd’s Terms and Conditions tariff further states: “The Company will not furnish
132 electricity for resale except as provided under Rider 12 - Conditions of Resale or
133 Redistribution of Electricity by the Customer to Third Persons or except electric power
134 and energy purchased under Rider PPO pursuant to Section 16-110(b) of the Act.”
135 Resale, as noted in Rider 12, is the furnishing of electricity by a customer to a third
136 person or persons where (a) the electricity is separately charged for in whole or in part, or

137 (b) it is metered or its use is limited in any way. Rider 12 prohibits resale of electric
138 service except under very limited circumstances of certain grandfathered buildings for
139 which resale was permitted under practices that were in effect prior to January 2, 1957.
140 (A copy of Rider 12 is included in Exhibit 3.1.) The Lemont Facilities are not covered by
141 the grandfathering provision of Rider 12. Even more fundamentally, PDV is neither a
142 properly certificated public utility nor a properly certificated Alternative Retail Electric
143 Supplier (“ARES”) and, therefore, may not provide electric service to retail customers
144 such as Needle Coker and Chicago Carbon. Consequently, it is inappropriate for PDV to
145 take service and resell it to Needle Coker or Chicago Carbon for use at the needle coking
146 or calciner plants. In other words, when common ownership of the refinery ended, the
147 combined billing of these operations also should have ended. Needle Coker and Chicago
148 Carbon should have been set up as new customers under ComEd’s Rate 6L tariff and
149 received electricity from ComEd, not PDV. (Because of their common ownership and
150 their contiguous location, however, Needle Coker and Chicago Carbon would have been
151 entitled to combined billing as a single customer.) Thus, ComEd requests that, in
152 accordance with relevant provisions of ComEd’s tariffs, the Public Utilities Act, and the
153 Commission’s rules, the Commission prohibit PDV from reselling electricity to Needle
154 Coker or Chicago Carbon.

155 **Q: Why is it important that the number and identities of customers billed for electric**
156 **service be properly determined and that unauthorized resale not take place?**

157 A: Foremost among the reasons is to ensure that retail customers receive service from an
158 entity that is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, to assure the benefits and
159 protections of regulated service. While resale of electric service is authorized under

160 certain circumstances, those resale providers are under the Commission’s jurisdiction.

161 Another purpose of the prohibition against unauthorized resale of electric service is to

162 avoid situations in which property owners obtain “middle man” profits on the sale of an

163 otherwise regulated service. In that regard, establishing the correct relationship between

164 the provider of electric service and each customer is important to ensure that the customer

165 has the statutorily-provided ability to choose its electric supplier and to select among that

166 provider’s offerings.

167 **Q: Please describe the appropriate manner in which electric service should be**

168 **provisioned and billed to the three Lemont Facilities?**

169 A: Since, as noted above, the refinery is under separate ownership from the calciner and

170 needle coking plants, the latter would constitute separate customers from the refinery.

171 Separate metering facilities need to be installed so that ComEd can measure and render

172 accurate bills to Chicago Carbon and Needle Coker for service to the calciner and needle

173 coking plants. (Although, since Chicago Carbon and Needle Coker are both more than

174 50% owned by Unocal, their billing could be combined.) ComEd’s Terms and

175 Conditions tariff states: “The customer shall provide a suitable place for the metering

176 equipment which shall be readily accessible to employees of the Company for reading,

177 testing, inspecting, or exchanging such metering equipment.” In addition, Section 6.27 of

178 ComEd’s “Information and Requirements for the Supply of Electric Service”, which is

179 incorporated by reference in ComEd’s tariff Terms and Conditions, Sheet No. 56, states:

180 “Meter connection devices of a type approved by the Company (both indoor and outdoor)

181 shall be furnished, installed and maintained by the Customer.” Thus, Chicago Carbon

182 and Needle Coker should install the appropriate meter connection arrangements to enable
183 ComEd to install the necessary meters.

184 **Q: Please describe how similar changes in ownership are generally handled?**

185 A: Changes in ownership of portions of a customer's premises is not uncommon. Generally,
186 when ownership of portions of a customer's premises is split, the customer contacts
187 ComEd to arrange for the appropriate entity to be billed for the electric service associated
188 with the portion of the premises being transferred to new ownership. ComEd coordinates
189 with the entities involved and installs appropriate meters at each new customers' premises
190 so that correct bills will be rendered for each customer.

191 **Q: Is there a recent example of this?**

192 A: Yes. ComEd had a special service contract with a certain steel producer, Company A.
193 During the term of that contract, Company A filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection,
194 which was subsequently converted to a Chapter 7 liquidation proceeding. Last October,
195 Company B purchased a portion of Company A's facility out of the large and highly
196 complex bankruptcy proceeding. An affiliate of Company A, Company C, operates the
197 remaining portion of the facility not purchased by Company B. The division of the
198 facility between the two customers required Company B and Company C to install
199 additional meter connections so that ComEd could separately meter and bill each
200 customer individually.

201 **Q: What is ComEd asking of the Commission?**

202 A: In this case, ComEd is asking the Commission to order PDV, Needle Coker, and Chicago
203 Carbon to coordinate and cooperate with ComEd so that ComEd can install the

204 appropriate metering to render separate bills for electric service to each of these distinct
205 entities.

206 **Q: What else is ComEd requesting?**

207 A: ComEd is also asking the Commission to order it to reissue corrected bills to PDV going
208 back to the start of the Rate CS contract with PDV that take into account the fact that
209 usage at the calciner and needle coking plants did not qualify for combined billing with
210 service at PDV's refinery because those facilities were not PDV facilities. The bills
211 would seek to recover the shortfall either from either PDV or from Chicago Carbon and
212 Needle Coker. Because ComEd did not have its own metering data to separately bill the
213 electric service provided to the needle coker and calciner plants, such billing would be
214 based on PDV's meter data that it used to bill Unocal for the usage at the calciner and
215 needle coking plants.

216 **Q: Does this conclude your testimony?**

217 A: Yes, it does.