

FINAL RATE ORDER EB-2019-0170

PUC DISTRIBUTION INC.

Final Rate Order for rates and other charges effective May 1, 2020 and implemented November 1, 2020

By Delegation, Before: Theodore Antonopoulos

October 8, 2020

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

In its Decision and Rate Order in this proceeding, issued April 16, 2020, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) approved new electricity distribution rates for PUC Distribution Inc. (PUC Distribution), with an effective date of May 1, 2020. In consideration of the COVID-19 emergency, the Decision and Rate Order also granted PUC Distribution the option to postpone implementation of its new rates, and to track temporarily forgone revenue in a deferral and variance account.

Through this Final Rate Order, the OEB authorizes PUC Distribution to implement its new rates on November 1, 2020, including a rate rider for the recovery of forgone revenues resulting from postponing rate implementation in response to COVID-19. The rider, entitled Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation, will be effective until October 31, 2022.

As a result of the OEB's findings in this order, there will be a monthly total bill increase of \$1.70, before taxes and the Ontario Electricity Rebate for a residential customer consuming 750 kWh, effective November 1, 2020.

THE PROCESS

PUC Distribution filed an Incentive Rate-setting Mechanism (IRM) application with the OEB on October 15, 2019, seeking approval for changes to its electricity distribution rates.

On April 16, 2020, the OEB issued its Decision and Rate Order approving PUC Distribution's new rates, with an effective date of May 1, 2020. However, in light of the uncertainty regarding the severity and duration of the COVID-19 emergency, the Decision and Rate Order also granted PUC Distribution the option to postpone implementation of its new rates and to track temporarily forgone revenue in Account 1509, Impacts Arising from the COVID-19 Emergency, Sub-account Lost Revenues.

On April 23, 2020, PUC Distribution filed a letter with the OEB, advising that the utility had elected to postpone the implementation of its new rates.

On April 17, 2020, the OEB issued <u>initial implementation guidance</u> to all distributors who had been authorized to postpone implementation of their 2020 rates. The OEB advised that distribution revenue associated with the postponement of the implementation should be tracked separately, by customer class, within Account 1509 - Impacts Arising from the COVID-19 Emergency, Sub-account Lost Revenues, and may include the following components, as applicable:

- impacts arising from the postponement of changes to monthly fixed service charges and variable distribution charges
- forgone distribution revenue due to the postponement of the implementation of an approved Incremental Capital Module
- impacts arising from the postponement of the change in the microFIT monthly fixed service charge

On August 6, 2020, the OEB issued an Accounting Order, a COVID-19 Forgone Revenue Rate Rider Model, and associated filing instructions and account guidance for those utilities that wished to seek recovery of forgone revenue, the implementation of their 2020 rate increase, or both. In the Accounting Order, the OEB established a new sub-account under the Impacts Arising from the COVID-19 Emergency Account, called the Forgone Revenues from Postponing Rate Implementation sub-Account. The OEB advised that this new sub-account was to be used to record forgone revenues due to the postponement of rate implementation as a result of the COVID-19 emergency. The OEB further explained that any utility that had already recorded forgone revenue

amounts due to postponing rate implementation in the Lost Revenues sub-account was to transfer these amounts to the Forgone Revenues from Postponing Rate Implementation sub-account.

The OEB required utilities that wished to seek recovery of forgone revenue, the increase to their 2020 base rates, or both, to provide their calculations for the forgone revenue rate rider (if applicable) and tariff of rates and charges as part of the COVID-19 Forgone Revenue Rate Rider model by September 15, 2020.

COVID-19 FORGONE REVENUE RECOVERY

PUC Distribution filed its COVID-19 Forgone Revenue Rate Rider Model with the OEB on September 15, 2020.

Together with the model, PUC Distribution filed a letter requesting that the OEB confirm PUC Distribution's authorization to implement its new rates on November 1, 2020, and to recover forgone distribution revenue in the amount of \$327,004 over a 24-month period.

PUC Distribution supported its request to recover forgone distribution revenue with written explanations and the COVID-19 Forgone Revenue Rate Rider Model, which calculates class-specific rate riders as well as a one-time payment for the microFIT rate class.

The COVID-19 Forgone Revenue Rate Rider Model allowed for distributors to recover forgone revenue over a six or twelve-month period. PUC Distribution noted that it continues to work with customers during these difficult times and, given the continuing state of the COVID-19 pandemic, a 24-month recovery period is in the best interest of its customers.

OEB staff provided an updated model with a 24-month recovery period to PUC Distribution for its review in the event that the OEB approved this request. PUC Distribution confirmed the accuracy of the updated model.

FINDINGS

The OEB has reviewed PUC Distribution's request for implementation of 2020 distribution rates and recovery of COVID-19 forgone revenue, as well as the revised Tariff of Rates and Charges, and is satisfied that they accurately reflect the Decision and Rate Order issued on April 16, 2020. The OEB approves a 24-month recovery period for the forgone revenue.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. The Tariff of Rates and Charges set out in Schedule A of this Final Rate Order is approved effective May 1, 2020 and is to be implemented November 1, 2020. The Tariff of Rates and Charges will apply to electricity consumed, or estimated to have been consumed, on and after November 1, 2020. PUC Distribution Inc. shall notify its customers of the rate changes no later than the delivery of the first bill reflecting the new rates.

DATED at Toronto, October 8, 2020

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Christine E. Long Registrar

Schedule A

To Final Rate Order

Tariff of Rates and Charges

OEB File No: EB-2019-0170

DATED: October 8, 2020

Effective May 1, 2020 t the Implementation Date of November 1

Amended to Reflect the Implementation Date of November 1, 2020 (unless indicated otherwise)

This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors

EB-2019-0170

RESIDENTIAL SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an account taking electricity at 750 volts or less where the electricity is used exclusively in a single family unit, non-commercial. This can be a separately metered living accommodation, town house, apartment, semi-detached, duplex, triplex or quadruplex with residential zoning. Class B consumers are defined on accordance with O. Reg. 429/04. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable. In addition, the charges in the MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component of this schedule do not apply to a customer that is an embedded wholesale market participant.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

Service Charge	\$	32.13
Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation - effective from November 1, 2020 and effective until October 31, 2022	\$	1.09
Rate Rider for Recovery of Incremental Capital (2020) - effective until the effective date of the next cost of		
service based rate order	\$	0.39
Smart Metering Entity Charge - effective until December 31, 2022	\$	0.57
Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation - effective from		
November 1, 2020 and effective until October 31, 2022	\$/kWh	(0.0010)
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0064
MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component		
Rate Rider for Embedded Generation Adjustment	\$/kWh	(0.0004)
Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0030
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0005
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Effective May 1, 2020
Amended to Reflect the Implementation Date of November 1, 2020

(unless indicated otherwise)

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EB-2019-0170

GENERAL SERVICE LESS THAN 50 KW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to a non residential account taking electricity at 750 volts or less whose average monthly peak demand is less than, or is forecast to be less than, 50 kW. Class B consumers are defined on accordance with O. Reg. 429/04. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

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Service Charge	\$	21.27
Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation - effective from November 1, 2020 and effective until October 31, 2022	\$	0.14
Rate Rider for Recovery of Incremental Capital (2020) - effective until the effective date of the next cost of service based rate order	\$	0.26
Smart Metering Entity Charge - effective until December 31, 2022	\$	0.57
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0255
Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation - effective from November 1, 2020 and effective until October 31, 2022	\$/kWh	0.0001
Rate Rider for Recovery of Incremental Capital (2020) - effective until the effective date of the next cost of service based rate order	\$/kWh	0.0003
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0060
MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component		
Rate Rider for Embedded Generation Adjustment	\$/kWh	(0.0004)
Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0030
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0005
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Effective May 1, 2020

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EB-2019-0170

GENERAL SERVICE 50 TO 4,999 KW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to a non residential account whose average monthly peak demand used for billing purposes over the past 12 months is equal to or greater than, or is forecast to be equal to or greater than, 50 kW but less than 5,000 kW. Class A and Class B consumers are defined on accordance with O. Reg. 429/04. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

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If included in the following listing of monthly rates and charges, the rate rider for the disposition of WMS - Sub-account CBR Class B is not applicable to wholesale market participants (WMP), customers that transitioned between Class A and Class B during the variance account accumulation period, or to customers that were in Class A for the entire period. Customers who transitioned are to be charged or refunded their share of the variance disposed through customer specific billing adjustments. This rate rider is to be consistently applied for the entire period to the sunset date of the rate rider. In addition, this rate rider is applicable to all new Class B customers.

If included in the following listing of monthly rates and charges, the rate rider for the disposition of Global Adjustment is only applicable to non-RPP Class B customers. It is not applicable to WMP, customers that transitioned between Class A and Class B during the variance account accumulation period, or to customers that were in Class A for the entire period. Customers who transitioned are to be charged or refunded their share of the variance disposed through customer specific billing adjustments. This rate rider is to be consistently applied for the entire period to the sunset date of the rate rider. In addition, this rate rider is applicable to all new non-RPP Class B customers.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Ontario Energy Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component

Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)

Service Charge	\$	117.45
Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation - effective from November 1, 2020 and effective until October 31, 2022	\$	0.80
Rate Rider for Recovery of Incremental Capital (2020) - effective until the effective date of the next cost of service based rate order	\$	1.41
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	6.9056
Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation - effective from November 1, 2020 and effective until October 31, 2022	\$/kW	0.0427
Rate Rider for Recovery of Incremental Capital (2020) - effective until the effective date of the next cost of service based rate order	\$/kW	0.0832
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kW	2.4136
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate - Interval Metered	\$/kW	3.0355
MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component		
Rate Rider for Embedded Generation Adjustment	\$/kWh	(0.0004)
Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0030
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0005

0.25

Effective May 1, 2020

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EB-2019-0170

UNMETERED SCATTERED LOAD SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an account taking electricity at 750 volts or less whose average monthly peak demand is less than, or is forecast to be less than, 50 kW and the consumption is unmetered. Such connections include cable TV power packs, bus shelters, telephone booths, traffic lights, railway crossings, etc. The customer will provide detailed manufacturer information documentation with regard to electrical demand/consumption of the proposed unmetered load. Class B consumers are defined on accordance with O. Reg. 429/04. Further servicing details are available in the Distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

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MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component

Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR

Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)

Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)

Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers

Service Charge	\$	13.02
Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation - effective from November 1, 2020 and effective until October 31, 2022	\$	0.09
Rate Rider for Recovery of Incremental Capital (2020) - effective until the effective date of the next cost of		
service based rate order	\$	0.16
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0393
Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation - effective from		
November 1, 2020 and effective until October 31, 2022	\$/kWh	0.0003
Rate Rider for Recovery of Incremental Capital (2020) - effective until the effective date of the next cost of		
service based rate order	\$/kWh	0.0005
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0060
MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component		
Rate Rider for Embedded Generation Adjustment	\$/kWh	(0.0004)

0.0030

0.0005

0.25

\$/kWh

\$/kWh

\$/kWh

Effective May 1, 2020

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SENTINEL LIGHTING SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to safety/security lighting with a Residential or General Service customer. This is typically exterior lighting, and unmetered. Consumption is estimated based on the equipment rating and estimated hours of use. Class B consumers are defined on accordance with O. Reg. 429/04. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

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Service Charge (per connection)	\$	3.65
Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation - effective from November 1, 2020 and effective until October 31, 2022	\$	0.03
Rate Rider for Recovery of Incremental Capital (2020) - effective until the effective date of the next cost of		
service based rate order	\$	0.04
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	34.0175
Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation - effective from November 1, 2020 and effective until October 31, 2022	\$/kW	0.2160
Rate Rider for Recovery of Incremental Capital (2020) - effective until the effective date of the next cost of service based rate order	\$/kW	0.4096
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kW	1.8295
MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component		
Rate Rider for Embedded Generation Adjustment	\$/kWh	(0.0004)
Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0030
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0005
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Effective May 1, 2020

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EB-2019-0170

STREET LIGHTING SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an account for roadway lighting with a Municipality, Regional Municipality, Ministry of Transportation and private roadway lighting operation, controlled by photo cells. The consumption for these customers will be based on the calculated connected load times the required lighting times established in the approved Ontario Energy Board street lighting load shape template. Class B consumers are defined on accordance with O. Reg. 429/04. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

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Service Charge (per connection)	\$	1.40
Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation - effective from	_	
November 1, 2020 and effective until October 31, 2022	\$	0.01
Rate Rider for Recovery of Incremental Capital (2020) - effective until the effective date of the next cost of		
service based rate order	\$	0.02
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	9.1619
Rate Rider for Recovery of COVID-19 Forgone Revenue from Postponing Rate Implementation - effective from		
November 1, 2020 and effective until October 31, 2022	\$/kW	0.0594
Rate Rider for Disposition of Lost Revenue Adjustment Mechanism Variance Account (LRAMVA) (2019)		
- effective until April 30, 2022	\$/kW	5.7106
Rate Rider for Recovery of Incremental Capital (2020) - effective until the effective date of the next cost of		
service based rate order	\$/kW	0.1103
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kW	1.8205
MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component		
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Rate Rider for Embedded Generation Adjustment - effective until	\$/kWh	(0.0004)
Wholesale Market Service Rate (WMS) - not including CBR	\$/kWh	0.0030
Capacity Based Recovery (CBR) - Applicable for Class B Customers	\$/kWh	0.0004
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0005
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Effective May 1, 2020
Amended to Reflect the Implementation Date of November 1, 2020
(unless indicated otherwise)

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EB-2019-0170

microFIT SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an electricity generation facility contracted under the Independent Electricity System Operator's microFIT program and connected to the distributor's distribution system. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

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MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component

Service Charge \$ 4.55

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EB-2019-0170

ALLOWANCES

Transformer Allowance for Ownership - per kW of billing demand/month	\$/kW	(0.60)
Primary Metering Allowance for transformer losses - applied to measured demand and energy	%	(1.00)

SPECIFIC SERVICE CHARGES

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Ontario Energy Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Ontario Energy Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

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Customer Administration

Account set up charge/change of occupancy charge (plus credit agency costs if applicable)	\$ 30.00
Returned cheque (plus bank charges)	\$ 15.00
Legal letter charge	\$ 15.00
Meter dispute charge plus Measurement Canada fees (if meter found correct)	\$ 30.00
Non-Payment of Account	

Late payment - per month		
(effective annual rate 19.56% per annum or 0.04896% compounded daily rate)	%	1.50
Reconnection charge - at meter - during regular hours	\$	65.00
Reconnection charge - at meter - after hours	\$	185.00
Reconnection charge - at pole - during regular hours	\$	185.00
Reconnection charge - at pole - after hours	\$	415.00

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Special meter reads	\$ 30.00
Service call - customer-owned equipment	Time & Materials
Service call - after regular hours	Time & Materials
Temporary service - install & remove - overhead - no transformer	Time & Materials
Temporary service - install & remove - underground - no transformer	Time & Materials
Temporary service - install & remove - overhead - with transformer	Time & Materials
Specific charge for access to the power poles - \$/pole/year	
Specific charge for access to the power poles - \$/pole/year	
(with the exception of wireless attachments)	\$ 44.50
Removal of overhead lines - during regular hours	Time & Materials
Removal of overhead lines - after hours	Time & Materials
Roadway escort - after regular hours	Time & Materials

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RETAIL SERVICE CHARGES (if applicable)

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Retail Service Charges refer to services provided by a distributor to retailers or customers related to the supply of competitive electricity.

One-time charge, per retailer, to establish the service agreement between the distributor and the retailer	\$	102.00
Monthly Fixed Charge, per retailer	\$	40.80
Monthly Variable Charge, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	1.02
Distributor-consolidated billing monthly charge, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	0.61
Retailer-consolidated billing monthly credit, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	(0.61)
Service Transaction Requests (STR)		
Request fee, per request, applied to the requesting party	\$	0.51
Processing fee, per request, applied to the requesting party	\$	1.02
Request for customer information as outlined in Section 10.6.3 and Chapter 11 of the Retail		
Settlement Code directly to retailers and customers, if not delivered electronically through the		
Electronic Business Transaction (EBT) system, applied to the requesting party		
Up to twice a year	\$	no charge
More than twice a year, per request (plus incremental delivery costs)	\$	4.08
Notice of switch letter charge, per letter (unless the distributor has opted out of applying the charge as per the Ontario Energy Board's Decision and Order EB-2015-0304, issued on February 14, 2019)	\$	2.04

LOSS FACTORS

If the distributor is not capable of prorating changed loss factors jointly with distribution rates, the revised loss factors will be implemented upon the first subsequent billing for each billing cycle.

Total Loss Factor - Secondary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW	1.0481
Total Loss Factor - Primary Metered Customer < 5 000 kW	1.0385