# Regulatory Commission of Alaska 701 West Eighth Avenue, Suite 300 (206)

# STATE OF ALASKA

# THE REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

Before Commissioners: Kate Giard, Chairman Dave Harbour Mark K. Johnson

Anthony A. Price James S. Strandberg

U-04-33

In the Matter of the Tariff Revision, Designated as ) Filed TA147-13, by GOLDEN VALLEY ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC., for Authority to Implement Simplified Rate Filing Procedures and ) ORDER NO. 11 Adjust Rates

# ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION, SETTING FILING DEADLINES, AND AFFIRMING ELECTRONIC RULING

BY THE COMMISSION:

#### Summary

We grant Golden Valley Electric Association Inc.'s (GVEA) motion for clarification. We set filing deadlines and affirm our electronic ruling.

#### Background

In Order U-04-33(10)<sup>1</sup>, we granted GVEA'S request for authority to implement simplified rate filing (SRF) procedures. We also granted, in part, GVEA's request to adjust rates and require GVEA to refile its request for rate relief. GVEA responded by filing an expedited motion requesting clarification of Order U-04-33(10)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Order Granting GVEA Authority to Implement Simplified Rate Filing Procedures; Granting GVEA's Request to Adjust Rates, In Part; Requiring Filing; and Affirming Electronic Rulings, dated May 31, 2005.

and a motion for extension of time.<sup>2</sup> We issued an electronic ruling vacating the filing timeline set out in Ordering Paragraph Nos. 2 and 5 in Order U-04-33(10).<sup>3</sup>

#### Discussion

GVEA stated that due to the short period of time before the deadlines set forth in Order U-04-33(10), its motion for clarification and extension of time will be moot if not given expedited treatment, and it will not be able to meet the established deadlines. GVEA moved for clarification of the filing deadline for the semi-annual SRF for the 12 months ending June 30, 2004. GVEA stated that we appeared to omit reference to the filing due for that period and requested that, in the absence of a deadline for that filing, we issue an order setting a July 1, 2005 deadline. In our electronic ruling, we vacated Ordering Paragraph Nos. 2 and 5 in Order U-04-33(10), therefore GVEA's motion for expedited consideration is moot.

We clarify that a reference to the SRF for the 12 months ending June 30, 2004, was not necessary. We received GVEA's SRF filings for that period on December 29, 2004, and accept its filing as a periodic filing in compliance with 3 AAC 48.710(b).<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Golden Valley Electric Association, Inc.'s Motion for Expedited Consideration of Motion for Extension of Time and Motion for Clarification, filed June 8, 2005.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>All parties were electronically notified of this ruling on June 14, 2005.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>See Letter Order L0500022, dated January 14, 2005, attached as an Appendix.

GVEA requested an extension of filing deadlines established by Order U-04-33(10). GVEA stated it will not be able to meet the deadlines set by our Order due to workloads, implementation of a new computer system, and the availability of accounting staff responsible for compiling the financial data that goes into the various SRF schedules. GVEA requested an extension of time through July 1, 2005, for the recalculated revenue requirements and percentage of rate increase required by Ordering Paragraph No. 5. GVEA requested an extension through August 1, 2005, for the SRF for the reporting period ended December 31, 2004, which was required by Ordering Paragraph No. 2.

We vacated Ordering Paragraph Nos. 2 and 5 in Order U-04-33(10) and now set new filing dates as set out in the Ordering Paragraphs below. Although we do not expect the recalculation required by Ordering Paragraph No. 5 to be overly complex,<sup>5</sup> granting extra time for GVEA to make its filing should give ample opportunity to ensure a thorough job and avoid prolonged delays in the implementation of our decisions. We also find that GVEA has shown good cause and grant GVEA's requested extension for the SRF reporting period ended December 31, 2004.

We affirm our June 14, 2005 electronic ruling vacating the timeline in Ordering Paragraph Nos. 2 and 5 in Order U-04-33(10).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>The recalculation required by Ordering Paragraph No. 5 should consist of removal of the initially proposed proforma adjustment to depreciation and a recalculation of allowable margins that reflect GVEA's approved TIER.

Regulatory Commission of Alaska

# <u>ORDER</u>

#### THE COMMISSION FURTHER ORDERS:

- 1. Golden Valley Electric Association, Inc.'s *Motion for Clarification and Extension of Time*, filed on June 8, 2005, is granted.
- 2. Golden Valley Electric Association, Inc.'s *Motion for Expedited Consideration of Motion for Extension of Time*, is moot.
- 3. By 4 p.m., August 17, 2005, Golden Valley Electric Association, Inc. shall file its recalculated revenue requirement and percentage of rate increase for the test period ended December 31, 2003.
- 4. By 4 p.m., August 17, 2005, Golden Valley Electric Association, Inc. shall file its semi-annual simplified rate filings for the reporting period ended December 31, 2004.
- 5. The June 14, 2005, electronic ruling vacating the filing timeline set out in Ordering Paragraph Nos. 2 and 5 of Order U-04-33(10) is affirmed.
- DATED AND EFFECTIVE at Anchorage, Alaska, this 2nd day of August, 2005.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION (Commissioners Kate Giard and Mark K. Johnson, not participating.)

(SEAL)

### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

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January 14, 2005

In reply refer to: Tariff Section

File: TA153-13

LO#: L0500022

Steve H. Haagenson **President & Chief Executive Officer** Golden Valley Electric Association P.O. Box 71249 Fairbanks, Alaska 99707-1249

Dear Mr. Haagenson,

This letter is to inform you that we do not accept GVEA's November 30, 2004 filing, titled "TA153-13 - Golden Valley Electrical Association, Inc. (GVEA) 1st Semi-Annual Update to Simplified Rate Filing Procedures", and the related supplement, filed on December 29, 2004, as a tariff advice filing. We accept GVEA's December 29, 2004 supplement as a periodic filing pursuant to 3 AAC 48.710(b) and 3 AAC 48.720(a), and inform you of the deficiencies we noted on these filings for reference on future filings under Simplified Rate Filing procedures (SRF).

- Per regulation 3 AAC 48.710(a) and 3 AAC 48.720(b), SRF filings requesting a rate adjustment must be filed as a Tariff Advice (TA) letter. GVEA's November 30 and December 29, 2004 filings were filed as a TA but did not contain a request to adjust rates. Therefore, the tariff advice letter format is inappropriate. The provision of 3 AAC 48.310(e) that states a TA filing will automatically go into effect after 45 days does not apply. Further Commission action is not required.
- Per regulation 3 AAC 48.710(b) and 3 AAC 48.720(a), cooperatives that adjust rates under the authority of SRF regulations must file all the information required by 3 AAC 48.720, whether or not a change in rates is requested. For a cooperative on a semi-annual filing schedule, the filing shall be made within 90 days after the end of the reporting period. GVEA's November 30, 2004 filing did not contain any of the information required by 3 AAC 48.720(a). GVEA filed the information required by 3 AAC 48.720(a) for the reporting period ended June 30, 2004 on December 29, 2004. approximately 90 days late.
- Per regulation 3 AAC 48.710(a), rate adjustment filings under SRF regulations are governed by 3 AAC 48.240 and 48.270. Had this filing requested a rate adjustment, the November 30 and December 29, 2004 filing

dates would not have allowed for the statutory notice timeline to be completed prior to the requested effective date of January 1, 2005.

### BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION

Sincerely,

REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

Kate Giard Chairman

Kirk H. Gibson CC:

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