

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT MEETINGS FOR
GRAHAM COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.'S (ELECTRIC DIVISION)
APPLICATION TO SET RATES AND CHARGES, FOR A DETERMINATION OF THE
FAIR VALUE OF ITS PROPERTY FOR RATEMAKING PURPOSES, TO FIX A JUST
AND REASONABLE RETURN THEREON, TO APPROVE RATES DESIGNED TO
DEVELOP SUCH RETURN, AND FOR RELATED APPROVALS.
(DOCKET NO. E-01749A-23-0075)**

Summary

On March 29, 2023, Graham County Electric Cooperative, Inc. (“GCEC” or the “Cooperative”) filed an application with the Arizona Corporation Commission (“Commission”) for approval of an increase in rates for its Electric Division.

GCEC requests authorization to increase its electric rates to generate total revenues of \$21,592,148. This would constitute an increase in total revenues of \$1,410,544, which represents a cumulative increase of 6.99 percent, over adjusted test year revenues of \$20,181,604, with an increase to residential rates of approximately 10.74 percent. If the Cooperative’s rate increase and revised rate design requests are granted as proposed, the monthly Customer Charge for a residential customer would increase by \$14.75, from \$11.25 to \$26.00. GCEC proposes to reduce the residential per kilowatt hour (“kWh”) Energy Rate from \$0.11038 to \$0.11020. The bill impact for a residential customer with an average monthly usage of 860 kWh would be an increase of \$14.59.

NEITHER THE COMMISSION’S UTILITIES DIVISION (“STAFF”) NOR ANY INTERVENOR HAS YET MADE ANY RECOMMENDATION REGARDING GCEC’S APPLICATION. THE COMMISSION IS NOT BOUND BY THE PROPOSALS OF GCEC, STAFF, OR ANY INTERVENORS. THE COMMISSION WILL DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE RELIEF TO BE GRANTED IN RESPONSE TO GCEC’S APPLICATION BASED ON THE EVIDENCE PRESENTED IN THIS MATTER. THE FINAL RATES APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION MAY BE HIGHER OR LOWER THAN, OR DIFFERENT FROM, THE RATES PROPOSED BY GCEC OR BY OTHER PARTIES.

If you have any questions concerning how the Application may affect your bill or other substantive questions about the Application, you may contact GCEC at: **Phil Cook, 9 West Center Street, Pima, Arizona 85543, 928-485-8666, and pcook@gce.coop.**

How You Can View or Obtain a Copy of the Application

Copies of the Application are available from GCEC at 9 West Center Street, Pima, Arizona 85543; at the Commission’s Docket Control Center, at 1200 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona, and 400 West Congress Street, Suite 218, Tucson, Arizona, during regular business hours; and on the Commission website (www.azcc.gov) using the e-Docket function.

Public Comment Meetings

The Commission will hold public comment meetings in this matter as follows:

DATE	TIME	MANNER
Thursday, January 11, 2024	5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., or until all public comment has been heard, whichever comes first.	<u>Telephonic only:</u> To provide telephonic public comments, call 1-877-309-3457 and enter this code: 24601833204##
Monday, January 22, 2024	10:00 a.m., prior to the beginning of the first day of hearing.	<u>In-person and telephonic:</u> In-person, Room 222, 400 West Congress, Tucson, AZ. To provide telephonic public comments, call 1-877-309-3457 and enter this code: 24601833204##

Written public comments may be submitted by mailing a letter referencing **Docket No. E-01749A-23-0075** to Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007, or by submitting

comments on the Commission's website (www.azcc.gov) using "Cases and Open Meetings" and "Make a Public Comment in a Docket." If you require assistance, you may contact the Consumer Services Section at 602-542-4251 or 1-800-222-7000.

Commission Public Hearing Information

The Commission will hold a hearing on this matter beginning **January 22, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.**, at the Commission's Tucson offices, Room 222, 400 West Congress Street, Tucson, Arizona 85701, and continuing at 9:00 a.m. on January 23 – 24, 2024, if necessary.

If you do not intervene in this proceeding, you will receive no further notice of the proceedings in this docket unless you sign up to Follow the Docket. However, all documents filed in this docket are available online (usually within 24 hours after docketing) at the Commission's website (www.azcc.gov) using the e-Docket function. **Information on how to Follow a Docket is available on the Commission's website using "Cases and Open Meetings" and "Follow a Docket or Document Type."**

About Intervention

The law provides for an open public hearing at which, under appropriate circumstances, interested persons may intervene. An interested person may be granted intervention if the outcome of the case will directly and substantially impact the person, and the person's intervention will not unduly broaden the issues in the case. Intervention, among other things, entitles a party to present sworn evidence at hearing and to cross-examine other parties' witnesses. **Intervention is not required for you to appear at the hearing and provide public comment, to file written comments in the record of the case, or to receive emailed notice of each filing made in the case by following the docket.**

Information about what intervention means, including an explanation of the rights and responsibilities of an intervenor, is available on the Commission's website (www.azcc.gov) by clicking on "Cases and Open Meetings" and then clicking on "Intervene in a Case." The information includes a Sample Intervention Request and a Fillable Intervention Request Form.

To request intervention, you must file a written request to intervene, either (a) by filing a hard copy request (meeting filing requirements) with Docket Control (Docket Control, 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007), or (b) by **eFiling** the request. Your request **must be filed or eFiled no later than September 29, 2023**. Instructions and restrictions for eFiling are available on the Commission's website at <http://www.azcc.gov/hearing/efile-for-utilities-instruction>. You also **must** serve a copy of the request to intervene on each party of record, on the same day that you file the request to intervene with the Commission.

Your request to intervene **must** contain the information below:

1. Your name, address, and telephone number;
2. The docket number for the case in which you are requesting to intervene;
3. A short statement explaining:
 - a. Your interest in the proceeding (e.g., a customer of the regulated company involved, a property owner in an area to be affected by the case, etc.),
 - b. How you will be directly and substantially affected by the outcome of the case, and
 - c. Why your intervention will not unduly broaden the issues in the case;
4. A statement certifying that you have sent a copy of your request to intervene to the regulated company or its attorney and to all other parties of record in the case; and
5. If you are not represented by an attorney who is an active member of the Arizona State Bar, and you are not representing yourself as an individual, sufficient information and any appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with Arizona Supreme Court Rules 31.1, 31.2, 31.3, 38, 39, and 42, as applicable.
This only applies if you are NOT representing yourself and you are not a licensed attorney.

The granting of motions to intervene shall be governed by A.A.C. R14-3-105, except that all motions to intervene must be filed on or before September 29, 2023.

ADA/Equal Access Information

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, as well as request this document in an alternative format, by contacting the ADA Coordinator, Carolyn Buck, E-mail ADACoordinator@azcc.gov, voice phone number 602-542-2247. Requests should be made as early as possible and no later than 48 hours in advance of the event to allow time to arrange the accommodation.