

State of Utah
Administrative Rule Analysis
 Revised May 2023

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE

TYPE OF FILING: Amendment		
Title No. - Rule No. - Section No.		
Rule or Section Number:	R746-313	Filing ID: Office Use Only

Agency Information

1. Department:	Public Service Commission	
Agency:	Public Service Commission	
Room number:		
Building:	Heber M. Wells Building	
Street address:	160 E. 300 S., 4 th Floor	
City, state and zip:	Salt Lake City, Utah 84111	
Mailing address:	PO Box 4558	
City, state and zip:	Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4558	
Contact persons:		
Name:	Phone:	Email:
Michael Hammer	801-530-6729	michaelhammer@utah.gov

Please address questions regarding information on this notice to the persons listed above.

General Information

2. Rule or section catchline:
R746-313. Electrical Service Reliability.

3. Purpose of the new rule or reason for the change:

Section 746-313-7, Reporting on Electric Service Reliability. This rule imposes an annual reporting requirement on electric public utilities relating to electric service reliability. The Public Service Commission (PSC) generally exercises less regulatory authority over electrical cooperatives than investor-owned utilities. See, e.g., Subsection 54-7-12(7) (exempting cooperatives from statute requiring utilities to obtain the PSC’s approval changing customer rates). The PSC convened a public process and held a technical conference on September 25, 2023, to receive feedback from stakeholders as to whether the reporting requirement is necessary for electrical cooperatives. At the technical conference, a consensus existed in support of amending the rule to remove the reporting requirement for electrical cooperatives because the reports are of limited usefulness to regulators owing to regulators’ more limited jurisdiction over electrical cooperatives and the burden of requiring electrical cooperatives to submit the report outweighs any potential benefit. Accordingly, the proposed amendment exempts electrical cooperatives from the reporting requirement by excising certain language pertaining only to electrical cooperatives and making the reporting requirement applicable only to public utilities for which the “governing authority” is the PSC. Subsection 746-313-2(4) provides the “governing authority” of an electrical cooperative is its board of directors, as opposed to the PSC.

Section 746-313-8, Major Event Reporting by Electric Utilities. This rule imposes a requirement on electric public utilities to file reports to the PSC within 30 days of certain outage events. The PSC generally exercises less regulatory authority over electrical cooperatives than investor-owned utilities. See, e.g., Subsection 54-7-12(7) (exempting cooperatives from statute requiring utilities to obtain the PSC’s approval changing customer rates). The PSC convened a public process and held a technical conference on September 25, 2023, to receive feedback from stakeholders as to whether the reporting requirement is necessary for electrical cooperatives. At the technical conference, a consensus existed in support of amending the rule to remove the reporting requirement for electrical cooperatives because the reports are of limited usefulness to regulators owing to regulators’ more limited jurisdiction over electrical cooperatives and the burden of requiring electrical cooperatives to submit the reports outweighs any potential benefit. Accordingly, the proposed amendment exempts electrical cooperatives from the reporting requirement by excising the language applicable to electrical cooperatives, which in the rule’s terms are defined as entities whose governing authority is not the PSC. See Subsection 746-313-2(4).

4. Summary of the new rule or change:

The amendment exempts electrical cooperatives from the reporting requirement the rule imposes by making it applicable only to public utilities for which the governing authority is the PSC and excising language pertaining to electrical cooperatives.

Fiscal Information

5. Provide an estimate and written explanation of the aggregate anticipated cost or savings to:

A) State budget:

The amendment is expected to have no impact on the State's budget as it relieves electrical cooperatives of an existing regulatory reporting requirement.

B) Local governments:

The amendment does not concern local governments and is not expected to impact them because it concerns electrical cooperatives, not municipal utilities, and serves to remove an existing regulatory reporting requirement for electrical cooperatives.

C) Small businesses ("small business" means a business employing 1-49 persons):

To the extent an electric cooperative is a small business, the amendment can only decrease regulatory compliance costs as it removes a regulatory reporting requirement for electrical cooperatives, though the PSC does not have information sufficient to determine the extent of savings for such cooperatives. The amendment is expected to have no impact on small businesses that are not electrical cooperatives.

D) Non-small businesses ("non-small business" means a business employing 50 or more persons):

To the extent an electric cooperative is a non-small business, the amendment can only decrease regulatory compliance costs as it removes a regulatory reporting requirement for electrical cooperatives, though the PSC does not have information sufficient to determine the extent of savings for such cooperatives. The amendment is expected to have no impact on non-small businesses that are not electrical cooperatives.

E) Persons other than small businesses, non-small businesses, state, or local government entities ("person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, governmental entity, or public or private organization of any character other than an **agency**):

The amendment is expected to have no impact on persons other than small businesses, non-small businesses, state, or local government entities, unless such persons are electrical cooperatives in which case the amendment can only decrease regulatory compliance costs as it removes an existing regulatory reporting requirement. The PSC does not have sufficient information to estimate the amount of such savings for any affected electrical cooperative.

F) Compliance costs for affected persons (How much will it cost an impacted entity to adhere to this rule or its changes?):

There are no anticipated compliance costs for any affected entity or person. The amendment can only result in cost savings as it removes an existing regulatory reporting requirement for electrical cooperatives.

G) Regulatory Impact Summary Table (This table only includes fiscal impacts that could be measured. If there are inestimable fiscal impacts, they will not be included in this table. Inestimable impacts will be included in narratives above.)

Regulatory Impact Table

Fiscal Cost	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
State Government	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Governments	\$0	\$0	\$0
Small Businesses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Non-Small Businesses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Persons	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Fiscal Cost	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fiscal Benefits	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
State Government	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Governments	\$0	\$0	\$0
Small Businesses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Non-Small Businesses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Persons	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Fiscal Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Fiscal Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0

H) Department head comments on fiscal impact and approval of regulatory impact analysis:

As discussed above, the amendment removes an existing regulatory reporting requirement for electrical cooperatives. The only businesses or entities it stands to affect are electrical cooperatives, and any fiscal impact will necessarily result in cost savings because the amendment removes an existing regulatory reporting requirement.

--

Citation Information

6. Provide citations to the statutory authority for the rule. If there is also a federal requirement for the rule, provide a citation to that requirement:		
Utah Code Ann. Section 54-4-7	Utah Code Ann. Section 54-15-106	
Utah Code Ann. Section 54-4-14		
Utah Code Ann. Section 54-12-2		

Incorporations by Reference Information

7. Incorporations by Reference (if this rule incorporates more than two items by reference, please include additional tables):	
A) This rule adds, updates, or removes the following title of materials incorporated by references (a copy of materials incorporated by reference must be submitted to the Office of Administrative Rules; <i>if none, leave blank</i>):	
Official Title of Materials Incorporated (from title page)	
Publisher	
Issue Date	
Issue or Version	

B) This rule adds, updates, or removes the following title of materials incorporated by references (a copy of materials incorporated by reference must be submitted to the Office of Administrative Rules; <i>if none, leave blank</i>):	
Official Title of Materials Incorporated (from title page)	
Publisher	
Issue Date	
Issue or Version	

Public Notice Information

8. The public may submit written or oral comments to the agency identified in box 1. (The public may also request a hearing by submitting a written request to the agency. See Section 63G-3-302 and Rule R15-1 for more information.)		
A) Comments will be accepted until:	01/31/2024	
B) A public hearing (optional) will be held:		
Date (mm/dd/yyyy):	Time (hh:mm AM/PM):	Place (physical address or URL):
To the agency: If more space is needed for a physical address or URL, refer readers to Box 4 in General Information. If more than two hearings will take place, continue to add rows.		

9. This rule change MAY become effective on:	02/07/2024
NOTE: The date above is the date the agency anticipates making the rule or its changes effective. It is NOT the effective date.	

Agency Authorization Information

To the agency: Information requested on this form is required by Sections 63G-3-301, 63G-3-302, 63G-3-303, and 63G-3-402. Incomplete forms will be returned to the agency for completion, possibly delaying publication in the <i>Utah State Bulletin</i> and delaying the first possible effective date.		
Agency head or designee and title:	Thad LeVar, PSC Chair	Date: 12/15/2023

R746. Public Service Commission, Administration.

R746-313. Electrical Service Reliability.

R746-313-1. Authority.

(1) This rule establishes electric service reliability and continuity requirements as provided for in Utah Code Sections 54-3-1, 54-4-2 and 54-4-7.

R746-313-2. Definitions.

(1) "Customer average interruption duration index" ("CAIDI") has the same meaning as in IEEE 1366 or RUS 1730A-119, as applicable.

(2) "Electric company" means an electrical corporation or a distribution electrical cooperative that is also a public utility, as defined in Utah Code 54-2-1.

(3) "Form 7 - Information on Service Interruptions" means:

(a) Part G of the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service Form 7 Financial and Statistical Report,

(b) Part H of the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation Form 7 Financial and Statistical Report, or

(c) their equivalents.

(4) "Governing Authority" means:

(a) for a distribution electrical cooperative as defined in Utah Code 54-2-1(6), its board of directors; and

(b) for an electrical corporation as defined in Utah Code 54-2-1(7), the Public Service Commission of Utah, otherwise referred to as the commission.

(5) "The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Standard 1366" ("IEEE 1366") means the 2012 edition of the IEEE Guide for Electric Power Distribution Reliability Indices.

(6) "Loss of power supply"

(a) "Loss of power supply - Distribution Substation" means the loss of the electrical power supply system due to an outage/failure of a distribution substation component.

(b) "Loss of power supply - Generation/Transmission" means the loss of the electrical power supply from the electric company's own electric generator or transmission system, including transmission lines and transmission substations, or from another electric company or electric corporation.

(7) "Momentary average interruption event frequency index" ("MAIFIe") has the same meaning as in IEEE 1366 or RUS 1730A-119, as applicable.

(8) "Major event day identification threshold value" ("T_{MED}") has the same meaning as in IEEE 1366 or RUS 1730A-119.

(9) "Operating area" means a geographic subdivision of an electric company's Utah service territory that functions under the direction of an electric company office and as a separate entity used for reliability reporting within the electric company. An operating area may also be referred to as regions, divisions, or districts and may also be a reliability reporting area.

(10) "Reliability" means the degree to which electric service is supplied without interruptions to customers.

(11) "Reliability indices" means the electric service interruption indices identified in IEEE 1366 or RUS 1730A-119, as applicable.

(12) "Reliability reporting area" means a grouping of one or more operating areas, for which the electric company calculates major event thresholds.

(13) "Reporting Period" means the 12-month period, based on the previous 365 days, or 366 days for leap years, for which an electric company is tracking and reporting reliability performance.

(14) "Rules" means the Electric Service Reliability rules R746-313-1 through 8.

(15) "RUS 1730A-119" means the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service Bulletin 1730A-119 entitled "Interruption Reporting and Service Continuity Objectives for Electric Distribution Systems," dated March 24, 2009.

(16) "System average interruption duration index" ("SAIDI") has the same meaning as in IEEE 1366 or RUS 1730A-119, as applicable.

(17) "System average interruption frequency index" ("SAIFI") has the same meaning as in IEEE 1366 or RUS 1730A-119, as applicable.

(18) "System-wide" means pertaining to and limited to the electric company's customers in Utah.

R746-313-3. Purpose, Scope, Applicability and Exceptions.

(1) This rule establishes requirements for each electric company to monitor and report on electric service reliability.

(2) Unless otherwise approved, an electric company whose governing authority is the commission shall:

(a) follow the provisions of IEEE 1366 in the collection and analysis of interruption data and in the calculation and reporting of reliability indices as required by these rules. If there is a conflict between any provision in IEEE 1366 and the rules, the rules govern; and

(b) include both "distribution system" interruptions and "interruptions caused by events outside of the distribution system," as defined in IEEE 1366, in the electric company's record keeping, calculations, reporting, and filing as required by R746-313-4 through R746-313-8.

(3) Unless otherwise approved, an electric company whose governing authority is not the commission shall:

(a) follow the provisions of either IEEE 1366 or the RUS Bulletin 1730A-119 in the collection and analysis of interruption data and in the calculation and reporting of reliability indices as required by these rules. If a conflict exists between any provision in IEEE 1366 or RUS 1730A-119 and the rules, the rules govern; and

(b) include both "distribution system" interruptions and interruptions caused by events outside of the distribution system in the electric company's record keeping, calculations, reporting, and filing as required by the Electric Service Reliability Rules R746-313-4 through R746-313-8.

(4) The commission may, upon written request and for good cause shown, waive or modify any provision of these rules in accordance with R746-1-109, Deviation from Rules.

R746-313-4. Electric Service Reliability.

(1) An electric company must have a written reliability program.

(2) Within 3 months after the effective date of these rules an electric company whose governing authority is the commission must file for commission approval of reliability performance baselines for SAIDI and SAIFI reliability indices.

(3) The filing required by 746-313-4(2) must include, but is not limited to:

(a) the basis for the proposed SAIDI and SAIFI values; and

(b) identification of systems and description of internal processes to collect, monitor and analyze interruption data and events including:

(i) definitions of all parameters used to calculate the proposed standards and major event days, and the time-period upon which the proposed standards are based (e.g., 12-month rolling average, 365-day rolling average, annual average);

(ii) identification of all proposed deviations from IEEE 1366 used in the calculation of reliability indices and determination of major event days; and

(iii) a description of all data estimation methods used for the collection and calculation of SAIDI, SAIFI, CAIDI, and MAIFI.

R746-313-5. Electric Service Interruption Records.

(1) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this Section:

(a) An electric company using predominantly non-automated methods for identifying outages and tracking reliability shall keep an accurate record of each sustained interruption of service that affects one or more customers.

(b) An electric company using an electronic outage management system for identifying electric service interruptions and/or tracking outages shall keep an accurate record of each interruption of service that affects one or more customers.

(2) Each record shall contain at least the following information:

(a) the operating area where the interruption occurred;

(b) the reference identification of the substation involved;

(c) the reference identification of the circuit involved;

(d) the date and time the interruption started or was reported. If the exact time is unknown, the beginning of an interruption is recorded as the earlier of an automatic alarm or the reported initiation time;

(e) the date and time service was restored;

(f) the duration of the interruption;

(g) the number of metering points affected by the interruption;

(h) the cause of the interruption;

(i) whether the interruption was planned or unplanned;

(j) the interrupting device that made the interruption, if known; and

(k) the component involved (e.g., transmission line, substation, overhead primary main, underground primary main, transformer, etc.).

(3) For interruptions where customers are not simultaneously restored, an electric company shall keep records that document the step-restoration operations.

(4) For major events where an electric company is unable to obtain accurate data, the electric company shall make reasonable estimates and explain these estimates in any report filed with its governing authority.

(5) An electric company shall retain the records associated with this rule in accordance with R746-310-10 Preservation of Records.

R746-313-6. Inquiries about Electric Service Reliability.

(1) A customer may request a report from its electric company about the reliability of the electric service provided to the customer's own meter which the electric company must provide at no cost within 20 business days of the request. If a customer requests one or more additional reliability reports for the same meter within one year of the date of the first request, the electric company may charge the customer the cost of preparing the report(s).

(2) For an electric company whose governing authority is the commission, the report to the customer must include:

(a) The name of the customer;

(b) The date of the request;

(c) The address where the meter is installed;

(d) The meter identification number;

(e) The general identification of the equipment serving the customer; and

(f) A chronological listing of interruptions to the customer including all associated interruption data required by R746-313-5(2) covering at least the 36 months preceding the date of the request, if available. If 36 months of data are not available, the chronological listing must include all available data.

(3) For an electric company whose governing authority is not the commission, the report to the customer must include:

(a) The name of the customer;

(b) The date of the request;

(c) The address where the meter is installed;

(d) The meter identification number;

(e) The general identification of the equipment serving the customer; and

(f) A chronological listing of interruptions on the feeder serving the customer's meter including all interruption data required by R746-313-5(2) covering at least the 12 months preceding the date of the request. If 12 months of data are not available, the chronological listing must include all available data.

(4) Other than those inquiries specified in R746-313-6(1), each electric company must have a written policy for consistent treatment of all other inquiries pertaining to electric reliability. At a minimum, the electric company must provide to the inquiring party, by electronic means, the electric company's most-recently filed report on electric service reliability required by R764-313-7.

R746-313-7. Reporting on Electric Service Reliability.

(1) An electric company must report deviations from the reliability performance baselines established in accordance with R746-313-4 within 60 days after the end of the month when the deviation(s) occurred.

(2) Beginning May 1, 2013, and by May 1 of each succeeding year, an electric company whose governing authority is the commission shall file with the commission a report on electric service reliability for the previous calendar year. The electric company must make electronic copies of the report available to the public upon request and may charge a reasonable cost for requested paper copies.

(3) For an electric company whose governing authority is the commission, the report on electric service reliability must contain at a minimum:

(a) the calculated SAIDI, SAIFI, CAIDI, and MAIFIE reliability indices for the reporting period. At a minimum, the electric company must report this information on a system-wide basis compared with the previous four years' performance and, for SAIDI, SAIFI, and CAIDI on an operating area compared with the previous four years' performance;

(b) an analysis of the system-wide and reliability reporting area sustained interruption causes compared to the previous four-year performance. Outages may be categorized using the following cause categories:

(i) Loss of Supply - Generation/Transmission;

(ii) Loss of Supply - Distribution Substation;

(iii) Distribution - Environment (e.g., unpreventable contamination, corrosion, airborne deposits, flooding, fire/smoke not related to faults or lightning);

(iv) Distribution - Equipment Failure;

(v) Distribution - Lightning;

(vi) Distribution - Operational;

(vii) Distribution - Planned Outages;

(viii) Distribution - Public;

(ix) Distribution - Vegetation;

(x) Distribution - Weather (other than lightning);

(xi) Distribution - Wildlife;

(xii) Distribution - Unknown; and

(xiii) Distribution - Other.

(c) a listing of the major events experienced during the reporting period and a listing of significant events as defined by the electric company, their cause, and their effect on reliability performance during the reporting period;

(d) comparisons of budgeted and actual maintenance spending, maintenance activities, capital spending, vegetation management spending and vegetation management activities;

(e) identification of areas whose reliability performance warrants additional improvement efforts.

(f) a listing of the T_{MED} values that will be used for each reliability reporting area for the forthcoming annual reporting period.

(g) a summary of the changes the electric company has made or will make pertaining to the collection, calculation, estimation, and reporting of electric service reliability information and changes in reliability reporting areas and/or operating areas; and

(h) a map showing the reliability reporting areas and/or operating areas.

~~(4) For an electric company whose governing authority is not the commission, the report on electric service reliability must contain, at a minimum:~~

~~(a) The reliability indices listed in Form 7 - Information on Service Interruptions based upon the cause codes listed in RUS1730A 119; and~~

~~(b) A summary of any estimation methods and/or an explanation of any factors used in calculating reliability indices presented in the electric company's report on electric service reliability.]~~

R746-313-8. Major Event Reporting by Electric Utilities.

(1) Major event reporting for an electric company whose governing authority is the commission. Within 30 business days after the conclusion of each event which an electric company determines satisfies the criteria for major event classification in accordance with IEEE 1366, the electric company shall file a major event report with the commission for its consideration. The major event report must include, at a minimum:

- (a) a description of the major event, the interruption causes, and a summary of restoration efforts and factors that affected restoration of service;
- (b) identification of reliability reporting area and geographic area affected;
- (c) the total number of customers affected, and the number of customers without service at periodic intervals;
- (d) the calculated SAIDI, SAIFI, and CAIDI impacts (i.e., Event SAIDI, SAIFI, and CAIDI) associated with the major event to customers for each reliability reporting area and system-wide; and
- (e) restoration of service information including resources used and cost.

~~[(2) Major event reporting for electric company whose governing authority is not the commission. Within a timely period after each event which an electric company determines satisfies the criteria for major event classification in accordance with IEEE 1366 or RUS 1730A-119, as applicable, the electric company shall provide a major event analysis to its governing authority.]~~

KEY: reliability, IEEE 1366, SAIDI / SAIFI, major event

Date of Last Change: February 21, 2013

Notice of Continuation: April 21, 2022

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 54-3-1; 54-4-2; 54-4-7