

LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 16, 2024
OPEN SESSION

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 16, 2024 OPEN SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION HELD IN BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA. PRESENT WERE CHAIRMAN MIKE FRANCIS, VICE CHAIRMAN DAVANTE LEWIS, COMMISSIONER ERIC SKRMETTA, COMMISSIONER CRAIG GREENE, AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY BRANDON FREY. COMMISSIONER FOSTER CAMPBELL WAS ABSENT.

Open Session of October 16, 2024, convening at 9:04 a.m., and adjourning at 10:47 a.m., at the Buras Auditorium Building, 35619 Highway 11, Buras, Louisiana, with the above-name members of the Commission and Executive Secretary Brandon Frey present.

Ex. 1	<p>Commissioner Skrmetta thanked the Plaquemines Parish President, Keith Hinkley for the use of the Buras Auditorium. He also praised the LNG export facility and port for bringing economic activity to the area and the state.</p> <p>Chairman Francis welcomed Plaquemines Parish Councilmen Mitch Jurisich and Ronnie Newsom, who detailed the history of Plaquemines Parish and emphasized the importance of the parish to the state.</p> <p>Vice Chairman Lewis thanked everyone who participated in the HBCU Summit at Dillard University.</p> <p>Chairman Francis acknowledged Commissioner Campbell’s absence and asked everyone to keep him in their thoughts and prayers.</p>
Ex. 2	<p>S-37151 - Utilities, Inc. of Louisiana, ex parte. In re: Request for a Letter of Non-Opposition to include a Bulk Usage Rate on UIL’s tariff.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Staff Report and Recommendation.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Greene, with Chairman Francis and Vice Chairman Lewis concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to accept Staff’s Report and Recommendation filed into the record on August 22, 2024, expressing its non-opposition to UIL’s bulk usage rate.</p>
Ex. 3	<p>R-35595 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Review of the Schedule of Prescribed Rates and Requirements for Towing and Recovery services in General Order dated August 05, 2016.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Staff’s Final Report and Recommendation.</p> <p>Commissioner Skrmetta made a motion to amend portions of Staff’s Final Report and Recommendation, which failed for a lack of a second.</p> <p>Chairman Francis made a motion to accept Staff’s Final Report and Recommendation, which was seconded by Commissioner Greene, but after discussion, Commissioner Green withdrew his second.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, with Chairman Francis and Vice Chairman Lewis concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to defer the item until November.</p>

	<p>Present for Questions/Comments: Rudy Smith, Rudy Smith Service, Inc. Jared Varnado, President of Towing Professionals of Louisiana, Inc.</p> <p>DEFERRED</p>
Ex. 4	<p>R-36131 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Determination of Commission Jurisdiction Over the Various Methods of Providing Electricity to Electric Vehicles, and the Infrastructure Associated Therewith.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Joint Motion for Clarification or Reconsideration of General Order R-36131 (Corrected.)</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Francis, with Vice Chairman Lewis and Commissioner Greene concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to remand the docket to Staff to reopen the rulemaking to review and possibly clarify Sections 601 and 801 of General Order R-36131 (Corrected).</p> <p>Present for Questions/Comments: Larry Hand - Vice President for Regulatory & Public Affairs for Entergy Louisiana Bobby Gilliam – Outside Counsel for SWEPCO Mark Kleehammer - General Counsel & Chief Regulatory Officer Randy Young - Counsel for Louisiana Energy Users Group and Americans for Affordable Clean Energy</p>
Ex. 5	<p>U-36809 - Concordia Electric Cooperative, Inc., ex parte. In re: Formula Rate Plan Annual Report for 2022 Test Year.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on 2nd Unopposed Motion to Amend LPSC Order No. U-36809.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Lewis, with Chairman Francis and Commissioner Greene concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to grant Concordia’s Motion filed into the record on October 2, 2024 and amend LPSC Order No. U-36809-A.</p> <p>Present for Questions/Comments: Russell Purvis – Counsel for Concordia Electric Cooperative, Inc.</p>
Ex. 6	<p>U-37134 - 1803 Electric Cooperative, Inc., Beauregard Electric Cooperative, Inc., Claiborne Electric Cooperative, Inc., Northeast Louisiana Power Cooperative, Inc., South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association, and Washington-St. Tammany Electric Cooperative, Inc. In re: Joint Request for Non-Opposition to an asset transfer by 1803 Member Cooperatives to 1803 and for operation of same by 1803.</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Lewis, seconded by Chairman Francis, with Commissioner Skrmetta and Commissioner Greene concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to accept the Uncontested Stipulated Settlement filed into the record on September 23, 2024.</p>

<p>Ex. 7</p>	<p>U-37209 - South Coast Gas Company, Inc., ex parte. In re: Request for an interim Operating Revenue Rider.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote pursuant to Rule 57 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure on Uncontested Stipulated Settlement.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Chairman Francis, with Vice Chairman Lewis and Commissioner Skrmetta concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to exercise its original and primary jurisdiction pursuant to Rule 57.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Chairman Francis, with Vice Chairman Lewis and Commissioner Skrmetta concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to accept the Uncontested Stipulated Settlement filed into the record on September 27, 2024.</p>
<p>Ex. 8</p>	<p>U-37210 - South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association, ex parte. In re: Formula Rate Plan Annual Report 2023 Test Year Filing.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Joint Report and Draft Order.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Vice Chairman Lewis, with Chairman Francis and Commissioner Skrmetta concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to accept the Joint Report and issue the Draft Order filed into the record on October 4, 2024.</p>
<p>Ex. 9</p>	<p>U-37215 - Utilities, Inc. of Louisiana, ex parte. In re: Formula Rate Plan Annual Report for Test Year 2023. (Notice of intervention or protest shall be filed within 15 days of the date of this bulletin.)</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote on Joint Report and Draft Order.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Chairman Francis, with Vice Chairman Lewis and Commissioner Skrmetta concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to accept the Joint Report and issue the Draft Order filed into the record on September 24, 2024.</p>
<p>Ex. 10</p>	<p>U-37222 - Jefferson Davis Electric Cooperative, ex parte. In re: Request for approval of a revenue adjustment, establishment of a Formula Rate Plan, continuation of its Storm Rider, with modifications, modifications to its Terms and Conditions and associated Rate Schedules, and for Interim Rate Relief.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Interim Rate Increase pursuant to Rule 57.</p> <p>At the Request of Chairman Francis.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Chairman Francis, with Vice Chairman Lewis and Commissioner Skrmetta concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to exercise its original and primary jurisdiction pursuant to Rule 57.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Chairman Francis, seconded by Commissioner Greene, with Vice Chairman Lewis and Commissioner Skrmetta concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to approve JDEC’s request for an interim rate increase, subject to certain conditions.</p> <p>Present for Questions/Comments: Kara Kantrow – Outside Counsel for Jefferson Davis Electric Cooperative Mike Heinen - CEO and General Manager of Jefferson Davis Electric Cooperative</p>

	Jason Strong – Consultant for Jefferson Davis Electric Cooperative
Ex. 11	<p>U-37341 - Pointe Coupee Electric Membership Corporation, ex parte. In re: Application for increase of base rates, including request for interim rate relief, request for associated Tariff modifications, and request to establish a formula rate plan and emergency reserve fund.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible vote on Interim Rate Increase pursuant to Rule 57 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.</p> <p>At the Request of Commissioner Greene.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Chairman Francis, with Vice Chairman Lewis and Commissioner Skrmetta concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to exercise its original and primary jurisdiction pursuant to Rule 57.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Chairman Francis, with Vice Chairman Lewis and Commissioner Skrmetta concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commissioner voted to approve Point Coupee Membership Corporation’s request for an interim rate increase.</p> <p>Present for Questions/Comments: Jennifer Vosburg – Outside Counsel for Pointe Coupee Electric Myron Lambert – General Manager of Pointe Coupee Electric</p>
Ex. 12	<p>Undocketed - Solicitation of United Professionals Company and Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann L.L.C. for continuation of RTO monitoring services in both MISO and SPP.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain UPC and Stone Pigman.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Lewis, with Chairman Francis and Commissioner Greene concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to extend the retention of UPC and Stone Pigman through December 31, 2030.</p>
Ex. 13	<p>1) Reports</p> <p>- Report from Correctional Institute Service Providers regarding rates and the effect of the Martha Wright Reed Act.</p> <p>DEFERRED</p> <p>2) Resolutions 3) Discussions 4) ERSC/OMS/SPP</p> <p>- Discussion and possible vote to ratify interventions of Louisiana Public Service Commission in RTO-Related or other Federal Energy Regulatory Proceedings.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Greene, with Chairman Francis and Vice Chairman Lewis concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to ratify the actions taken in ER24-2797, ER24-2871, ER24-2825, and ER24-2798.</p> <p>5) Directives</p>

<p>Ex. 14</p>	<p>FERC Docket Nos. ER18-194 AEP Oklahoma Transmission Company, Inc. and ER18-195, Public Service Company of Oklahoma.</p> <p>In re: Discussion, possible Executive Session to discuss litigation strategy pursuant to La. R.S. 42:16, et seq., and vote regarding treatment of NOLC ADIT in FERC Docket Nos. ER18-194 and ER18-195.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Greene, with Chairman Francis and Vice Chairman Lewis concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to authorize special counsel to draft and submit a request for guidance to the IRS seeking additional guidance regarding the proper method of calculating NOLC ADIT for ratemaking purposes, and to take such other action as may be necessary to address this issue with the IRS and the FERC.</p>
<p>Ex. 15</p>	<p>Undocketed - Directive to Staff to investigate impact of personal generators on jurisdictional gas companies.</p> <p>At the request of Chairman Francis.</p> <p>Chairman Francis’ directive read as follows: During Hurricane Francine, reports suggested that home standby generator usage led to increased demand for natural gas, and therefore resulted in decreases in gas pressure in some local distribution systems, a number of which may be LPSC-jurisdictional. Louisiana is always at risk of severe weather, and with the rise in use of home standby generators, we can expect this issue will occur again, potentially with greater impacts as more home standby generators are added to the gas systems. I believe it is the Commission’s duty to be aware of such events, as they may affect the reliability of service provided by our gas utilities; therefore, I direct Staff to investigate the impact of personal generators on our jurisdictional gas companies, including potentially collaborating with La. Department of Natural Resources given our shared regulatory authority. I do not believe a docket needs to be opened at this time. However, if Staff determines that a docket should be opened, I direct them to do so, and to issue RFPs to retain any necessary outside counsel or consultants needed to perform the evaluation.</p> <p>After discussion, there was no opposition to the directive.</p>

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Greene, with Chairman Francis and Vice Chairman Lewis concurring, and Commissioner Campbell absent, the Commission voted to adjourn.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next Business and Executive Session will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.