

Republic of the Philippines
ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City



**IN THE MATTER OF THE
APPLICATION FOR
APPROVAL OF ADJUSTMENT
IN RATES BASED ON THE
TARIFF GLIDE PATH FOR THE
FOURTH TO SIXTH
REGULATORY YEARS OF THE
FIRST REGULATORY PERIOD
FOR THE SECOND ENTRANT
GROUP UNDER THE TARIFF
GLIDE PATH (TGP) RULES,
WITH MOTION FOR
PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY**

ERC CASE NO. 2018-004 RC

**DAVAO ORIENTAL ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.
(DORECO),**

Applicant.

X ----- X

D O C K E T E D
Date: APR 17 2018
By: [Signature]

ORDER

On 25 January 2018, the applicant Davao Oriental Electric Cooperative, Inc. (DORECO) filed an *Application* for the approval of its rate adjustment pursuant to the tariff glide path (TGP) rules.

In the said *Application*, DORECO alleged the following:

APPLICANT, DAVAO ORIENTAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.(DORECO), through counsel, unto this Honorable Commission, respectfully alleges, that:

THE APPLICANT

1. DORECO is a non-stock, non-profit electric cooperative, duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the Republic of the Philippines, with principal office at National Highway, Madang, Mati City, Davao Oriental;

2. It holds an exclusive franchise issued by the National Electrification Commission to operate an electric light and power distribution service in the city of Mati and the municipalities of Lupon, Banaybanay, San Isidro, Governor Generoso, Tarragona, Manay, Caraga, Baganga, Cateel and Boston, all in the province of Davao Oriental.

NATURE OF APPLICATION

3. The instant Application is being filed for the approval of Applicant's proposed adjustment in its Distribution, Supply and Metering (DSM) Rates to be implemented on the First to Third Regulatory Years of the Second Regulatory Period for Electric Cooperatives belonging to the Second Entrant Group under the Tariff Glide Path Rules (TGP Rules) and pursuant to said Rules, as well as other pertinent laws and rules.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

4. Sometime in 2014, Applicant filed with the Honorable Commission an application for approval of proposed adjustment in its DSM Rates pursuant to the TGP Rules, docketed as ERC Case No. 2014-073RC.
5. In the said application, Applicant prayed for approval of either of the following two (2) proposed alternative DSM rates, to be implemented effective January 2015, to wit:

A. WITH PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE "S"

	UNITS	CUSTOMER TYPE		
		Residential	Low Voltage	Higher Voltage
Distribution Charges:				
Demand Charge	PhP/kW	-	-	234.9739
Distribution System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.6359	0.6348	-
Supply Charges:				
Retail Customer Charge	PhP/Customer/Mo	-	51.4512	51.4512
Supply System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.7206	-	-
Metering Charges:				
Retail Customer Charge	PhP/Meter/Mo.	6.1825	38.5667	38.5667
Metering System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.4537	-	-

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B. EXCLUDING PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE "S"

	UNITS	CUSTOMER TYPE		
		Residential	Low Voltage	Higher Voltage
Distribution Charges:				
Demand Charge	PhP/kW	-	-	226.8026
Distribution System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.6138	0.6127	-
Supply Charges:				
Retail Customer Charge	PhP/Customer/Mo	-	49.6619	49.6619
Supply System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.6956	-	-
Metering Charges:				
Retail Customer Charge	PhP/Meter/Mo.	5.9675	37.2256	37.2256
Metering System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.4379	-	-

6. The foregoing application was Applicant's initial application for DSM rate adjustment pursuant to the TGP Rules, under which electric cooperatives are given an opportunity to adjust their rates once every three (3) years, which may occur at the start of the fourth year of the First Regulatory Period and every 3 years thereafter;
7. Applicant belongs to the Second Entrant Group under the TGP Rules, whose first regulatory period is from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2017. Having filed its initial application for DSM rate adjustment on the third regulatory year of the First Regulatory Period, the cooperative is filing the instant Application in the current year 2017, the sixth regulatory year of the First Regulatory Period, for the proposed adjustment of its DSM rates to be implemented on the first to the third regulatory years of the Second Regulatory Period for the Second Entrant Electric Cooperatives under the TGP Rules;
8. Applicant's first TGP application under ERC Case No. 2014-073RC is still pending evaluation of the Honorable Commission but in spite thereof, the Applicant's constrained to adopt and use the proposed DSM rates in the said application as its basis in computing the proposed adjustment in the instant Application.

THE PROPOSED DSM RATE ADJUSTMENT

9. Under the TGP Rules, the concerned electric cooperative shall use the following formula in determining the TGP for the fourth to sixth years of the Regulatory Period, to wit:

$$TGP_B = TGP_n + TGP_{n+1} TGP_{n+2}$$

Where

$$TGP_n = I_n - X_n + S_n$$

n = the fourth year of their Regulatory Period and succeeding Regulatory Periods

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The TGP calculated for each of the three years will be summed to determine the possible rate adjustment starting on the First Year of the next Regulatory Period.

10. Applying the methodology embodied in the TGP Rules, Applicant calculated the values of the "I", "X" and "S" and came up with the following results, to wit:

	"I"(B)	"X"(B)	"S"(B)	TGP B	TGP B (excluding S)
YEAR 2015	0.00%	12.17%	1.90%	-10.27%	-12.17%
YEAR 2016	0.00%	5.78%	1.10%	-4.68%	-5.78%
YEAR 2017	0.00%	0.00%	1.50%	1.50%	0.00%
TOTAL				-13.45%	-17.95%

11. Utilizing the above values will result in adjustments in Applicant's DSM Rates covering the first to third years of the Second Regulatory Period for electric cooperatives belonging to the Second Entrant Group, as follows:

A. WITH PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE "S"

	UNITS	CUSTOMER TYPE		
		Residential	Low Voltage	Higher Voltage
Distribution Charges:				
Demand Charge	PhP/kW			203.3731
Distribution System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.5504	0.5494	
Supply Charges:				
Retail Customer Charge	PhP/Customer/Mo		44.5317	44.5317
Supply System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.6237		
Metering Charges:				
Retail Customer Charge	PhP/Meter/Mo.	5.3511	33.3800	33.3800
Metering System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.3927		

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B. EXCLUDING PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE "S"

	UNITS	CUSTOMER TYPE		
		Residential	Low Voltage	Higher Voltage
Distribution Charges:				
Demand Charge	PhP/kW			186.0946
Distribution System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.5036	0.5028	
Supply Charges:				
Retail Customer Charge	PhP/Customer/Mo		40.7483	40.7483
Supply System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.5707		
Metering Charges:				
Retail Customer Charge	PhP/Meter/Mo.	4.8965	30.5441	30.5441
Metering System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.3593		

12. Consequently, Applicant respectfully prays that it be allowed to implement either of the above two calculated alternative DSM rates, effective January 1, 2018 and up to December 31, 2020.

SUPPORTING DATA AND DOCUMENTS

13. In support of the foregoing computations, Applicant is submitting herewith the following documents, which are being made integral parts hereof, to wit:

Annex Markings	Nature of Document
A to A-2	Proposed TGP Calculations and supporting documents using the prescribed templates: Index "T" Calculation Efficiency Factor "X" Calculation Performance Incentive "S" Calculation
B	MFSR - Sections B and E (2013-2016)
C	Billing Determinants Template (2013-2016 kWh Sales, No. of Customers and kW Demand)
D	Sample Bills per customer type (2013-2016)
E	Regional CPI (2013-2016)
F	RFSC Utilization (2014-2016)
G	Consumer Complaints Summary or Tracking Form (2014-2016)
H	Audited Financial Statements (2014-2016)

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**ALLEGATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION FOR PROVISIONAL
AUTHORITY**

14. Applicant respectfully repleads herein the foregoing allegations;

15. Applicant respectfully prays that it be allowed to implement the proposed rate adjustment starting January 1, 2018, considering that it is expressly prescribed under the TGP Rules' provision on Regulatory Period and Process, which provides in part, as follows:

"2. Regulatory Period and Process

2.1 On or before each Fourth month of the Third and Sixth regulatory year of their respective Regulatory Periods, the electric cooperative may file before the Commission an application for a rate adjustment reflecting the values for the "I", "X" and "S" as determined in accordance with these rules. ***The initial tariff caps of the respective ECs shall be adjusted by the "I, "X" and "S" effective at the start of the Fourth Regulatory Year of the First Regulatory Period x xx"*** (Emphasis ours)

16. Under the TGP Rules, the regulatory period is six (6) years for each entry Group. For the Second Entrant Group, the first regulatory period is from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2017 and the start of the Fourth Regulatory Year is January 1, 2015. Applicant belongs to the Second Entrant Group, accordingly, its initial DSM Rates under the TGP Rules should be adjusted through the proposed TGP B Rates starting January 1, 2018;

17. Aside from the foregoing, Applicant further prays for provisional authority to implement the proposed rates effective January 1, 2018 and even during the pendency of the instant application, considering that Applicant urgently needs additional funds to be able to cope with the rising costs of its operations. Among the major factors that added to its operating costs is the implementation of the Sitio Energization Program (SEP) of the government consisting of massive extension of its distribution lines up to the remotest and far-flung areas which considerably increased its operations and maintenance costs and likewise resulted to increased system losses which the cooperative is constrained to absorb;

18. Further, the rising cost of materials, tools, equipment, supplies, fuel and other costs incidental to its daily operations has considerably increased these past several years and the funds being generated from Applicant's DSM charges, the rates of which were granted by the Honorable Commission way back in Year 2010 by virtue of the Rules for Setting the Electric Cooperatives' Wheeling Rates (RSEC-WR), are no longer sufficient to cover those costs, and if not addressed

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accordingly with the further adjustment of its rates, Applicant's service to its consumers will be prejudiced.

19. Considering the foregoing, it is respectfully prayed that Applicant be allowed to implement the proposed DSM Rates effective January 1, 2018, even while the instant applications pending hearing or evaluation of the Honorable Commission.

COMPLIANCE WITH
PRE-FILING REQUIREMENTS

20. Finally, in compliance with the pre-filing requirements for the instant application, Applicant is likewise submitting herewith the following documents, which are being made integral parts hereof, to wit:

Annex Markings	Nature of Document
I	Judicial Affidavit in support of the motion for provisional authority
Jand series	Proof of furnishing copies of the Application to the SangguniangPanlungsod of Matiand SangguniangPanlalawigan of Davao Oriental
Kand series	Publication of the Application in a newspaper of general circulation in DORECO's franchise area or where it principally operates, with Affidavit of Publication

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, premises considered, it is most respectfully prayed of this Honorable Commission that after due notice and hearing, Applicant DORECO be allowed to implement either of the following two (2) alternative proposed new rates for its Distribution, Supply and Metering (DSM) Charges, effective January 2018, to wit:

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A. WITH PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE "S"

	UNITS	CUSTOMER TYPE		
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Retail Customer Charge	PhP/Meter/Mo.	5.3511	33.3800	33.3800
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B. EXCLUDING PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE "S"

	UNITS	CUSTOMER TYPE		
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Metering Charges:				
Retail Customer Charge	PhP/Meter/Mo.	4.8965	30.5441	30.5441
Metering System Charge	PhP/kWh	0.3593		

Other reliefs, just and equitable in the premises are likewise prayed for.

Finding the said *Application* to be sufficient in substance, with the required fees having been paid, the same is hereby set for determination of compliance with the jurisdictional requirements, expository presentation, Pre-trial Conference, and presentation of evidence on **21 June 2018 at ten o'clock in the morning (10:00 A.M.)**, at **DORECO's Main Office, National Highway, Madang, Mati City, Davao Oriental**.

Accordingly, DORECO is hereby directed to:

- 1) Cause the publication of the attached Notice of Public Hearing in two (2) newspapers of nationwide circulation in the Philippines at its own expense, twice (2x) within two (2) successive weeks, the dates of publication not being less than seven (7) days apart, and the date of the last publication to be made not later than ten (10) days before the date of the scheduled initial hearing;
- 2) Furnish with copies of this Order and the attached Notice of Public Hearing the Offices of the Provincial Governor, the City and Municipal Mayors, and the Local Government Unit (LGU) legislative body within the affected franchise area for the appropriate posting thereof on their respective bulletin boards;
- 3) Inform the consumers within the affected franchise area of the filing of the *Application*, its reasons therefor, and of the scheduled hearing thereon, by any other means available and appropriate;
- 4) Furnish with copies of this Order and the attached Notice of Public Hearing the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG), the Commission on Audit (COA), and the Committees on Energy of both Houses of Congress. They are hereby requested, if they so desire, to send their duly authorized representatives at the scheduled hearing; and
- 5) Furnish with copies of the *Application* and its attachments all those making requests therefor, subject to reimbursement of reasonable photocopying costs.

On the date of the initial hearing, Applicant must submit to the Commission its written compliance with the aforementioned jurisdictional requirements attaching therewith, methodically arranged and duly marked the following:

- 1) The evidence of publication of the attached Notice of Public Hearing consisting of affidavits of the Editors or Business Managers of the newspapers where the said Notice of Public Hearing was published, and the complete issues of the said newspapers;

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- 2) The evidence of actual posting of this Order and the attached Notice of Public Hearing consisting of certifications issued to that effect, signed by the aforementioned Governor, Mayors, and LGU legislative body or their duly authorized representatives, bearing the seals of their offices;
- 3) The evidence of other means employed by Applicant to inform the consumers within the affected franchise area of the filing of the *Application*, its reasons therefor, and of the scheduled hearing thereon;
- 4) The evidence of receipt of copies of this Order and the attached Notice of Public Hearing by the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG), the Commission on Audit (COA), and the Committees on Energy of both Houses of Congress;
- 5) The evidence of receipt of copies of the *Application* and its attachments by all those making requests therefor, if any; and
- 6) Such other proof of compliance with the requirements of the Commission.

Applicant and all interested parties are also required to submit, at least five (5) days before the date of the initial hearing and Pre-Trial Conference, their respective Pre-Trial Briefs containing, among others:

- 1) A summary of admitted facts and proposed stipulation of facts;
- 2) The issues to be tried or resolved;
- 3) The documents or exhibits to be presented, stating the purposes and proposed markings therefor; and
- 4) The number and names of the witnesses, with their written testimonies in a Judicial Affidavit form attached to the Pre-trial Brief.

Failure of Applicant to comply with the above requirements within the prescribed period shall be a ground for cancellation of the scheduled hearing, and the resetting of which shall be six (6) months from the said date of cancellation.

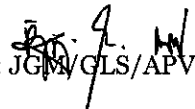
DORECO must also be prepared to make an expository presentation of the instant *Application*, aided by whatever communication medium that it may deem appropriate for the purpose, in order to put in plain words and explain, for the benefit of the consumers and other concerned parties, what the *Application* is all about and the reasons and justifications being cited in support thereof.

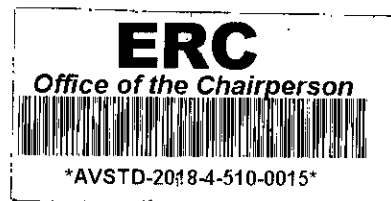
SO ORDERED.

Pasig City, 11 April 2018.

FOR AND BY AUTHORITY
OF THE COMMISSION:

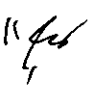

AGNES VST/DEVANADERA
Chairperson and CEO

LS: JGM/CLS/APV




COPY FURNISHED:

- Atty. Jeremiah D. Francisco**
Dechavez & Evangelista Law Offices
Counsel for Applicant DORECO
Unit 2008, 20th Flr., Tycoon Centre, Pearl Drive,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
- Davao Oriental Electric Cooperative, Inc. (DORECO)**
Applicant
National Highway, Madang, Mati City, Davao Oriental
- Office of the Solicitor General**
134 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City
- Commission on Audit**
Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City
- Senate Committee on Energy**
GSIS Bldg. Roxas Blvd., Pasay City
- House Committee on Energy**
Batasan Hills, Quezon City



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7. **Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI)**
3rd Floor, Chamber and Industry Plaza (CIP), 1030 Campus Avenue corner Park Avenue, McKinley Town Center, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City
8. **Office of the Governor**
Province of Davao Oriental
9. **Local Government Unit (LGU) legislative body**
Province of Davao Oriental
10. **Office of the City Mayor**
Mati, Davao Oriental
11. **Office of the LGU legislative body**
Mati, Davao Oriental
12. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Lupon, Davao Oriental
13. **Office of the LGU legislative body**
Lupon, Davao Oriental
14. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Banaybanay, Davao Oriental
15. **Office of the LGU legislative body**
Banaybanay, Davao Oriental
16. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
San Isidro, Davao Oriental
17. **Office of the LGU legislative body**
San Isidro, Davao Oriental
18. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Governor Generoso, Davao Oriental
19. **Office of the LGU legislative body**
Governor Generoso, Davao Oriental
20. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Tarragona, Davao Oriental
21. **Office of the LGU legislative body**
Tarragona, Davao Oriental
22. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Manay, Davao Oriental
23. **Office of the LGU legislative body**
Manay, Davao Oriental
24. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Caraga, Davao Oriental
25. **Office of the LGU legislative body**
Caraga, Davao Oriental
26. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Baganga, Davao Oriental
27. **Office of the LGU legislative body**
Bangaga, Davao Oriental
28. **Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Cateel, Davao Oriental

- 29. Office of the LGU legislative body**
Cateel, Davao Oriental
- 30. Office of the Municipal Mayor**
Boston, Davao Oriental
- 31. Office of the LGU legislative body**
Boston, Davao Oriental
- 32. Regulatory Operations Service**
17th Flr., Energy Regulatory Commission,
Pacific Center Bldg., San Miguel Ave.,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

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