

Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. 4 Irving Place New York NY 10003-0987 www.oru.com

October 12, 2012

Honorable Jaclyn A. Brilling Secretary State of New York Public Service Commission Three Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12223

> RE: Case No. 12-E-0398 – Tariff Filings to Effectuate Amendments to Public Service Law §66-j (Remote Net Energy Metering for Micro-Hydro Electric Generating Systems) and Reforming Changes to Standardized Interconnection Requirements.

Dear Secretary Brilling:

Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. ("O&R" or the "Company") hereby submits for filing 1st Revised Leaf No. 181 to its Schedule for Electric Service, P.S.C. No. 3 – Electricity ("Tariff"). The tariff leaf filed electronically today is issued October 12, 2012 to become effective February 1, 2013.

## Reason for Filing

Chapter 318 of the 2012 Laws of New York amended Public Service Law ("PSL") §66-j and extended remote net metering to non-residential customers and customers with farm operations who locate micro-hydroelectric generating equipment on property that they own or lease.<sup>1</sup> On September 7, 2012, the Commission issued a Notice Establishing Filing Requirements ("Notice"), directing the utilities to conform their tariffs to the new statutory provisions.<sup>2</sup> The Company is making this filing in compliance with that Notice.

## Summary of Tariff Change

The Company has modified Rider N – Net Metering for Customer Generators to indicate that remote net metering is available to non-residential customers with micro-hydroelectric

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Public Service Law ("PSL") §66-j and PSL §66-I were previously amended effective June 1, 2011, pursuant to Chapter 35 of the Laws of 2011, which permitted remote net metering by customers with non-residential solar photovoltaic or farm waste electric generation and by customers with farm wind or non-residential wind electric generation. The Company's tariff changes to comply with those statutory changes were issued in Case 11-E-0323 and became effective December 1, 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Notice also invited the electric utilities to propose changes to the Standardized Interconnection Requirements ("SIR"). The Company will submit comments on the SIR, jointly with other New York State utilities, in a separate correspondence.

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generating equipment. Although the statutory change extended remote net metering both to farm service and non-residential customers with micro-hydroelectric generating equipment, remote net metering will be available to farm service customers who take service under a non-residential service classification under the Company's tariff, because O&R does not have a distinct "farm service" service classification.<sup>3</sup>

## Conclusion and Notice

The Company will provide for public notice of the tariff changes in this filing by means of newspaper publication once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the effective date of the proposed tariff changes. Enclosed is a proposed form of Notice of Proposed Rule Making for publication in the State Register pursuant to the State Administrative Procedures Act.

Questions regarding this filing can be directed to me at (212) 460-3308.

Very truly yours,

/s/

William A. Atzl, Jr. Director – Rate Engineering

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Chapter 318 of the 2012 Laws amended Section 3 of PSL §66-j and extended remote net metering to "[a] customer who owns or operates a farm operation as such term is defined in subdivision eleven of section three hundred one of the agriculture and markets law, or a non-residential customer-generator as defined by subparagraph (vii) of paragraph (a) of subdivision one of this section that locates micro-hydroelectric generating equipment with a net energy meter on property owned or leased by such customer-generator." However, micro-hydroelectric generating equipment is defined in Section 1, paragraph (f) of PSL §66-j as, "a hydroelectric system (i) (A) in the case of a residential customer, with a rated capacity of not more than twenty-five kilowatts; and (B) in the case of a non-residential customer, with a rated capacity of not more than two thousand kilowatts; and (ii) that is manufactured, installed, and operated in accordance with applicable government and industry standards, that is connected to the electric system and operated in conjunction with an electric corporation's transmission and distribution facilities, and that is operated in compliance with any standards and requirements established under this section." The Company assumes that the change in law did not intend to extend remote net metering to a farm service customer taking service under a residential service classification.