



# Pedernales Electric Cooperative - Fee Review

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# About GDS

- National/International Consulting and Engineering Firm
- Founded in 1986
- Primary Focus – Utilities and Energy
  - Electric, gas, water & wastewater utilities
  - Primarily Electric Cooperatives & Municipalities
- 175 Employees
- Offices: Austin, TX; Marietta (Atlanta), GA; Auburn, AL; Madison, WI; Manchester, NH; Augusta, ME; Orlando, FL
- Web site: [www.gdsassociates.com](http://www.gdsassociates.com)

# GDS Assignment

- Review of PEC's tariffed Fees
  - Review the process and costs associated with each Fee
  - Review the current need for each Fee
  - Add new Fees if needed
  - Benchmark Fees with neighboring and like utilities where able
  - Solar Interconnection Application Fees are being handled in a separate project

# GDS Assignment

- Review of PEC's tariffed Fees Process
  - Create a formula for each fee that includes the following where applicable:
    - Labor time x Labor rate
    - Equipment time x Equipment rate
    - Truck time x Truck rate
    - Any pass through charges from outside vendors (i.e. Bank fees etc.)
    - Other costs that can be directly attributed
    - Overhead costs where applicable

# Review of Fees

- Reasons fees may be recommended to change, removed or, added
  - Process changes (i.e. software improvements, process improvements etc.)
  - Labor and/or Labor overhead cost changes
  - Fee no longer is needed due to some business change
  - New fee is required either identified in review as needed or a new business process is in place that needs a fee to recover cost

## 500.4 FEE SCHEDULE

FEE	AMOUNT	SECTION
Open Records Fee – Staff research time	\$ 40.00 per hour	300.4
Open Records Fee – Copies	\$ 0.25 cents per page for any pages in excess of 10 pages	300.4
Open Records Fee – Other materials and services not included in research time and copies.	Actual cost	300.4
Subpoena Response Service Fee	\$ 40.00 / hour	300.4.1
Easement Release	\$ 300.00	300.4.2
Membership Fee	\$ 50.00	300.8.1
Establishment Fee	\$ 75.00	300.8.2
Same Day Service Fee	\$ 250.00	300.9.3
Reconnection Fee (for non-payment)	\$ 100.00	300.9.9
Collection Fee	\$ 75.00	300.11.9
Late Payment Processing Fee	\$ 20.00 for residential accounts \$ 20.00 or 6 percent of the unpaid balance, whichever is greater for non-residential accounts, except state agencies	300.11.4
Loan Late Fee	The greater of \$ 7.50 or 7 percent	300.11.5
Return Check/Denied Bank Draft	\$ 30.00	300.11.6
Meter Test Fee	\$ 55.00	300.13.3
Advanced Metering Opt Out Program – Meter Exchange	\$ 75.00	300.13.6
Advanced Metering Opt Out Program – Monthly Meter Readings	\$ 30.00, additional \$1 / mile charge for service locations further than 20 miles from nearest area office	300.13.6
Advanced Metering Opt Out Program – Quarterly Meter Readings	\$ 45.00, additional \$1 / mile charge for service locations further than 20 miles from nearest area office	300.13.6
Meter Tampering	\$ 500.00	300.13.7
System Impact Fee	\$ 200.00	400.14
Franchise Fee	Varies depending on the municipality	500.1.11
Interconnect Wholesale Energy Application Fee	\$ 25.00	500.3.2
Cooperative Solar Rate Application Fee	\$ 15.00	500.3.4



# Review of Fees

- Fees Not recommended to change

Fee	Current Amount
Membership Fee	\$ 50.00
Open Records Fee – Staff research time	\$ 40.00 per hour
Open Records Fee – Copies	\$ 0.25 cents per page for any pages in excess of 10 pages
Open Records Fee – Other materials and services not included in research time and copies.	Actual cost
Subpoena Response Service Fee	\$ 40.00 / hour
Meter Tampering	\$ 500.00
System Impact Fee	\$ 200.00
Return Check/Denied Bank Draft	\$ 30.00
Loan Late Fee	The greater of \$ 7.50 or 7 percent



# Review of Fees

- Fees recommended to change

Fee	Current Amount	Recommended Amount
Easement Release	\$ 300.00	\$ 100.00
Establishment Fee	\$ 75.00	\$ 50.00
Same Day Service Fee	\$ 250.00	\$ 125.00 (BH) / \$175.00 (NBH)
Reconnection Fee (for non-payment)	\$ 100.00	\$ 75.00
Collection Fee	\$ 75.00	Include in Reconnect Fee
Late Payment Processing Fee	\$ 20.00 for residential accounts	10% on past due amounts
	\$ 20.00 or 6 percent of the unpaid balance, whichever is greater for non-residential accounts, except state agencies	



# Review of Fees

- Fees recommended to change

Fee	Current Amount	Recommended Amount
Meter Test Fee	\$ 55.00	\$ 100.00
Advanced Metering Opt Out Program – Meter Exchange	\$ 75.00	\$ 150.00
Advanced Metering Opt Out Program – Monthly Meter Readings	\$ 30.00, additional \$1 / mile charge for service locations further than 20 miles from nearest area office	\$ 30.00, additional \$3.50/mile charge for service locations further than 30 miles from nearest area office
Advanced Metering Opt Out Program – Quarterly Meter Readings	\$ 45.00, additional \$1 / mile charge for service locations further than 20 miles from nearest area office	\$ 30.00, additional \$3.50/mile charge for service locations further than 30 miles from nearest area office





# Review of Fees

- Fees recommended to remove

Fee	Current Amount
Cooperative Solar Rate Application Fee	\$ 15.00

- Fees recommended to add

Fee	Current Amount
Redesign Fee	Greater of \$ 500.00 or actual cost
Miscellaneous Trip Fee	\$100

# Summary

- GDS has completed review of Fees for this round of the Cost of Service Study
- PEC staff shared results and recommendations with the Rates Committee
- PEC staff will bring Tariff amendments to the PEC Board of Directors for consideration in August



# QUESTIONS

