200.16 Payment Options

200.16.1 Pre-paid Payment Option

The Pre-paid Payment Option allows Members to deduct the costs for electric service from a credit on the account placed in advance of usage. Members enrolled in the Pre-paid Payment Option agree to an automatic service disconnection when their account reaches a zero balance.

Applicability

The Pre-paid Payment Option is available to Members enrolled in Residential and Farm/Ranch with Remote Connect/Disconnect enabled meters. The Pre-paid Payment Option may not be combined with a Deferred Payment Arrangement or any other payment plans. Members enrolled in Time of Use, Interconnects, and Cooperative Solar rates are ineligible for the Pre-paid Payment Option. Additionally, Members with three-phase service, participating in the Advanced Metering Opt Out Program, or listed on the critical care registry are ineligible for enrollment.

Members with an outstanding account balance must bring their balance to zero or agree to an arrangement for payment of the outstanding balance prior to enrollment in the Pre-paid Payment Option. If the Member enters into an arrangement for payment, PEC will apply 50% of every payment to the outstanding balance and 50% to the pre-paid account balance until the outstanding balance is paid in full. Once enrolled in the Pre-paid Payment Option, Members may not enter into a subsequent arrangement for payment of an outstanding account balance.

Requirements

To qualify for the Pre-paid Payment Option, Members must (1) have a valid email account or phone number to receive notifications; (2) consent to receiving notifications regarding the Pre-paid Payment Option, including electronic mail or messages, phone messages or texts at any electronic mail address or phone number provided to the Cooperative; (3) agree to update contact information upon any changes to such information; and (4) have Remote Connect/Disconnect enabled meters installed at service location as of May 1, 2018, or at a later date if PEC determines it is necessary.

Plan Details

Member Agreement

Upon enrollment, Member agrees to all terms and conditions of the Pre-paid Payment Option Member Agreement.

Initial Balance

A minimum credit balance of \$25 will be required upon enrollment in the Pre-paid Payment Option. Existing Members may apply deposit funds towards the minimum credit balance.

Deposits

New Members must fulfill the Cooperative's Condition of Service; provided, however; new Members enrolling in the Pre-paid Payment Option may not be required to post an account deposit based on creditworthiness.

A Member's existing deposit will be applied to pre-paid account balance.

Notices

Members will be provided Member-controlled and system generated notices regarding their prepaid account balance and electric service connection status. Notices may be received via phone call, email, or text message. PEC will provide a system-generated low balance notice when the account balance becomes less than \$10. Members are responsible for setting up their own Membercontrolled notices via the Cooperative's online account management system.

Disconnections

Section 200.20 (other than disconnection during extreme weather or disconnection on weekends) will not apply to Members on the Pre-paid Payment Option. Disconnections will take place after the zero-balance notice is sent to Members; no further notice will be provided.

Rates and Fees

Membership and establishment fees apply to those persons on the Pre-paid Payment Option.

Service Availability Charge: As per the Residential and Farm/Ranch – eBilling Service Availability Charge (Section 100.1.1) converted to a daily rate. Delivery Charge: As per the applicable tariff Transmission Cost of Service: As per the applicable tariff Base Power Cost: As per the applicable tariff Power Cost Adjustment: As per the applicable tariff All other fees and charges: As per the applicable tariff

Members on the Pre-paid Payment Option will not be subject to same day service fees, late or reconnection fees.

Service Availability Charges shall continue to accrue daily while the meter is connected, even if no energy consumption occurs.

Payment and Reconnection

Payment can be made in person at a kiosk or PEC office, by mail, by phone, or online via the Cooperative's online account management system.

If the pre-paid account reaches a zero balance, the account will be automatically disconnected.

Reconnection will take place once the required payment has been posted to the account. The payment must cover (1) all balances owed for services provided, (2) amounts agreed upon in payment arrangement if applicable, and (3) the required minimum credit balance of \$25. Pre-paid accounts may not enter into an outstanding balance payment arrangement to achieve reconnection. All acceptable forms of payment that cover the amounts listed above will result in reconnection.

If service is terminated at the request of the Member or the account is disconnected for nonpayment and remains disconnected for 7 business days, the account will be settled and final billed.

<u>Billing; Late Payment Processing Fees; Transfers of Delinquent Balances and Record Retention</u> Section 200.14 will not apply to Members on the Pre-paid Payment Option (other than as to Transfers of Delinquent Balances). The Cooperative will maintain monthly billing records for each account for at least three years. The billing records will contain sufficient data to reconstruct a Member's billing for a given month. Copies of a Member's billing records may be obtained by that Member on request.

Cancellation

A Member may choose to convert the account to another payment option at any time. The Pre-paid Payment Option may be cancelled by either the Member or the Cooperative upon notification to the other party. Upon cancellation, the accumulated balance of the Member's account shall become due and payable.