



# **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

## **BELIZE ELECTRICITY LIMITED 2017 ANNUAL REVIEW PROCEEDING FINAL DECISION AMENDMENT**

**January 2018**

## **Legal Framework**

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is authorized under the Public Utilities Commission Act (No. 39 of 1999) to serve as the economic regulator for the electricity, water and telecommunications sectors in Belize.

The primary duty of the PUC is to ensure that the services rendered by public utility providers in all three sectors are satisfactory and that the charges imposed in respect of those services are reasonable. The PUC has the power to determine and prescribe rates that may be charged in respect of utility services and the standards which must be maintained in relation to such services. In addition, the PUC is responsible for the award of licenses and for monitoring and enforcing compliance with license conditions.

Sector specific legislation provides the legal framework for the PUC to carry out its duties and functions in a particular utility sector, as obtains in the regulation of the electricity sector, the Electricity Act (No. 13 of 1992), (the “Act”), as amended by Electricity (Amendment) Act 2007 (No. 12 of 2007) and Electricity (Amendment) Act 2011 (No. 4 of 2011) and the Electricity (Tariffs, Fees and Charges) Byelaws (Statutory Instrument No. 145 of 2005; the “Byelaws”), as amended by Statutory Instrument No. 116 of 2009 and Statutory Instrument No. 21 of 2012. The Byelaws govern the tariffs, rates, charges and fees for the transmission and supply of electricity and for existing and new services to be charged by a licensee to consumers in Belize, and the mechanisms, formulas, and procedures whereby such tariffs, rates, charges and fees shall be calculated and determined for all purposes. They also govern the quality of service standards (service reliability) for existing and new services at any time provided or to be provided by a licensee, and the mechanisms, formulas and procedures whereby such services shall be calculated and determined for all purposes. Further, the Byelaws reference the methodology used for Review Proceedings.

### **Review of 2017 Annual Review Proceeding (ARP) Final Decision**

The review of the 2017 ARP Final Decision for the Annual Tariff Period (ATP) July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018, commenced on December 8, 2017, upon the submission made by Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) to the PUC requesting that no amendments be made to the Mean Electricity Rate and tariffs for the period January 1, 2018, to June 30, 2018, pursuant to Section 33(2) of the ELECTRICITY (TARIFFS, FEES AND CHARGES) BYELAWS, SI 145 of 2005 as amended by SI 116 of 2009.

Section 33 (2) of the ELECTRICITY (TARIFFS, FEES AND CHARGES) BYELAWS provides for adjustments to be made to the mean electricity rate and tariffs approved in the relevant ARP Final Decision for the period January 1 to June 30 of the relevant Annual Tariff Period (ATP), being July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018, in this instance. Such adjustments are allowed for any material differences between the Reference Cost of Power and the Actual Cost of Power.

### **Summary of BEL Submission**

The submission made by BEL contained the following key point:

- No adjustments to any tariffs, fees and charges approved in the **BELIZE ELECTRICITY LIMITED 2017 ANNUAL REVIEW PROCEEDING FINAL DECISION**.

## DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

**BELIZE:**

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*ORDER made by the Public Utilities Commission (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”) in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by the Public Utilities Commission Act, Chapter 223 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, the Electricity Act, Chapter 221 of the Laws of Belize, the Electricity (Tariff, Fees and Charges) Byelaws, and all other powers thereunto the Commission enabling.*

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**Short title.** 1. This Order may be cited as the:

### **BELIZE ELECTRICITY LIMITED 2017 ANNUAL REVIEW PROCEEDING FINAL DECISION AMENDMENT**

**Decisions and Orders.** 2. In respect of the Final Decision for the 2015 Annual Review Proceeding (ARP) for the Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) for the determination of Regulated Values, Mean Electricity Rates, Tariffs, Fees and Charges for the Annual Tariff Period (ATP) of July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016, the Commission hereby makes the following Decisions and Orders:

- (a) The Commission hereby approves no adjustments to the Mean Electricity Rate and Tariffs previously approved for the period January 1, 2018, to June 30, 2018, and hereby orders the Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) to levy the currently approved Tariffs in respect of the relevant services it is licensed to provide;
- (b) The Commission approves no adjustments to any other previously approved Fees and Charges contained in the **BELIZE ELECTRICITY LIMITED 2011-2012 FULL TARIFF REVIEW PROCEEDING FINAL DECISION** or any other relevant **BELIZE ELECTRICITY LIMITED ANNUAL REVIEW PROCEEDING FINAL DECISION**, and hereby orders the Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) to continue to levy the said previously approved Fees and Charges in respect of the relevant electricity services it is licensed to provide.

**MADE** by the Public Utilities Commission this 5<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018.

**(JOHN P. AVERY)**  
*Chairman, Public Utilities Commission*