

Public Consultation on BEL's Submission to Increase COPA Cap

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) advises the public that Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) has submitted a request to increase the Cost of Power Adjustment (COPA) cap from 5% to 10%. The COPA was established under a Regulatory Sandbox established in the PUC's Final Decision and Order dated July 17, 2026, for BEL's Annual Review Proceeding (ARP) covering the tariff period July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

BEL's Request

In its submission, BEL states that its power purchase costs continue to exceed the current approved COPA cap of 5%, equivalent to \$0.0151 per kilowatt-hour (kWh). If approved, the maximum COPA tariff could vary the Mean Electricity Rate by \$0.0301/kWh. The company attributes these costs to persistently high electricity prices in Mexico, lower than expected hydroelectric generation, and continued reliance on temporary local generation to mitigate the risk of load shedding associated from Mexico's Comisión Federal de Electricidad (CFE).

BEL's full submission is available for view here: [BEL Letter - Request to Increase the COPA Cap under Regulatory Sandbox](#)

Public Consultation

The PUC invites written comments from all interested parties, including licensees, consumers, consumer representatives, and the general public.

Comments should be submitted to info@puc.bz by **4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 17, 2026** and include in the subject line "**Comments – Public Consultation on BEL's Request to Increase COPA Cap**".

Regulatory Sandbox Tool and COPA

As a reminder, the Regulatory Sandbox is a controlled process through which the PUC tests and evaluates BEL's proposed Cost of Power Adjustment (COPA) tariff over a defined period, subject to regulatory oversight, transparency requirements, and consumer protection safeguards.

The COPA tariff is designed to account for differences between the Reference Cost of Power (RCOP) approved by the PUC and BEL's actual costs of purchasing electricity from local and regional suppliers. The Final Decision can be viewed here: [Final Decision and Order – BEL 2026|2027 Annual Review Proceedings](#)