

~~RATE DECOUPLING FOR CUSTOMERS IN THE ELECTRIC COMPANY'S SERVICE TERRITORY.~~

~~7-214.~~

~~(A) IN THIS SECTION, "DEMAND RESPONSE PROGRAM" MEANS A PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY AN ELECTRIC COMPANY THAT PROMOTES CHANGES IN ELECTRIC USAGE BY CUSTOMERS FROM THEIR NORMAL CONSUMPTION PATTERNS IN RESPONSE TO:~~

~~(1) CHANGES IN THE PRICE OF ELECTRICITY OVER TIME; OR~~

~~(2) INCENTIVES DESIGNED TO INDUCE LOWER ELECTRICITY USE AT TIMES OF HIGH WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES OR WHEN SYSTEM RELIABILITY IS JEOPARDIZED.~~

~~(B) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2008, BY REGULATION OR ORDER, THE COMMISSION SHALL REQUIRE EACH ELECTRIC COMPANY TO IMPLEMENT A DEMAND RESPONSE PROGRAM FOR RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS IN THE ELECTRIC COMPANY'S SERVICE TERRITORY.~~

~~7-510.~~

~~(e) (4) (ii) 2. C. By regulation or order, as a part of the competitive process, the Commission shall require [or allow] the procurement of cost-effective energy efficiency and conservation measures and services [with projected and verifiable energy savings to offset anticipated demand to be served by standard offer service.] IN ACCORDANCE WITH §§ 7-211(B) AND (E) AND 7-214 OF THIS SUBTITLE and SHALL REQUIRE OR ALLOW the imposition of other cost-effective demand-side management programs.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Public Service Commission shall evaluate whether advance meter technology, commonly known as "smart meters," and digital automation of the components of the entire power supply system, commonly known as "smart grid," are cost-effective in reducing consumption and peak demand of electricity in Maryland. If smart meter or smart grid technology are found to be cost-effective, the Commission may require, by regulation or order, each electric company to implement as appropriate smart meter or smart grid technology in its service territory.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for fiscal year 2009 only, in addition to the amounts appropriated in the budget bill for fiscal 2009 and in