

(L) (1) "PUBLIC PURPOSE PROGRAM" MEANS A PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED WITH THE INTENTION OF FURTHERING A PUBLIC PURPOSE.

(2) "PUBLIC PURPOSE PROGRAM" INCLUDES:

(I) A UNIVERSAL SERVICE PROGRAM;

(II) A PROGRAM ENCOURAGING RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES;

(III) A DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT OR OTHER ENERGY EFFICIENCY OR CONSERVATION PROGRAM; AND

(IV) A CONSUMER EDUCATION PROGRAM.

(M) "QUALIFIED RATE ORDER" MEANS AN ORDER OF THE COMMISSION APPROVING ONE OR MORE INTANGIBLE TRANSITION CHARGES.

(N) "STANDARD OFFER SERVICE" MEANS ELECTRIC SERVICE THAT AN ELECTRIC COMPANY MUST OFFER TO ITS CUSTOMERS UNDER § 7-510(C) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(O) "TRANSITION BOND" MEANS A BOND, DEBENTURE, NOTE, CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION OR BENEFICIAL INTEREST, OR OTHER EVIDENCE OF INDEBTEDNESS OR OWNERSHIP, APPROVED IN A QUALIFIED RATE ORDER AND ISSUED UNDER AN EXECUTED TRUST INDENTURE OR OTHER AGREEMENT OF AN ELECTRIC COMPANY OR ASSIGNEE, AND WHICH IS SECURED BY, EVIDENCES OWNERSHIP INTEREST IN, OR IS PAYABLE FROM INTANGIBLE TRANSITION PROPERTY.

(P) "TRANSITION COST" MEANS A COST, LIABILITY, OR INVESTMENT THAT:

(1) TRADITIONALLY WOULD HAVE BEEN OR WOULD BE RECOVERABLE UNDER RATE-OF-RETURN REGULATION, BUT WHICH MAY NOT BE RECOVERABLE IN A RESTRUCTURED ELECTRICITY SUPPLY MARKET; OR

(2) ARISES AS A RESULT OF ELECTRIC INDUSTRY RESTRUCTURING AND IS RELATED TO THE CREATION OF CUSTOMER CHOICE.

(Q) (1) "UNIVERSAL SERVICE PROGRAM" MEANS A PROGRAM THAT HELPS LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS MAINTAIN ELECTRIC SERVICE.

(2) "UNIVERSAL SERVICE PROGRAM" INCLUDES CUSTOMER BILL ASSISTANCE AND PAYMENT PROGRAMS, TERMINATION OF SERVICE PROTECTION, AND POLICIES AND SERVICES THAT HELP LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS TO REDUCE OR MANAGE ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN A COST-EFFECTIVE MANNER.