7.   THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE PROGRAM; AND

8.   THE   INTERESTS   OF   THE   PUBLIC,   INCLUDING SHAREHOLDERS OF THE ELECTRIC COMPANY.

(III)   THE COMMISSION MAY, WITHIN THE PARAMETERS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, INCREASE OR DECREASE THE ACTUAL RATE REDUCTION REQUIRED.

(IV)   THE COMMISSION MAY ALLOW THE RECOVERY OF ANY EXTRAORDINARY COSTS BASED ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF AN INDIVIDUAL ELECTRIC COMPANY IF THE COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT THE ACTION IS NECESSARY AND IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

(V)   IN DETERMINING THE RATE REDUCTION REQUIRED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE COMMISSION MAY NOT INCREASE RATES FOR NONRESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS.

(5)   THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION DO NOT APPLY TO AN ELECTRIC COMPANY IF THE COMMISSION APPROVES OR HAS IN EFFECT A SETTLEMENT THAT THE COMMISSION DETERMINES IS EQUALLY PROTECTIVE OF RATEPAYERS.

(E)   (1)   THE COMMISSION SHALL ASSESS THE AMOUNT OF ELECTRICITY GENERATED IN MARYLAND AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF ELECTRICITY IMPORTED FROM OTHER STATES IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHETHER A SUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY IS AVAILABLE TO CUSTOMERS IN THE STATE.

(2)   ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1 IN 2001, 2003, 2005, AND 2007, THE COMMISSION SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE ON ITS ASSESSMENT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, AND ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION WHICH MAY BE NEEDED TO ENSURE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY FOR CUSTOMERS IN THE STATE.

(F)   (1)   THE COMMISSION SHALL ISSUE THE ORDERS OR ADOPT THE REGULATIONS REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION BEFORE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CUSTOMER CHOICE.

(2)   THE COMMISSION SHALL ORDER EACH ELECTRIC COMPANY, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COMMISSION, THE OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S COUNSEL, AND OTHER PARTIES, TO IMPLEMENT A CONSUMER EDUCATION PROGRAM INFORMING CUSTOMERS OF CHANGES IN THE ELECTRIC INDUSTRY.

(3)   ANY BOARD OR GROUP CREATED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE AT LEAST 2 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

(4)   (I)   AS PART OF THE CONSUMER EDUCATION PROGRAM UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER PROTECTION OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN INFORMATION