- (II) ± IF THE COMMISSION FINDS THAT THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY MARKET IS NOT COMPETITIVE OR THAT NO ACCEPTABLE COMPETITIVE PROPOSAL HAS BEEN RECEIVED TO SUPPLY ELECTRICITY TO THOSE CUSTOMERS DESCRIBED UNDER PARACRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE COMMISSION MAY EXTEND THE OBLICATION TO PROVIDE STANDARD OFFER SERVICE TO RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS UNTIL JULY 1, 2004, AT THE LATEST, AT A RATE DETERMINED UNDER § 7 505(C) OF THIS SUBTITLE AT A MARKET PRICE THAT PERMITS RECOVERY OF THE VERIFIABLE PRUDENTLY INCURRED COSTS TO PROCURE OF PRODUCE THE ELECTRICITY PLUS A REASONABLE RETURN.
- 2. THE COMMISSION SHALL REEXAMINE THE FINDING MADE UNDER THIS SUBPARACRAPH AT LEAST ANNUALLY.
- (4) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2001, THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT RECULATIONS OR ISSUE ORDERS TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR THE COMPETITIVE SELECTION OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLIERS, INCLUDING AN AFFILIATE OF AN ELECTRIC COMPANY, TO PROVIDE STANDARD OFFER SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS OF ELECTRIC COMPANIES UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, EXCEPT FOR CUSTOMERS OF ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES AND MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITIES. UNLESS DELAYED BY THE COMMISSION, THE COMPETITIVE SELECTION SHALL TAKE EFFECT NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2003.
- (5) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY MAY PROCURE THE ELECTRICITY NEEDED TO MEET ITS STANDARD OFFER SERVICE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY OBLICATION FROM ANY ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER, INCLUDING AN AFFILIATE OF THE ELECTRIC COMPANY.
- (D) NOTWITHSTANDING THE DATES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION OR ANY OTHER LAW, CUSTOMER CHOICE MAY NOT COMMENCE UNTIL LEGISLATION IS ENACTED TO RESTRUCTURE MARYLAND TAXES TO ADDRESS THE STATE AND LOCAL TAX IMPLICATIONS OF RESTRUCTURING THE ELECTRIC UTILITY INDUSTRY.
- (E) THE COMMISSION SHALL, BY REGULATION OR ORDER, ADOPT PROCEDURES TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION, INCLUDING THE ALLOCATION OF ANY UNUSED OPPORTUNITY FOR CUSTOMER CHOICE AMONG CUSTOMER CLASSES.
- $rac{(A)}{C}$ EXCEPT FOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES AND MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITIES:
 - (1) COMPETITIVE BILLING SHALL BEGIN ON JULY 1, 2000:
- (2) COMPETITIVE METERING FOR LARGE CUSTOMERS SHALL BEGIN ON JANUARY 1, 2002; AND
- (3) COMPETITIVE METERING FOR ALL OTHER CUSTOMERS SHALL BEGIN ON APRIL 1, 2002, OR EARLIER IF REQUESTED BY THE ELECTRIC COMPANY.
- (B) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT RECULATIONS OR ISSUE ORDERS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.