

**Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules  
Administrative Rules Division (ARD)**

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**REQUEST FOR RULEMAKING (RFR)**

**1. Department:**

Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

**2. Bureau:**

Public Service Commission

**3. Promulgation type:**

Full Process

**4. Title of proposed rule set:**

Technical Standards for Electric Service

**5. Rule numbers or rule set range of numbers:**

R 460.3101 - R 460.3908

**6. Estimated time frame:**

12 months

**Name of person filling out RFR:**

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**7. Describe the general purpose of these rules, including any problems the changes are intended to address.**

These rules apply to electric utility service provided by utilities that are subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission. The rules are intended to promote safe and adequate electric service to the public, to provide standards for uniform and reasonable electric practices by utilities, and to encourage efficiency and safety. The word “electric” is being inserted in front of “utility” and the word “cooperative” is being added after “utility” in every rule that is being amended to clarify that these rules apply to electric utilities and cooperatives, only, and not alternative electric suppliers. Several new definitions are being added to R 460.3102 to assist with clarification. R 460.3308 is being updated to reflect the most up-to-date version of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards for electricity meters, and the prices for copies of the ANSI standards need to be updated to reflect current prices. R 460.3309 is being stricken so that it may be moved to the Public Service Commission’s “Consumer Standards and Billing Practices for Electrical and Gas Residential Service” rules. R 460.3411 is being updated to allow the utilities and new customers a meeting, which provides a better opportunity to discuss new service options. R 460.3505 is being updated to create a more detailed program for customer notification regarding tree-trimming activities. R 460.3506 is being added to ensure that utilities are employing sufficient and effective cybersecurity programs. R 460.3613 is being amended to update and clarify meter testing requirements. R 460.3613a is being added to provide a separate rule for electro-mechanical meter testing requirements. The documentation and reporting requirements in R 460.3203, 460.3615, and 460.3617 are being updated. And, language in several rules is being stricken because it refers to obsolete technology. The proposed changes to these rules are supported by the Public Service Commission and by regulated industry.

**8. Please cite the specific promulgation authority for the rules (i.e. department director, commission, board, etc.).**

MCL 460.557, 460.55, 460.4, and 460.6. The aforementioned statutes provide the Public Service Commission with general authority to promulgate rules for the conduct of its business and the proper discharge of its functions.

**A. Please list all applicable statutory references (MCLs, Executive Orders, etc.).**

MCL 460.557, MCL 460.55, MCL 460.4, MCL 460.6, MCL 460.562(e), MCL 460.32(c), and MCL 445.63(b).

**B. Are the rules mandated by any applicable constitutional or statutory provision? If so, please explain.**

There is no constitutional or statutory mandate for the rules.

**9. Please describe the extent to which the rules conflict with or duplicate similar rules, compliance requirements, or other standards adopted at the state, regional, or federal level.**

The Public Service Commission is not aware of any conflict with or duplication of state and federal regulations.

**10. Is the subject matter of the rules currently contained in any guideline, handbook, manual, instructional bulletin, form with instructions, or operational memoranda?**

No, however the rules adopt by reference certain national engineering and technical standards.

**11. Are the rules listed on the department’s annual regulatory plan as rules to be processed for the current year?**

Yes, the Technical Standards for Electric Service are on LARA’s annual regulatory plan as a rule to be processed this year.

**12. Will the proposed rules be promulgated under Section 44 of the Administrative Procedures Act, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.244, or under the full rulemaking process?**

Full Process

**13. Please describe the extent to which the rules exceed similar regulations, compliance requirements, or other standards adopted at the state, regional, or federal level.**

These rules do not exceed national or regional compliance requirements or other standards.

**14. Do the rules incorporate the recommendations received from the public regarding any complaints or comments regarding the rules? If yes, please explain.**

A team consisting of employees from several large, investor-owned utilities, the Public Service Commission Staff, and a trade association formed a work group to assess the rules and propose changes. The work group reviewed the rules and submitted a final draft of proposed rules to the Public Service Commission. There have been no complaints received or filed with the Public Service Commission regarding the current rules. These rules are primarily of concern to the electric utilities regulated by the Public Service Commission, thus it is unlikely that members of the public will comment.

**15. If amending an existing rule set, please provide the date of the last evaluation of the rules and the degree, if any, to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed the regulatory activity covered by the rules since the last evaluation.**

These rules were last evaluated in 2017-2018 and amended in 2019. The rules are currently being amended, overall, to remove references to obsolete equipment that is no longer used in the field, and to insert terms and engineering standards that reflect technological advances in the area of metering and metering equipment inspections, tests, and reports. A billing adjustment in Rule 309 must be stricken and moved to the Public Service Commission's billing rules. In addition, the extension of electric service in Rule 411 will be amended to permit a meeting between utility and customer to discuss switching electric service providers. Finally, the line clearing requirements in Rule 505 will be amended to include additional requirements for utility line clearing programs and to increase notification requirements.

**16. Are there any changes or developments since implementation that demonstrate there is no continued need for the rules, or any portion of the rules?**

No. There is a continued need for this complete set of rules, as amended.

**17. Is there an applicable decision record (as defined in MCL 24.203(6) and required by MCL 24.239(2))? If so, please attach the decision record.**

No