

PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

JOSHUA WARMACK

1. Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR FULL NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.  
A. My name is Joshua R. Warmack, and my business address is 4170 Ashford Dunwoody Road, Suite 550, Atlanta, Georgia 30319.
  
2. Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?  
A. I am a Vice President and Managing Partner of EnerVision, Inc. (EnerVision), a utility consulting firm that specializes in providing business, management, and technical services to electric utilities. EnerVision primarily focuses on providing consulting services to electric cooperatives, such as Coweta-Fayette Electric Membership Corporation (Coweta-Fayette EMC).
  
3. Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND.  
A. I graduated in 2004 from the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) with a Bachelors Degree in Industrial Engineering.
  
4. Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.  
A. I joined EnerVision in the summer of 2004 and have spent the last 19 years assisting electric cooperatives in many different areas including demand side

management (including energy efficiency, demand response, direct load control, and consumer engagement); smart grid and other technology solutions; renewable and distributed generation; and wholesale and retail rate services.

5. Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?

A. The purpose of my testimony is to clearly state, explain, and provide information and documentation for Coweta-Fayette EMC's staff to consider in connection with its effort to develop a position relating to two new standards established by the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) of 1978, as amended by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. Those Standards are: 1) Demand-response practices, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 2621(d)(20) and; 2) Electric vehicle charging programs, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 2621(d)(21).

**New PURPA Standard on Demand-Response Practices (16 U.S.C. § 2621(d)(20))**

6. Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PURPA STANDARD ON DEMAND-RESPONSE PRACTICES.

A. Subsection (A) of this new PURPA Standard requires affected utilities to consider and promote the use of demand-response and demand flexibility practices by commercial, residential, and industrial consumers to reduce electricity consumption during periods of unusually high demand.

Subsection (B) of this new PURPA Standard specifies Coweta-Fayette EMC, as a nonregulated electric utility, may establish rate mechanisms for the timely recovery of the costs of promoting demand-response and demand flexibility practices in accordance with subparagraph (A).

7. Q. HAS COWETA-FAYETTE EMC CONSIDERED THE NEW PURPA STANDARD ON DEMAND-RESPONSE PRACTICES?

A. Yes, it is my testimony that the staff of Coweta-Fayette EMC, with my assistance, has fully considered this new PURPA Standard, including both Parts (A) and (B) (ii).

8. Q. WHAT PRACTICES DOES COWETA-FAYETTE EMC UTILIZE TO PROMOTE THE USE OF DEMAND-RESPONSE AND DEMAND FLEXIBILITY PRACTICES BY ITS CONSUMERS AS SPECIFIED IN THE NEW PURPA STANDARD ON DEMAND-RESPONSE PRACTICES?

A. Coweta-Fayette EMC obtains their power supply energy resources for their members through long-term contractual agreements that provide Coweta-Fayette EMC great flexibility to implement demand-side management programs aimed at reducing peak loads. This includes the Residential Time-of-Use (TOU) rate tariff that provides clear price signals to the consumers allowing them to modify their consumption behavior and reduce costs for themselves and Coweta-Fayette EMC, especially during peak demand time periods.

In addition to its time-based rate tariff, Coweta-Fayette EMC also offers the SmartChoice Home program. This program is designed to help make existing homes more energy efficient and comfortable and assists builders in the construction of new homes that are energy efficient, sustainable, connected, and renewable. As part of the program, Coweta-Fayette EMC provides Home Energy Assessments for existing homes and inspections for new homes identifying and recommending energy saving improvements. In addition to the home evaluations Coweta-Fayette EMC offers rebates for smart thermostats, heat pump and air conditioning upgrades, and heat pump water heaters. These programs help members implement measures that reduce their overall electrical usage, including during peak demand periods.

Coweta-Fayette EMC offers its commercial members energy audits and evaluation to identify areas of improvement that will reduce operating costs and increase the efficiency of the facilities. Rebates are available for LED lighting retrofits, HVAC upgrades, and heat pump water heater installations.

9. Q. ARE THERE ANY OTHER PROGRAMS THAT COWETA-FAYETTE EMC OFFERS TO PROMOTE THE USE OF DEMAND-RESPONSE AND DEMAND FLEXIBILITY PRACTICES BY ITS CONSUMERS AS SPECIFIED IN THE NEW PURPA STANDARD ON DEMAND-RESPONSE PRACTICES?

- A. Coweta-Fayette EMC offers net metering for those members with distributed generation facilities. Solar photovoltaic systems are the dominant distributed energy resource within Coweta-Fayette EMC's service territory. The energy generation profile of solar photovoltaic systems aligns reasonably well with peak demand periods, helping to reduce the members' usage, especially during peak demand periods.
10. Q. HAS COWETA-FAYETTE EMC, A NONREGULATED UTILITY, ESTABLISHED RATE MECHANISMS FOR THE TIMELY RECOVERY OF THE COSTS OF PROMOTING DEMAND-RESPONSE AND DEMAND FLEXIBILITY PRACTICES AS SPECIFIED IN THE NEW PURPA STANDARD ON DEMAND-RESPONSE PRACTICES?
- A. Yes. Coweta-Fayette EMC, a nonprofit, electric cooperative, reviews its operating budget annually. As such, Coweta-Fayette EMC's Board of Directors, elected by Coweta-Fayette EMC's members and members themselves, approve the operating budget on an annual basis. The operating budget includes all demand side management offerings and associated programs, including promotion of the demand-response and demand flexibility aspects. Once approved, the operating budget dictates Coweta-Fayette EMC's revenue requirements and is funded by all rates and rate payers (members).

**New PURPA Standard on Electric Vehicle Charging Programs (16 U.S.C. § 2621(d)(21))**

11. Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE NEW PURPA STANDARD ON ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING PROGRAMS.

A. This new PURPA Standard calls for affected utilities to consider measures to promote greater electrification of the transportation sector, including establishing rates to promote and improve electric vehicle (EV) charging options and public EV charging infrastructure. Specifically, the standard requires that utilities, such as Coweta-Fayette EMC, consider actions that promote affordable and equitable electric vehicle charging options for residential, commercial, and public vehicle charging infrastructure; consider elements to improve the customer experience associated with electric vehicle charging, including reduced charging time for light medium, and heavy-duty vehicles; accelerates third party investment in electric vehicle charging for light, medium and heavy-duty vehicles and provides for the appropriate recovery of the marginal cost of delivering electricity to electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. All of which is shown in 16 U.S.C. § 2621(d)(21) as (A), (B), (C), and (D).

12. Q. HAS COWETA-FAYETTE EMC CONSIDERED THE NEW PURPA STANDARD ON ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING PROGRAMS?

A. Yes, it is my testimony that the staff of Coweta-Fayette EMC has fully considered this new PURPA Standard, including Parts (A), (B), (C), and (D).

13. Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE COWETA-FAYETTE EMC'S CONSIDERATION PRACTICES UNDERTAKEN IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEW STANDARD ON EV CHARGING?

A. Coweta-Fayette EMC, a nonprofit, electric distribution cooperative, is not regulated by the Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC). Coweta-Fayette EMC is an active participant, as a member of Georgia EMC, in legislative efforts impacting electric utilities in the State of Georgia. Regarding 16 U.S.C. § 2621 (d)(21)(A), Coweta-Fayette EMC provides a residential time-of-use rate option which can benefit members that opt to charge their EVs during off peak hours. The residential option is based on Coweta-Fayette EMC's time of use rate and is available to all residential members. This rate encourages and incentivizes EV charging outside of peak energy usage hours. Coweta-Fayette EMC also offers a commercial rate option specifically for EV charging. The commercial rate option uses a flat energy charge to help spur the development of larger, public EV charging infrastructure and has been designed to exclude demand charges and is available to all members. Additionally, since 2019 Coweta-Fayette EMC has offered the "Drive Free for a Year" EV program whereby participants that opted into the Residential TOU rate received a \$28 per month bill credit for 12 months. That bill credit approximates the energy cost associated with charging an EV for an entire year. Since program launch in April 2019, 430 members have received the incentive. Regarding 16 U.S.C. § 2621 (d)(21)(B), Coweta-Fayette EMC has installed and maintains 28 Level 2 charging stations at commercial and industrial

member facilities. Coweta-Fayette EMC is committed to ensuring those EV chargers are always operational, thus reducing the chance an EV owner encounters a charging error. Broken or otherwise inoperable public EV chargers are a widely known issue being addressed by the industry. Since the commercial or industrial member controls the actual user interface and cost to charge, Coweta-Fayette EMC's ability to enhance the customer's experience is somewhat limited beyond ensuring the EV charger is functionally operational. Coweta-Fayette EMC is an approved installer of ChargePoint, a leading provider of EV charging infrastructure.

Also, Coweta-Fayette EMC does provide members with a wealth of information on its website, in the section devoted solely to EV information, including applicable rebates. Additionally, Coweta-Fayette EMC owns an EV as part of its fleet and employees can test drive the EV. While this doesn't necessarily improve the customer experience associated with EV charging, it can help reduce or eliminate a widely held perception related to EVs, range anxiety.

Regarding 16 U.S.C. § 2621(d)(21)(C), Coweta-Fayette EMC offers rebates for the installation of a Level 2 or higher charger to its residential, commercial, and industrial members. For the residential sector the incentive for the installation of a Level 2 EV charger is \$100 for existing homes and \$200 for new homes. In the commercial and industrial sectors, the incentive for the installation of a Level 2 or higher EV charger is \$500 per charging port. This incentive is available to all



Coweta-Fayette EMC non-commercial members when making an EV infrastructure investment. Regarding 16 U.S.C. § 2621(d)(21)(D), Coweta-Fayette EMC regularly reviews its cost of service and revises its retail rates, as well as its service rules and regulations, to ensure adequate and appropriate recovery of all distribution system costs. Coweta-Fayette EMC stands ready to provide electricity to any newly developed EV charging site within its service territory. This positions Coweta-Fayette EMC to continue to participate in any State-led efforts to implement those measures specified in the PURPA Standard on EV charging. As such, absent the possibility that compelling testimony to the contrary is presented at the PURPA hearing, Coweta-Fayette EMC's consideration of this PURPA Standard is complete and no additional actions are necessary.

14. Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?
- A. Yes, it does.