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JAMES M. IRVIN
Chairman
RENZ D. JENNINGS
Commissioner
CARL J. KUNASEK
Commissioner

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF TRICO ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.'S UNBUNDLED
AND STANDARD OFFER RATES
PURSUANT TO A.A.C. R14-2-1606

Docket No. E-01461A-97-0696

**APPLICATION OF TRICO ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC. FOR AN
EXTENSION TO COMMENCE NON-
COMPETITIVE BILLING PURSUANT
TO A.A.C. R14-2-1613.N**

Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1615.C., Trico Electric Cooperative, Inc., an Arizona nonprofit corporation ("Trico"), makes this Application to the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") for an extension of time from January 1, 1999 to March 31, 1999, in which to commence billing its customers not electing competition pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1613.N ("said Rule") and in support of it's Application states as follows:

1. Trico is an Arizona non-profit corporation supplying electric service to consumers in the portions of Pima, Pinal and Santa Cruz Counties, Arizona pursuant to Certificates of Convenience and Necessity issued to Trico by the Commission. Trico is an "Affected Utility" as defined in A.A.C. R14-2-1601.1.

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2. Pursuant to said Rule, Trico is required to commence billing all of its customers unbundled rates as set forth in said Rule. A.A.C. R14-2-1615.C., however, provides that Affected Utilities may seek variances from the terms of A.A.C., Title 14, Chapter 2, Article 16, Retail Electric Competition Rules ("Rules").

3. Trico will bill all of its customers electing competition pursuant to said Rule commencing January 1, 1999, in accordance with said Rule.

4. For the reasons set forth below, Trico requests that it be given until March 31, 1999 to commence billing its customers who have not elected competition pursuant to said Rule.

5. The reasons supporting this Application and why the public interest will be served by granting this Application are as follows:

A. In order to increase its efficiency and to mitigate its stranded costs as required by R14-2-1607.A, Trico has undertaken a conversion of its computer system to a new system that will be substantially more efficient, rapid and providing greater information.

B. The conversion of the computer system, the elimination of problems in its operation and the proper training of Trico's personnel to operate the new system is not expected to be completed until March 31, 1999.

C. Without the requested extension, Trico will incur substantial unnecessary additional costs.

D. A short delay in billing noncompetitive customers receiving standard offer service pursuant to said Rule will not be detrimental to such customers.

WHEREFORE, having fully stated its Application, Trico respectfully requests the Commission enter its Order authorizing extension of time to bill Trico's noncompetitive customers pursuant to said Rule until on or before March 31, 1999.

1 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 13th day of November, 1998.

2 O'CONNOR CAVANAGH MOLLOY JONES

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