Thursday, January 31, 2008

Public Hearings and Possible Actions   Item No. 138
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Subject: Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance amending the residential service tariff in the Electric Rate Schedule in Exhibit A of Ordinance No. 20070910-008 to exclude on an optional basis any church, synagogue or other place of public group religious worship services having a demand for power sufficient to qualify for service under the general service – demand (E06) tariff.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated financial impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Kerry Overton, Sr. Vice-President for Customer Care, 322-6113; Andy Perny, Assistant City Attorney, 322-6277.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission.

Prior Council Action: Date and time for public hearing set by Council on January 17, 2008.

The proposed amendment to the residential tariff would exclude from the tariff, should the customer so opt, a church, synagogue or other place of public group religious worship services that has a demand for power sufficient to qualify for service under the general service – demand (E06) tariff; i.e., has a demand of 20 kilowatts or greater during any month of the most recent preceding six summer billing months or as otherwise determined by the utility. Currently, all churches and other places of public worship are served under the residential tariff, regardless of whether the facility's load profile is comparable or similar to that of a typical residential customer. Because of the growth in size of many churches, the expansion of operating hours, and the fact that the electrical systems of some churches are intertwined with large school facilities, the load profile and usage pattern of some churches or worship facilities are more consistent with that of a commercial facility. The proposed amendment will enable larger church and worship facilities to receive service under the general demand rate rather than that charged to a residence.