

April 23, 2007

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
Amendments to Electronic Business  
Transactions Standards  
(Chapter 323)

ORDER ADOPTING RULE  
AND STATEMENT OF  
FACTUAL AND POLICY BASIS

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ADAMS, Chairman; REISHUS and VAFIADES, Commissioners

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## **I. SUMMARY**

Through this Order, we amend certain portions of the Electronic Business Transactions (EBT) Standards that are contained in Chapter 323 of our rules. These amendments to the EBT Standards are a consensus recommendation of the Maine EBT Working Group (EBTWG).

## **II. BACKGROUND**

Chapter 323 of the Commission's rules contains the EBT Standards governing the procedures, protocols and data formats for transferring data electronically among transmission and distribution (T&D) utilities and competitive electricity providers (CEP). The EBT Standards are developed through consensus by the EBTWG.<sup>1</sup> On October 26, 2006, the EBTWG filed revised EBT Standards that do not include the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) specifications. The EBTWG proposes that the EDI specifications be moved to a technical specification appendix so that additional EDI transactions can be implemented without the need for a rulemaking process.

## **III. RULEMAKING PROCESS**

On February 6, 2007, we issued a Notice of Rulemaking to consider the amendments to the EBT Standards. Consistent with rulemaking procedures, the Commission provided interested persons with the opportunity to submit written comments. Only Central Maine Power Company (CMP) filed comments, in which it stated that it is an active participant in the EBTWG and that it fully supports the adoption of the proposed revisions to the EBT Standards.

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<sup>1</sup> The EBTWG was formed by Commission Order in Docket No. 98-522 to develop recommendations for the electronic transfer of data among entities after implementation of retail access on March 1, 2000. All T&D utilities and CEPS may participate in the EBTWG.

**IV. DISCUSSION**

The revised EBT Standards represent a consensus document developed by the entities that implement the processes. We have reviewed the proposed changes and find them to be reasonable. Therefore, we incorporate them into Chapter 323.

Accordingly, we

**ORDER**

1. That the attached Electronic Business Transactions (EBT) Standards, contained in Chapter 323, are hereby adopted;
2. That the Administrative Director shall send copies of this Order, Chapter 323 and the attached EBT Standards to:
  - a. The Secretary of State for publication in accordance with 5 M.R.S.A. § 8053(5); and
  - b. The Executive Director of the Legislative Council (20 copies).
3. That the Administrative Director shall send notice that this Rule has been adopted to:
  - a. All transmission and distribution utilities in the State;
  - b. All persons who have filed with the Commission within the past year a written request for Notices of Rulemaking;
  - c. All licensed competitive electricity providers;
  - d. All persons listed on the service lists in Docket No. 98-522 and Docket No. 99-468; and
  - e. All persons on the EBT Working Group e-mail list.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 23<sup>RD</sup> day of April, 2007.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

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Karen Geraghty  
Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR: Adams  
Reishus  
Vafiades

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

1. Reconsideration of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
2. Appeal of a final decision of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within **21 days** of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Appellate Procedure.
3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.