

Report of the Commission on the Decision of the Energicity (Starlight) Inc. Application for Tariff Review 2025

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Abbreviations

| 2015 ELL | 2015 Electricity Law of Liberia |
|----------|---|
| APR | Administrative Procedure Regulations |
| BoC | Board of Commissioners |
| ETR | Electricity Tariff Regulations |
| EUTs | End- User Tariffs |
| LERC | Liberia Electricity Regulatory Commission |
| MULR | Micro- Utility Licensing Regulations |
| MYTM | Multi Year Tariff Methodology |
| OPEX | Operational Costs |
| RAB | Regulated Asset Base |
| RR | Revenue Requirement |
| USD | United States Dollars |
| WACC | Weighted Average Cost of Capital |

Acronyms

| kWh | Kilowatt-hour |
|-----|---------------|

Foreword

On June 11, 2025, the Liberia Electricity Regulatory Commission (LERC), in fulfilment of its statutory mandate to set and approve tariffs under the 2015 Electricity Law of Liberia (2015 ELL), made and published a decision on the Tariff Application of Energicity Inc. submitted on March 27, 2025.

The Commission issued this report to satisfy the requirements of Section 13.7(1) (I) of the 2015 ELL, to provide a complete explanation of the reasoning underlying the Commission decisions. Furthermore, the report is in line with good regulatory practice and LERC's commitment to ensuring transparency in regulatory decision making.

The report discusses the processes and provides justification for the approved tariff that becomes effective on June 16, 2025, and is issued for the benefit of Energicity Inc., the Government of Liberia, consumers, the public and businesses.

The Commission acknowledges the contribution of the technical teams of Energicity and LERC to the success of the tariff review exercise.

With the fulfilment of this milestone, the monitoring of the commercial and technical performance of Energicity, including the acceleration of the extension program, quality of supply and customer service are now our uppermost priorities.

Hon. Claude J. Katta CHAIRMAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS June 11, 2025



Executive Summary

The Liberia Electricity Regulatory Commission (LERC), the Commission, was established by the 2015 Electricity Law of Liberia (2015 ELL) to, amongst other things, regulate the electricity supply industry. A fundamental function of the Commission is to set tariffs that allow operators in the industry to stay financially viable while still providing quality, affordable, and accessible service to customers at a prudent cost. This report presents the tariff-setting exercise and outcome for the Energicity Inc. (Starlight) for the tariff period of 2025- 2028.

On June 11, 2025, the Commission rendered its decision on the application for tariff review of Energicity dated March 27, 2025, relating to its licensed operations. This report is issued in accordance with section 53 (1&2) of the Micro-Utility Licensing Regulation (MULR) which, among others, mandates the Commission to approve tariffs of large and medium micro utility licensees based on their business plans and the Principles in the Tariff Regulations (TR).

On November 13,2024, ENERGICITY submitted its initial tariff application proposal to the Commission. Several technical meetings preceded the application, and, in those meetings, it was highlighted by the Commission that parameters such as inflation, theoretical generation potential, customers consumption and corporate tax should be adjusted. Therefore, the initial submission was withdrawn, and resubmission was done on March 27, 2025.

The technical teams of Energicity and the Commission held a series of engagements to ensure the completeness of the application. Thereafter, the Commission published the abridged version of Energicity's complete application for stakeholders' comments. The first Public Hearing on Energicity's application was held on April 23, 2025, at the Gbarma Town Hall in Gbarma Town, Gbarpolu County. On April 25, 2025, two separate Public Hearings were held in Bopolu City and Henry's Town, Gbarpolu County, respectively. At these hearings, stakeholders' comments on the abridged application were obtained. The Commission took these comments into consideration in arriving at the decision announced on June 11, 2025, which was published in the national gazette and on its website.

The tariff approval process was consistent with the relevant provisions of the 2015 ELL, the ETR, the Multi- Year Tariff Methodology (MYTM) and the MULR. The process for arriving at the end-user tariffs (EUTs) involved the determination of the following:

- (i). Energicity's Revenue Requirement;
- (ii). Efficient costs of the utility; and
- (iv). A single tariff structure for all customers.

The EUT generated from these exercises is shown in the table below:



Table 1.1 End-User Tariffs

| Customers'Class | Connection Fee | Fixed Charge (Monthly) | Energy Chaege |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Commercial | \$12.00 | \$1.50 | \$0.45kWh |
| All other | \$12.00 | \$1.00 | \$ 0.45kWh |
| 0 | | | |

Source: BoC



1.0 Introduction

The Liberia Electricity Regulatory Commission (LERC) is established by the 2015 Electricity Law of Liberia (2015 ELL) to, amongst other things, regulate the electricity supply industry. A vital function of the Commission is to set tariffs that allow operators in the industry to stay financially viable while still providing quality, affordable and accessible services to customers at prudent cost. This report presents the tariff-setting exercise and outcome for the Energicity (Starpower) Inc for the tariff period of 2025-2028.

ENERGICITY is a Composite Large Micro-utility licensed in 2024 by the Liberia Electricity Regulatory Commission (LERC), to generate electricity using solar photovoltaic and diesel gensets to distribute power within 10 towns in Gbarpolu County, namely; Borpolu, Totoquolle, Henry Town, Farwanta, Gbarma, Zuo, Yagaryah, Takpoima, Smith Camp and Weasua.

On November 13,2024, ENERGICITY submitted its initial tariff application proposal to the Commission. Several technical meetings preceded the application, and in those meetings, it was highlighted by the Commission that parameters such as inflation, theoretical generation potential, customers consumption and corporate tax should be adjusted. Therefore, the initial submission was withdrawn, and resubmission was done on March 27, 2025.

On June 11, 2025, the Commission rendered its decision on the application for tariff review of Energicity Inc., for the tariff period beginning June 16, 2025, and ending on June 15, 2028. This report is issued in accordance with section 53 (1&2) of the Micro-Utility Licensing Regulation (MULR) which, among others, mandates the Commission to approve tariffs of large and medium micro utility licensees based on their business plans and the principles in the Tariff Regulations (TR) and that the tariff structure of large and medium micro utilities shall also be approved by the Commission.

The tariff approval process was consistent with the relevant provisions of the 2015 ELL, the ETR, the MYTR and the MULR.

The process for arriving at the end-user tariffs involved the determination of the following: (i). Revenue Requirement for the efficient operations of Energicity Inc.

- (ii). Customers' Demand/Consumption in kWh
- (iii). Single Tariff structure for all customers

The report is structured into two essential parts. The first session presents all the important data/information contained in Energicity tariff application; while the second segment signifies the Commission's efficient cost analysis that resulted into the approved tariff.

2.0 Background

The Liberia Electricity Regulatory Commission (LERC) was established by the 2015 Electricity Law of Liberia (2015 ELL) to regulate the electricity supply industry. A key component of the Commission regulatory oversight is to determine cost-reflective electricity prices for operators in the industry.

Under section 8.1(1) of the 2015 ELL, the specific objectives of the Commission with regards to setting or approval of tariffs are:

- (i). must enable an efficient licensee to recover the full cost of its licensed activities, including a reasonable margin or return;
- (ii). must provide for or prescribe incentives for continued improvement of the technical and economic efficiency with which services are to be provided;
- (iii). must give end users proper information regarding the costs that their use imposes on the licensee's business; and
- (iv). must avoid undue discrimination
- (v). may permit the subsidization of tariff to certain classes of customers

Further, according to section 8.1(2) and 8.1(3) of 2015 ELL, a licensee shall not charge any other tariff than that determined by the Commission unless the Commission approves a deviation from the approved tariffs in prescribed circumstances.

In addition to the requirements of the 2015 ELL, the Commission's tariff determinations are further made in accordance with the ETR and MYTM issued by the Commission.

2.1 Regulated Entity

Section 5.1 and 5.3 of the 2015 ELL require that no person without a license or registration issued by LERC shall engage into any regulated activity in Liberia and that all applications for license or any other authorization shall be approved by LERC. In compliance with these provisions of the 2015 ELL, Energicity Inc., a privately-owned entity was authorised by the Commission to generate electricity using solar photovoltaic and diesel gensets to distribute power within 10 towns in Gbarpolu County. The company was licensed by the Commission as a Large Micro Utility Distribution Licensee on July 17, 2024, with license duration of 25 years.

2.2 The Tariff Determination Process

In the exercise of its regulatory function, the Commission requested a tariff application from Energicity by forwarding the mini-grid tariff tool and provided enough details regarding the data and information required by the Commission. This enabled LERC to undertake its analysis to ensure that the approved tariffs meet the requirements of the Law as well as the ETR and the MYTM.



On November 13,2024, ENERGICITY submitted its initial tariff application to the Commission. Several technical meetings preceded the application, and in those meetings, it was highlighted by the Commission that parameters such as inflation, theoretical generation potential, customers consumption and corporate tax should be adjusted. Therefore, the initial submission was withdrawn, and resubmission was done on March 27, 2025. Afterward, the Commission notified Energicity of complete application on April 10, 2025, and proceeded with the tariff review in accordance with the ETR and the 2015 ELL. The Commission also published the abridged version of Energicity's application for stakeholders' comments.

Following the completeness of Energicity's application, the Commission carried out three public hearings on the application proposal. The first hearing was held on April 23, 2025, in Gbarma Town and the additional hearings were done on April 24, 2025, in Bopolu City and Henry's Town respectively.

2.2.1 Public Hearing

The Commission held the first public hearing on Energicity's tariff application on April 23, 2025, at the Gbarma Town Hall in Gbarma Town, Gbarpolu County with the total of 84 individuals in attendance. On April 25, 2025, two separate Public Hearings were held in Bopolu City and Henry Town Gbarpolu County, respectively. At the Bopolu City Public Hearing, 141 individuals were in attendance while 85 persons attended the Henry's Town Public Hearing. During these hearings, twenty-four written submissions were received from stakeholders including representatives from the civil society organizations, businesses and the public.

These hearings were held in accordance with the procedures defined in the 2015 ELL, the ETR, and the Commission's Administrative Procedure Regulation (APR). Stakeholders were invited in writing while the public was informed about the hearing via radio, flyers, mobile publicity and social media.

At the hearings, Kumba Kasse-Gborie- Energicity's Operations Manager presented and was assisted by Richard Arthur, Energicity's Construction Manager in responding to questions and concerns raised by participants. The Commission also took due notice of the comments and concerns raised by the participants.

2.2.2 Effectiveness and Duration of Tariffs

The 2015 ELL stipulates in section 8.2 (6) that the regulator shall review tariff methodologies no less than every five years and approve tariffs for a period of no less than two years. In furtherance of the provision of the 2015 ELL, Section 3.4 of the MYTM sets the duration of tariff approved by the Commission for 3 years. The effective date of the approved tariff shall be the reference point for its duration, and it shall be the date it is approved by the Board of Commissioners of LERC.



3.0 Tariff Determination Analysis: 2025-2028

3.1 General Principles

Section 3.3 of the 2015 ELL mandates the Commission to, among other functions, regulate tariffs. Regulating tariffs involves the determination of revenue requirements and approving the tariffs for operators in the electricity supply industry. Further, since Energicity is a Composite Micro Utility Licensee, its tariff shall be regulated as one composite unit where the power supply cost and other operational costs are passed through to End User Tariffs (EUTs). The Commission's tariff setting methodology for a licensee is based on the principle of efficient revenue requirement (RR). Since Energicity does not have a historical data, the cost is benchmarked against similar utilities in the region.

3.2 Efficient Costs

In accordance with the ETR and the MYTM, LERC provided for the full recovery of all operational costs that are necessary and are prudently incurred by Energicity. In determining the revenue requirement, all operating costs were reviewed and analysed against prudency and efficiency in accordance with Section 8.2 (4) of the 2015 ELL.

3.3 Regulated Asset Base (RAB)

The RAB represents assets that are used and usable for the provision and supply of the electricity services in the 10 towns in Gbarpolu County. The process is that the value of all assets necessary for the provision of regulated services are included after deducting depreciation on the allowable assets. As for Energicity we allowed the total RAB excluding the grant funded assets.

Part 1: Presents the Essential Data/Information Contained in Energicity Tariff Application.

3.4 Energicity Capital Structure

The table 3.1 below represents Energity's capital structure. It shows the percentage of the three different financing combinations and the amount each contributes to the capital structure. The debt has a repayment tenure of eight years with a nine percent interest rate.

| Financing | Amount | Cost (%) |
|--------------------|--------------|----------|
| Equity | 855,639.37 | 27 |
| Subsidy | 1,250,795.80 | 40 |
| Debt | 1,050,334.89 | 33 |
| Total capital cost | 3,156,770.06 | 100 |

| Table 3.1 Energicity's Capital Structure | Table 3.1 | Energicity's | Capital | Structure |
|--|-----------|---------------------|---------|-----------|
|--|-----------|---------------------|---------|-----------|

Source: Energicity Application



3.5 ENERGICITY Operations Sites

The table 3.2 below shows Energicity's 10 operations sites. It also depicts the customers' numbers apportioned within the three different customers Categories.

| Customer Group | Totoquolle | Gbarma | Zuo | Yagaryha | Takporma | Bopolu | Henry Town | Smith Town | Weasua | Farwenta | | |
|----------------|------------|--------|-----|----------|----------|--------|------------|------------|--------|----------|--|--|
| Residential | 120 | 163 | 120 | 120 | 124.8 | 1,624 | 182 | 144 | 192 | 141 | | |
| Commercial | 8 | 21 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 336 | 21 | 20 | 24 | 11 | | |
| Public | 4 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 66 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 5 | | |
| Total | 132 | 191 | 133 | 130 | 136 | 2,026 | 210 | 170 | 223 | 157 | | |

Table 3.2 Energicity Operations Areas

Source: Energicity Application

3.6 Revenue Requirement Determination

Revenue requirement (RR) refers to the total revenue that must be realized through annual revenue collections from end-user tariffs to cover the costs associated with the operations of the utility and earn a fair return on investment.

In approving the tariffs, the Commission first determined the annual revenue requirement for Energicity for its activities based on the formula below:

$$RR_t = Opex_t + T_t + D_t + (WACC_t \times RAB_t)$$

where:

 RR_t = Revenue Requirement for current period

 $Opex_t$ = Operating Expenses for current period

 T_t = Depreciation for current period

 $WACC_t$ = Weighted Average Cost of Capital (rate of return) for current period

 RAB_t = Regulated Asset Base for current period

 T_t = Taxes for current period

The Total Annual Revenue Requirement for Energicity was calculated based on the considerations below:

- a) Projected revenue from energy sale
- b) Efficient Opex derived by the Commission.
- c) Depreciation on all none subsidized assets used in the provision of services.
- d) Debt repayment
- e) Equity Repayment

Table 3.3 shows the summary of the RR submitted by Energicity for the tariff period. The Energicity application for a RR is set out in table 3.3 below and consist of the projected energy revenue, Opex, depreciation, debt repayment and equity repayment.



| Indicator | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 |
|------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Revenue | 468,347 | 562,773 | 568,563 | 587,252 | 621,205 |
| Opex | 219,280 | 308,663 | 314,453 | 333,143 | 367,095 |
| Depreciation | 39,926 | 45,335 | 50,915 | 57,181 | 64,219 |
| Equity Repayment | (7,772) | 6,521 | 17,074 | 27,798 | 38,715 |
| Debt Repayment | 228,973 | 216,763 | 204,553 | 192,343 | 180,132 |
| Profit | (12,061) | (14,509) | (18,433) | (23,212) | (28,956) |

Table 3.3 Energicity Revenue Requirement Submission

Source: Energicity's Application

3.7 Total Operating Expenses (OPEX)

Energicity submitted its operating costs structured into two components, namely; fixed operating costs and variable operating costs. Both costs are summed up to determine the total operating costs submitted for the tariff period. The fixed operating costs consist of administrative staff cost, facilities & occupancy expense, truck cost, legal fees, license fees, management fees, software license expense and miscellaneous. The variable cost component has the following: diesel cost, transaction costs, distributor fees, direct labour and transportation, data & misc. as shown in the tables below.

| Fixed Opeating Expenses | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Admin staff | 82,375 | 85,571 | 88,891 | 92,340 | 95,923 |
| Facilities & occupancy Expense | 5,000 | 5,194 | 5,396 | 5,605 | 5,822 |
| Truck | 15,000 | 15,582 | 16,187 | 16,815 | 17,467 |
| Legal | 10,000 | 10,388 | 10,791 | 11,210 | 11,645 |
| License costs | 750 | 779 | 809 | 841 | 873 |
| Management Fees | 10,000 | 10,388 | 10,791 | 11,210 | 11,645 |
| Software License | 9,963 | 10,349 | 10,751 | 11,168 | 11,601 |
| Miscellaneous | 10,000 | 10,388 | 10,791 | 11,210 | 11,645 |
| Total | 143,088 | 148,640 | 154,407 | 160,398 | 166,621 |

Source: Energicity Application

Table 3.5 Variable Operating Cost

| | | | <u> </u> | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------|----------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| | Yearly cost increase per unit (%) | Unit Measurement | Y1 | Y2 | ¥3 | ¥4 | ¥5 | @Y1 | ¥1 | Y2 | ¥3 | ¥4 | ¥5 |
| Diesel | 0.05 | 1 | 21,339 | 62,158 | 63,327 | 63,327 | 73,400 | 1.2 | 25,607 | 78,320 | 83,781 | 87,970 | 107,062 |
| Transaction costs | 0 | kWh | 794,840 | 898,319 | 1,014,714 | 1,094,264 | 1,179,275 | | - | - | - | - | - |
| Distributor fees | 0 | \$ | 284,613 | 792,908 | 632,556 | 730,705 | 821,645 | 0.05 | 14,231 | 41,184 | 34,130 | 40,955 | 47,839 |
| Direct Labour | 0.02 | staff | 6 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 2,609 | 15,655 | 18,973 | 19,709 | 20,474 | 21,268 |
| Transportation, data & misc. | 0.02 | unit | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 2,070 | 20,700 | 21,503 | 22,337 | 23,204 | 24,104 |

Source: Energicity Application



Table 3.6 Total Operating Cost

| Financial year | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|
| TOTAL Operational Costs | 219,280 | 308,619 | 314,364 | 333,001 | 366,895 | |
| Source: Energicity Application | | | | | | |

Source: Energicity Application

3.8 Regulatory Asset Base (RAB)

The value of the RAB submitted by the utility is shown in table 3.7 below at US\$ 3.2 million. This amount represents equity contribution, debt and grant funded assets that are used or usable in the provision of regulated electricity services.

Table 3.7 Regulated Asset Base (US\$)

| Activity Area | Equity Contribution | Debt | Grant Funded |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Distribution | 855,639 | 1,050,335 | 1,250,796 |

Source: Energicity Application

Proposed Customer Demand/Consumption

Table 3.8 below shows Energicity's proposed customer demand/consumption in kWh. Its illustrations the demand/consumption pattern of the three different customer groups during the tariff period.

Table 3.8 Customer Demand/Consumption - (in kWh)

| Customer group | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | |
|----------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| Residential | 362,915.69 | 404,243.58 | 456,621.13 | 492,418.87 | |
| Commercial | 415,122.76 | 467,125.91 | 527,651.08 | 569,017.36 | |
| Public | 16,801.50 | 26,949.57 | 30,441.41 | 32,827.92 | |
| Total Demand | 794,839.95 | 898,319.07 | 1,014,713.62 | 1,094,264.16 | |
| | | | | | |

Source: Energicity Application

Proposed Customer Numbers

The utility proposed customer numbers are shown in table 3.9 below. Energicity proposes that there would be massive customers enrolment is the first year and followed by minimum connections in the following years.

Table 3.9 Proposed Customer Numbers

| Customer Class | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Residential | 2,931 | 3,019 | 3,107 | 3,195 | 3,283 |
| Commercial | 462 | 476 | 490 | 504 | 517 |
| Public | 115 | 115 | 115 | 115 | 115 |
| Total | 3,508 | 3,610 | 3,712 | 3,813 | 3,915 |

Source: Energicity Application

Part II Represents the Commission's Efficient Cost Analysis That Resulted into the Approved Tariff.

4.0 Efficient Cost

In accordance with the ETR and the MYTM, LERC should provide for the full recovery of all operational costs that are necessary and are prudently incurred by Energicity. In determining the revenue requirement, all operating costs were reviewed and analysed against prudency and efficiency in accordance with Section 8.2 (4) of the 2015 ELL.

4.1 Efficient Opex Analysis

In undertaking the efficient Opex analysis, the Commission reviewed each item in the build-up of the Opex and benchmarked these costs with similar utilities within the Region to get the optimal cost of operating the utility.

4.2 Truck

After reviewing the allocated costs of US\$.15,000.00 per year in Energicity's tariff application to purchase several trucks during the tariff regime, the Commission omitted the costs for the third truck and approved the others.

4.3 Diesel

The utility submitted figures for the purchasing of diesel in the tariff application and placed it in the variable Opex with five percent increment to the allocated amount. Firstly, the Commission relocated the diesel expense to the fixed Opex and approved US\$21,339.00, US\$.55,000.00 and US\$.60,000.00 as diesel costs during the tariff period.

4.4 Legal

Energicity submitted a contract for legal services in the tariff application. In the approval process, the Commission approved the US\$10,000.00 for each year as stated in the contract but omitted the inflationary increments.

4.5 Miscellaneous

The Commission approved 2.5% of the annual Opex instead of the proposed 5% submitted by Energicity. The approved figures are US\$ 5,482.00, US\$ 7,715.00 and US\$ 7,859.00 respectively.



4.6 Regulatory Levy

The Commission included Regulatory Levy in the computation of the Opex, which is calculated as three percent of the annual revenue submitted in the tariff application.

All other costs in the fixed Opex category such as, administrative staff, facilities & occupancy expense, license costs, management fees and software license were approved as they were submitted by Energicity.

The Commission also reviewed the variable costs submitted by Energicity and made the following approvals.

4.7 Distribution Fees

The Commission reviewed the distribution fees which is a percentage of the historical revenue and approved 2.5% for the tariff period.

4.8 Direct Labour

Energicity submitted US\$.2,609.00 annually for direct labour cost per person in the tariff application. The Commission reviewed the figures submitted and approved US\$.2,200.00 annually per labourer during the tariff period.

4.9 Transportation, Data & Miscellaneous

Energicity allocated US\$.2,070.00 for each of the 10 employees for transportation, data & misc. The Commission reviewed the amount and approved US\$.1,800.00 each for the tariff regime.



Table 3.10 below shows the efficient Opex as determined by the Commission.

| Name of Accounts | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Admin staff | 82,375 | 84,434 | 86,545 | 88,709 | 90,927 |
| Facilities & occupancy Expense | 5,000 | 5,125 | 5,253 | 5,384 | 5,519 |
| Truck | 15,000 | 15,375 | - | 9,875 | 16,153 |
| Legal | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| License costs | 750 | 769 | 788 | 808 | 828 |
| Management Fees | 8,000 | 8,200 | 8,405 | 8,615 | 8,831 |
| Software License | 9,963 | 10,212 | 10,467 | 10,729 | 10,997 |
| Miscellaneous | 5,482 | 7,715 | 7,859 | 8,325 | 9,172 |
| Diesel | 21,339 | 55,000 | 60,000 | 65,000 | 70,000 |
| Regulatory Levy | 13,780 | 15,665 | 15,424 | 16,250 | 16,615 |
| Sub Total | 171,689 | 212,496 | 204,741 | 223,696 | 239,042 |
| Distributor fees | 7,115 | 20,596 | 17,071 | 20,489 | 23,938 |
| Direct Labour | 13,200 | 15,739 | 16,085 | 16,439 | 16,801 |
| Transportation, data & misc. | 18,000 | 18,450 | 18,911 | 19,384 | 19,869 |
| Sub Total | 38,315 | 54,785 | 52,068 | 56,312 | 60,607 |
| Grand Total | 210,005 | 267,280 | 256,809 | 280,008 | 299,649 |

Table 3.10 LERC's Efficient Opex Calculation

Source: LERC Analysis

4.10 Efficient Revenue Requirement (RR)

The RR is the total amount of revenue that a utility must collect from customers to cover all its cost of operations (Opex, taxes, and depreciation) and a return on investment. To arrive at the efficient RR, the Commission firstly computed the efficient Opex. we also computed the Return on Capital by imposing 10 percent of the RAB excluding grant funded assets during the tariff period. This justifies the Commission's straight-line depreciation method. This process can be adjusted over time as the utility deploys additional assets on the network. Table 3.11 below is the summary of the RR approved by the Commission.

| Indicator | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 |
|---------------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Opex | 210,005 | 267,280 | 256,809 | 280,008 | 299,649 |
| Depreciation | 39,926 | 45,335 | 50,915 | 57,181 | 64,219 |
| Return on Invest | 189,406 | 189,406 | 189,406 | 189,406 | 189,406 |
| Total Revenue Requirement | 439,337 | 502,021 | 497,130 | 526,595 | 553,274 |
| | 400,007 | 302,02 1 | 437,100 | 020,000 | |

| Table 3.11 Summar | v of Revenue Rec | uirement (RR) | approved by | |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|--|
| | | | | |

Source: LERC Analysis

5.0 Financing Considerations

The financing considerations are intended to provide for the financing aspects of the operations of the utility in respect of infrastructure development and capital expenditure and return on investment.

5.1 Return on RAB

To arrive at Energicity's return on its Regulated Asset Base (RAB), the real Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC) was multiplied by the RAB. The real WACC was computed by consideration of the ratio of the nominal WACC and the economy-wide inflation rate.

 $Real Weighted Average Cost of Capital_t = \frac{nominal WACC_t}{inflation_t}$

5.2 Corporate Income Tax

Pursuant to section 201 of the Liberia Revenue Code Amended 2020, Energicity shall pay Corporate Income Tax. However, all utilities under the Commission's regulations have not submitted any information about corporate income tax in their application.

5.3 Inflation

The utility submitted an inflation (US dollar's inflation) of 3.9 percent over the period of the tariff regime. Given that prices are denominated solely in US dollars, the Commission used the 5-Year Forward Inflation Expectation Rate (T5YIFR) series from the Federal Reserve--2.2 percent--rather than the 3.9 percent from the utility, as the baseline value for the tariff period. The T5YIFR series is a measure of expected inflation (on average) over the five-year period that begins five years from the time the series was last updated (May 12, 2025, for the most recent update). The series adequately captures forward inflation dynamics and is updated every three days. The forecast value of 2.2 percent is in line with the recent deceleration dynamics observed in consumer prices for the US. These dynamics can be verified by looking at other forecast measures from the Fed, and Personal Consumption Price Index figure for the month of March.

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6.0 Final Electricity Tariffs

6.1 Tariff Objectives

In approving the tariffs, the Commission has been guided by the following objectives:

- (i). simplicity, easily understood by customers.
- (ii). recognized socio-economic disparities and vulnerabilities.
- (iii). suitability for business operations; and
- (iv). transparency, create incentives for customers to pay their bills.

Table 5.1 Proposed Tariffs Structure

| Utility's Name | Connection Fee (for all customer groups) | Proposed Tariff (for all customer groups) |
|------------------------|--|--|
| Energicity (Starlight) | \$. 12.00 | \$ 0.57 per kWh |

Source: Energicity's Application

For the Commission to ensure an effective and sustainable tariff regime, we had to structure the tariff. In that regard, several issues were identified towards achieving the objectives adduced above. The issues and the decision of the Commission are discussed below.

6.2.1 Types of Rate Design

The Commission reviewed the proposed tariff rate structure submitted by Energicity and made the following decisions regarding the tariff rate structure as contained in the gazette:

Connection Fee: The Commission approved a connection fee

Fixed Charges: The Commission approved fixed charges to be applied to all customers.

Energy Charge: The Commission approved a flat energy charge across all customers' groups.

The final price of electricity customers will face is therefore a two-part tariff structure comprising a fixed monthly charge (US\$/month) and a uniform energy charge (US¢/kWh). The tariff is computed by dividing the utility's revenue requirement in a year by its energy consumption in that year.

Table 5.2 below breaks down the final tariff into two parts—the energy charge and the fixed charge. The Commission has also approved the connection fee as seen below.



Table 5.2 Final End-user's Tariff

| Customers'Class | Connection Fee | Fixed Charge (Monthly) | Energy Chaege |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Commercial | \$12.00 | \$1.50 | \$ 0.45kWh |
| All other | \$12.00 | \$1.00 | \$ 0.45kWh |
| Courses The DeC | | | |

Source: The BoC



6.3 Tariff Gazette

The Commission approved the below rates and charges payable by customers within Energicity network effective June 11, 2025, with the following notes:

The tariffs may be adjusted by the Commission in accordance with the minor tariff review principles of the Commission's MYTM.

7.0 Conclusions

The Commission has carried out its mandate in a transparent and in alignment with the laid down legal provision contained in the 2015 ELL and the associated regulations in respect of electricity tariffs in Liberia. In doing so, the Commission took time to engage all key stakeholders of Energicity, through several technical discussions, public consultation, and through public hearing engagement as required by law.

The gazetted tariffs shall be in effect covering the period June 16, 2025 – June 15, 2028. However, the Regulations provide for periodic adjustments and reviews as may be determined by socio-economic conditions, or by a request from Energicity in the event of material changes in their progressions which would have significant financial impact on their operations.

Appendix 1: Tariff Review Schedule

| Tariffs Review Schedule | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Activity | Delivery Date | | | | |
| Acknowledgement of complete application | April 10, 2025 | | | | |
| Publication of Notice of Pendency | April 12, 2025 | | | | |
| Publication of Abridged Application | April 12, 2025 | | | | |
| Public Hearing on Energicity's Application | April 23 & 24, 2025 | | | | |
| Presentation of Findings to BoC | June 6, 2025 | | | | |
| BoC meets Energicity Management | June 9, 2025 | | | | |
| BoC's decision on Energicity's Proposal | June 10, 2025 | | | | |
| Submission of decision to Energicity for implementation | June 11, 2025 | | | | |
| Publication in Official Gazette and in Newspapers | June 16, 2025 | | | | |
| Tariffs Effective Date | June 16, 2025 | | | | |



| Appendix 2: Institutional Representatives that attended the Public Hearing in |
|---|
| Gbarma, Gbarpolu County |

| No(s) | Name (S) | Institution | Phone #s |
|-------|----------------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| t | Bruno Wenta | Ministry of Internal Affairs | 0886973450 |
| 2 | Mustapha S. Kabah | Clan Coordinator/MIA | 0886457510 |
| 3 | Samual Z. Lawrence | Youth -Chair/ZUO | 0880695586 |
| 4 | Satta Mambu | Chairlady/ZUO | 0888788862 |
| 5 | Junior S. Domah | Town Chief/ ZUO | 0880392028 |
| 6 | Varney Sirleaf | Clan Chief/Yangarya | 0880547603 |
| 7 | Boakai Sargee Watson | Legislative Rep. | 0888871029 |
| 8 | Robert Tamba | Ministry of Internal Affairs | 0555986695 |
| 9 | David Quaye | Ministry of Internal Affairs | 0887711605 |
| 10 | Henry Goloma | Media/ Bopolu | 0880228292 |
| 11 | Siafa G, Cole | Ministry of Education | 0776318569 |
| 12 | Joseph Fobah | RREA | 0775203913 |
| 13 | Henry Sambola | Liberia Electricity Corporaition | 0770554280 |
| 14 | George Tawalah | Liberia Electricity Corporation | 0777576112 |
| 15 | Min. Charles Umehai | Dep. Min. MME | 0777111000 |
| 16 | Stephen Payma | RREA | 0886585961 |

| No(s) | Name (S) | Institution | Phone #s |
|-------|----------------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| 1 | Mustapha V. Massayuo | Medina Town | 0778470720 |
| 2 | Keddeh Tayler | Bopulu City Council | 0886726512 |
| 3 | Jackson David | Farwhenta Chief | 0773673411 |
| 4 | David L. Ledlow | Senator Konneh Office | 0770155695 |
| 5 | Sumo Ballah | Promise Land Chief | 0888596338 |
| 6 | Stephen Sarnor | Ministry of Internal Affairs | 0775291339 |
| 7 | Min. Charles Umehai | Dep. Min. MME | 0777111000 |
| 8 | George H. Tawalah | Liberia Electricity Corporation | 0777826112 |
| 9 | Lydai Zayzay | Bopolu Chairlady/MIA | 0880656812 |
| 10 | David Y. Gbessay | Totoquelleh Town Chief | 0887164305 |
| 11 | Ballah P. Zinnah | Bopolu City Council | 0772339041 |
| 12 | Prince Williams | Winner Chapter Ministries | 0770781545 |
| 13 | Joan S. Hinneh | James Varney Town | 0555248919 |
| 14 | G. Robert Harris | Bopolu Community Chairman | 0778841220 |
| 15 | Henery Sambola | Liberia Electricity Corporation | 0770554280 |

Appendix 3: Institutional Representatives that attended the Public Hearing in Bopolu City.



Appendix 4: Institutional Representatives that attended the Public Hearing in Henry's Town.

| No(s) | Name (S) | Institution | Phone #s |
|-------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| 1 | William D. Karmon | Ministry of Internal Affairs | 0555002745 |
| 2 | Larry Johnson | Business Association | 0886279494 |
| 3 | Ansu Mandingo Sherif | Civil Society Organization | 0886550867 |
| 4 | Allen Guamue | Miner | 0880331423 |
| 5 | Varney Johnson | MIA Clerk | 0886705650 |
| 6 | Mohammed B. Kanneh | HOR (COS) | 0886542212 |
| 7 | Benjamin G. Toe | HOR (AA) | 0880254532 |
| 8 | Hawa Kroma | Chairlady Henry's Town | 0881360039 |
| 9 | David K. Seville | Liberia National Police | 0880900052 |
| 10 | Hawa Kollie | Ministry of Health | 0880043548 |

