

## Chapter PSC 112

**CONSTRUCTION BY ELECTRIC PUBLIC UTILITIES  
AND EXTENSIONS OF ELECTRIC SERVICE**

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**PSC 112.01 Application of rules.** (1) The rules in the following sections, PSC 112.02 to 112.07, inclusive, apply to proposed construction by every electric public utility as defined in s. 196.01 (1), Stats.

(2) Additional requirements relating to certificates for proposed large or bulk electric generating facilities of 12,000 kilowatts or more nominal capacity, or a high-voltage transmission line with associated facilities exceeding 1 mile in length designed for operation at 100 kilovolts or more, are included in ch. PSC 111, and particularly PSC ss. 111.41, 111.42 and 111.43. These requirements apply for each "electric utility" as defined in s. PSC 111.04 (6) and s. 196.491 (1) (d), Stats.

(3) Section PSC 112.07 (Extensions of electric service) applies to electric public utilities as defined in s. 196.01 (1), Stats., and to electric cooperative associations.

**History:** 1-2-56; r. and recr. Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79.

**PSC 112.02 New service in a municipality.** Until the commission has authorized the same, no electric utility shall construct, install or place in utility operation any physical facilities for furnishing service in a town, village or city in which the utility has not theretofore rendered electric service.

**History:** Cr. Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79.

**PSC 112.03 Interconnection and building construction projects.** (1) Until the commission has authorized the same, no electric utility shall begin construction, install or place in utility operation:

(a) Any interconnection with the transmission or subtransmission system of another electric utility.

(b) Any building or addition thereto (other than building construction otherwise included as part of and related to the operation of a generating station), or any building remodeling project, the estimated gross cost of which exceeds \$25,000 or 2% of the utility's prior year gross electric operating revenues up to \$20 million of revenues (\$400,000 project cost), whichever is greater. For the purpose of this rule, for building remodeling projects, the operating and maintenance costs chargeable to the project shall be considered part of the gross cost.

**History:** Cr. Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79.

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**PSC 112.04 Construction of other electric utility facilities by electric utilities having annual gross electric operating revenues less than \$200 million.** (1) Until the commission has authorized the same, no electric utility shall begin construction, install or place in operation any of the following facilities, the estimated gross cost of which exceeds \$25,000 or 2% of its prior year electric operating revenues up to \$50 million of revenues (\$1 million project cost), whichever is greater:

- (a) Any generating plant or unit.
- (b) Any replacements, modifications or additions at a generating plant.
- (c) Any project for constructing or rebuilding a transmission or sub-transmission line operating at 35 kilovolts or more including necessary terminations and any related new substation or substation additions. Exception: Authorization is not required for the reconstruction of segments of existing lines under 100 kilovolts as made necessary by highway or airport construction or storm damage, nor for relocation of transmission lines designed to operate at 100 kilovolts or more when the commission determines such relocation is necessary to facilitate highway or airport projects.
- (d) Any other additions to or replacements at substations.
- (e) Any distribution system extension or distribution system conversion to a higher voltage or from overhead to underground construction. A distribution system is considered to be a system serving ultimate customers and operating at less than 35 kilovolts.

History: Cr. Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79.

**PSC 112.05 Construction of other electric utility facilities by utilities having annual gross electric operating revenues of \$200 million or more.** (1) Until the commission has authorized same, no electric utility shall begin construction, install or place in utility operation any of the following facilities, the estimated gross cost of which is \$2 million or more:

- (a) Any generating plant or unit.
- (b) Any replacements, modifications or additions at a generating plant.
- (c) Any project for constructing or rebuilding a transmission or sub-transmission line operating at 35 kilovolts or more including necessary terminations and any related new substation or substation additions. Exception: Authorization is not required for the reconstruction of segments of existing lines under 100 kilovolts as made necessary by highway or airport construction or storm damage, nor for relocation of transmission lines designed to operate at 100 kilovolts or more when the commission determines such relocation is necessary to facilitate highway or airport projects.
- (d) Any other additions to or replacements at substations.
- (e) Any distribution system extension or distribution system conversion to a higher voltage or from overhead to underground construction. A distribution system is considered to be a system serving ultimate customers and operating at less than 35 kilovolts.

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(2) For all other projects as listed in (1) which are estimated to involve \$1 million to \$2 million in gross costs:

(a) The utility shall, at least 90 days before the planned commencement of construction, (unless emergency conditions make a shorter notice period necessary) submit for each project the estimated gross and net construction cost, a description of the project and its location, a brief discussion or documentation of need for the project, a brief discussion of any alternatives considered and the reason these were rejected, and, for category 2 projects as listed in s. PSC 2.90 (2), Wis. Adm. Code, environmental screening information as may be specifically requested by the commission staff.

(b) Upon review of the filed information, the commission may:

1. Acknowledge receipt of and accept the information for filing, in which case the utility may proceed with the construction work, or

2. Direct that no project or projects shown in the information submitted shall proceed until the commission, pursuant to s. 196.49 (4), Stats., has certified that public convenience and necessity require such project or projects, or

3. Take no action within the 90-day filing period in which case the utility may proceed with the construction work unless a certificate is specifically required by s. 196.491 (3), Stats.

History: Cr. Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79.

**PSC 112.06 Applications for commission authorization.** (1) For certificate applications submitted pursuant to PSC 111.42 for a bulk or large electric generating facility and PSC 111.43 for a high-voltage transmission line (including related substation construction) the requirements of those sections concerning content of the application shall apply.

(2) Applications for authorization for other projects under ss. PSC 112.02, 112.03, 112.04 and 112.05 shall set forth insofar as applicable:

(a) Description of the project;

(b) Cost and proposed method of financing the project;

(c) The purpose and necessity of the project with supporting data;

(d) Effect of the project on cost of operation and on the quality and reliability of service;

(e) Description and cost of any property being replaced;

(f) Description and cost of alternative methods which were considered for accomplishing the purpose of the project with a statement of the reasons for rejection of such methods;

(g) For category 2 projects as listed in s. PSC 2.90 (2), Wis. Adm. Code, environmental screening information as requested by the commission staff; and

(h) Designation of public utilities, municipalities, cooperative associations and others principally affected by the project and a statement as to which, if any, have been notified thereof by the applicant; and such

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other facts as are necessary to convey a full understanding of the project and the reasons therefor.

(3) The original and two copies of each application shall initially be filed. The commission will notify the applicant of additional copies required, if any, which the applicant shall promptly furnish.

(4) If upon consideration of the application, together with any supplemental information and objections, the commission shall be satisfied that the public convenience and necessity require the project as proposed, it will so find and authorize the project without public hearing with such modifications and conditions as it considers necessary; otherwise, it will hold public hearing thereon and thereafter grant or deny the application, in whole or in part, subject to such conditions as may be found necessary as public interest and public convenience and necessity may be found to warrant and require.

*History:* Cr. Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79.

**PSC 112.07 Extensions of electric service.** (1) No public utility and no cooperative association shall make an extension of 500 feet or more to serve any premises when service is available from another utility or cooperative association through an extension of less than 500 feet, unless the other public utility or cooperative association consents thereto in writing or approval in writing is obtained from the public service commission after public hearing.

(a) An "extension" means the construction of a line from an existing line of less than 35 kilovolts actually used in rendering local service to customers. Measurement shall be the airline distance from the existing line to the nearest point on the principal building to be served.

(b) The commission will presume that any extension of 500 feet or more, regardless of type, character and estimated size of the load to be served, is a primary voltage extension.

(2) Upon complaint of any interested party that an electric public utility or cooperative association has made an extension of 500 feet or more which requires the written approval of the commission under s. PSC 112.07 (1), without such approval, the commission will hear the complaint and if the commission by order declares that in its opinion the extension was made in violation of s. 196.495, Stats., the respondent utility or cooperative shall promptly remove the extension.

(3) The commission will recognize written contracts governing the extension of electric lines and rights to serve customers as established between electric utilities and cooperative associations when such contracts have been filed with and approved by the commission.

*History:* 1-2-56; r. and recr. Register, October, 1960, No. 58, eff. 11-1-60; renum. from 112.02 and am., Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79.