

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

In the Matter of the Application of Rocky Mountain Power For Authority to Increase its Retail Electric Utility Service Rates in Utah and for Approval of its Proposed Electric Service Schedules and Electric Service Regulations.)	DOCKET NO. 09-035-23
)	DPU EXHIBIT 13.0

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY

JAMES B. DALTON

ON BEHALF OF THE

UTAH DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

October 8, 2009

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5 **Q. Please state your name, business address, employer, and current position or**
6 **title for the record.**

7 A. My name is James B. Dalton, and my business address is 160 E 300 S, Salt Lake
8 City, 84114. My employer is the Division of Public Utilities in the Utah
9 Department of Commerce (Division). My current position is Utility Analyst.

10 **Q. Please describe your education and work experience.**

11 A. I graduated with my Bachelor's degree and Master's degree from the University
12 of Utah, both in economics. I began working for the Division in the fall of 2006.
13 I provided testimony and appeared as the Division's witness on Net Power Cost
14 (NPC) issues in the 2007 rate case, Docket No. 07-035-93. I also provided direct
15 testimony on NPC issues in the previous rate case, Docket No. 08-035-38. In
16 addition, I have thirteen years of experience in energy and natural resource
17 management, planning, and policy analysis with the Utah Department of Natural
18 Resources. As an Energy Analyst for the Utah Office of Energy and Resource
19 Planning, I performed research and provided analysis on issues and
20 methodologies dealing with Utah's energy supply, electric industry restructuring,
21 forecasting, and benefit-cost analysis.

22 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?**

23 A. The purpose of my testimony is to identify and quantify an adjustment to the
24 Company's NPC as proposed in the current Utah rate case.

25 **Q. What recommendations are you making in this filing?**

26 A. I am recommending that the GRID inception dates for both the High Plains and
27 McFadden Ridge Wind projects be adjusted to match the Company's actual start
28 dates for each facility.

29 **Q. Can you describe these adjustments?**

30 A. Yes. The Company's response to DPU DR 29.24 indicates that the High Plains
31 Wind Project was placed in service on September 13, 2009. This is different from
32 the October 15, 2009 inception date listed in GRID. Likewise, the Company
33 indicates that the McFadden Ridge Wind Project was placed in service on
34 September 30, 2009 rather than the estimated October 15, 2009 inception date that
35 is listed in GRID.¹ I created a new GRID scenario that changes the estimated
36 inception dates to the actual inception dates for these two facilities. This results in
37 a \$466,119 Company-wide reduction in NPC. This would result in an
38 approximate \$191,109 reduction to NPC on a Utah-allocated basis.

39 **Q. Does this complete your testimony?**

40 A. Yes it does.

¹ See the Company's First Supplemental Response to DPU DR 29.24.