



State of Utah
Department of Commerce
Division of Public Utilities

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MEMORANDUM

To: Utah Public Service Commission
From: Division of Public Utilities
Chris Parker, Director
Artie Powell, Manager, Energy Section
Charles Peterson, Technical Consultant
Douglas Wheelwright, Utility Analyst

Subject: Correspondence from Rocky Mountain Power in the Matter of the Application of PacifiCorp, by and through its Rocky Mountain Power Division, for Approval of a Solicitation Process for an All-Source Resource for the 2016 Time Period. Docket No. 11-035-73.

Date: October 1, 2012

REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) requests that the Commission order a technical conference be held as soon as practical in order for the Company to answer questions and explain to interested parties the facts and reasons behind the termination of the Solicitation Process for an All-Source Resource for the 2016 Time Period (RFP).

The Division also recommends that the Commission clarify what it expects the Company to do now that the RFP schedule is significantly changed; for example, does the Company now formally file a request for permission to change the schedule and provide testimony and ask the Commission to hold a scheduling conference.

ISSUE and DISCUSSION

In a letter and supporting documents dated September 28, 2012, PacifiCorp, through its division Rocky Mountain Power, notified the Commission that it was no longer going to pursue a resource for 2016. The Division believes that it would be to the benefit of all interested parties, including the Commission and its staff, to be able to expeditiously ask and receive answers from the Company regarding the facts and reasons for terminating the 2016 RFP. The Division believes that such an exchange of information can best be initially expedited through a technical conference.

As an additional matter, in its January 3, 2012 “Commission’s Suggested Modifications and Order,” page 6, the Commission stated “We approve the schedule shown in the revised, draft 2016 RFP with the condition the Company will seek Commission approval if the schedule, as shown, deviates by more than five business days.” The Division believes that termination of the approved RFP effectively results in a deviation of the schedule by more than five days. Therefore the Division believes that the Company may now need to file for formal approval from the Commission to make this change together with testimony and supporting documentation, and to request a scheduling conference to determine how the RFP will proceed from here. The Division recommends that the Commission clarify what the Company needs to do in this regard.

cc:

Dave Taylor, Rocky Mountain Power
Michele Beck, Office of Consumer Services
Service List

