

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

In the Matter of Rocky Mountain Power’s)
Intent to File a General Rate Case on or) DOCKET NO. 13-035-184
about January 3, 2014) ORDER APPROVING TEST PERIOD

ISSUED: December 10, 2013

By The Commission:

This matter is before the Commission on the request of PacifiCorp (“Company”), doing business in Utah as Rocky Mountain Power, for approval of a forecast test period consisting of the twelve months ending June 2015, about eighteen months after the anticipated rate case filing date of January 3, 2014. The request is contained in a letter dated November 5, 2013, and is made pursuant to Utah Admin. Code R746-700-10(B)(1), our rule governing test period information. This rule provides that an applicant planning to file a general rate case may first request Commission approval of a test period to be used in preparing its application.

On November 20, 2013, the Commission issued in this docket a notice of the Company’s request for approval of its proposed test period. In that notice we observe the Company supports its request by asserting the proposed test period is consistent with the test period agreement in the settlement stipulation dated August 7, 2012, and subsequently approved by Commission order in Docket Nos. 11-035-200, 12-035-79, and 12-035-80. The Company asserts nine parties to its last general rate case signed the stipulation which states, in part:

The Parties agree that in the Company’s 2014 GRC application, the Company will use, and the Parties will not oppose, use of a forecast test period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, with a 13-month average rate base, if the Company files its application prior to March 1, 2014. If the Company files its application on or after March 1, 2014, the Company will use, and the Parties will not oppose, use of a forecast test period

ending no later than 16 months from the month in which the application is filed, with a 13-month average rate base.
(Settlement Stipulation, p. 9, ¶ 41)

Because of this agreement, the Company does not expect objections to its requested forecast test period. We note eight rather than nine parties actually signed this stipulation.

Our November 20, 2013, notice afforded all potential participants in this docket the opportunity to respond to the Company's proposed forecast test period. Responses were due to be filed no later than December 5, 2013. The Division of Public Utilities ("Division") is the only party that filed a response. The Division filed its comments on November 19, 2013, in response to an action request issued by the Commission. The Division does not oppose the Company's proposed forecast test period of the twelve months ending June 2015 to be used in preparing its general rate case filing expected on or about January 3, 2014. The Division does, however, reserve the right to evaluate the Company's test period filing for consistency with the stipulation, including use of a thirteen-month average rate base.

In light of the test year stipulation quoted above and the absence of opposition to the Company's proposed test year, we find the proposed test year meets the statutory requirements. See Utah Code Ann. § 54-4-4(3). It is approved. Accordingly, consistent with Utah Administrative Code R746-700-10(B), the Company need not provide the alternative test period demonstration required by Subsection (A)(2) of that rule. This finding, however, does not relieve the Company of the requirement to include in its application twelve months of actual unadjusted results of operations data to serve as the base period upon which the test period used in the application is developed. As provided in Utah Administrative Code R746-700-10(A)(1),

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the Company's general rate case application must demonstrate what adjustments are required to be made to the base period data to arrive at the proposed test period.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 10th day of December, 2013.

/s/ Ron Allen, Chairman

/s/ David R. Clark, Commissioner

/s/ Thad LeVar, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg
Commission Secretary
DW#249307

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on the 10th day of December, 2013, a true and correct copy of the foregoing ORDER APPROVING TEST PERIOD was served upon the following as indicated below:

By E-Mail:

Dave Taylor (dave.taylor@pacificorp.com)
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