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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of Consumer Services

MICHELE BECK
Director

To: Public Service Commission
From: The Office of Consumer Services
Michele Beck
Cheryl Murray
Date: April 15, 2013
Subject: Docket 13-035-T07 Advice No. 13-06 Schedule 135, Net Metering Service

On April 1, 2013, Rocky Mountain Power (Company) filed with the Public Service Commission (Commission) a proposed change to Schedule 135, Net Metering Service, with a revision of Sheet 135.4.

Currently net metering customers accumulate and use credits based on an annualized billing period that begins after the regularly scheduled meter reading for the month of March and ends on the regularly scheduled meter reading for the month of March of each year. This time-frame does not work well for irrigation customers due to their particular usage pattern. Since the time frame was established by statute, it required legislation to enable changes. H.B. 284, which passed this legislative session and was recently signed into law, expanded the definition of annualized billing period to allow "an additional 12-month billing cycle as defined by an electrical corporation's net metering tariff or rate schedule."

In this filing the Company proposes to modify Special Conditions 3 of the tariff which delineates the timeframe for expiration of unused credits. The requested change is applicable only to customers taking service under Electric Service Schedule No. 10 and provides that unused credits for those customers will expire with the regularly scheduled meter reading for the month of October of each year.

The October expiration date allows Schedule 10 customers to utilize credits generated during the non-irrigation season for their irrigation season needs, which is when most of their electricity consumption occurs. This change is important to facilitate the participation of Schedule 10 customers in the net metering program. The Office has been in close contact with the Utah Farm Bureau on this matter. Both of our organizations appreciate

Rocky Mountain Power acting quickly after the legislative session to propose this change in time for it to be implemented this year¹.

The Office supports the requested tariff change as being in the public interest and recommends that the Commission approve it.

¹ The Office notes that the Company indicated that under its proposal any current Schedule 10 net-metering customers with credits remaining in March will be able to keep those credits through the newly proposed time frame of October.