

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

In the Matter of the Application of Rocky Mountain Power for Approval to Revise Schedule for Mandatory Reports)
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DOCKET NO. 14-035-149
ORDER

ISSUED: January 29, 2015

PROCEDURAL HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

On December 17, 2014, PacifiCorp, dba Rocky Mountain Power (“PacifiCorp”), filed an application requesting approval to revise the schedule for currently required compliance filings (“Application”). On December 17, 2014, the Public Service Commission of Utah (“Commission”) issued a Notice of Filing and Comment Period and an action request to the Utah Division of Public Utilities (“Division”) for review of PacifiCorp’s Application. On January 12, 2015, the Division filed comments on the Application. On January 15, 2015, the Utah Office of Consumer Services (“Office”) filed comments on the Application.

In support of its Application, PacifiCorp proposes to revise the schedule of three mandatory reports:

1) Pursuant to the Phase I Stipulation in Docket No. 09-035-T08¹, PacifiCorp is required to provide monthly reports to the DSM Steering Committee detailing the amounts charged to Electric Service Schedule 193 – Demand Side Management (“DSM”) Cost Adjustment (“Schedule 193”) by DSM program, total amounts billed under Schedule 193 by rate schedule, and the ending balance (“Balancing Account Report”). PacifiCorp asserts providing the Balancing Account Report on a monthly basis is unnecessary, and that it should be provided

¹ See “*In the Matter of the Approval of Rocky Mountain Power’s Advice No. 09-08 Schedule 193-Demand Side Management (DSM) Cost Adjustment*,” Docket No. 09-035-T08, (Order Granting Approval of Phase I Stipulation; August 25, 2009).

quarterly going forward. PacifiCorp believes quarterly reporting would still provide timely updates to the DSM Steering Committee on Schedule 193 activity.

2) Pursuant to the Commission's Order in Docket No. 12-035-T07² ("New Homes Order"), PacifiCorp is required to track Schedule 110 – New Homes Program participation rates and to report the results to the DSM Steering Committee, DSM Advisory Group, and the Commission on a quarterly basis ("New Homes Report"). PacifiCorp asserts providing the New Homes Report on a quarterly basis is no longer necessary and that providing participation rates in PacifiCorp's annual report is sufficient. Quarterly participation reports were previously provided so parties could monitor the impact on participation rates from the program improvements approved in the New Homes Order. PacifiCorp states the changes approved in the New Homes Order have been positively received by home builders and participation in the new offerings has increased steadily. The success of the changes approved in the New Homes Order is evident in the increasing participation and, as such, PacifiCorp asserts the quarterly participation reports are no longer needed. Participation rates going forward will be provided in the annual reports.

3) Pursuant to the Commission's Order in Docket No. 13-035-136³, PacifiCorp is required to provide a detailed, auditable report of all expenditures associated with the Cool Keeper program in the semi-annual reports filed with the Commission ("Cool Keeper Report"). The Cool Keeper Report was provided to allow the Commission to track the increase in

² See "In the Matter of the proposed changes to the ENERGY STAR New Homes Program and advancing it under the New Homes program which will be administered through Schedule 110," Docket No. 12-035-T07, (Order; June 27, 2012).

³ See "In the Matter of the Application of Rocky Mountain Power for Approval to Cancel Schedule 194," Docket No. 13-035-136, (Order; September 13, 2013).

expenditures associated with the purchase of new equipment. PacifiCorp states it has finished replacing equipment, eliminating the increase in expenditures. Therefore, the costs incurred now simply reflect the day-to-day operation and maintenance of the equipment. Given this, PacifiCorp believes the filing of a semi-annual Cool Keeper Report with the Commission is no longer necessary and requests it be eliminated.

PacifiCorp states it has discussed modifying the filing requirements for the Balancing Account Report, New Homes Report, and Cool Keeper Report with the Division and the Office and both are supportive of revising the schedules for these filings as specified in the Application. PacifiCorp requests an effective approval date of January 1, 2015.

DISCUSSION, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Division notes PacifiCorp's Application requests approval to revise the schedule of three reports currently provided to the Commission and the DSM Steering Committee: a monthly DSM Balancing Account Report, a quarterly New Homes Report, and a semi-annual Cool Keeper Audit Report. The Division provides the following comments and recommendations regarding these reports:

1) The monthly DSM Balancing Account Report provides the Commission and the DSM Steering Committee details of the amounts charged to Schedule 193. The Division agrees with PacifiCorp that changing from a monthly to a quarterly report still allows the Division and the DSM Steering Committee the opportunity for timely review of the Balancing Account.

2) The New Homes Quarterly Report began in mid-2012 to provide the Commission the program participation rates based on program improvements. PacifiCorp has

shown participation in the New Homes Program has increased and proposes to include the New Homes Report in the DSM Annual Report. The Division believes an annual review of this report is sufficient.

3) The Cool Keeper Audit Report was created to provide the Commission with an auditable report of costs associated with the purchase of new equipment. Given that the installation of the new equipment is now complete, the Division agrees the Cool Keeper Audit Report is no longer necessary. The Division will review the DSM expenses for this program during its annual audit.

The Division has reviewed PacifiCorp's Application to modify the filing schedule for the three DSM compliance reports discussed herein and recommends the Commission approve PacifiCorp's Application. The Division does not oppose implementing the changes retroactively, beginning January 1, 2015, as requested by PacifiCorp.

The Office acknowledges that prior to filing its Application, PacifiCorp held several discussions with the DSM Steering Committee regarding the timing of currently required compliance filings for the three DSM reports identified in the Application. The Office represents that PacifiCorp and the DSM Steering Committee members agreed it is unnecessary to issue these reports as frequently as now required by previous Commission orders. The Office states the practice of providing different reports, at staggered intervals, and not providing the same report title year to year, is leading to confusion and making it difficult to track these programs. The Office also states the DSM Steering Committee proposed changing the schedule for these compliance filings and PacifiCorp's Application in this docket is a result of the DSM Steering Committee discussions. The Office supports PacifiCorp's request for changing the schedule for

the compliance filings discussed herein and recommends the Commission approve PacifiCorp's Application.

Based on our review of the Application, the recommendations of the Division and the Office, and the lack of opposition to the Application, we find modifying the filing requirements for the Balancing Account Report, New Homes Report, and Cool Keeper Report as discussed in the Application is reasonable and appropriate.

ORDER

Pursuant to the foregoing discussion, findings and conclusions, we approve PacifiCorp's Application to revise the schedules for filing the Balancing Account, New Homes and Cool Keeper Reports effective January 1, 2015.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 29th day of January, 2015.

/s/ Ron Allen, Chairman

/s/ David R. Clark, Commissioner

/s/ Thad LeVar, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg
Commission Secretary

DW#263453

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on the 29th day of January, 2015, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was delivered upon the following as indicated below:

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