



State of Utah
Department of Commerce
Division of Public Utilities

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ACTION REQUEST RESPONSE

To: Utah Public Service Commission

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities

Chris Parker, Director

Artie Powell, Energy Section Manager

Brenda Salter, Technical Consultant

Date: July 8, 2014

Re: **RMP Advice No. 14-06, Proposed changes to Schedule 118 – Low Income Weatherization**

Docket No. 14-035-T07

RECOMMENDATION

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) recommends that the Public Service Commission (Commission) approve Rocky Mountain Power's (RMP or Company) proposed changes to the Low Income Weatherization Program.

ISSUE

On June 23, 2014, the Company filed proposed changes to Utah Tariff Schedule 118 Low Income Weatherization Program with an effective date of August 1, 2014. On June 23, 2014, the Commission issued an Action Request for the Division to investigate the proposed changes to Schedule 118 and report its findings and recommendation to the Commission by July 8, 2014. This memorandum represents the Division's response to the Commission's Action Request.

DISCUSSION

The Company's proposed modifications are housekeeping in nature and include the following:

- References to the department in the State of Utah that administers the Low Income Weatherization services have been revised as their department name has changed to Utah Department of Work Force Services, Housing and Community Development Division (HCD). Revisions are incorporated on 118.1, 118.2 and 118.5.
- Financial assistance will be provided one time only on any individual measure, and up to two times per dwelling. The reference to “major or supplemental” measures is not necessary and is eliminated on 118.2.
- HCD forwards invoices to Rocky Mountain Power after they receive billing data from their subcontracting local weatherization agencies. This wording under Financial Assistance has been clarified on 118.3.
- Changes to adjust measure life to 20 years are proposed for window replacements, duct insulation and sealing, thermal doors and refrigerators. The change to window replacements, duct insulation/sealing and refrigerators align with the Home Energy Savings program measure life. The revision to thermal doors is based on the life assumed in Rocky Mountain Power’s latest potential study. These revisions are incorporated on 118.3 and 118.4.
- The replacement window description has been revised to “Low E double pane replacement windows with U-value of .30 or lower”. This matches the description that will be incorporated in HCD’s guidelines and is included on 118.3.
- Reference to zonal thermostats has been deleted as HCD has not found this type of electric heating system in the homes they serve. This revision is made on 118.4.
- Addition of the Weatherization Assistance Program Technical Assistance Center database to determine the baseline usage of existing refrigerators is added. This is allowed by HCD and their federal funding sources (U.S. Department of Energy and Health and Human Services). This change is included on 118.4.
- Delete “Installation shall meet Federal, State and Local building codes”. HCD monitors homes throughout the state and ensures building codes are followed. This language is removed from 118.5.

On May 29, 2014, a draft filing of the changes to Schedule 118 was provided to the DSM Advisory Group. The Company provided answers to questions submitted by the DSM Advisory Group on June 12, 2014. The Division participated in the draft review.

CONCLUSION

The Division has reviewed the proposed changes and recommends that the Commission approve the Company's modifications to Electric Service Schedule 118.

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