



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, Manager

Brenda Salter, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor

Jeff Einfeldt, Utility Analyst

Date: November 26, 2019

Re: **Docket No. 19-028-T01**, Garkane Energy Cooperative, Inc. Proposed Tariff Revisions.

Recommendation (Acknowledge)

The Division of Public Utilities (“Division”) recommends the Utah Public Service Commission (“Commission”) acknowledge Garkane Energy Cooperative, Inc.’s (“Garkane”) proposed revision of its Electric Service Tariff Schedule SC (“Tariff”). The requested effective date for this filing is November 1, 2019.

Issue

On November 19, 2019, Garkane filed tariff pages to modify its service fees to include changes to its late fee, and to rename its impact fee to Plant Investment Fee. The proposed tariff also modifies the calculation of the fee with a desire to help stimulate growth and development in the service area.

The Commission issued an Action Request on November 19, 2019 requesting the Division investigate the proposed changes and report its findings and recommendation to the Commission

ASAP. This memorandum represents the Division's response to the Commission's Action Request.

Background

Garkane's members were originally notified of the proposed changes via letter and publication in the local newspapers. Notice in the newspapers were published in the 9/12/2019 and 9/26/2019 editions in compliance with Utah Code 54-4-4.1. A public hearing was held on September 30, 2019 where members/customers were invited to comment on the proposed addition. No comments were proffered at the hearing. Garkane's board approved the proposed schedule during the public hearing. Garkane filed notification of the tariff changes with the Commission on November 19, 2019, with a desired effective date of November 1, 2019. Utah Code 54-3-3 requires utilities to provide at least 30 days' notice to the Commission prior to the effective date of changes to the utility's "...rate, fare, toll, rental, charge or classification..." However, Utah Code 54-3-3 does allow the Commission to acknowledge the tariff changes without requiring the 30 days' notice for good cause.

The Division does note Garkane did comply with timely notification of its members and did hold a public hearing. The changes appear to leave residential customers relatively the same as before the tariff change with the goal to reduce impact fees for potential commercial customers.

Conclusion

The Division recommends the Commission acknowledge Garkane's tariff revisions with an effective date of November 1, 2019, and make it available for public inspection.

cc: Neal Brown, Garkane Energy Cooperative, Inc.
Maria Wright, Division of Public Utilities, Customer Service
Michele Beck, Office of Consumer Services
Jeff Peterson, Utah REA