



State of Utah
Department of Commerce
Division of Public Utilities

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Action Request Response

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities

Artie Powell, Director

Doug Wheelwright, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor

Brenda Salter, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor

Abdinasir Abdulle, Utility Technical Consultant

Date: August 19, 2020

Re: Docket No. 20-506-02, Acknowledgement.

Recommendation (Acknowledge)

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) recommends that the Public Service Commission (Commission) acknowledge Deseret Generation and Transmission Cooperative (DGTC) Wildland Fire Protection Plan (WFPP) as complying with Utah Code § 54-24-203 – Wildland Fire Protection Plan for an Electric Cooperative.

Issue

Pursuant to Utah Code § 54-24-203, on July 15, 2020, DGTC filed its WFPP. On July 21, 2020, the Commission issued an Action Request to the Division requesting the Division review DGTC's filing for compliance and make recommendations. The Commission asked the Division to report back by August 20, 2020. This memorandum represents the Division's response to the Commission's Action Request.

Discussion

Deseret Generation and Transmission Cooperative is a regional generation and transmission cooperative. Utah Code § 54-24-203, requires electric cooperatives to prepare a Wildland Fire Protection Plan. The content of this plan includes procedures for inspections, vegetation management, preventive programs, de-energizing power lines, restoring power in case of Wildland fire, etc. On July 15, 2020, DGTC filed its WFPP. The purpose of the filing was to comply with Utah code, protect the public, minimize the chance of the cooperative's power lines starting wildfires, and speed the recovery from any wildfires that may occur.

The Division reviewed the filing and determined that it contains a point by point discussion of the requirements of the code. Therefore, the Division concludes that DGTC's filing is in compliance.

Conclusion

Based on its review of DGTC's filing , the Division recommends that the Commission acknowledge DGTC's filing as complying with Utah Code § 54-24-203.

Cc: Kimball Rasmussen, President & CEO, Deseret Generation and Transmission Cooperative.
Michele Beck, Office of Consumer Services