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UTAH DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Division of Public Utilities

MARGARET W. BUSSE
Executive Director

CHRIS PARKER
Division Director

Action Request Response

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities

Chris Parker, Director

Artie Powell, Manager

Doug Wheelwright, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor

Bhavana Venjimuri, Utility Analyst

Date: August 30, 2022

Re: **Docket No. 22-028-T01**, Garkane Energy Cooperative, Inc.'s proposed Tariff Revision.

Recommendation (Approve)

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) recommends the Utah Public Service Commission (Commission) approve Garkane Energy Cooperative, Inc.'s (Garkane) proposed Electric Service Tariff Schedule (Tariff). The requested effective date for this filing is September 1, 2022.

Issue

Garkane filed revised tariff pages for schedule COG34 Net Meter General Service and Schedule SC Service charges & Plant Investment Fees for its Utah tariffs. Garkane is requesting Commission acknowledgement of the revised tariff with an effective date of September 1, 2022.

Background

On August 16, 2022, Garkane sent an email to the Commission informing it of certain tariff changes recently approved by its board. The Commission issued an Action Request on

Division of Public Utilities

Heber M. Wells Building • 160 East 300 South • P.O. Box 146751 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6741
www.dpu.utah.gov • telephone (801) 530-7622 • toll-free in Utah (877) 874-0904 • fax (801) 530-6512

August 17, 2022, requesting the Division investigate the proposed tariff changes and report its findings and recommendation to the Commission by August 30, 2022. This memorandum represents the Division's response to the Commission's Action Request.

Garkane Energy filed revised tariff pages for schedule COG34 Net Meter General Service and Schedule SC Service charges & Plant Investment Fees for its Utah tariffs.

In compliance with Utah Admin. Code 54-7-12(7), weekly notices were published in the June and July editions of local newspapers throughout Garkane's service territory.

Garkane held a public hearing on August 1, 2022, soliciting member's comments on the proposed addition. No comments were proffered, and Garkane's Board of Directors approved the proposed schedule during the public hearing. Garkane filed notification of the tariff changes with the Commission on August 16, 2022, with a requested effective date of September 1, 2022.

Utah Admin. 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...". As noted above, Garkane filed the tariff with the Commission on August 16, 2022, requesting a tariff effective date of September 1, 2022. The current filing did not provide the requisite 30 days' notice. However, Utah Code 54-3-3 allows the Commission to acknowledge the tariff changes without requiring the 30 days' notice for good cause. The Division sees no significant or material harm in having not allowed 30-day notice to the Commission.

The Division notes Garkane complied with timely notification of its members and held a public hearing. Utah Admin. Code § 746-405-2(D)(6) requires utilities to provide both clean and marked-up versions of tariff sheets identifying the tariff sheet changes and Garkane has provided the redline copy of the tariffs.

The Division has summarized the tariff changes applicable to Utah customers as follows:

Schedule No. COG34 : Net Metering Service Tariff revision.

Monthly Bill	Old Tariff	New Tariff
Base Rate	\$35.00	\$40.00
Energy Charge, per kWh per month	\$0.0610	\$0.06740
First 3 billing kW per month		\$3.00
Over 3 billing kW per month		\$7.50
Energy Credit per kWh	\$0.02600	\$0.03000

Schedule SC : Plant Investment Fee & Service Charges.

Service Description	Fee
Pre-Application Report Fee (50 kW and less)	Included with Interconnection Application Fee
Pre-Application Report Fee (Greater than 50 kW)	\$ 350.00
Level 1 Superfast Track Application Determination Fee	\$ 150.00
Level 2 Fast Track 50 kW & Less Application Determination	\$ 250.00
Level 2 Fast Track Greater than 50 kW Application Determination	Fee = \$250 + [\$1 x (System kW - 50 kW)]
Level 2 Less than 50 kW System Commissioning	\$ 400.00
Level 2, 50 kW and Greater System Commissioning	Actual Garkane staff labor hours invoiced at current labor rates. An itemized invoice to be provided at completion of commissioning, payment required withing 30 days of invoicing.
Service Description	Fee
Level 2, 50 kW and Greater System Commissioning	Actual Garkane staff labor hours invoiced at current labor rates. An itemized invoice to be provided at completion of commissioning, payment required withing 30 days of invoicing.
Level 3 Study Track Application Review	\$ 2,200.00 + [\$1 x (System kW - 2000 kW)]

Level 3 System Commissioning	Actual Garkane staff labor hours invoiced at current labor rates. An itemized invoice to be provided at completion of commissioning, payment required withing 30 days of invoicing.
Preparation of Scoping Meeting Project Scope Good Faith Cost Estimate	Actual Garkane staff labor hours invoiced at current labor rates. An itemized invoice to be provided at completion of commissioning, payment required withing 30 days of invoicing.
Feasibility Study Deposit	Determined Based on Facility Type/Scope, Third-Party Engineering Firm Study Proposal & Estimated Garkane Staff Study Labor Hours
Feasibility Study Fee	Actual Garkane cost for a Third-Party Engineering study and internal staff labor hours at current rates. An itemized invoice to be provided at completion of study. Payment required prior to Garkane providing Study Results.
System Impact Study Deposit	Determined Based on Facility Type/Scope, Third-Party Engineering Firm Study Proposal & Estimated Garkane Staff Study Labor Hours
System Impact Study Fee	Actual Garkane cost for a Third-Party Engineering study and internal staff labor hours at current rates. An itemized invoice to be provided at completion of study. Payment required prior to Garkane providing Study Results.
Facilities Study Deposit	Determined Based on Facility Type/Scope, Third-Party Engineering Firm Study Proposal & Estimated Garkane Staff Study Labor Hours
Facilities Study Fee	Actual Garkane cost for a Third-Party Engineering study and internal staff labor hours at current rates. An itemized invoice to be provided at completion of study. Payment required prior to Garkane providing Study Results.
Supplemental Review Deposit	Determined Based on Facility Type/Scope, Third-Party Engineering Firm Study Proposal & Estimated Garkane Staff Study Labor Hours
Supplemental Review Fee	Actual Garkane cost for a Third-Party Engineering study and internal staff labor hours at current rates. An itemized invoice to be provided at completion of study

Conclusion

The Division recommends the Commission approve Garkane's tariff revision with an effective date of September 1, 2022, and make it available for public inspection. To avoid any potential delays, the Division recommends the Commission remind Garkane of the 30-day notice in future filings.

cc: Neal Brown, Garkane Energy Cooperative, Inc.
Michele Beck, Office of Consumer Services
Jeff Peterson, Utah REA