



Role of the Commission and Recent Policy Actions

Interconnection Workshop

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The Public Service Commission

- Utah Code Title 54 Chapter 1 establishes the Public Service Commission as an independent agency
- The Commission
 - has legislative, adjudicative, and rule-making powers
 - is a quasi-judicial agency
- The Commissioners
 - are appointed by the Governor with consent of the Utah Senate
 - do not report to the Governor
- The Commissioners' decisions are independent
- In addition to responding to filings, pleadings, and other responsibilities, the Commission is, from time to time, delegated to perform specific tasks by the Federal Government

[PURPA]

- The Federal Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act, (PURPA) enacted in 1978 and modified by the 1992 and 2005 Energy Policy Acts, requires state public utility commissions to consider and make a determination concerning whether or not it is appropriate to implement certain standards to carry out the purposes of PURPA, namely:
 - conservation of energy supplied by electric utilities
 - the optimization of the efficiency of use of facilities and resources by electric utilities
 - equitable rates to customers

The Standards

- Cost of Service (1978)
- Declining Block Rates (1978)
- Time-of-Day Rates (1978)
- Seasonal Rates (1978)
- Interruptible Rates (1978)
- Load Management Techniques (1978)
- Integrated Resource Planning (1992)
- Investments in Conservation and Demand Side Management (1992)
- Energy Efficiency Investments in Power Generation and Supply (1992)
- Wholesale Power Purchases on Utility Cost of Capital (1992)
- **Net Metering (2005)**
- Fuel Sources (2005)
- Fossil Fuel Generation Efficiency (2005)
- Time-Based Metering and Communications (2005)
- **Interconnection (2005)**

[The Standards]

■ Net Metering:

- Each electric utility shall make available upon request net metering service to any electric consumer that the electric utility serves. For purposes of this paragraph, the term “net metering service” means service to an electric consumer under which electric energy generated by that electric consumer from an eligible on-site generating facility and delivered to the local distribution facilities may be used to offset electric energy provided by the electric utility to the electric consumer during the applicable billing period.

■ Interconnection:

- Each electric utility shall make available upon request interconnection service to any electric consumer that the electric utility serves. For purposes of this paragraph, the term “interconnection service” means service to an electric consumer under which an on-site generating facility on the consumer’s premises shall be connected to the local distribution facilities. Interconnection services shall be offered based upon the standards developed by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers: IEEE Standard 1547 for Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric Power Systems, as they may be amended from time to time. In addition, agreements and procedures shall be established whereby the services are offered shall promote current best practices of interconnection for distributed generation, including but not limited to practices stipulated in model codes adopted by associations of state regulatory agencies. All such agreements and procedures shall be just and reasonable, and not unduly discriminatory or preferential.

The Commission's Determination

- On May 8, 2007, the Commission determined:
 - Utah Code Title 54 Chapter 15 - Net Metering of Electricity constitutes a prior state action with respect to the PURPA Net Metering Standard, no standard comparable to the PURPA Interconnection Standard exists, and it is appropriate to adopt the PURPA Interconnection Standard. Implementation of the PURPA Interconnection Standard and a review of net metering will be addressed jointly in a new docket.

- The complete determination can be found at:
 - <http://www.psc.utah.gov/misc/07orders/May/0699903dctpnmais.pdf>

Further Actions

- On August 20, 2007, two new dockets were opened:
 - 07-999-07: In the Matter of Electric Power Interconnection
 - 07-999-08: In the Matter of Net Metering
- On September 25, 2007, a Technical Conference was held addressing both dockets. In this conference it was determined a workshop on interconnection would be beneficial to ensure all parties have the same base level of knowledge regarding interconnection.
- On November 1, 2007, a Notice of Workshop on Interconnection was issued by the Commission
- At the end of today's workshop we will discuss next steps for each docket