



**SALT LAKE
COUNTY**

PETER M. CORROON
Salt Lake County Mayor

2001 South State Street
Suite N-2100
Salt Lake City, UT 84190-1020

801 / 468-2500
801 / 468-3535 fax

May 6, 2011

Re: Public Service Commission Docket 08-999-05

Utah Public Service Commission
Heber M. Wells Building
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84114
Phone: 801-530-6716

Dear Commissioners,

Salt Lake County supports opportunities to make information about energy use, rates, and generation easily accessible to our energy users. We believe that improved access to information will help our residents make energy use decisions that are in the best long-term interest of our community and state by conserving natural resources and reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with energy use.

The Home Energy Report Review filed by Rocky Mountain Power on February 28, 2011 shows promise as a program to empower residents to become more active in energy conservation. Salt Lake County values users becoming more conscious of their energy use, just as the County has become these past seven years. In response to this new ethic, we have been upgrading our facilities to make them more efficient. Improvements have included VFD changes, lighting upgrades and system overhauls. We have also been building our new facilities right by requiring facilities be built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold standards.

Externally, we have also developed a new home loan program to give residents affordable options to reduce household energy consumption and monthly energy bills. This program is available to all homeowners in Salt Lake County. It provides low interest loans in amounts as small as \$2,000 or as much as \$50,000 for energy-efficient improvements. The loans help finance furnace replacements, new water heaters, and air conditioners or household weatherization. An Energy Smart loan will also help finance the installation of wind turbines, photovoltaic solar panels, solar thermal panels, and geo exchange. In order to justify this expenditure, the County is collecting use data from each participant to see if energy use is actually reduced through these loans.

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We support development of a Home Energy Report program as well as distribution of the information contained in the Smart Grid Information Standard to *all* Rocky Mountain Power customers. Providing this information to all customers will improve energy literacy and spur more energy-conscious behavior among residents. We agree with the Commission that all customers should have access to information necessary to be conscious of and informed about their daily energy usage and associated greenhouse gas emissions. Given that the Commission found that much of the information needed to implement the smart grid information standard is already available, we think it is reasonable for Rocky Mountain Power to make “smart grid” information convenient for all customers to access.

While we understand the importance of limiting the program to higher-use customers to enhance cost-effectiveness, it is our understanding that, as proposed, the Home Energy Report program would not fulfill the intent of the smart grid information standard since all customers would not have access to the information. Nevertheless, the program proposed by Rocky Mountain Power will be a significant addition to the array of current energy efficiency programs it currently offers.

We also remain interested in Rocky Mountain Power’s ongoing efforts to track and investigate smart grid pilot programs and development projects; learning from these programs and projects represent significant opportunity toward eventually implementing a “smart grid” that makes sense for Utah.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter", written in a cursive style.

Peter M. Corroon
Mayor, Salt Lake County