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*Attorneys for Rocky Mountain Power*

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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH**

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In the Matter of the Application of  
Rocky Mountain Power for a Certificate of  
Public Convenience and Necessity  
Authorizing Construction of the Populus-  
to-Terminal 345 kV Transmission Line  
Project

Docket No. 08-035-\_\_

**APPLICATION**

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**APRIL 2008**

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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH**

In the Matter of the Application of Rocky Mountain Power for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Authorizing Construction of the Populus-to-Terminal 345 kV Transmission Line Project	Docket No. 08-035-__  <b>APPLICATION</b>
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Rocky Mountain Power, a division of PacifiCorp (“Rocky Mountain Power” or the “Company”), pursuant to Utah Code Ann. § 54-4-25, hereby applies to the Public Service Commission of Utah (“Commission”) for a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing the construction of a 345 kV transmission line, known as the Populus – Terminal Transmission Line (the “Transmission Line”), in Box Elder, Weber, Davis, and Salt Lake Counties. In support of this Application, Rocky Mountain Power states as follows:

1. Rocky Mountain Power is an electrical corporation and public utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. In addition to providing retail electric service in the state of Utah, Rocky Mountain Power provides retail electric service in Idaho and Wyoming.

2. Communications, including all pleadings or other filings, regarding this filing should be addressed to:

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The Company also respectfully requests that all formal correspondence and data requests regarding this filing be sent to:

By e-mail (**preferred**) to: [datarequest@pacificorp.com](mailto:datarequest@pacificorp.com)

By regular mail to: Data Request Response Center  
PacifiCorp  
825 NE Multnomah, Suite  
Portland, OR 97232

By fax to: (503) 813-6060

3. Over the last decade, the Company has experienced significant increases in its retail load. As a result, the existing transmission line infrastructure will be unable to continue to provide the transmission capacity necessary for the delivery of safe, efficient, and reliable electric service to its customers.

4. In order to meet its load requirements the Company proposes to construct a new 345 kV transmission line along a certain alignment between the existing Terminal Substation located southwest of the Salt Lake International Airport and a new 345 kV substation (“Populus Substation”) to be located at Downey, Idaho. A separate application is being filed with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission for the Downey Substation and that segment of the Transmission Line within Idaho.

5. The Transmission Line will also fulfill Rocky Mountain Power’s commitment as agreed upon in that certain stipulation filed by PacifiCorp in Docket No. 05-035-54 for the approval of the transaction in which Mid-American Energy Holdings Company acquired PacifiCorp. More specifically, Commitment No. 34 provides that Rocky Mountain Power agreed to construct transmission projects that enhance reliability, facilitate the receipt of renewable resources, or enable further system optimization. The Transmission Line, which is planned to increase the Company’s Utah-Idaho transfer capability by 1,400 MW, is a fulfillment of that commitment to increase capacity by 300 MW (from S.E. Idaho to Northern Utah) referenced in Docket 05-035-54 as the “Path C Upgrade.”

6. As further described in testimony accompanying this Application, the Transmission Line will:

a. provide and enhance reliability for Rocky Mountain Power customers along the Wasatch Front and throughout Rocky Mountain Power’s certificated service territory because it will increase transfer capability between the east and west control areas;

b. facilitate the delivery of power from the Goshen wind power project and other wind power projects that are expected to be constructed in Idaho and Wyoming; and

c. provide Rocky Mountain Power with greater flexibility and the opportunity to consider additional options regarding planned generation capacity additions.

7. Rocky Mountain Power anticipates the total cost of the project, including that segment of the Transmission Line within the state of Idaho and the Downey Substation, to be approximately \$700 million.

8. Rocky Mountain Power has in place franchise agreements for the total line route within the state of Utah, including Box Elder, Weber, Davis, and Salt Lake Counties as well as all relevant municipalities and townships, that allows for the construction of power lines within public thoroughfares. In addition, Rocky Mountain Power has applied or is in the process of preparing applications, with local counties and governmental entities that require conditional use permits or other similar authorizations. Under the Energy Facility Review Board Act, Utah Code Ann. §§ 54-14-101, et seq., the counties and municipalities are required to permit construction of the Transmission Line subject to reasonable conditions.

9. PacifiCorp has the capability to finance the Transmission Line project and has a debt-to-equity ratio which provides for financial stability.

10. The present and future public convenience requires the construction of the proposed Populus – Terminal Transmission Line. The Transmission Line will not conflict with or adversely affect the operations of any existing certificated fixed public

utility providing retail electric service to the public. The Transmission Line does not constitute an extension into the certificated service territory of any existing public electric utilities.

11. The following testimony is filed in support of this Application:

- a. Direct Testimony of John Cupparo
- b. Direct Testimony of Sharon Seppi
- c. Direct Testimony of Bruce Williams.

12. In order to expedite the Commission's determination in this matter, in addition to filing and serving its supporting testimony on the Utah Division of Public Utilities and the Utah Committee of Consumer Services, Rocky Mountain Power is assembling documents it anticipates parties will likely desire to examine as part of their analysis of this Application. The availability of those documents for inspection should expedite parties' review of this Application and considerably diminish the need for discovery in this docket.

WHEREFORE, Rocky Mountain Power requests:

- a. The Commission enter an order as expeditiously as possible granting Rocky Mountain Power a certificate of convenience and necessity to construct the Populus – Terminal 345 kV Transmission Line; and
- b. The Commission grant such other authority and authorizations as may be necessary to facilitate the construction of the Transmission Line.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: April 25, 2008.

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R. Jeff Richards  
Rocky Mountain Power

Ted D. Smith  
Stoel Rives LLP

*Attorneys for Rocky Mountain Power*

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Application was served upon the following persons by email at the addresses shown below on April 25, 2008:

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Ariel Son  
Coordinator, Administrative Services