

1 **EXPLANATION OF CERTAIN CONTRACT ISSUES RELATED TO THE**
2 **MASTER ELECTRIC SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ROCKY**
3 **MOUNTAIN POWER AND KENNECOTT UTAH COPPER LLC DATED**
4 **OCTOBER 18, 2010**

5
6 **Background**

7 On October 18, 2010 the Company filed a petition for approval of a one year Electric
8 Service Agreement (“Agreement”) between Rocky Mountain Power and Kennecott Utah
9 Copper LLC (“Kennecott”).

10 **Purpose of this Explanatory Memorandum**

11 The Company desires to address in detail the rate adjustment mechanism described in
12 Sections 4.1, 4.8 and 4.10 of the Agreement. The rate adjustment mechanism determines
13 how the rates contained in the Agreement change over the one year term of the
14 Agreement.

15 **Analysis: Kennecott’s Unique Load Characteristics**

16 Kennecott owns and operates a 162 MW power plant and two co-generation facilities
17 with nameplates of 31.8 MW and 7.54 MW. Kennecott is also a large consumer of
18 electric power and energy. Kennecott has historically utilized its large generating
19 capabilities to reduce its reliance on Rocky Mountain Power for supply of electric power
20 and energy during the months of March through October. Furthermore, Kennecott’s
21 usage pattern is such that it has a flatter load profile than the Utah Schedule No. 9 tariff
22 class load profile, meaning Kennecott uses less on peak as a percentage of the total usage

1 than the tariff class and more off peak as a percentage of the total usage than the tariff
2 class.

3 Attachment 1 illustrates the difference for the test period July 2009 through June
4 2010. In all months in this period, Kennecott's ratio of on peak usage to total usage is
5 lower than the tariff class ratio of on peak usage to total usage, and Kennecott's ratio of
6 off peak usage to total usage is higher than the tariff class ratio of off peak usage to total
7 usage. In addition to the on peak and off peak ratio differences, Attachment 1 illustrates
8 how Kennecott's usage (the amount of electric power and energy it takes from Rocky
9 Mountain Power) is greatly reduced March through October. Kennecott's average
10 monthly usage for the March through October period is 21.4% of the average monthly
11 usage for the November through February period.

12 In summary, Kennecott uses less energy during the summer months than the
13 winter months, and Kennecott has a flatter load profile than the typical Utah Schedule
14 No. 9 customer.

15 **Analysis: Why A One-Year Rate Adjustment Mechanism is Required**

16 The Company believes Kennecott, like all customers, should be required to pay its fair
17 share of costs incurred by the Company in order to provide service of electric power and
18 energy on its behalf. The initial rates in the Agreement are set to the now current Utah
19 Schedule No. 31 rates (with the exception of the Schedule 193 surcharge, which is
20 addressed in Section 4.6 of the Agreement). Schedule 31 is the Back-Up, Maintenance,
21 and Supplementary Power tariff under which customers with generation behind the meter
22 that is used to offset their own retail load can purchase back-up service in the event their
23 generation is not operating. Under Schedule 31, a customer can elect to have no back up

1 service in place if it does not intend to run its generation, and the rates for service become
2 identical to the Schedule 9 rates.

3 While the Schedule 31 and Schedule 9 rates include rate designs that incorporate
4 the different cost characteristics of on peak and off peak usage as well as summer and
5 winter usage, Kennecott desires that this one-year Agreement include assurance that rate
6 changes allocated to Kennecott in 2011 adequately take into account Kennecott's unique
7 load characteristics. In particular, Kennecott desires that energy related charges be
8 allocated in a manner that reflects Kennecott's unique seasonal usage pattern and its
9 flatter-than-tariff-class load profile.

10 The proposed rate adjustment mechanism in the Agreement is intended to be a
11 short term arrangement, put in place in this one year contract primarily to address the
12 current uncertainty around the Company's ECAM design. The mechanism is not
13 intended to be a long term solution. However, for this one year contract, the parties
14 agreed some adjustment mechanism is reasonable on a short term basis while current
15 Utah regulatory proceedings are resolved.

16 **Analysis: How the Rate Adjustment Mechanism Works**

17 The rate adjustment mechanism in the Agreement is contained in Sections 4.1, 4.8 and
18 4.10. At a high level, the rates in the Agreement change coincident with any changes to
19 Schedules 9 and 31. There is no lag in the implementation of the changes. The changes
20 to Schedules 9 and 31 are applicable to Kennecott but are subject to the ratios contained
21 in the table in Section 4.10 of the Agreement. The changes for all kW (demand) related
22 billing components are equal to the changes for the applicable kW related billing
23 components for Schedules 9 and 31 because the ratios for "kW" in the table in Section

1 4.10 are 100%. The changes for all kWh (energy) related billing components are based
 2 on the changes for the applicable kWh related billing components for Schedules 9 and 31
 3 but are subject to the ratios found in the “kWh” section of the table in Section 4.10.

4 Below is the table in Section 4.10 of the Agreement:

	KWh		KW
	On-Peak Ratio	Off-Peak Ratio	KW Ratio
January 2011	92.10%	106.86%	100.00%
February	94.68%	104.74%	100.00%
March	84.00%	114.85%	100.00%
April	86.98%	113.20%	100.00%
May	44.04%	139.47%	100.00%
June	51.15%	115.38%	100.00%
July	76.64%	107.45%	100.00%
August	85.56%	104.47%	100.00%
September	78.95%	106.60%	100.00%
October	131.05%	84.66%	100.00%
November	90.11%	109.26%	100.00%
December 2011	97.19%	102.53%	100.00%

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 6 The “kWh” ratios in Section 4.10 were developed using the test period data July
 7 2009 through June 2010. The On-Peak Ratio represents Kennecott’s on peak usage as a
 8 percentage of its total usage in relation to Schedule 9’s on-peak usage as a percentage of
 9 Schedule 9’s total usage. The Off-Peak Ratio represents Kennecott’s off-peak usage as a
 10 percentage of its total usage in relation to Schedule 9’s off-peak usage as a percentage of
 11 Schedule 9’s total usage. These calculations are found in previously discussed
 12 Attachment 1. For any kWh related billing component change to Schedules 9 and 31, the
 13 rate change for Kennecott under the Agreement will be the applicable change to
 14 Schedules 9 and 31 multiplied by the applicable ratio in the table in Section 4.10. For
 15 example, if the January on peak energy (kWh) charge for Schedule 9 increased by \$.005
 16 per kWh, Kennecott’s rate would increase by \$.004605 per kWh (\$.005 per kWh x

1 92.10%). As a second example, if the January off peak energy (kWh) charge for
2 Schedule 9 increased by \$.005 per kWh, Kennecott's rate would increase by \$.005343
3 per kWh (\$.005 per kWh x 106.86%).

4 For demand (kW) related billing components, the ratio is 100%, so the changes to
5 charges in Schedules 9 and 31 would be applicable at 100%.

6 The ratios apply only to the incremental change in rates and not to the base rates.
7 The changes are effective at the same time as the effective dates for Schedules 9 and 31.

8 **Analysis: How the Rate Adjustment Mechanism Impacts Kennecott's Rates**

9 The Company prepared an example of how the rate adjustment mechanism in the
10 Agreement impacts Kennecott's rates. The Company used the example ECAM
11 calculation explained by Company witness William R. Griffith in his rebuttal testimony
12 in Docket No. 09-035-15 as an example of a rate change. Mr. Griffith's rebuttal
13 testimony and the corresponding exhibits are included as Attachment 2. Mr. Griffith's
14 ECAM testimony includes an example that calculates example rate increases for
15 Schedule 9 customers as a result of an ECAM. The Company prepared an analysis that
16 shows how those example Schedule 9 rate increases apply to Kennecott's rates in the
17 Agreement. The analysis also compares the rate increases that would apply to Kennecott
18 in the Agreement to the rate increases that would apply to Kennecott if it were a regular
19 Schedule 9 tariff customer. This analysis is included as Attachment 3. The analysis
20 shows that, using the ECAM example in Mr. Griffith's testimony, the difference between
21 the rate change for Kennecott under the Agreement and the Schedule 9 rate change is
22 .7%, meaning Kennecott's rate change would be .7% higher under the Agreement than
23 under Schedule 9. While this difference is very small based on the test period data and

1 assumptions, it could change based on the customer's actual usage characteristics or
2 Commission-ordered rate changes.

3 **Conclusion**

4 Kennecott desires that its Agreement include assurance that future rate changes allocated
5 to Kennecott adequately take into account Kennecott's unique load characteristics. Due
6 to uncertainty regarding several rate design issues in 2011, the parties have agreed to a
7 temporary rate adjustment mechanism in the Agreement. As demonstrated in the
8 example described in this memo, the mechanism provides a reasonable method under
9 which Kennecott's rates adjust under the Agreement.