



State of Utah
Department of Commerce
Division of Public Utilities

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ACTION REQUEST RESPONSE

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Division of Public Utilities
Chris Parker, Director
Energy Section
Artie Powell, Energy Section Manager
Thomas Brill, Technical Consultant
Abdinasir Abdulle, Technical Consultant

Date: February 24, 2011

Re: Docket No. 10-035-128 – Schedule No. 114 – Cool Keeper Program

RECOMMENDATION (ACKNOWLEDGE)

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) recommends the Public Service Commission (Commission) acknowledge Rocky Mountain Power's (Company) proposed corrective action in relation to the potential malfunctioning programmable thermostat. The Division also recommends that the Commission direct the Company to keep the Commission and the Division informed regarding the progress of the implementation of the action plan.

ISSUE

On December 22, 2010, the Company filed an application with the Commission requesting the approval of a proposed corrective action plan for a potential problem with its programmable thermostat used in the Cool Keeper Program (Schedule 114). On December 28, 2010, the Commission issued an Action Request for the Division to investigate the filing and submit its response by February 24, 2011.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

In its application dated December 22, 2010, the Company indicated that Comverge, the program administrator, informed it of a malfunction of the programmable thermostat model number 1F88. The manufacturer of this unit indicated that there is a potential for battery leakage that could potentially result in a fire although none have been reported in Utah. The manufacturer reported this potential problem and the corrective action plan to the Federal Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) which approved the plan on December 7, 2010.

The corrective action plan includes mailing a packet with instructions as to how to remove the battery, a plastic plug to be inserted into the battery compartment, a warning label sticker, and a postage paid card to be returned to the vendor informing them that the corrective action has been taken. Comverge will keep track of the implementation of the corrective actions.

The Division commends the Company and Comverge for taking the necessary steps to correct the potential problem. As noted, the corrective action plan is already approved by the Federal CPSC, and the Division believes that the proposed corrective action plan is reasonable. However, the Division believes that the Company should monitor the progress of the corrective action plan and inform the Commission, Division, and the Office of Consumer Services about the status of the implementation of the action plan.

Therefore, the Division recommends the Commission acknowledge the Company's proposed corrective action plan and inform the Commission, Division, and Office about its progress.

CC: Dave Taylor, RMP
Michele Beck, OCS