May 7, 2010

Utah Facility Review Board

RE: Support for Rocky Mountain Power's Mona to Oquirrh Transmission Line

Dear Utah Facility Review Board Members:

The Utah Association of Energy Users (UAE) supports Rocky Mountain Power's (RMP) proposed Mona to Oquirrh transmission line that would run from the Mona substation located in Juab County to West Jordan and Salt Lake City. UAE is a group of 31 large energy consumers who provide tens of thousands of high-paid technical jobs and spend 100's of millions of dollars every year on energy in Utah. Many of our members are located in Salt Lake County, which this line will serve: Chevron, Frito Lay, Hexcel Corp, IHC Hospitals, Krogers (Smiths), WalMart, and more.

UAE believes the transmission line is needed in order to ensure continued electric reliability and rate stability throughout the State. It is necessary to meet the expanding load growth for both business and residential consumers. The line provides benefits to the entire State of Utah as well as significantly benefiting areas where growth is occurring. This line is key to economic development throughout central Utah. Cost and reliability are the two critical factors for RMP's industrial energy users.

RMP has demonstrated the need for the line, has studied numerous options for the project, and attempted to accommodate as many alternatives as can be made while ensuring the project remains feasible. The Northern Transmission Tier Group (a subregional planning group in the west) notes in its 2009 Biennial Report that the Mona to Oquirrh line will: *"Meet load growth, provide increased reliability and improved operational flexibility in conjunction with future generation resources, including renewable resources such as wind."*

 UAE supports the transmission project, and recommends that the Review Board support the proposed route for the transmission line. Please feel free to call Kelly Francone at UAE if you have any questions on UAE's views on this issue.

Regards,

Kelly A Francone

Kelly Francone
Deputy Director