

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

In the Matter of the Notice of Rocky Mountain Power of Intent to File a General Rate Case)
) DOCKET NO. 11-035-200
) ORDER APPROVING TEST PERIOD
)

ISSUED: January 19, 2012

By The Commission:

This matter is before the Commission on the request of PacifiCorp (“Company”), doing business in Utah as Rocky Mountain Power, for approval of a forecast test period consisting of the twelve months ending May 2013, about fifteen months after the anticipated rate case filing date of February 15, 2012. The request is contained in a letter dated December 15, 2011, and is made pursuant to Utah Admin. Code R746-700-10, our rule governing test period information. This rule provides that an applicant planning to file a general rate case may first request Commission approval of a test period to be used in preparing its application.

On December 30, 2011, the Commission issued in this docket a notice of the Company’s request for approval of its proposed test period. In that notice we observed the Company’s request is not accompanied by testimony and exhibits, as our rule requires. Instead, the Company supports its request by asserting the proposed test period is consistent with the test period agreement in the settlement stipulation dated July 28, 2011, and subsequently approved by Commission order in Docket Nos. 10-035-124, 09-035-15, 10-035-14, 11-035-46, and 11-035-47. The Company notes nine parties to its last general rate case signed the stipulation which states, in part:

The Parties agree that in the Company’s next general rate case application in Utah, the Company will use, and the Parties will not oppose use of, a forecast test

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period ending no later than fifteen months beyond the end of the month in which the rate case application is filed with a thirteen-month average rate base. (Settlement Stipulation, p. 21, ¶ 69)

Our December 30, 2011, notice afforded all potential participants in this docket the opportunity to respond to the Company's proposed forecast test period. Responses were due to be filed no later than January 15, 2012. The Division is the only party that filed a response. The Division does not oppose the proposed test period and states it is consistent with the stipulation. The Division, however, reserves the right to evaluate the Company's test period filing for consistency with the stipulation, including use of a thirteen-month average rate base.

In light of the test year stipulation quoted above and the absence of opposition to the Company's proposed test year, we find the proposed test year meets the statutory requirements. See Utah Code Ann. § 54-4-4(3). It is approved. Accordingly, consistent with Utah Administrative Code R746-700-10(B), the Company need not provide the alternative test period demonstration required by Subsection (A)(2) of that rule. This finding, however, does not relieve the Company of the requirement to include in its application twelve months of actual unadjusted results of operations data to serve as the base period upon which the test period used in the application is developed. As provided in Utah Administrative Code R746-700-10(A)(1), the Company's general rate case application must demonstrate what adjustments are required to be made to the base period data to arrive at the proposed test period.

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DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 19th day of January, 2012.

/s/ Ted Boyer, Chairman

/s/ Ric Campbell, Commissioner

/s/ Ron Allen, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg
Commission Secretary
D#213807

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 19th day of January, 2012, a true and correct copy of the foregoing ORDER APPROVING TEST PERIOD was served upon the following as indicated below:

By U.S. Mail:

Dave Taylor
Yvonne R. Hogle
Rocky Mountain Power
One Utah Center
201 South Main Street, Suite 2300
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

By Hand-Delivery:

Division of Public Utilities
160 East 300 South, 4th Floor
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Office of Consumer Services
160 East 300 South, 2nd Floor
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Administrative Assistant