In the Matter of the requested approval to modify the Commercial and Industrial Energy Efficiency Incentives Optional for Qualifying Customers ("FinAnswer Express") program, which is administered through Schedule 115

DOCKET NO. 12-035-T04

ORDER

ISSUED: May 15, 2012

By The Commission:

On April 19, 2012, PacifiCorp (“Company”), d/b/a Rocky Mountain Power, filed an application to modify Schedule 115, the FinAnswer Express program ("Program"). The Company requests an effective date of May 19, 2012.

On April 20, 2012, the Commission issued an Action Request to the Division of Public Utilities (“Division”) for a review of the Company’s filing. On May 11, 2012, the Commission received comments from both the Division and the Office of Consumer Services (“Office”). Both the Division and Office recommend the Company’s proposed modifications to the Program be approved as filed.

Both the Division and Office indicate the Company’s proposed Program modifications were discussed with the DSM Advisory Group. The Division notes the Company provided a draft of the proposed modifications to the DSM Advisory Group for review prior to filing the changes with the Commission. Based upon its review, the Division concludes the Program measure qualification and incentive changes, as well as the administrative and language changes are appropriate. The Division indicates the Program is cost-effective with these changes and recommends the Commission approve the Company’s proposed modifications.
As indicated above, the Division reviewed the Program’s cost effectiveness results and notes the Company evaluated program performance using 2011 IRP decrement values at both “No” and “Medium” carbon tax scenarios. The Division states the Program passes the threshold Utility Cost Test at both carbon tax scenarios. In addition, the Division indicates the Program passes all required benefit cost tests at the “Medium” carbon tax scenario, and passes all required tests except for the Ratepayer Impact Measure test (“RIM”) within the “No” carbon tax scenario. However, the Division notes the Company’s summary of cost-effectiveness results contains identical input and output values between the carbon tax scenarios, yet provides no explanation for the differences in Program cost effectiveness values.

The Division’s review points out the numerous modifications made by the Company to align the Program with new standards, codes, and changing market conditions while maintaining or improving Program cost-effectiveness. We commend the Company’s efforts to vet the proposed changes before the DSM Advisory Group and observe no party opposes the proposed Program changes. For all of the foregoing reasons, we approve the proposed Program modifications.

As the Division indicates, the filing does not fully explain how similar Program input values lead to differences in Program performance outputs under differing carbon tax scenarios. The filing, however, shows differences in benefit value outputs under each scenario. For this filing and going forward, we encourage the Company to clearly explain the reason why data inputs remain indistinguishable under varying carbon tax scenarios. Additionally, while the Program is not required to pass the RIM test, the Company should explain why RIM values are less than unity. We encourage the Company to provide such information in future filings.
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that:

The Company’s proposed changes to Schedule 115 are approved with an effective date of May 19, 2012.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 15th day of May, 2012.

/s/ Ted Boyer, Chairman

/s/ Ric Campbell, Commissioner

/s/ Ron Allen, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg
Commission Secretary
D#225512
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 15th day of May, 2012, a true and correct copy of the foregoing ORDER, was delivered upon the following as indicated below:

By Electronic Mail:

Data Request Response Center (datarequest@pacificorp.com)
PacifiCorp
Beau Brown (beau.brown@pacificorp.com)
Daniel Solander (daniel.solander@pacificorp.com)
Rocky Mountain Power

By Hand-Delivery:

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Administrative Assistant