



State of Utah
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Division of Public Utilities

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ACTION REQUEST RESPONSE

To: Utah Public Service Commission

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities
Chris Parker, Director
Energy Section
Artie Powell, Manager
Abdinasir Abdulle, Technical Consultant
Charles Peterson, Technical Consultant

Date: December 18, 2013

Re: Docket No. 13-035-189. Rocky Mountain Power Major Event Report – September 17, 2013.

Recommendation (Approve)

The Division of Public Utilities (“Division”) recommends that the Public Service Commission (“Commission”) approve Rocky Mountain Power’s (“Company”) application for a Major Event exclusion for the event that took place on September 17, 2013 (Event 32). The System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI) value for the event exceeded the threshold that defines a major event under the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers’ (IEEE) 2.5 Beta methodology adopted by the Commission in 2005 in Docket No. 98-2035-04.

Issue

On November 8, 2013, the Company filed with the Commission its Major Event Report for the event that took place on September 17, 2013. The Company requests that the event be classified as a Major Event and allow its exclusion from the Company’s network performance reporting. On November 12, 2013, the Commission issued an Action Request to the Division asking the Division to review the request for agency action and to make recommendations. The Commission asked the Division to report on its findings and recommendation on December 12,

2013. The Division requested and the Commission approved an extension of that deadline to December 19, 2013. This memorandum represents the Division's response to the Commission's Action Request.

Event Description and Restoration Effort

On September 17, 2013, a storm moved into Ogden and Park City operating areas and caused extensive damage to the Company's system. The damaged facilities included both distribution and transmission facilities. Overall, the event resulted in 45,526 customers experiencing a sustained interruption, 6,240,100 customer minutes lost, and 144 sustained incidents. The Company indicated in the filing that this event did not incur significant incremental costs.

To restore power to the affected customers, the Company used its own crews from the affected service areas. Power was restored to 84% of the sustained customers out within 3 hours.

Discussion

The Company's Network Performance Standard No. 4 states that "*The Company will restore power outages due to loss of supply or damage to the distribution system within three hours to 80% of customers on average.*" This standard is applicable to normal conditions. Hence, since the Company restored power to 84% of the customers that experienced sustained outage within 3 hours, the Division concludes that the restoration effort was adequate.

The Division recognizes the impact that the storm had on the Company's distribution and transmission facilities and the effort that the Company made to restore power as soon as practical. Based on its calculations,¹ the Division verified that the threshold for the Daily SAIDI value for the year is 6.48 minutes. The Company calculated the daily SAIDI value for Utah for the event as 7.28 minutes.

Conclusion

¹ Docket No. 12-035-98 - In the Matter of the Request of Rocky Mountain Power for Major Event Exclusion for the Weather-Related Events that Occurred on September 1, 2012 (Major Event 30).

Therefore, since the Utah SAIDI value, 7.28 minutes, calculated for the event exceeds the daily SAIDI value threshold limit of 6.48 minutes, the Division concludes that this event was a Major Event and should be excluded from the network performance reporting.

CC: Dave Taylor, RMP
Michel Beck, OCS