



State of Utah  
Department of Commerce  
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

Artie Powell, Energy Section Manager

Brenda Salter, Technical Consultant

Date: April 21, 2015

Re: **Rocky Mountain Power Annual Report of the Blue Sky Program**

Docket No. 15-035-28

## RECOMMENDATION

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) recommends that the Utah Public Service Commission (Commission) acknowledge Rocky Mountain Power's (Company) 2014 Annual Report of the Blue Sky Program, as it meets the Commission's reporting requirements ordered for this program.

## ISSUE

Pursuant to Commission Orders in Docket Nos. 00-035-T01 and 07-035-T13, on March 19, 2015, the Company filed with the Commission its Annual Report of the Blue Sky Program (2014 Annual Report) covering the Calendar Year 2014. On March 19, 2015, the Commission issued an Action Request to the Division requesting a review of the 2014 Annual Report and to make any recommendations by April 20, 2015. Subsequently the Commission issued a Notice of Filing and Comment Period giving interested parties until April 22, 2015 to provide comments

with reply comments due May 7, 2015. This memorandum represents the Division's response to the Commission's Action Request.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Order in Docket No. 00-035-T01, dated April 17, 2000, directed the Company to provide an annual report of the Blue Sky program along with various filing requirements. Subsequent to this Order, additional filing requirements have been incorporated into the annual report.

The Division reviewed the content and the format of the 2014 Annual Report of the Blue Sky Program in light of the Commission Orders. The report contained a spreadsheet with nine tabs. In these tabs the Company provided the required Utah specific and total Company information: revenue, costs, and customer participation; Renewable Energy Certificates (REC) purchases; program available funds; funding award application history; project standards and evaluation criteria; REC Position Reconciliation report; Promotional Concession Report; and the Community Project Funding Reconciliation report.

The 2014 Annual Report filed by the Company provides monthly detail showing on a Utah basis \$2.6 million in revenue was collected over the reporting period. The 2014 revenue combined with accrued interest for the period and the December 2013 funds balance gives total available funds of approximately \$3.20 million. Approximately 6 percent of the revenue was used to purchase 148,716 megawatt hours of RECs from new renewable wind energy. Approximately 22 percent of the revenue was used for program administration.

In March 2014, Rocky Mountain Power announced its intent to build its first Utah solar farm. The solar farm will be partially funded by the Blue Sky Program and will initially provide 2 megawatts of power, but may be expanded to produce 5 megawatts. Of the remaining Blue Sky revenue, the Company has committed \$2.10 million to the solar farm.

## **CONCLUSION**

After reviewing the information contained in the spreadsheet, the Division concludes that the report is in compliance with Commission Orders and adheres to the Commission's reporting

requirements. The Division recommends that the Commission acknowledge the Company's 2014 Blue Sky Annual Report.

CC Jeffrey K. Larsen, Rocky Mountain Power  
Bob Lively, Rocky Mountain Power  
Michele Beck, Office of Consumer Services  
Service List