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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH**

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In the Matter of the Application of Rocky  
Mountain Power to Implement the Programs  
Authorized by the Sustainable Transportation  
and Energy Plan Act

**Docket No. 16-035-36**  
UCE Exhibit 3.0 – Phase Three Direct  
Testimony

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**PHASE THREE (ELECTRIC VEHICLES) DIRECT TESTIMONY OF SARAH WRIGHT**

ON BEHALF OF

UTAH CLEAN ENERGY

DATED this 6<sup>th</sup> of April, 2017



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Sophie Hayes  
*Attorney for Utah Clean Energy*

1   **INTRODUCTION**

2   **Q:    Please state your name and business address.**

3    A:           My name is Sarah Wright. My business address is 1014 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Salt Lake City,  
4           Utah 84103.

5   **Q:    By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

6    A:           I am the Executive Director of Utah Clean Energy, a non-profit and non-partisan  
7           public interest organization whose mission is to lead and accelerate the clean energy  
8           transformation with vision and expertise. We work to stop energy waste, create clean  
9           energy, and build a smart energy future.

10  **Q:    On whose behalf are you testifying?**

11  A:           I am testifying on behalf of Utah Clean Energy (UCE).

12  **Q:    Please review your professional experience and qualifications.**

13  A:           I am the founder and director of Utah Clean Energy. Through my work with Utah  
14           Clean Energy over the last 15 years, I have been involved in a number of regulatory  
15           dockets, including Integrated Resource Planning, rate cases, tariff filings, and other  
16           dockets relating to energy efficiency, renewable energy, and net metering.

17           I have 15 years of energy policy experience working on state, local, and national  
18           energy policy, providing expertise and policy support for renewable energy and energy  
19           efficiency. I have served on numerous energy policy working groups and taskforces,  
20           including the Energy Efficiency and Energy Development Committees supporting  
21           Governor Herbert's Energy Task Force and Ten Year Energy Plan; the Governor's Utah  
22           Renewable Energy Zone Task Force; Governor Huntsman's Energy Advisory Council  
23           and Blue Ribbon Climate Change Advisory Council; Utah's Legislative Energy Policy

24 Workgroup, and Salt Lake City's Climate Action Task Force. Currently, I participate in  
25 the Utah Clean Air Task Force and Energy Task Force convened by Envision Utah.

26 For 15 years prior to founding Utah Clean Energy, I was an occupational health  
27 and environmental consultant, working on occupational health and ambient air quality  
28 issues for a wide variety of commercial, industrial, and governmental clients across the  
29 west. I have a BS in Geology from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois and a Master of  
30 Science in Public Health from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

31

## 32 **OVERVIEW AND CONCLUSIONS**

33 **Q: What is Utah Clean Energy's interest in this phase of the docket?**

34 A: Utah Clean Energy prioritizes a more efficient, cleaner, and smarter energy future  
35 which is predicated on a modernized and resilient electricity grid. We envision and  
36 enable increased utilization of energy efficiency, distributed generation, demand  
37 response, storage, utility-scale renewable energy and electric vehicles. Customer side of  
38 the meter decisions, including when and how customers use energy will have a profound  
39 impact on grid capabilities and the costs to reliably serve customers.

40 Effective time of use (TOU) rate structures can send effective signals both to shift  
41 electricity use away from peak use periods to times when the demand on the system is  
42 lower *and* to reduce overall demand and. Given that the grid, distribution system, and  
43 generation resources must be built to meet peak demand, reducing both overall energy  
44 use and peak demand through effective time of use rates will help reduce the need for  
45 costly utility investments and thereby put downward pressure on electricity rates for all  
46 customers. Utah Clean Energy strongly supports a transition to electric vehicles;

47           however, as the penetration of electric vehicles increases, it will be critical that customers  
48           be encouraged to charge their vehicles during off-peak times. We are very supportive of a  
49           pilot TOU project and have some recommended changes to the Company’s proposal.

50                       This phase of the docket also addresses utility investments and incentives for  
51           electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Utah Clean Energy’s Energy Efficiency Program  
52           Director, Kevin Emerson, provides testimony that reviews and makes recommendations  
53           for the Company’s proposed electric vehicle charging infrastructure incentive program.

54   **Q.    Please summarize your testimony.**

55    A.           In my testimony, I provide a critique of the Company’s two TOU rate proposals.  
56           Utah Clean Energy opposes the current proposals because they reward high energy users  
57           (even without load shifting) and do not maintain a conservation price signal. To address  
58           these concerns, I propose two alternative TOU rate designs. Utah Clean Energy’s rate  
59           proposals retain a simplified tiered rate structure to maintain a conservation price signal,  
60           while also providing incentives to shift load away from peak hours. Our second TOU rate  
61           design implements a “super off peak” rate to encourage electric vehicle charging from  
62           midnight to 6 am, when demand on Rocky Mountain Power’s system is generally at its  
63           lowest. Further, our analysis brings into question whether the morning winter peak  
64           period is necessary.

65 **TIME OF USE RATE PROPOSAL**

66 **Q: What is the basis for the company's proposal?**

67 A: As part of the 2016 STEP Act, the Utah Legislature enacted Utah Code Section  
68 54-20-103, "Electric vehicle incentive program," which provides that the Commission  
69 shall authorize an electric vehicle charging program that includes time of use pricing.

70 **Q. What are Utah Clean Energy's goals for this pilot time of use program?**

71 A. Utah Clean Energy's primary goal for the TOU rate design pilot is to test on a  
72 pilot basis rate designs that will encourage the following:

- 73 1. Overall electricity conservation;
- 74 2. Shifting energy consumption to times that are most beneficial for the grid,  
75 with a focus on shifting electric vehicle charging to off peak periods;
- 76 3. Simplicity, without sacrificing the above two principles; and
- 77 4. Fairness to high and low use residential energy users.

78 **Q. Please describe the Company's TOU pilot program proposal.**

79 A. The Company has proposed an EV TOU pricing pilot for residential customers  
80 who own or lease plug-in electric vehicles. The Company has proposed two different rate  
81 options under the residential TOU pilot, both of which include different on peak and off  
82 peak energy charges. The on peak time period extends from 3 pm-8 pm in the summer  
83 (May-September, M-F) and from 8 am-10 am and 3 pm-8 pm in the winter (October-  
84 April, M-F). All other hours (including weekends and holidays) are categorized as off  
85 peak hours. The Company's two rate design proposals are as described in Table 1 below.

86

87

**Table 1 – RMP’s proposed EV TOU Pilot rate options**

	<i>Rate Option 1</i>	<i>Rate Option 2</i>
<i>Customer Charge – 1 Phase</i>	\$6.00	\$6.00
<i>Customer Charge – 3 Phase</i>	\$12.00	\$12.00
<i>On peak (cents/kWh)</i>	22.2755	34.3753
<i>Off peak (cents/kWh)</i>	6.7881	3.4003

88

89 **Q. What is your response to the Company’s proposals, generally?**

90 A. Utah Clean Energy appreciates the Company’s efforts and the workgroups they  
 91 hosted on this topic. However, upon reviewing the bill impacts associated with the  
 92 Company’s proposed options, we oppose the current proposal because it unreasonably  
 93 benefits high energy users, who save on their electric bill even without shifting any  
 94 consumption away from peak hours. I address this later in my testimony.

95 After the Company made its filing, we dug deeper into their proposed rate design  
 96 options. We are concerned about moving to a residential rate design that does away with  
 97 inclining block tiered rates, which are designed to send signals to conserve energy at all  
 98 times. Both of the Company’s proposed TOU rate design eliminate tiered inclining block  
 99 rates. Eliminating price signals to conserve is not in the public interest overall.

100 **Q. Aside from energy conservation concerns do you have other concerns with respect**  
101 **to the Company's TOU option 1?**

102 A. Yes, we have concerns regarding the impact that this rate design option will have  
103 on low energy users as compared to high energy users. I discuss this issue later in my  
104 testimony.

105 **Q. The Company's TOU rate option 2 has a 10 to 1 differential between on and off**  
106 **peak prices. Do you think this is a good rate design to meet the objectives of both**  
107 **conserving electricity and shifting peak?**

108 A. No. With the respect to Company's proposed rate option 2, we are very concerned  
109 with the extreme differential between on peak and off peak prices. During all off-peak  
110 hours of the day, including weekends and holidays, electricity is billed at the extremely  
111 low rate of 3.4 cents/kWh. These off peak hours constitute 85% of summer hours and  
112 80% of winter hours.

113 An overall objective of TOU rates is to achieve economic efficiency through a  
114 rate structure that not only shifts consumption to off peak hours but continues to promote  
115 energy efficiency and conservation among customers. The 10 to 1 differential will  
116 definitely send the signal to shift electric vehicle charging and other movable  
117 consumption to off peak times, but at what cost? The extremely low off-peak rate blunts  
118 all signals to conserve electricity overall and will reduce the payback for most energy  
119 efficiency investments that do not target reductions in peak time energy use.

120 Energy efficiency has been demonstrated to be a cost effective resource that puts  
121 a downward pressure on rates. I am somewhat sympathetic to wanting to create a very

122 low rate as an incentive for charging electric vehicles, but certainly not at the risk of  
123 driving up overall energy consumption through an extremely low rate of 3.4 cents/kWh  
124 for 85% of all summer hours and 80 % of winter hours.

125 In order to address these issues, Utah Clean Energy proposes two alternatives to  
126 the Company's proposed rate designs, described later in my testimony. Our second rate  
127 design proposal offers a very low rate for electricity charging, but only during the middle  
128 of the night when system demand is the lowest.

129 **Q. How do the Company's proposed rates impact customer bills, and does this impact**  
130 **change with the amount of electricity that a customer uses?**

131 **A.** Utah Clean Energy analyzed the bill impact analysis the Company provided in  
132 Robert Meredith's work papers, shown below. The Company evaluated the impact of  
133 their proposed rate designs on bills for customers with different monthly energy usage  
134 ranging from 500 to 3000 kWh per month, and analyzed shifting 0%, 10%, 25%, 50%  
135 and 75% of customer usage to off peak times, then compared these results to bills under  
136 the current Schedule 1.

137 The analysis showed that customers that use more than 1000 kWh per month save  
138 money on their energy bills even *without* making any changes and *without* shifting any of  
139 their usage to off peak times. In contrast, customers that use less than 1000 kWh per  
140 month pay more. Please see the bill comparison tables excerpted from Robert Meredith's  
141 work papers below. If a number is preceded by a (-) then that customer is paying *more*  
142 than they would have under the current Schedule 1. If the savings number is positive  
143 they are saving money relative to schedule 1. For example, a customer that uses 3000  
144 kWh per month saves 12% or \$44 per month without shifting a single kWh to off peak



145 times. In the tables below, the percentage numbers in the second row of the table indicate  
146 the amount of energy consumption shifted to the off peak time period.

**Table 2 - Rocky Mountain Power  
UT EV TOU Pilot Rates Monthly Billing Comparison  
Schedule 1 vs. Company's proposed TOU rate option 1**

kWh		Present	Sch 2E - % of Switching from On-Peak to Off-Peak		10% Saving		25% Saving		50% Saving		75% Saving	
			0%	0% Saving	10%	Saving	25%	Saving	50%	Saving	75%	Saving
500		\$55	\$60	-9%	\$58	-5%	\$56	0%	\$51	8%	\$47	16%
698	*	\$78	\$81	-4%	\$79	-1%	\$75	4%	\$69	12%	\$63	20%
750		\$85	\$87	-3%	\$84	0%	\$80	5%	\$73	13%	\$67	21%
1,000		\$114	\$114	0%	\$110	3%	\$105	8%	\$96	16%	\$87	24%
1,250		\$146	\$141	4%	\$136	7%	\$130	11%	\$118	19%	\$107	27%
1,500		\$179	\$168	6%	\$162	9%	\$154	14%	\$141	21%	\$127	29%
1,750		\$211	\$195	8%	\$188	11%	\$179	15%	\$163	23%	\$147	30%
2,000		\$243	\$222	9%	\$214	12%	\$204	16%	\$186	24%	\$168	31%
2,500		\$308	\$275	11%	\$266	14%	\$253	18%	\$230	25%	\$208	33%
3,000		\$373	\$329	12%	\$318	15%	\$302	19%	\$275	26%	\$248	33%

\* Average monthly usage.

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**Table 3 - Rocky Mountain Power  
UT EV TOU Pilot Rates Monthly Billing Comparison  
Schedule 1 vs. Company's proposed TOU rate option 2**

kWh		Present Sch 1	Sch 2E - % of Switching from On-Peak to Off-Peak		10% Saving		25% Saving		50% Saving		75% Saving	
			0%	0% Saving	10%	Saving	25%	Saving	50%	Saving	75%	Saving
500		\$55	\$60	-9%	\$57	-2%	\$51	8%	\$42	24%	\$33	40%
698	*	\$78	\$81	-4%	\$76	3%	\$69	12%	\$56	28%	\$44	44%
750		\$85	\$87	-3%	\$82	3%	\$74	13%	\$60	29%	\$47	45%
1,000		\$114	\$114	0%	\$107	6%	\$96	16%	\$78	31%	\$60	47%
1,250		\$146	\$141	4%	\$132	10%	\$118	19%	\$96	34%	\$74	50%
1,500		\$179	\$168	6%	\$157	12%	\$141	21%	\$114	36%	\$87	51%
1,750		\$211	\$195	8%	\$182	14%	\$163	23%	\$132	37%	\$101	52%
2,000		\$243	\$222	9%	\$207	15%	\$186	24%	\$150	38%	\$114	53%
2,500		\$308	\$276	11%	\$258	16%	\$231	25%	\$186	40%	\$141	54%
3,000		\$373	\$330	12%	\$308	17%	\$276	26%	\$222	41%	\$168	55%

\* Average monthly  
usage.

148

149 **Q. What is your response to the bill impacts associated with the Company's rate**  
150 **proposals?**

151 A. This rate design effectively rewards high, even on peak, consumption, as opposed  
152 to energy efficient consumption, in contravention of the objectives of this program. I  
153 believe that eliminating the inclining tiered block rates is the root of this problem.

154 **Q. Please explain the issues and potential problems associated with eliminating**  
155 **inclining block rates in the Company's proposed TOU rate designs?**

156 A. Utah Clean Energy has two significant concerns. The first is that inclining block  
157 rates are the primary price signal to residential customers to conserve electricity and to  
158 make cost-effective investments in energy efficient appliances, homes, lighting, and other  
159 measures. Further, it appears that removing inclining block rates in the Company's  
160 proposed TOU rates is the main driver creating bill savings for larger energy users who  
161 don't shift a single kWh of consumption to off peak times. In other words, by eliminating  
162 tiered rates, larger energy users benefit simply by moving to a TOU rate, even without  
163 changing their behavior and the timing of their energy consumption.

164 This is problematic from a public policy perspective. As an energy policy expert  
165 who has spent years participating in integrated resource planning and DSM advisory  
166 groups, it is my opinion that a price signal that subverts the incentive to invest in energy  
167 efficiency is not in the public interest.

168 Inclining block rates encourage customers to conserve electricity at all times. A  
169 well-designed inclining block/tiered rate design can be expected to reduce total electricity

170 usage by about 10% while also reducing on peak usage significantly.<sup>1</sup> So while I support  
171 TOU rates, I recommend that they should be combined with inclining block rates to drive  
172 behaviors, such as conservation, efficiency, and load shifting, which will put a downward  
173 pressure on all rates. TOU rates with tiered block rates will enable this pilot program to  
174 achieve economic efficiency by encouraging shifts in consumption to off peak hours  
175 while still promoting cost effective energy efficiency and conservation. Importantly, this  
176 result is fairer to residential energy users of all sizes.

177 **Q. Are there studies that show the impact and benefits of combining TOU rates with**  
178 **inclining block rates?**

179 A. Yes, the Regulatory Assistance Project presented a webinar on November 3,  
180 2016, TOU rates as part of the TOU workgroups associated with this docket.<sup>2</sup> Table 4 is  
181 an excerpt from the webinar that illustrates the impact of combining an inclining block  
182 rate with a TOU rate. TOU rates combined with inclining block rates have the ability to  
183 reduce peak demand by 15%-30% while TOU rates alone are shown to reduce peak  
184 demand 10%-20%. Further, this table shows that TOU rates alone have little effect on  
185 overall electricity consumption whereas TOU rates combined with inclining block rates  
186 lead a reduction in overall consumption of 5% to 10%.

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<sup>1</sup> Lazar, J. and Gonzalez, W. (2015). *Smart Rate Design for a Smart Future*. Montpelier, VT: Regulatory Assistance Project.

<sup>2</sup> *Regulatory Assistance Project Webinar, Time-of-Use rates Methods, Experience, Results, for Utah Public Service Commission*, November 3 2016, available at: <http://www.raonline.org/event/time-of-use-rates-methods-experience-results/> and attached as *UCE Exhibit 3.1*.

189 **Table 4 – Impact of different rate forms on kWh usage and peak demand**

	<b>Peak Demand</b>	<b>Total kWh</b>
<b>Flat Rate \$5/mo + \$.12/kWh</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Baseline</b>
<b>Inclining Block</b>	<b>▼ 5% -10%</b>	<b>▼ 5% -10%</b>
<b>High Fixed Charge</b>	<b>▲ 5% - 10%</b>	<b>▲ 5% - 10%</b>
<b>NCP Demand Charge</b>	<b>▼ 1% -2%</b>	<b>▲ 5% - 10%</b>
<b>CP Demand Charge</b>	<b>▼ 5% -10%</b>	<b>▲ 5% - 10%</b>
<b>TOU Rate</b>	<b>▼ 10% -20%</b>	<b>Little Change</b>
<b>Critical Peak Rate</b>	<b>▼ 20% - 30%</b>	<b>Little Change</b>
<b>TOU + Inclining Block</b>	<b>▼ 15% - 30%</b>	<b>▼ 5% -10%</b>
<b>Critical + Inclining Block</b>	<b>▼ 25% - 35%</b>	<b>▼ 5% -10%</b>

191 *Source: Regulatory Assistance Project Webinar, Time-of-Use rates Methods, Experience, Results, for Utah Public*  
 192 *Service Commission, November 3 2016*  
 193 <http://www.raonline.org/event/time-of-use-rates-methods-experience-results/>  
 194

195 **Q. What is Utah Clean Energy’s rate design proposal?**

196 A. Utah Clean Energy proposes two alternative TOU rate design options. Both of our  
 197 rate design options include on- and off-peak tiered inclining block rates to drive both  
 198 efficiency and load shifting. The rate options include two tiers (0-1000 kWh and >1000  
 199 kWh) in both on-and off-peak hours. These rate options modify work papers provided by  
 200 the Company as part of the TOU workgroup process. The on peak hours in our proposals  
 201 are consistent with the company’s. The main difference between UCE’s two rate  
 202 proposals is that our proposal 2 includes a “super off peak rate” to encourage nighttime  
 203 electric vehicle charging.

204 **Q. Do you agree that the Company’s peak periods are the correct peak periods?**

205 A. No, I can’t say that based upon the data currently on the record. After reviewing  
 206 2015 load data, I am somewhat concerned about whether the winter morning peak period  
 207 is necessary, or whether it adds undue complexity without adding significant grid and  
 208 economic benefits. Please see Figure 1 below that shows that, in 2015, Utah demand

209 during the 8-10 am period is nearly 25% lower than the Utah annual peak. Demand  
210 between 8 and 10 am is below the majority of the maximum daytime peaks for the year.  
211 In Figure 2, below, which looks at the entire system, the peak during 8-10 am is nearly  
212 20% below annual system peak.

213 To date, we have only been able to review 2015 load data. The 2015 data  
214 indicates that a morning winter on-peak period may *not* be called for. UCE is currently  
215 reviewing load data from 2011-2016 based on a data request response, to inform our  
216 analysis of peak times We intend to address this issue further in our rebuttal testimony  
217 and we hope to work with the Company and parties to evaluate peak time periods and the  
218 associated value of reducing demand during winter mornings.

219 Finally, with regard to peak periods, best practices presented by the Regulatory  
220 Assistance Project at their November 3, 2016, webinar indicate that a shorter peak period  
221 of three hours is ideal for peak shifting and doesn't have a significant impact on customer  
222 lifestyle.

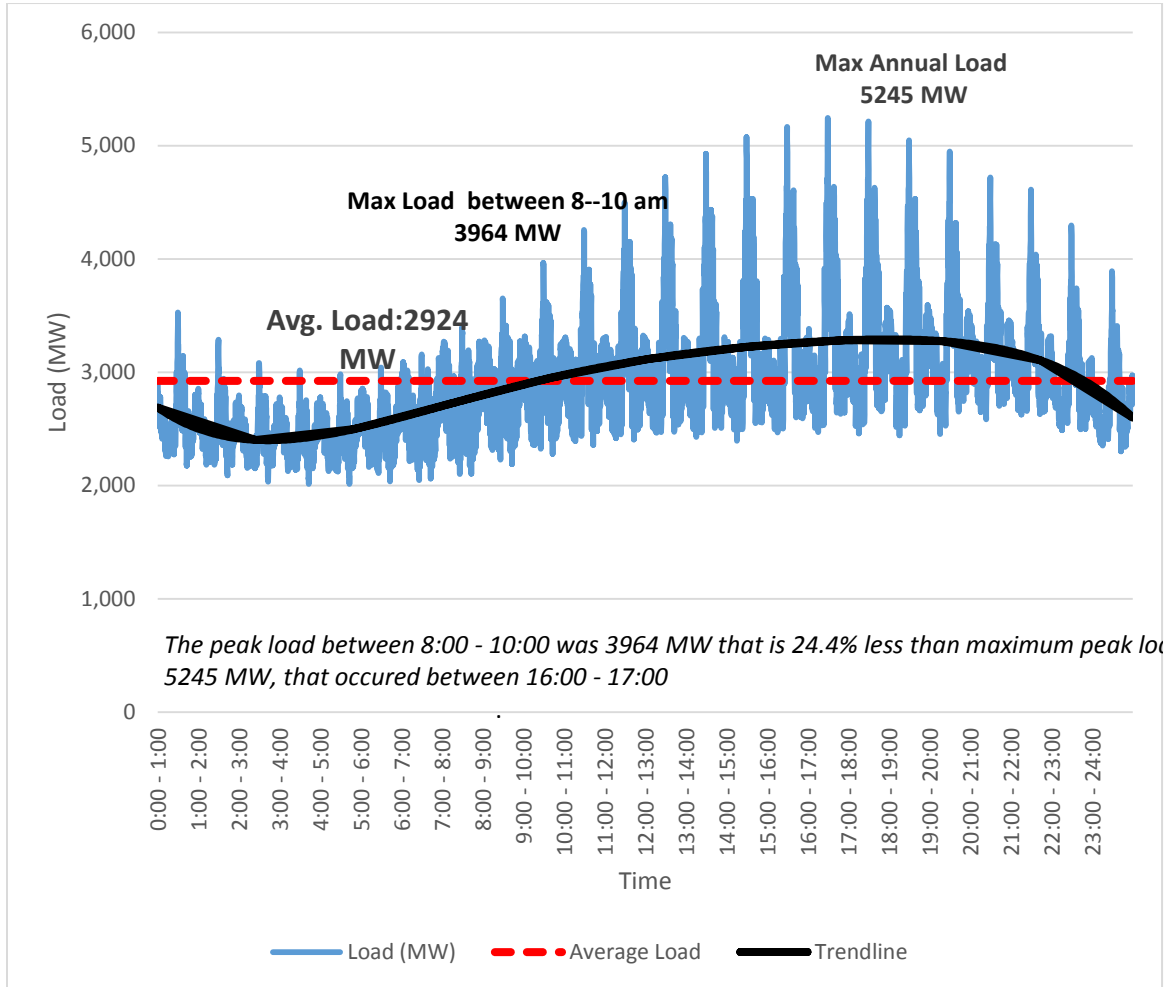
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**Figure 1 – Utah load shape by hour of day for 2015**

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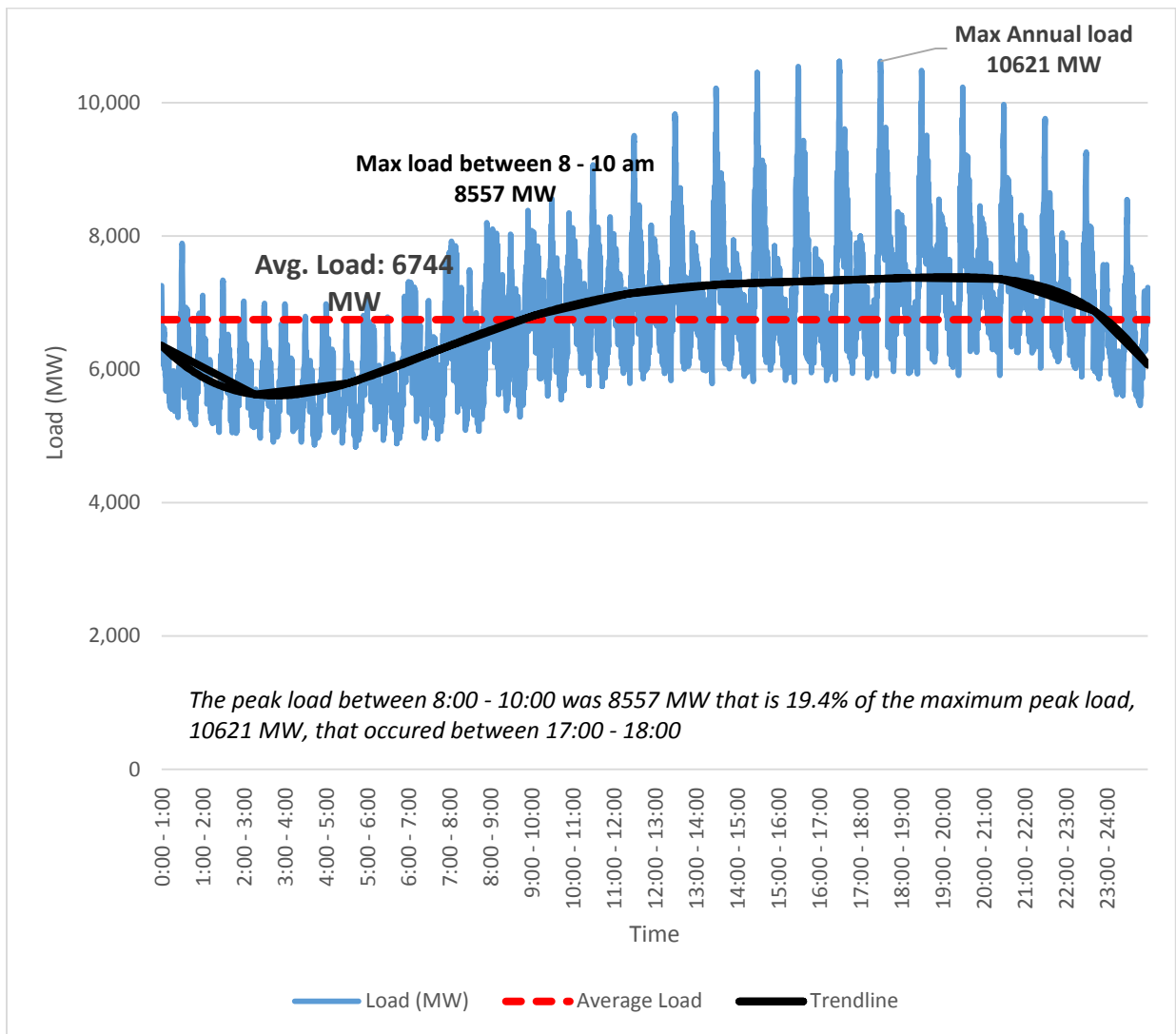


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**Figure 2 – System load shape by hour of day for 2015**



230

231

232 **Q. Did the Company provide data and information to support the economic value to**  
233 **Utah ratepayers of including a morning winter peak period in the pilot TOU rates?**

234 A. No. While Robert Meredith's testimony describes the company selection process  
235 based upon the timing of the system and coincident peaks and distribution coincident  
236 peaks over the last five cost of service studies filed with the commission, he does not take  
237 the next step of demonstrating the economic value of shifting load from these morning  
238 winter time periods. Through my long standing work with the DSM program, I  
239 understand that shifting our summer peak brings substantial value to Utah rate payers.  
240 Our system is built to meet the summer peak. But I have not seen analysis that shows the  
241 value of the economic benefits to Utah Rate Payers of shifting winter peak periods.

242 So while there may be value in reducing load in the morning in the winter, the  
243 Company did not demonstrate that value in their testimony. My simple assumption is that  
244 the system infrastructure is built to meet peak load and that the incremental costs to serve  
245 load during these winter morning time periods may not warrant their inclusion in the  
246 TOU rate design pilot. I am open to gaining further understanding of the economic  
247 benefits of including a winter peak periods including the morning winter peak.

248 **Q. Based upon the lack of evidence on the value to Utah Rate Payers for the morning**  
249 **winter peak, what is your recommendation for TOU rate design?**

250 A. My preference is for the Company and parties to evaluate the value during the  
251 rebuttal and surrebuttal phase of this docket, so that we can make data driven decisions  
252 on the peak periods for TOU rate design. However, in absence of that analysis, my  
253 recommendation is to remove the winter morning peak as it overcomplicates the rate  
254 structure.



255 **Q. If you question the appropriateness of the peak time periods, why did you include**  
256 **them in your rate design?**

257 A. Utah Clean Energy does not have the internal analytical capabilities to  
258 completely change the company's rate design. Therefore, for our rate design calculations,  
259 we were reliant on the Company's worksheets for purposes of testing out different TOU  
260 options and were therefore not able to change the on- and off-peak periods in developing  
261 alternative rate proposals. Therefore, our proposals use the same peak period assumptions  
262 as the Company. We would still like to continue to work with the Company and other  
263 parties to review the appropriateness of the on- and off-peak periods.

264 **Q. If your conclusions about the on-and off-peak periods change, would that change**  
265 **your rate proposal?**

266 A. Yes, but not significantly. The rates/kWh would change, but the overall structure  
267 and differential between the two periods would remain similar.

268 **Q. Please provide more detail about your UCE TOU rate proposal 1.**

269 A. Table 3 below describes Utah Clean Energy's proposed rate option 1. Under this  
270 option we have two tiered inclining block rates in the on and off peak periods, and the  
271 the first tier on peak rate is 2.8 times higher than the first off peak tier.

272

**Table 5 – Utah Clean Energy’s proposed TOU rate 1**

	<i>Utah Clean Energy’s Rate Option 1</i>
<i>Customer Charge – 1 Phase</i>	\$6.00
<i>Customer Charge – 3 Phase</i>	\$12.00
<i>On peak, first tier: 0-1000 kWh (cents/kWh)</i>	20.1539
<i>On peak, second tier: &gt;1000 kWh (cents/kWh)</i>	22.7089
<i>Off peak, first tier: 0-1000 kWh (cents/kWh)</i>	7.1600
<i>Off peak, second tier: &gt;1000 kWh (cents/kWh)</i>	9.7150

273

274 **Q. You set the break point for moving into the second block at 1000 kWh. What is**  
 275 **your rationale for that break point?**

276 **A.** Frankly, I think the break point should be lower in the range of 500 to 750 kWh as  
 277 it applies separately to both on and off peak power. That is, under the currently proposed  
 278 tiered blocks, you could utilize 2000 kWh (1000 kWh on peak and 1000 kWh off peak)  
 279 before moving into the second tier. Unfortunately, our analytical capabilities were limited  
 280 to the Company’s worksheets that utilized a 1000 kWh threshold. We would love to  
 281 explore this question further with the Company and other parties. A good starting point  
 282 might be Schedule 1’s first tier of 400 kWh, plus the additional kWhs that it would take  
 283 to charge and electric vehicle (approximately 300 kWh per month)<sup>3</sup> for a total of 700  
 284 kWh for the first tier.

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<sup>3</sup> Calculations based on the assumption that an average American drives 1000 miles per month and average efficiency of 2015 Nissan leaf is 0.30 kWh/miles  
<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ohim/onh00/bar8.htm>  
<https://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/noframes/34918.shtml>

285 **Q. If you changed the kWh break points for your proposed tiers, would it change your**  
286 **rate design proposal?**

287 A. Yes, but not significantly. The overall structure and differential between the two  
288 periods would remain similar, and the kWh rates for the on and off peak tiers would  
289 change slightly.

290 **Q. Please explain how Utah Clean Energy developed rate option 1.**

291 A. Utah Clean Energy appreciates Company's efforts in developing and presenting  
292 different rate design options at EV workgroup meetings, including TOU proposals with  
293 inclining block rates. To calculate UCE TOU Rate Option 1, we used work papers  
294 provided by the Company as part of the TOU work group process and modified the  
295 weighting between the cost of energy and the average retail rate in the Company's rate  
296 option 14.

297 Our Program and Policy Associate, Mitalee Gupta, worked with Robert Meredith  
298 to develop the rate option. We used the work paper developed by the Company for their  
299 rate option 14, titled EV TOU Rate Design – Workpaper – 1-6-17. In the rate design  
300 work sheet, we changed the entry in cell AO45 to 0.4. Changing this cell changed the  
301 value in AO24. We then used this value in AO24 and entered it in cell BI46. Changing  
302 the entry in BI46 changed all the values in column BI and BK and accordingly modified  
303 the off peak tiered energy price. Next, we adjusted the value in BK45 back to 0. We used  
304 goal seek to set the value in BK45 to 0 by changing cell BI20. Setting back BK45 to 0  
305 helped us adjust the on peak energy price based on the revenue requirement. All these  
306 changes in the rate design work sheet automatically fed into the Bill-O14 sheet which

307 calculates the bill impacts on all energy users. All of the calculations and bill impacts  
308 have been shared in UCE Workpaper 1.

309 **Q. Please provide more detail on UCE TOU Option 2**

310 A. Utah Clean Energy’s Option 2 includes a “super off peak rate” of 3.4 cents/kWh,  
311 with two objectives: it creates an incentive for electric vehicle charging while  
312 simultaneously sending a really strong signal to charge your vehicle during the system’s  
313 lowest demand hours – midnight to 6:00 am. The proposed super off peak price is the  
314 same as the company’s off peak price of 3.4 cents/kWh included in their rate option 2,  
315 but limited to a shorter number of hours in the middle of the night to maintain a stronger  
316 signal to conserve energy at all other times. While we appreciate the Company’s rate  
317 option 2 as an effort to create a very low off peak price that would give an incentive to  
318 EV customers, we are very concerned with a rate design that sells electricity for 80-85%  
319 of the time for \$3.4 cents/kWh.

320 The differentiating factor between UCE’s two rate designs is the super off peak  
321 period. This will test whether a super off peak rate will encourage customers to charge  
322 during times that are the most beneficial for the grid and also test whether other load is  
323 shifted away from the peak periods. Table 6 below illustrates Utah Clean Energy’s  
324 proposed rate option 2.

325

**Table 6 – Utah Clean Energy’s proposed rate option 2**

	<i>Utah Clean Energy’s Rate Option 2</i>
<i>Customer Charge – 1 Phase</i>	\$6.00
<i>Customer Charge – 3 Phase</i>	\$12.00
<i>On peak, first tier: 0-1000 kWh (cents/kWh)</i>	TBD
<i>On peak, second tier: &gt;1000 kWh (cents/kWh)</i>	Tier 1 on peak + 2.5
<i>Off peak, first tier: 0-1000 kWh (cents/kWh)</i>	7-9
<i>Off peak, second tier: &gt;1000 kWh (cents/kWh)</i>	9.5-11.5
<i>Super off peak (cents/kWh) 12 am – 6 am</i>	3.4003

326

327 **Q. Why does your proposal lack specific numbers?**

328 A. Given that the Company’s existing work papers lack the capability to segregate  
 329 load data based on different on and off peak periods than the Company’s, Utah Clean  
 330 Energy submitted a data request with the Company on March 31, 2017, requesting them  
 331 to run the calculations necessary to help us determine an appropriate on peak rate, and we  
 332 are currently working with the Company to populate the rest of the prices. Our rate option  
 333 2 is based on a super off peak energy price of 3.4 cents from 12 am – 6 am every day and  
 334 includes tiered off peak/weekend rates of 7-9 cents/kWh for the first tier (0-1000 kWh)  
 335 and 9.5-11.5 cents/kWh for the second tier (>1000 kWh). The on-peak prices will be  
 336 calculated based on the rest of the prices, with the second tier being 2.5 cents higher than

337 the first peak tier. We are awaiting more information from the Company before locking  
338 in a final pricing proposal, which we will be filing as a part of our rebuttal testimony.

339 **Q. Are there other utilities in the country that have a super off peak rate design?**

340 A. Yes. A report by Rocky Mountain Institute states that in 2014 that utilities in  
341 more than 49 states and DC adopted some form of time based rates.<sup>4</sup> A number of these  
342 utilities that are offering TOU rates do have a super off peak energy price. San Diego Gas  
343 & Electric has EV TOU rates with a super off peak period that runs from midnight to  
344 5:00 am in the morning and has the lowest electricity price per kWh.<sup>5</sup> Similarly, Southern  
345 California Edison, Virginia Electric and Power Company, and Georgia Power are a few  
346 other utilities that have a super off peak period with the lowest per kWh energy price for  
347 residential customers with an EV.

348 **Q. Please explain the super off peak, proposed as a part of Utah Clean Energy's rate**  
349 **option 2.**

350 A. Our overall objective for the pilot EV TOU program is to achieve economic  
351 efficiency through a rate structure that not only shifts consumption (with a focus on  
352 electric vehicles) to off peak hours but continues to promote energy efficiency and  
353 conservation among customers. Utah Clean Energy's rate option 2 includes three time  
354 periods: on peak, off peak, and super off peak. The on peak hours is the time when the  
355 demand on the grid is highest. Utah Clean Energy proposes a new time period called

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<sup>4</sup> James Sherwood et al., *A Review of Alternative Rate Designs: Industry experience with time-based and demand charge rates for mass-market customers* (Rocky Mountain Institute, May 2016), [http://www.rmi.org/alternative\\_rate\\_designs](http://www.rmi.org/alternative_rate_designs).

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.sdge.com/clean-energy/ev-rates>

356 super off peak, with a kWh rate that is lower than the off peak energy price and will  
357 facilitate bill savings to EV customers who charge during that time.

358           During late night hours, demand on the grid is consistently below average; hence,  
359 there is enough room to accommodate additional EV load during this time period.  
360 Electricity during these late hours in the night can be priced at a fairly low value. Utah  
361 Clean Energy believes that a 3.4 cents/kWh during off peak hours will promote  
362 appropriate charging behavior among customers and deter them from charging during on  
363 peak hours. Promoting charging during super off peak hours, when the load on the grid is  
364 below average, is the most effective way to use the grid.

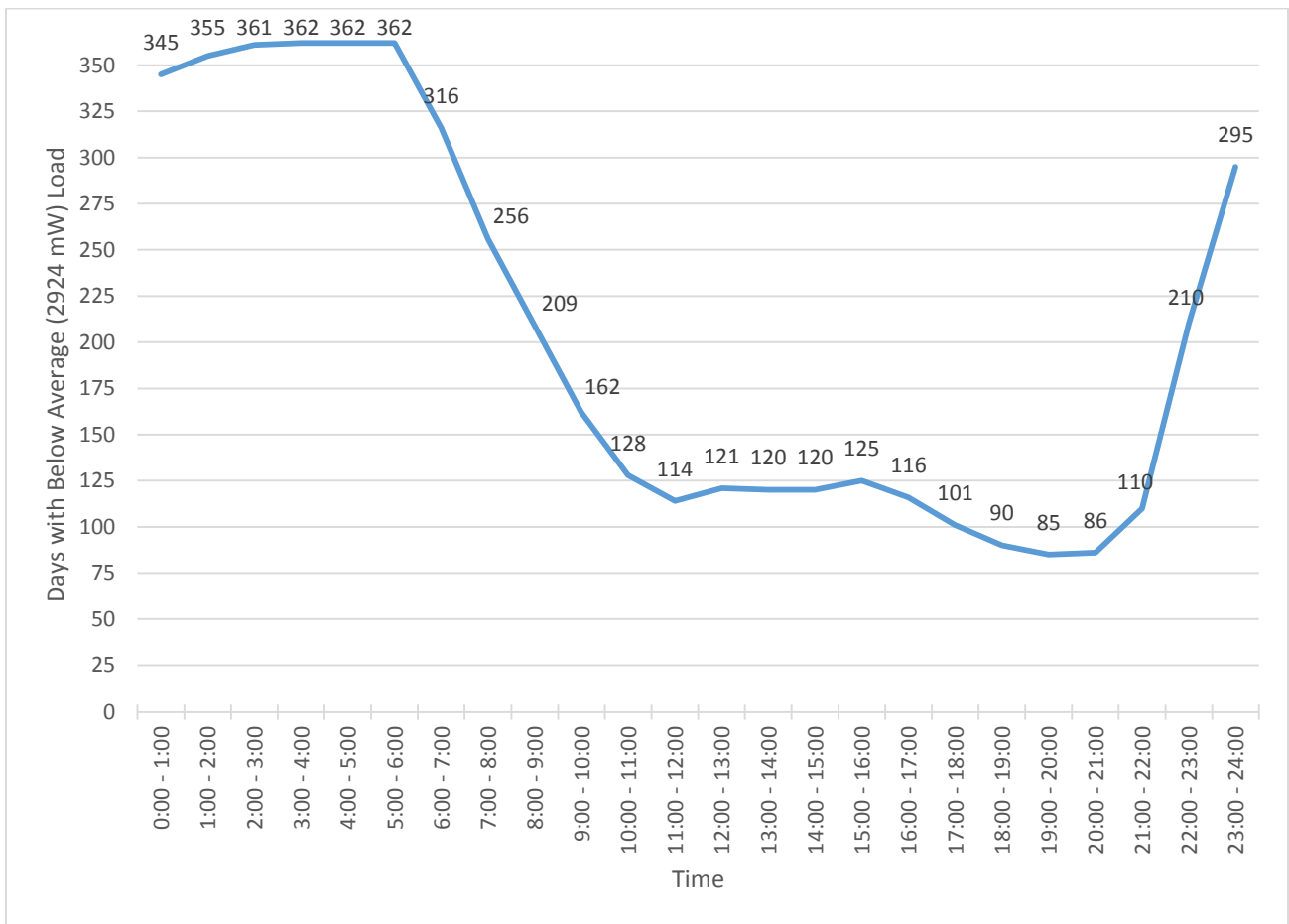
365 **Q. How did Utah Clean Energy determine the super off peak hours?**

366 A.           Utah Clean Energy dug into the 2015 hourly load data shared by the Company in  
367 response to a data request. We first evaluated the average Utah load for the 8760 hours in  
368 2015. The average load for the entire year was 2924 MW. After determining the average,  
369 we looked at the hours when load was below average (that is, the hours when load was  
370 below 2924 MW).

371           Once all the hours for which load was below average were sorted, we then  
372 determined the incidence of occurrence of each of those hours. Based on the incidence of  
373 occurrence for each hour, we found that during 12 am-6 am the load was below average  
374 for more than 345 days in the year, i.e., more than 94.5% of days in 2015. Figure 3 below  
375 describes the days and hours of the day when the load was below average in 2015. Please  
376 refer to UCE Workpaper 2 for more information.

377

**Figure 3 – Utah incidence of days when load was below average 2015**



378

379

380 It can be clearly seen from Figures 1 and 3 that load was below average between 12 am  
 381 and 6 am.

382 Following the analysis of Utah load, we performed a similar analysis for the  
 383 hourly load at the system level to see how it corresponded in the same time window.  
 384 Based on our calculations we found that for more than 336 days in 2015 (i.e. 92% of  
 385 days) the load on the system between 12 am and 6 am was below average. The average  
 386 load on the system in 2015 was 6744 MW. Figure 2 (above) illustrates the load shape by



387 hour for the system in 2015 and thus shows us how the load was below average between  
388 12 am and 6 am.

389 An important point to note here is that our analysis of super off peak is currently  
390 based on 2015 load data. We have just received hourly load data (in MW) for Utah and  
391 the System for 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2016. We will perform similar super off peak  
392 analysis for this additional historical load data.

393 **Q. How do Utah Clean Energy's proposed rate options 1 and 2 address the concerns**  
394 **you raised earlier in your testimony about rewarding large energy users, even**  
395 **without load shifting, and sending conservation price signals?**

396 A. Our rate options both include tiered rates in order to addresses the issue of  
397 differential saving opportunities between small and large residential energy users. Our  
398 tiered rate options do not *eliminate* the magnitude of different savings opportunities  
399 between small and large residential energy users (large energy users will still benefit  
400 more than small energy users), but both of our proposed rate structures will eliminate the  
401 ability of above-average customers to save money simply by shifting to the TOU rate,  
402 even without shifting any load to off peak periods.

403 Our analysis of the bill impacts from our rate option 1, in Table 7, shows that both  
404 low and high energy users start with either a slightly higher bill or no bills savings at all  
405 when they switch from Schedule 1. Starting with no savings or a slightly higher bill will  
406 encourage customers to shift their usage to off peak hours while sending the right signals  
407 to conserve at all times.

408

409 **Table 7– UT EV Monthly Billing Comparison of UCE proposed rate option 1**

kWh	Present	% of Switching from On-Peak to Off-Peak									
	0%	0%	Saving	10%	Saving	25%	Saving	50%	Saving	75%	Saving
500	\$54	\$58	-7%	\$57	-5%	\$55	-1%	\$51	6%	\$48	13%
750	\$83	\$84	-1%	\$82	1%	\$79	5%	\$74	12%	\$68	18%
1,000	\$112	\$110	1%	\$108	4%	\$103	8%	\$96	14%	\$89	21%
1,250	\$144	\$143	0%	\$140	3%	\$134	7%	\$125	13%	\$116	19%
1,500	\$176	\$176	0%	\$172	2%	\$165	6%	\$155	12%	\$144	18%
1,750	\$208	\$209	-1%	\$204	2%	\$196	6%	\$184	12%	\$171	18%
2,000	\$240	\$242	-1%	\$236	2%	\$227	5%	\$213	11%	\$199	17%
2,500	\$304	\$307	-1%	\$300	1%	\$289	5%	\$271	11%	\$253	17%
3,000	\$368	\$373	-1%	\$364	1%	\$351	4%	\$330	10%	\$308	16%

410

411 Our rate option 2, which adds a super off peak period, addresses the differential

412 saving issue while sending a very strong signal for customers to charge during the period

413 of lowest system demand. This rate option could encourage electric vehicle adoption as it

414 will provide customers with an opportunity to achieve real bill savings by charging their

415 cars at the super off peak energy price of 3.4 cents/kWh.

416 **Q. The on peak to off peak differential for both of the Utah Clean Energy’s rate**

417 **options is lower than 3. Do you think that that differential is sufficient to drive**

418 **peak shifting behavior? Please explain why.**

419 **A.** Yes, I do. UCE TOU Option 1 has a differential of 2.8 between on peak and off

420 peak prices for the first 1000 kWh consumed in each time period (7.16 cents/kWh off

421 peak to 20.15 cents/kWh on peak). I strongly believe that a customer that has been

422 properly educated about the rate structure will shift load that can easily be shifted.

423 Electric vehicle charging is an easily shifted load as vehicles can be programed to begin

424 charging at specific times. After education and an understanding of the rate structure,

425 there are additional loads that can be easily shifted, including dishwashers, dryers, etc.

426 Both of our proposed rate options have an on peak to off peak price differential of  
427 roughly 3:1 as we believe that it will send a sufficient signal to shift peak while still  
428 maintaining a reasonable off peak kWh charge that is high enough to send a conservation  
429 signal. Many individuals shop around to save 5 to 10 cents on a gallon of gas, and with  
430 education they will likely take the simple steps to program their vehicle to charge when  
431 the rate is approximately a third the cost of on peak hours, or move to middle of the night  
432 charging under UCE TOU rate option 2.

433 **Q. Is there anything about EV charging that particularly lends itself to TOU pricing?**

434 **A.** Yes. Electric vehicles have the capability to be programmed to begin charging at a  
435 set time. This makes shifting charging away from peak time period easy and automatic.

436 **Q. Both of your proposed rate designs are more complex than current rate designs and**  
437 **more complex than the Company's TOU proposals. Does this concern you and, if**  
438 **so, what are your recommendations to address this added complexity?**

439 **A.** No, it doesn't concern me. Admittedly, when I first considered the combination  
440 of inclining block rates and TOU, I thought it might be too complicated. But as I  
441 reflected on our current tiered rates, I realized that all residential customers are already  
442 well accustomed to tiered rates and that the only thing we are adding are peak periods. As  
443 we implement EV TOU rate structures, smart communication tools and education will be  
444 key to success – for any TOU rate design. I do not think that layering TOU rates onto our  
445 existing, well-established framework of inclining block rates creates a significant  
446 education hurdle. In developing our TOU proposals, we strove to make them as simple as  
447 possible, while maintaining conservation price signals and creating an incentive to shift  
448 load away from peak hours.

449 Q. **Please explain how Utah Clean Energy’s proposed rate options are different from**  
450 **the current rate schedule 2 (optional time of use rate).**

451 A. Schedule 2 has a seven hour on peak period that extends from 1:00 pm to 8:00  
452 pm.<sup>6</sup> Our proposal is in alignment with the Company’s proposed 5 hour summer (3:00  
453 pm – 8:00 pm) and seven hour winter (8:00 am – 10:00 am and 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm) peak  
454 for EV customers. Furthermore, the differential between on peak and off peak rates in  
455 the current rate schedule 2 is not more than 1.85:1. Utah Clean Energy’s proposed rate  
456 options still provide a roughly 3:1 differential, which send appropriate signals  
457 encouraging people to charge their EVs during off peak or super off peak hours and to  
458 conserve during on peak hours. And education and communication will likely be the key  
459 to the success of any TOU rate.

460 Q. **Does this conclude your testimony?**

461 A. Yes.

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<sup>6</sup> Rocky Mountain Power, Electric Service Schedule 2,  
[https://www.rockymountainpower.net/content/dam/rocky\\_mountain\\_power/doc/About\\_Us/Rates\\_and\\_Regulation/Utah/Approved\\_Tariffs/Rate\\_Schedules/Residential\\_Service\\_Optional\\_Time\\_of\\_Day\\_Rider\\_Experimental.pdf](https://www.rockymountainpower.net/content/dam/rocky_mountain_power/doc/About_Us/Rates_and_Regulation/Utah/Approved_Tariffs/Rate_Schedules/Residential_Service_Optional_Time_of_Day_Rider_Experimental.pdf)