



State of Utah

Department of Commerce Division of Public Utilities

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Action Request Response

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities

Chris Parker, Director

Artie Powell, Manager

Doug Wheelwright, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor

Bob Davis, Utility Technical Consultant

Date: January 12, 2022

Re: **Docket No. 16-035-36** – Application of Rocky Mountain Power to Implement Programs Authorized by the Sustainable Transportation and Energy Plan Act (STEP) – *Compliance Filing*

Recommendation (Acknowledge)

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) recommends the Public Service Commission of Utah (Commission) acknowledge Rocky Mountain Power's (RMP) compliance filing for its evaluation report of the STEP Electric Vehicle (EV) Time of Use Pilot Program (Report). No further action is required.

Issue

The Commission issued an action request to the Division on December 23, 2021 requesting it to review and make recommendations on RMP's filing under Docket Nos. 21-035-70 and 16-035-36, Rocky Mountain Power's Evaluation of Electric Vehicle Time of Use Pilot Program. The Commission rescinded its original action request and issued a new action request to the Division on December 27, 2021, requesting the Division to review RMP's filing under Docket No. 16-035-36 and make recommendations. The Commission asked the Division to report back by January 21, 2022. On December 30, 2021, the Commission issued its Notice of Virtual Scheduling Conference for Docket No. 21-035-70, thereby, splitting the two dockets.

Background

On June 28, 2017, the Commission issued its order in Docket No. 16-035-36 approving the Stipulation and Partial Settlement Agreement (Settlement) to establish an EV time of use pilot program under Electric Service Schedule 2E as part of the STEP program.¹ Paragraph 13 of the Settlement required RMP to file a report at the conclusion of the STEP program following the minimum reporting requirements contained in Exhibit D of the Stipulation.²

On December 20, 2021, the Commission issued its order in Docket No. 20-035-34, Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program (EVIP), approving a Settlement Stipulation between the stakeholders. Paragraph 38 of the EVIP Stipulation required RMP to initiate a formal docket (Docket No. 21-035-70) for evaluation and stakeholder input for potential continuation and redesign of the expiring Electric Vehicle Time of Use Pilot Program.³ Docket No. 21-035-70 will not be discussed any further in these comments.

Discussion

The Division has reviewed RMP's Evaluation of Electric Vehicle Time of Use Pilot Program compliance report in light of the Commission's June 28, 2017 order and Exhibit D detailing the minimum reporting requirements.

RMP's conclusions and recommendations support Time of Use (TOU) rates for EV customers. The STEP Electric Vehicle (EV) Time of Use Pilot Program appears to have provided beneficial information to help advance EV TOU rate design and has shown benefits to both EV customers and non-EV customers. RMP recommends continuing to offer Schedule No. 2E in some form of Rate Option 1. RMP also recommends that it is in the public interest to make Schedule No. 2E available to customer generators on Schedule 137, but not Schedule Nos. 135 or 136 since netting energy exported to the grid against a TOU program could exacerbate potential cost shifting from these programs. Finally, RMP recommends the removal of the customer cap, and Rate Option 2 from Schedule 2E. The Division expects further debate on these topics in other

¹ See Commission Phase III Report and Order, Docket No. 16-035-36, June 28, 2017, <https://pscdocs.utah.gov/electric/16docs/1603536/2949541603536ptao6-28-2017.pdf>.

² *Id.*, Exhibit D, EV TOU Pilot Report Requirement, at page 54.

³ See Commission Order Approving Settlement Stipulation, Docket No. 20-035-34, December 20, 2021, page 5, Section (1) Schedule 2E, <https://pscdocs.utah.gov/electric/20docs/2003534/3215702003534oass12-20-2021.pdf>.

dockets currently open that concern EV TOU rate design. Therefore, no further changes to Schedule 2E are warranted at this time to provide simplicity and continuity to current customers.

The Division concludes that RMP has followed the Commission's Order and meets the minimum reporting requirements of Exhibit D.

Conclusion

The Division concludes that RMP's compliance filing meets the minimum filing requirements found in Exhibit D of the Settlement Stipulation and Partial Settlement Agreement in the Commission's Phase III Report and Order for Docket No. 16-035-36. The Division recommends the Commission acknowledge RMP's compliance filing.

cc: Joelle Steward, RMP
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