



MAYOR - KELLY FIELD
COUNCIL
JONNA WESTOVER
FIZZ BODILY

STACEY PRESCOTT
DON BALDWIN
ROBERT MARTINEZ

To: State of Utah
Public Service Commission
160 E 300 S
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

March 30, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

Lewiston City would like to levy a formal complaint concerning what appear to be unfair business practices on the part of Rocky Mountain Power (RMP). Due to the actions of RMP, Lewiston City recently lost the opportunity to sell commercial property to a reputable international company with interest in expanding their operations into our community. As with any city there were permits, environmental impact studies, and assurances of sufficient infrastructure such as sewer and water to sustain both current and projected needs. Each of the necessary items were easily managed within a timely manner to the satisfaction of all involved parties. Ultimately the land sale fell through due to the excessive fees assessed by RMP. As a result Lewiston City and Cache Valley will never realize the many new jobs that would have been created by this venture or the increase in tax revenues an especially vital aspect to small rural communities such as ours.

The fees assessed by RMP to provide additional electrical power are onerous and prevent business expansion into rural communities. In the case in question three-phase power is available at the properties edge. Less than a quarter mile away, a feed processing plant operates almost continually. In the other direction a large plastics manufacturer operates. RMP claims there is insufficient power to support the proposed operation and *wants to require new electrical infrastructure with a reported upfront cost/commitment of \$1.3 million without taking any business risk of their own*. They are allowed to hide behind the protectionist policy of the utilities commission, claiming hardship upon hardship to meet the public needs cloaked behind a smoke screen of "public safety". RMP appears to be a monopoly controlling every aspect of growth. When hookup fees exceed all other considerations including the price of the property itself, something is wrong.



LEWISTON CITY CORPORATION

LEWISTON, UTAH 84320

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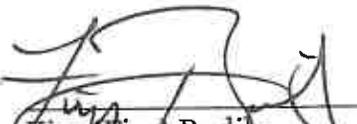
We understand the need to be safe. We understand the need to stay current. But do you understand the impact that this unfair practice has on a small rural community or any small business for that matter? Can't RMP operate like all other business entities by assuming some of the risk of doing business? They could borrow to upgrade with provident business strategies. They need not be sheltered and pampered. Indeed, if they were to play by the same rules as everybody else, they might even become competitive and efficient.

Lewiston City requests that the Utah State Public Utilities Commission investigate the current business practices of Rocky Mountain Power in the handling of assessed fees for unnecessary equipment upgrades. Finally we would like to remind the Governor of his campaign pledge to help rural communities survive.

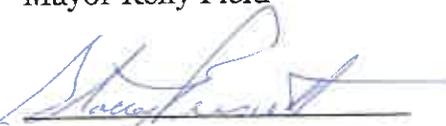
Respectfully,



Mayor Kelly Field



Kim Fizz Bodily



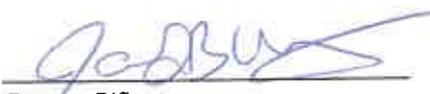
Stacey Prescott



Robert Martinez



Don Baldwin



Jonna Westover

cc:
Governor Gary Herbert
Senator Lyle Hillyard
Representative Val K. Potter