

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

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Application of Rocky Mountain Power for Authority to Increase its Retail Electric Utility Service Rates in Utah and for Approval of its Proposed Electric Service Schedules and Electric Service Regulations

DOCKET NO. 20-035-04

Application of Rocky Mountain Power for Authority to Change its Depreciation Rates Effective January 1, 2021

DOCKET NO. 18-035-36

SCHEDULING ORDER, NOTICE OF TECHNICAL CONFERENCES, NOTICE OF HEARINGS, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC WITNESS HEARING

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ISSUED: June 9, 2020

On May 28, 2020, the Public Service Commission (PSC) held a telephonic scheduling conference in these dockets. The following announced their participation: Rocky Mountain Power (RMP); the Division of Public Utilities (DPU); the Office of Consumer Services (OCS); the Utah Association of Energy Users (UAE); Western Resource Advocates; Facebook, Inc.; Utah Clean Energy; Kroger Co.; and Walmart Inc. (collectively, “Participants”). The Participants stipulated to a schedule for Docket No. 20-035-04 (“GRC Docket”), consisting of two phases: Phase I – addressing cost of capital and revenue requirement, and Phase II – addressing cost of service/pricing.<sup>1</sup> The Participants also agreed to a schedule for the second phase of Docket No.

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<sup>1</sup> In identifying “Phase I” and “Phase II,” the PSC adopts the Participants’ labeling. To avoid confusion, the PSC notes the Participants’ stipulated schedule arguably consists of three distinct phases because Phase I contains separate schedules for cost of capital and revenue requirement issues, respectively.

18-035-36 (“Depreciation Docket”).<sup>2</sup> The PSC approves and adopts the Participants’ stipulated schedules for both dockets as enumerated below.

***PHASE I – GRC Docket (No. 20-035-04)***

The schedule for Phase I of the GRC Docket, adjudicating issues related to cost of capital, shall be as follows:

PHASE I SCHEDULE – COST OF CAPITAL

ITEM	DEADLINE/DATE/TIME/LOCATION
Technical conference	<b>Friday, July 10, 2020, from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Logistical information for participation in this technical conference will be forthcoming. Any party who wishes to submit questions in advance of the technical conference should send them via email to the PSC (<a href="mailto:psc@utah.gov">psc@utah.gov</a>) and Jana Saba (<a href="mailto:jana.saba@pacificorp.com">jana.saba@pacificorp.com</a>) before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 30, 2020.</b>
Direct testimony of parties other than RMP	<b>Thursday, August 20, 2020</b>
Rebuttal testimony	<b>Thursday, September 17, 2020</b>
Intervention deadline	<b>Thursday, September 17, 2020</b>
Surrebuttal testimony, all parties	<b>Thursday, October 8, 2020</b>

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<sup>2</sup> The PSC approved the parties’ stipulation in Docket No. 18-035-36 to establish a second phase of that docket and to hold a scheduling conference for it concurrent with that for RMP’s general rate case. Report and Order at 10 (issued April 20, 2020).

Hearing	<b>Thursday, October 29, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m., Fourth Floor Hearing Room 403, Heber M. Wells Building. <u>NOTE: Parties should also reserve Friday, October 30, 2020, in the event the hearing does not conclude on October 29, 2020.</u></b>
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The schedule for Phase I of the GRC Docket, adjudicating issues related to revenue requirement, shall be as follows:

PHASE I SCHEDULE – REVENUE REQUIREMENT

ITEM	DEADLINE/DATE/TIME/LOCATION
Technical conference	<b>Friday, July 10, 2020, from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Logistical information for participation in this technical conference will be forthcoming. Any party who wishes to submit questions in advance of the technical conference should send them via email to: the PSC (<a href="mailto:psc@utah.gov">psc@utah.gov</a>) and Jana Saba (<a href="mailto:jana.saba@pacificorp.com">jana.saba@pacificorp.com</a>) before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 30, 2020.</b>
Direct testimony of parties other than RMP	<b>Wednesday, September 2, 2020</b>
Intervention deadline	<b>Thursday, September 17, 2020</b>
Rebuttal testimony	<b>Monday, October 5, 2020</b>
Surrebuttal testimony	<b>Thursday, October 29, 2020</b>
Hearing	<b>Tuesday, November 3, 2020, through Friday, November 6, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m. each day of the hearing, Fourth Floor Hearing Room 403, Heber M. Wells Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.</b>

Public Witness Hearing	<b>Tuesday, November 3, 2020, beginning at 5:00 p.m., Fourth Floor Hearing Room 403, Heber M. Wells Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.</b>
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***PHASE II – GRC Docket***

The schedule for Phase II of the GRC Docket, adjudicating cost of service/pricing issues, shall be as follows:

PHASE II SCHEDULE – COST OF SERVICE/PRICING

ITEM	DEADLINE/DATE/TIME/LOCATION
Technical conference	<b>Monday, July 27, 2020, from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Logistical information for participation in this technical conference will be forthcoming. Any party who wishes to submit questions in advance of the technical conference should send them via email to: the PSC (<a href="mailto:psc@utah.gov">psc@utah.gov</a>) and Jana Saba (<a href="mailto:jana.saba@pacificorp.com">jana.saba@pacificorp.com</a>) before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 17, 2020.</b>
Direct testimony of parties other than RMP	<b>Tuesday, September 15, 2020</b>
Intervention deadline	<b>Thursday, September 17, 2020</b>
Rebuttal testimony	<b>Friday, October 16, 2020</b>
Surrebuttal testimony	<b>Friday, November 6, 2020</b>

Hearing	<p><b>Tuesday, November 17, 2020, through Thursday, November 19, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m. each day of the hearing, Fourth Floor Hearing Room 403, Heber M. Wells Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.</b></p> <p><b><u>NOTE: Parties should also reserve Friday, November 20, 2020, in the event the hearing does not conclude on November 19, 2020.</u></b></p>
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*Depreciation Docket (No. 18-035-36)*

SCHEDULE

ITEM	DEADLINE/DATE/TIME/LOCATION
RMP's direct testimony on issues related to the second phase of the Depreciation Docket	<b>Friday, June 19, 2020</b>
Direct testimony of parties other than RMP on issues related to the second phase of the Depreciation Docket	<b>Wednesday, September 2, 2020</b>
Intervention deadline	<b>Tuesday, September 8, 2020</b>
Rebuttal testimony	<b>Monday, October 5, 2020</b>
Surrebuttal testimony	<b>Thursday, October 29, 2020</b>
Hearing	<b>Monday, November 2, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m., Fourth Floor Hearing Room 403, Heber M. Wells Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.</b>

DISCOVERY

The Participants did not agree unanimously as to the number of days RMP should be allowed to respond to informal discovery requests. The disagreement only pertained to the GRC

Docket and was further limited solely to the turnaround time through the date this order requires parties other than RMP to file their direct testimony. RMP argues, consistent with prior general rate cases, that 21 days is appropriate. UAE argues this period is too long and that the PSC should require RMP to respond in 14 days consistent with scheduling orders in other jurisdictions. RMP counters that Utah has extensive filing requirements that obviate the need for much of the preliminary discovery conducted in such jurisdictions and leads to initial discovery requests in Utah being relatively more sophisticated and burdensome to answer. The OCS stated it agreed with UAE but offered no additional argument in support. The DPU represented it had no objection to RMP's proposed 21-day turnaround.

Having considered the Participants' positions, the PSC concludes that maintaining the 21-day period for responding to these early requests is reasonable and appropriate in light of Utah's filing requirements. Accordingly, discovery turn-around times shall be as follows:

1. With respect to the GRC Docket, Phase I – Cost of Capital, 21 calendar days until August 20, 2020; 14 calendar days from that date through September 17, 2020; and 7 calendar days thereafter.
2. With respect to the GRC Docket, Phase I – Revenue Requirement, 21 calendar days until September 2, 2020; 14 calendar days from that date until October 5, 2020; and 7 calendar days thereafter.
3. With respect to the GRC Docket, Phase II – Cost of Service/Pricing 21 calendar days until September 15, 2020; 14 calendar days from that date until October 16, 2020; and 7 calendar days thereafter.

4. With respect to the Depreciation Docket, 14 calendar days until September 2, 2020; 10 calendar days from that date until October 5, 2020; and 7 calendar days thereafter.

Parties shall serve discovery requests and responses on applicable parties by email. In the event a document produced in response to a discovery request cannot reasonably be transmitted by email, the party disclosing the document shall provide an electronic copy of the document on CD (or, if an electronic copy is not available, a paper copy).

NOTICE OF TECHNICAL CONFERENCES

A technical conference will be held in Phase I of the GRC Docket on **Friday, July 10, 2020, beginning at 1:00 p.m.** Logistical information for participation in this technical conference will be forthcoming. Parties having questions they would like RMP to address at the technical conference should email such questions on or before **Tuesday, June 30, 2020**, to [psc@utah.gov](mailto:psc@utah.gov), and Jana Saba ([jana.saba@pacificorp.com](mailto:jana.saba@pacificorp.com)).

A technical conference will be held in Phase II of the GRC Docket on **Monday, July 27, 2020, beginning at 1:00 p.m.** Logistical information for participation in this technical conference will be forthcoming. Parties having questions they would like RMP to address at the technical conference should email such questions on or before **Friday, July 17, 2020**, to [psc@utah.gov](mailto:psc@utah.gov), and Jana Saba ([jana.saba@pacificorp.com](mailto:jana.saba@pacificorp.com)).

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

The PSC will conduct a hearing on GRC Docket Phase I – Cost of Capital on **Thursday, October 29, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m., Fourth Floor Hearing Room 403, Heber M. Wells Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.** All parties must have their witnesses in

attendance and prepared to testify. Parties should also reserve **Friday, October 30, 2020**, in the event the hearing does not conclude on October 29, 2020.

The PSC will conduct a hearing on GRC Docket Phase I – Revenue Requirement on **Tuesday, November 3, 2020 through Friday, November 6, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m. each day of the hearing, Fourth Floor Hearing Room 403, Heber M. Wells Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah**. All parties must have their witnesses in attendance and prepared to testify.

The PSC will conduct a hearing on GRC Docket Phase II – Cost of Service/Pricing issues on **Tuesday, November 17, 2020, through Thursday, November 19, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m. each day of the hearing, Fourth Floor Hearing Room 403, Heber M. Wells Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah**. All parties must have their witnesses in attendance and prepared to testify. Parties should also reserve **Friday, November 20, 2020**, in the event the hearing does not conclude on November 19, 2020.

The PSC will conduct a hearing in the Depreciation Docket on **Monday, November 2, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m., Fourth Floor Hearing Room 403, Heber M. Wells Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah**. All parties must have their witnesses in attendance and prepared to testify.

Individuals wishing to participate in the hearings by telephone should contact the PSC two days in advance of the applicable hearing by calling (801) 530-6716 or (toll-free) 1-866-PSC-UTAH (1-866-772-8824) to receive a bridge number and participant passcode. Participants attending by telephone should then call the bridge number five minutes before the applicable hearing, entering the passcode followed by the # sign to ensure participation.



In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) during any of these hearings should notify the PSC at 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, (801) 530-6716, at least three working days prior to the applicable hearing.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WITNESS HEARING

The PSC will conduct a Public Witness hearing in the GRC Docket on **Tuesday, November 3, 2020, beginning at 5:00 p.m.** The Public Witness hearing will be held in the **Fourth Floor Hearing Room 403, Heber M. Wells Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.** The Public Witness hearing will continue until all present individuals have had a reasonable opportunity to address the PSC. Individuals planning to address the PSC at the Public Witness hearing must be present by 5:00 p.m.

The PSC may limit remarks that are unduly repetitious at the Public Witness hearing. The PSC desires to provide an opportunity for all individuals who desire to speak to do so. As such, the PSC may limit the length of individuals' remarks. Any individual wishing to present a statement of position to the PSC that is unable to do so during the Public Witness hearing may file a written statement of position with the PSC at its office, Fourth Floor, Heber M. Wells Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 in person, by mail, by email to [psc@utah.gov](mailto:psc@utah.gov), or by facsimile to 801-530-6796. Please indicate that the statement pertains to Docket No. 20-035-04.

Individuals wishing to participate in the Public Witness hearing by telephone should contact the PSC two days in advance by calling (801) 530-6716 or (toll-free) 1-866-PSC-UTAH (1-866-772-8824) to receive a bridge number and participant passcode. Participants attending by

telephone should then call the bridge number five minutes before the Public Witness hearing, entering the passcode followed by the # sign to ensure participation.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) during the Public Witness hearing should notify the PSC at 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, (801) 530-6716, at least three working days prior to the Public Witness hearing.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, June 9, 2020.

/s/ Michael J. Hammer  
Presiding Officer

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg  
PSC Secretary  
DW#314194

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on June 9, 2020, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was delivered upon the following as indicated below:

By Email:

Data Request Response Center ([datareq@pacificorp.com](mailto:datareq@pacificorp.com), [utahdockets@pacificorp.com](mailto:utahdockets@pacificorp.com))  
PacifiCorp

Jana Saba ([jana.saba@pacificorp.com](mailto:jana.saba@pacificorp.com))  
Emily Wegener ([emily.wegener@pacificorp.com](mailto:emily.wegener@pacificorp.com))  
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Office of Consumer Services

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Administrative Assistant