

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

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Collaborative Stakeholder Process for Rocky Mountain Power’s Grid Modernization and Rate Design	<u>DOCKET NO. 21-035-16</u> <u>SECOND SCHEDULING ORDER</u>
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ISSUED: June 14, 2021

The Public Service Commission (PSC) initiated this docket on March 17, 2021 for the purpose of establishing a collaborative stakeholder process related to grid modernization and rate design,<sup>1</sup> issuing a Scheduling Order and Notices of Technical Conference, Comment Period, and Scheduling Conference (“Initial Notice”).

The Initial Notice asked Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) to submit an informational filing to initiate the collaborative stakeholder process and set a technical conference for RMP to present that filing and allow questions from stakeholders. Consistent with the Initial Notice, RMP submitted its informational filing, participated in a technical conference, and — after receiving additional comments from stakeholders — the PSC held a scheduling conference (“Scheduling Conference”) on June 2, 2021.

The PSC virtually conducted the Scheduling Conference, by video conference, with representatives from RMP, the Division of Public Utilities (DPU), the Office of Consumer Services, Utah Clean Energy, Utah Association of Energy Users, Kroger, Walmart, and Nucor

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<sup>1</sup> During Rocky Mountain Power’s 2020 general rate case, various parties proposed formal working groups, task forces, or other collaborative processes to explore numerous issues related to grid modernization and rate design. The PSC’s order in that case recognized the potential value of a collaborative stakeholder process to discuss these issues and provided an opportunity for stakeholder comments. *See 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, Order issued December 30, 2020 at 94. After receiving comments from numerous parties expressing an interest in such a process, the PSC opened this docket.

(collectively, “Participating Stakeholders”) participating. On these stakeholders’ request, the PSC’s designated presiding officer and other PSC staff took leave of the conference to allow the Participating Stakeholders to caucus and work to agree on a proposed process for the docket.

After the PSC rejoined the conference, the Participating Stakeholders shared that they agreed to conduct a series of informal workgroup meetings (“Informal WG Meetings”), intending to meet every six to eight weeks for approximately the next 24 months. RMP agreed to ensure that all intervenors in this docket are provided with appropriate notice and instructions for participation in the Informal WG Meetings.

The Participating Stakeholders also agreed the DPU will file a status report every six months to advise the PSC on the status of their efforts and a final report at the end of their collaboration. The DPU agreed to file a preliminary report, which will include the anticipated topics of the Informal WG Meetings, by **Friday, July 30, 2021** and to file its next status report by **Monday, January 31, 2022**.

Given that this docket exists to facilitate a collaborative process among stakeholders, the PSC appreciates the Participating Stakeholders’ efforts to agree on a process and approves their proposal. Any interested person that wishes to participate in the Informal WG Meetings may file a petition for intervention in this docket. The PSC directs RMP to promptly provide any person who files a petition for intervention with instructions regarding how to participate in the next scheduled Informal WG Meeting and all subsequent Informal WG Meetings. Absent good cause to object to the intervention, RMP shall provide such instructions to the person seeking intervention without waiting for the PSC to issue an order granting the petition to intervene.

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The DPU shall file a preliminary report, which will include the anticipated topics of the Informal WG Meetings, by **Friday, July 30, 2021**. The DPU shall file its first status report by **Monday, January 31, 2022**. The first status report shall include a proposed deadline for the DPU's next status report, which it will file approximately six months after the first status report.

Contingent on the progress identified in the DPU's status reports, the PSC may notice additional scheduling conferences at a later date. The PSC also notes that, during the Scheduling Conference, Participating Stakeholders anticipated that additional technical conferences may be desirable or necessary. In the event additional technical conferences are desired, the parties may, jointly or individually, submit a request for the PSC to schedule, notice, and host them.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, June 14, 2021.

/s/ Michael J. Hammer  
Presiding Officer

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg  
PSC Secretary  
DW#319092

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on June 14, 2021, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served upon the following as indicated below:

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