



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Comment on RMP IRP, Docket # 23-035-10

1 message

Doug Goodall <sunandsage1@gmail.com>
To: psc@utah.gov

Wed, Aug 2, 2023 at 10:57 AM

To whoever this may concern:

Please include my comment regarding RMP IRP, Docket # 23-035-10 in the decision-making process.

I live in Orem, UT. Orem is served by Rocky Mountain Power.

I am deeply concerned about Rocky Mountain Power's recently submitted 2023 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), which does little to reliably commit to reducing our state's greenhouse gas emissions in a cost-effective manner. Instead, this plan maintains our reliance on fossil fuels by continuing to rely on some coal plants well past 2030 while converting others to natural gas, which is infamous for volatile price swings. I appreciate the interest in moving away from coal but would like to see us move away faster and not towards gas. I believe that gas should only be used as a bridge fuel while we convert to renewables. Some of my income does come from a gas well that drills for coal bed methane but I understand this is not sustainable and the sooner we convert to renewable energy the better for all of us including myself even though I expect to lose my gas well income.

The plan also relies heavily on new nuclear power, which the company is stating will be "crucial" for its transition away from fossil fuels. Nuclear hasn't been a viable solution for our nation's energy needs in decades, and it faces significant hurdles and safety issues before it can even be considered an option, not least of anticipated costs. Unlike the proposed Natrium plant in Wyoming, the proposed nuclear plants in Utah do not have a cost-share arrangement with the federal government.

I strongly urge the Commission to consider these shortcomings when deciding regarding Rocky Mountain Power's IRP. Please remember that it's the Utah ratepayers who will be stuck paying the costs when investments in risky technology like nuclear and carbon capture don't bear fruit. Renewable energy, like wind and solar, are both cost effective and ready to roll out now.

There needs to be incentives to install solar systems on rental units. Either the renters need to be allowed to install solar systems on the roofs or the landlords need to have good incentives to put solar systems on the roofs or both.

Rocky Mountain Power customers with net metering systems that over produce will get credit applied towards the next month throughout the annual period. Any credit that is not used at the end of the annual period gets forfeited. This is a bad policy and should be ended in order to encourage all available roof space to be used.

Rocky Mountain Power should be encouraged to acquire the land where the Geneva Steel Plant used to be and converted to a renewable energy complex.

I share the scientific communities' concern about global warming. I also just want to see us reducing emissions to help clean up the air. The proposals to help reduce carbon also reduce pollution.

Let's take advantage of this moment and the opportunities in legislation like the Inflation Reduction Act to bring real solutions here to Utah. I urge the Utah Commission to not acknowledge the riskiest aspects of Rocky Mountain Power's plan, including continued reliance on coal, despite increasing federal regulatory pressure, and unrealistic optimism that three first-of-their-kind nuclear facilities will materialize on time and on budget.

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