



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

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

1 message

Verlene Lewis (vm99lewis@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal MessageWed, Oct 11, 2023 at
8:40 AM

<kwautomail@phone2action.com>

Reply-To: Verlene Lewis <vm99lewis@gmail.com>

To: psc@utah.gov

Dear Utah Public Service Commission,

Dear Commissioners LeVar, Clark, and Harvey,

As a Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) ratepayer, I urge you to disapprove the 2023 PacifiCorp Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) as currently written for reasons that include those listed below:

- ~ The IRP lacks an adequate, reliable commitment to reducing Utah's greenhouse gas emissions in a cost-effective manner. Instead, this IRP continues our reliance on fossil fuels: potentially operating some coal plants in the 2030s, or potentially even longer if RMP-PacifiCorp's nuclear option fails.
- ~ The IRP would convert other coal burners to natural gas (methane), which is climate damaging and infamous for volatile price swings.
- ~ The plan relies heavily on nuclear power, which hasn't been an economically or environmentally viable solution for our nation's energy needs in decades and faces significant hurdles before it can even be considered a credible option. Nevertheless, RMP-PacifiCorp claims that a first-of-its-kind nuclear power plant will be "crucial" for a transition from fossil fuels. Ratepayers could be saddled with massive costs, as has been the case with the Vogtle fiasco in Georgia.
- ~ The IRP allows RMP-PacifiCorp to shift more climate change related costs to ratepayers while forcing us to keep paying for fossil fuels that are driving climate change and its impacts. IRP costs for "hardening" utility equipment against wildfires and extreme weather events, along with increased utility insurance costs, are climate change related fossil fuel related.

The Commission should give these multiple resource plan failings your serious consideration while reviewing the 2023 IRP. Utah ratepayers depend on you to protect us from additional costs when utility investments in fossil fuels and risky technology like nuclear prove ill-advised. Clean renewable energy technologies like wind and solar are cost effective, available now and, with robust energy storage, should be the mainstay of a revised 2023 PacifiCorp IRP.

Please direct RMP-PacifiCorp to correct deficiencies in the 2023 IRP and withhold your approval until the company submits the corrected documents for further review.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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