

UTAH DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE
Division of Public Utilities

MARGARET W. BUSSE Executive Director

CHRIS PARKER Division Director

## Memorandum

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities

Chris Parker, Director

Brenda Salter, Assistant Director

Abdinasir Abdulle, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor

Justin Christensen, Utility Analyst

**Date:** July 17, 2023

Re: Docket No. 23-035-15, Rocky Mountain Power's Application to Revise Rates in

Tariff Schedule 98, Renewable Energy Credits Balancing Account.

# **Recommendation (Approval)**

Based upon the Utah Division of Public Utilities (Division) review and audit of Rocky Mountain Power's (RMP) Renewable Energy Credits (RECs), the Division recommends that the Public Service Commission of Utah (Commission) approve the interim rates set under this docket as final.

#### Issue

The Division hereby submits for filing the Division's Audit Report of the Rocky Mountain Power, Renewable Energy Credits Balancing Account (RBA).

# **Discussion**

On May 30, 2023, the Commission issued its Order approving RMPs proposed RBA on an interim basis pending the Division's audit report, with an effective date of June 1, 2023.

The Division reviewed numerous documents during its audit, including direct testimony, RMP's responses to Data Requests from the Division, the Office of Consumer Services,

and Utah Association of Energy Users, RMP REC sales, request for proposals, RMP reverse request for proposals, RMP REC revenue contracts, renewable costs in base rates, the REC budget for 2022 and 2023, REC policies and procedures, and previous RBA filings. The Division reviewed and verified that the fees billed by the Company to Kennecott complied with the confidential Non-Generation and REC Supply Agreement between Kennecott Utah Copper LLC and PacifiCorp, dated April 8, 2019. Based on this review, it appears the RBA is prudently managed and follows regulatory and reporting requirements.

## Conclusion

Based on a review of the associated 2022 REC tariff, Schedule 98, and related 2022 filings with the Public Service Commission of Utah, Rocky Mountain Power appears to be prudently managing the program overall. The program complies with regulatory and reporting requirements. RMP's corrections to Oct. Nov. and Dec. 2021 REC resource assignments of \$19,855, and compliance resource allocations to Rolling Hills and River Rock I of \$9,535, result in an understatement of Utah REC revenue of approximately \$30,000 is immaterial in amount (less than 1 percent) and does not affect the interim rates. RMP will include these corrections in next year's filing. Therefore, the interim rates appear to be in the public interest and should be made final.

cc: Jana Saba, Rocky Mountain Power Joelle Steward, Rocky Mountain Power Service List