



Public Service Commission

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February 15, 2024

Mr. Bob Larsen, Operations Manager
Bridger Valley Electric Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 399
Mountain View, WY 82939

Re: Docket No. 24-022-01 - *Bridger Valley Electric Association's Wildland Fire Protection Plan Compliance Report*

Dear Mr. Larsen,

The Public Service Commission (PSC) reviewed Bridger Valley Electric Association's (BVEA) January 12, 2024 cover letter and its attached 2021 wildland fire protection plan ("2021 WFPP"), titled "2021 Wildland Fire Protection Plan Compliance Report" ("Report"). The cover letter states that BVEA prepared its 2021 WFPP and filed a copy with the PSC in June 2020 as required by Utah Code Ann. § 54-24-203(5).

BVEA also acknowledges that it must file an annual report detailing its compliance with the approved WFPP. It then states that "this [filing] confirms that [BVEA] presented the compliance report to its governing authority at a regular board meeting held on 10/10/2023." And that "[t]his report includes our actions taken over the course of the year. Trimming the right of ways, breakers put to non-reclosing, and raptor guarding as outlined in our Wildland Fire Protection Plan." The PSC interprets BVEA's statements to mean that along with the trimming of rights of way, putting breakers to non-closing, and guarding raptors, it also implemented mitigation strategies and the action plans outlined in its 2021 WFPP (Appendix B), attached to its cover letter. The PSC further interprets this language to represent the "compliance report" that Utah Code Ann. § 54-24-203(4)(a) requires BVEA to file.¹

¹ The PSC observes that the Report is the same report that BVEA filed on March 2, 2023 in Docket No. 23-022-01, which the PSC also interpreted to represent BVEA's compliance report for 2022, required under Utah Code Ann. § 54-24-203(4)(a).

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The PSC also reviewed the comments filed by the Division of Public Utilities (DPU) on February 12, 2024. DPU comments BVEA's Report was presented at a board meeting held on October 10, 2023² and states BVEA's 2021 WFPP was included with the Report. DPU recommends the PSC acknowledge that BVEA has complied with the filing requirements in Utah Code Ann. § 54-24-203(4)(b). DPU also recommends BVEA provide to the PSC its revised WFPP in compliance with Utah Code Ann. § 54-24-203(3)(a). BVEA filed its 2021 WFPP with its Report and the PSC is not aware of any revisions to the Plan. The PSC assumes the 2021 WFPP on file is operative unless and until BVEA files a revised WFPP.

Based on the PSC's review of the Report and DPU's comments and recommendation, the PSC acknowledges the Report complies with Utah Code Ann. § 54-24-203(4)(b). Pursuant to Utah Code Ann. § 54-24-203(5)(b), the Report is available for public inspection at the PSC's offices and on its website.

Sincerely,

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg
PSC Secretary
DW#332433

² The PSC interprets this to mean that the Board "approved" the Report.