

May 1, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Utah Public Service Commission Heber M. Wells Building, 4th Floor 160 East 300 South Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Attention: Gary Widerburg Commission Administrator

RE: Docket No. 24-035-01

Rocky Mountain Power's Application for Approval of the 2024 Energy Balancing Account Rocky Mountain Power's Application

In accordance with Utah Public Service Commission ("Commission") Rule 746-1-203, PacifiCorp, d.b.a. Rocky Mountain Power, hereby submits for electronic filing its Application for Approval of the 2024 Energy Balancing Account. The Application is accompanied by the direct testimonies, exhibits and workpapers of Mr. Jack Painter and Mr. Robert M. Meredith and the applicable filing requirements.

The enclosed proposed tariff sheets are associated with Tariff P.S.C.U No. 51 of Rocky Mountain Power, applicable to electric service in the State of Utah. Pursuant to the requirement of Rule R746-405-2D, PacifiCorp states that the proposed tariff sheet does not constitute a violation of state law or Commission rule.

Rocky Mountain Power respectfully requests that all formal correspondence and requests for additional information regarding this filing be addressed to the following:

| By E-mail (preferred): | datarequest@pacificorp.com utahdockets@pacificorp.com jana.saba@pacificorp.com ajay.kumar@pacificorp.com |
|------------------------|---|
| By regular mail: | Data Request Response Center PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232 |

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Informal inquiries may be directed to Jana Saba at (801) 220-2823.

Sincerely,

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Joeffe Steward Senior Vice President, Regulation and Customer & Community Solutions

cc: Service List – Docket No. 24-035-01

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Docket No. 24-035-01

I hereby certify that on May 1, 2024, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail to the following:

Utah Office of Consumer Services

| Michele Beck | mbeck@utah.gov |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| | ocs@utah.gov |
| Division of Public Utilities | |
| dpudatarequest@utah.gov | |
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Attorneys for Rocky Mountain Power

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

IN THE MATTER OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN) POWER'S APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL) OF THE 2024 ENERGY BALANCING) ACCOUNT

Docket No. 24-035-01

ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER'S APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE 2024 ENERGY BALANCING ACCOUNT

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Rocky Mountain Power, a division of PacifiCorp ("Company" or "Rocky Mountain Power"), submits this application ("Application") to the Public Service Commission of Utah ("Commission") pursuant to energy balancing account mechanism ("EBA") tariff Schedule No. 94 ("Tariff Schedule 94"), requesting approval to recover approximately \$455.0 million in deferred EBA Costs ("EBAC"). The \$455.0 million deferral includes the following components: (1) approximately \$450.9 million of EBA-related costs; (2) a credit of approximately \$41.4 million for sales made to a special contract customer; (3) a \$1.7 million adjustment for Utah situs resources; (4) a credit of \$0.2 million to reflect the 2023 EBA Order; (5) a \$1.1 million adjustment to reflect the remaining uncollected balance from the 2022 EBA; and (6) a charge of approximately \$42.9 million in interest. To mitigate customer rate impacts, the Company proposes to amortize the 2024 EBA over 24 months.

The Company has included revised Tariff Schedule 94 to recover from customers approximately \$455.0 million over 24 months beginning July 1, 2024, on an interim basis through June 30, 2026. On an annual basis, the proposed recovery of the 2024 EBA deferral is \$227.5 million. This results in an overall increase to retail customers of Tariff Schedule 94 of approximately 52.4 million, or 2.4 percent.

This Application is consistent with Tariff Schedule 94, approved by the Commission on July 17, 2012, as amended by the Commission's Order on EBA Interim Rate Process, issued August 30, 2012, and as amended in Docket Nos. 16-035-T05 and 09-035-15 by orders issued May 16, 2016, February 16, 2017, November 14, 2019, March 13, 2020, and consistent with the changes approved in Docket No. 23-035-T01 on February 2, 2023 (together, the "EBA Order").

The proposed EBA rate increase reflected in this Application represents an EBA rate adjustment under Tariff Schedule 94 as set forth above. It is allocated to rate schedules consistent with the base EBA amounts approved by the Commission in the Company's general rate case filing in Docket No. 20-035-04 (the "2020 GRC"), as more fully explained below. Rocky Mountain Power respectfully requests that, pursuant to the provisions in Tariff Schedule 94, this increase in Utah rates become effective, on an interim basis, July 1, 2024.

In support of its Application, Rocky Mountain Power states as follows:

1. Rocky Mountain Power is a division of PacifiCorp, an Oregon corporation, which provides electric service to retail customers through its Rocky Mountain Power division in the states of Utah, Wyoming, and Idaho, and through its Pacific Power division in the states of Oregon, California, and Washington.

2. Rocky Mountain Power is a public utility in the state of Utah and is subject to the Commission's jurisdiction with respect to its prices and terms of electric service to retail customers in Utah. Rocky Mountain Power's principal place of business in Utah is 1407 West North Temple, Suite 310, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116.

3. Communications regarding this filing should be addressed to:

Jana Saba Utah Regulatory Affairs Manager Rocky Mountain Power 1407 West North Temple, Suite 310 Salt Lake City, UT 84116 E-mail: jana.saba@pacificorp.com

Ajay Kumar Assistant General Counsel Rocky Mountain Power 825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232 E-mail: <u>ajay.kumar@pacificorp.com</u>

In addition, Rocky Mountain Power requests that all data requests regarding this

Application be sent in Microsoft Word or plain text format to the following:

By email (preferred): <u>datarequest@pacificorp.com</u>

By regular mail: Data Request Response Center PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232

Informal questions may be directed to Jana Saba, Utah Regulatory Affairs Manager at (801) 220-2823.

4. Tariff Schedule 94 permits the Company to monitor total EBAC on an unbundled basis apart from other investments and expenses included in base rates and to account for historical actual EBAC that may be over or under the amount recovered in base rates through the EBA.

5. Under Tariff Schedule 94, the Company files a deferred EBAC adjustment application annually on or before May 1. Included with this filing are changes to Tariff Schedule 94, which provide for a rate effective date on an interim basis of July 1, 2024. Changes to the EBA schedule related to the interim rate request are provided in more detail in this Application.

6. The EBA deferral calculation consists of three revenue requirement components: NPC, production tax credits ("PTCs") and wheeling revenue. NPC are defined as the sum of fuel expenses, wholesale purchased power expenses, wheeling expenses, less wholesale sales revenue. PTCs are included in the EBA as approved in the Company's 2020 GRC, which are an offset to the Company's federal income taxes based upon actual energy generated at eligible wind-powered generating facilities. Wheeling revenue includes amounts booked to FERC account 456.1, Revenues from Transmission of Electricity of Others. Collectively, the three components are known in Tariff Schedule 94 as "Energy Balancing Account Costs" or "EBAC".

7. The deferred EBAC is determined pursuant to Tariff Schedule 94 by comparing, in a deferral period, the actual NPC, PTCs and wheeling revenue to the total base EBAC recovered in rates as established in a general rate case. In addition, several adjustments were made to actual NPC this year, as described in the direct testimony of NPC Specialist Jack Painter.

8. The deferral period for this Application is the 12-month period beginning January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 ("Deferral Period").

The request in this Application includes six main components: (1) approximately
\$450.9 million of EBA-related costs; (2) a credit of approximately \$41.4 million for sales made

to a special contract customer; (3) a \$1.7 million adjustment for Utah situs resources; (4) a credit of \$0.2 million to reflect the 2023 EBA Order; (5) a \$1.1 million adjustment to reflect the remaining balance from the 2022 EBA; and (6) a charge of approximately \$42.9 million in interest.

10. For the Deferral Period, base NPC were set in the Company's 2020 general rate case, Docket No. 20-035-04, at approximately \$1.431 billion ("Base NPC") and became effective January 1, 2021.

11. Actual NPC were higher than Base NPC during the Deferral Period due to an increase in purchased power expenses, an increases in natural gas expense, a decrease in wholesale sales revenue, and an increase in wheeling and other expenses, which were partially offset by a decrease in coal fuel expense.

12. The Company calculated the EBA Deferral Amount using the Commission Order Method consistent with the stipulation approved by the Commission in the 2020 GRC, as set forth in detail in **Exhibit RMP** (JP-1), attached to Mr. Painter's direct testimony.

Deferred EBA Cost Adjustment

13. Pursuant to Tariff Schedule 94, the deferred EBAC adjustment is calculated monthly and recorded as a deferred expense on the Company's books. Mr. Painter's **Exhibit RMP___(JP-1)**, shows the detailed calculation of the EBA Deferral Amount. Adjusted Actual Total NPC from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023, were approximately \$2.528 billion, compared to the \$1.431 billion Base NPC being used in this case.

14. As shown in **Exhibit RMP___(JP-1)**, the difference between Base NPC and Actual NPC was due to a \$49 million reduction in wholesale sales, a \$815 million increase in purchased power expense, a \$257 million increase in natural gas expense, a \$45 million

decrease in coal fuel expense, and a \$22 million increase in wheeling and other expenses. Mr. Painter further discusses the drivers causing the variance in net power costs for the deferral period.

15. As showing in **Exhibit RMP___(JP-1)**, Utah's allocated NPC before wheeling revenues were approximately \$1.1 billion. After crediting Utah-allocated production tax credits of approximately \$105 million and wheeling revenues of approximately \$75 million, Utah actual EBAC were approximately \$935 million shown on line 4, or \$36.39 per megawatt-hour ("MWh"), shown on line 6.

16. In comparison, Utah Base EBAC were approximately \$467 million shown on line 10, after crediting Utah-allocated production tax credits of approximately \$106 million and wheeling revenues of approximately \$51 million shown on lines 8 and 9, respectively, or \$18.81 per MWh, shown on line 12. The monthly difference between lines 6 and 12 applied to Utah's 2023 load produces the deferred EBAC of approximately \$451 million, shown on line 14.

17. An adjustment for sales to a special contract customer of approximately \$41.4 million, after applying a deadband, is shown on line 17. An adjustment of approximately \$1.7 million is shown on line 18 related to the Utah situs resources, namely the Utah Subscriber Solar program, the Utah Transition Program for Customer Generators, the Utah Net Billing for Customer Generators, and a fee for the Energy Imbalance Market Body of State Regulators and Electric Service Schedules 32 and 34 excess generation purchases.. A \$1.1 million adjustment to reflect the remaining balance from the 2022 EBA is shown on line 23. A credit of \$0.15 million to reflect the 2023 EBA Order is shown on line 24¹. A charge for interest of

¹ In the Matter of Rocky Mountain Power's Application for Approval of the 2023 Energy Balancing Account, Docket No. 23-035-01, Order at 9 (Feb. 23, 2024).

approximately \$9.0 million for the Deferral Period is shown on line 25. A charge for interest of approximately \$4.8 million (from January 2024 through March 2024) is shown on line 27 and \$4.9 million for April 2024 through June 2024 is shown on line 28. A charge for interest that will accrue during the 24 month rate effective period for \$24.2 million is shown on line 29. The total ending deferral amount of approximately \$455 million is shown on line 30.

18. A summary of the total requested EBA recovery is shown in the table below.

| alendar Year 2023 EBA Deferral | | Exhibit RMP(JP- Reference |
|---|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Actual EBA (\$/MWh) | \$ 36.39 | Line 6 |
| Base EBA (\$/MWh) | 18.81 | Line 12 |
| \$/MWh Differential | \$ 17.58 | |
| Utah Sales (MWh) | 25,678,773 | Line 5 |
| EBA Deferrable* | \$ 450,877,742 | Line 14 |
| Special Contract Customer Adjustment* | (41,446,176) | Line 17 |
| Utah Situs Resource Adjustment* | 1,721,691 | Line 18 |
| Total Deferrable | 411,153,257 | Line 19 |
| 2022 EBA Collection True-Up | \$ 1,073,739 | Line 23 |
| 2023 EBA Final Order Adjustment | (153,260) | Line 24 |
| Interest Accrued through December 31, 2023 | 8,965,067 | Line 25 |
| Interest Accrued January 1, 2024 through March 31, 2024 | 4,828,711 | Line 27 |
| Interest Accrued April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 | 4,884,089 | Line 28 |
| Interest Accrued through Rate Effective Period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026 | 24,201,822 | Line 29 |
| Requested EBA Recovery | \$ 454,953,425 | Line 30 |

Annual EBA Calculation

EBA Amortization and Schedule Changes

19. The procedural schedule listed in Schedule 94 states that interim rates will become effective on July 1 and be effective for a total of 12 months until June 30 of the following year.

20. To mitigate the rate impacts to customers, the Company proposes the interim rates for this EBA to be effective on July 1, 2023, and continue for 24 months until June 30, 2025.

Proposed Interim Rate

21. In the 2021 Utah Legislative Session, Utah Code Ann. § 54-7-13.5(2)(k) permits the Commission to consider an interim rate request made as part of an electric corporation's filing of an energy balancing account. Prior to interim rate becoming effective, the Commission must hold a hearing on the interim rate request to consider whether the Company has made an adequate prima facie showing that the proposed interim rate appears consistent with prior years' filing and is more likely to reflect actual power costs than the current base rates.

22. In accordance with Utah Code Ann. § 54-7-13.5(2)(k), Rocky Mountain Power hereby requests the 2023 EBA recovery amount of \$455 million be collected over 24 months on an interim basis beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026, subject to rate refund or surcharge.

23. This proposed rate change is consistent with prior years filing because it uses substantially similar methodologies to arrive at total EBAC. Using these methodologies, the Company has determined that EBAC has increased and is more likely to reflect actual power

costs than the current base rates. The interim rates requested by the Company will be subject to future audit by the Division of Public Utilities and evaluation at a hearing by other parties.

24. Rocky Mountain Power hereby requests the Commission issue a notice of scheduling order so that a hearing date may be scheduled to facilitate interim rates becoming effective July 1, 2024.

Proposed Tariff Sheets

25. The Company's proposal is to spread the deferred EBAC across customer classes consistent with an EBA Allocator that allocates the Base EBA amounts approved by the Commission in the 2020 GRC by cost of service factor 10 or factor 30 for different FERC accounts, as appropriate. Allocation to the customer classes is shown in **Exhibit RMP___(RMM-1)**, attached to the direct testimony of Mr. Robert M. Meredith.

26. The Company proposes to allocate the EBA deferral for CY 2023 to those customer classes that are not reflected in the cost of service study used in the 2020 GRC, such as Schedule 31 and Schedule 32 customers, as described in Mr. Meredith's direct testimony.

27. The table below summarizes the proposed price changes by tariff rate schedule. Mr. Meredith's **Exhibit RMP___(RMM-1)**, displays the Company's proposed rate spread, as discussed above. The proposal would result in an overall increase of \$52.4 million, or 2.4 percent to customers in Utah. Mr. Meredith's **Exhibit RMP___(RMM-2)**, includes billing determinants and the calculations of the proposed EBA rates in this case. **Exhibit RMP___(RMM-3)**, contains the proposed rates and revisions for Tariff Schedule 94.

| Customer Class | Proposed Percentage Change |
|--|----------------------------|
| Residential | |
| Schedules 1, 2, 2E, 3 | 2.0% |
| General Service | |
| Schedule 23 | 2.2% |
| Schedule 6 | 2.5% |
| Schedule 8 | 2.8% |
| Schedule 9 | 3.7% |
| Irrigation | |
| Schedule 10 | 2.7% |
| Public Street and Area Lighting Schedules | |
| Schedules 7, 11, 12 | 1.7% |
| Schedule 15 | 4.0% |

Rocky Mountain Power respectfully requests that the Commission:

- 1. Issue a notice of scheduling conference so parties may confer on a procedural schedule including a hearing date for approval of an interim rate change.
- Approve rates in Tariff Schedule 94 to recover the costs identified in this Application, as filed, over a 24-month period, with an effective date on an interim basis of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026.

DATED this 1st day of May, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER

In the

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