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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

June 11, 2021

UTAH PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION
2021 JUN 18 A 11:34

[Addressee]

Dear Stakeholder/Utility/Public Utility Commission:

During the December 2020 Open Meeting, the Arizona Corporation Commission (“Commission”) voted to begin exploring the impacts of fossil-based generation plant closings. Specifically, Decision No. 77856 directed:

It is reasonable to direct Staff to open a generic docket as soon as possible, but no later than January 17, 2021, to address the impact of the closures of fossil-based generation plant on Impacted Communities. and Staff shall begin soliciting comments from Impacted Communities, the Governor's Office, state legislature, regulated and unregulated entities, state and federal agencies, and public utility commissions in neighboring states regarding the generic docket such that Staff can make recommendations to the Commission by May 29, 2021.

In Decision No. 78016, dated May 18, 2021, the Commission granted an extension until July 28, 2021, for Staff to file its recommendations.

On January 12, 2021, the Commission Utilities Division Staff (“Staff”) opened a generic docket, E-00000A-21-0010, for this purpose. In compliance with the Commission’s directive, Staff is in the process of gathering information and soliciting comments from interested parties. Attached to this letter is Staff’s initial list of questions seeking to address the impact of the potential decommissioning of some fossil fuel generation.

You and/or your organization have been identified as one of the groups/individuals who may be potentially affected by these plant closings. Your input will assist the Commission in determining the path forward. Please take a moment to answer any questions that may pertain to you and your organization. Staff understands that some interested stakeholders may not have fossil fuel generation or may not have knowledge of legislation pertaining to fossil fuel generation. Your comments regarding the impact of any potential decommissioning are critical to this process and Staff would welcome those comments. Staff would appreciate your docketing of the responses or comments in Docket No. E-00000A-21-0010 by July 9, 2021.

If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to contact, Teresa Brown with the Utilities Division at (602) 542-0828.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elijah O. Abinah". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Elijah O. Abinah

EOA:jn

Attachment

Public Utility Commissions

1. Is the PUC actively exploring the impact to communities by the closure of fossil-based generation?
2. Please identify which stakeholders the PUC has worked with on this topic.
3. Please summarize the work the PUC is doing.
4. Please provide a copy of any transition plans for the closure of fossil-based generation that have been created in support of this work.
5. Please describe how the PUC is considering this issue in the context of ratemaking.
6. If the PUC is not exploring this topic, are there plans to begin work on this topic in the near future?
7. Are any of the regulated utilities in your state planning to retire fossil-based generation within the next five years? If so:
 - a. What is that utility's plan for retirement of the generation and the communities impacted by the retirement?
 - b. Does the plan include monetary compensation or incentives for members of the impacted community? If so, please explain.
 - c. Did the plan require PUC approval?
8. Has legislation been developed, drafted, considered, and/or signed into law in your state that would assist communities impacted by the closure of fossil-based generation?
9. Which stakeholders have been involved in the development of this legislation?
10. What is the scope of the legislation?
11. Does the legislation establish a fund to be used to assist communities?
12. What types of assistance is offered to the impacted communities?
13. If legislation has not been developed, drafted, considered, and/or signed into law, is the Governor's office and/or State Legislature researching this topic? If so, please provide a summary of current efforts.
14. Have there been discussions with neighboring states on this issue? If so, which states?

Electric Utilities

1. Does your company plan to retire any fossil-based generation within the next five years? If so:
 - a. Are there communities that will be impacted by the retirements? If so, which communities?
 - b. How many company employees will be affected by the retirement(s)?
 - c. Will these company employees be offered new employment opportunities within the company?
 - d. Has your company worked with impacted communities on a transition plans for the closure of fossil-based generation?
 - e. If a plan exists, does it include monetary compensation or incentives for members of the impacted community? If so, please explain.
 - f. Please describe the source of funding that was or will be used to provide support to the impacted communities.
 - g. Did the plan require PUC approval?
2. If the above questions are not applicable to you, please provide any comments or suggestions that you believe would assist the Arizona Corporation Commission in its effort to address the impact of the closures of fossil-based generation plants on impacted communities.

Local Communities – County Boards

1. How many people in your community will be impacted by the closure of fossil-based generation?
2. Has your community been involved in developing transition plans for the closure of fossil-based generation?
3. Has your community received funding as a result of fossil-based generation closures? If so, please describe the source of the funding.
4. Does your community offer any training or vocational programs to adapt the skills of employees of the affected power plants?

ATTACHMENT

5. What efforts have been or will be done to attract new businesses to the area where a fossil-based closure has occurred?
6. What efforts have been or will be done to diversify the sectors of the economy in the area where a coal plant decommissioning occurred?