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Attorneys for Rocky Mountain Power

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER TO IMPLEMENT)
PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED BY THE)
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION AND)
ENERGY PLAN ACT)
)
)

Docket No. 16-035-36

**APPLICATION TO IMPLEMENT INNOVATIVE UTILITY PROGRAMS
AUTHORIZED BY THE SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION
AND ENERGY PLAN ACT**

Rocky Mountain Power, a division of PacifiCorp (“Company” or “Rocky Mountain Power”), hereby submits this application to the Public Service Commission of Utah (“Commission”) pursuant to Utah Code Section 54-20-105(1)(h) and to Senate Bill 115 – Sustainable Transportation and Energy Plan Act (“STEP”), signed into law March 29, 2016, requesting authorization to implement a Smart Inverter Program and a Microgrid Program as innovative utility programs authorized by STEP.

The Company is seeking authorization from the Commission specifically with this Application to implement two innovative utility programs pursuant to 54-20-105(1)(h), a Smart

Inverter Program and a Microgrid Program. 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 320, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116.

3. Communications regarding this filing should be addressed to:
Bob Lively
Utah Regulatory Affairs Manager
Rocky Mountain Power
1407 West North Temple, Suite 330
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
E-mail: bob.lively@pacificorp.com

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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): datarequest@pacificorp.com

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

Informal questions may be directed to Bob Lively, Utah Regulatory Affairs Manager at (801) 220-4052.

4. This Application is the fourth tranche of programs for which the Company is seeking authorization pursuant to STEP. Since receiving authorization from the Commission for the first set of innovative utility programs, the Company has continued to seek potential opportunities to partner with stakeholders on additional innovative utility programs that are in the interest of customers. Based on those efforts, the Company has identified two programs that it believes will benefit customers as additional distributed generation resources are deployed on the Company's distribution system.

5. The first program is a Smart Inverter Program that will investigate the capabilities of smart inverters and their impact on and benefit to the Company's distribution system. The Company is requesting the Commission authorize the Company to spend up to \$450,000 to collaborate with Utah State University and the Electric Power Research Institute on the study, and also a review of the Company's distributed energy resource interconnection policy to identify the necessary modifications required for enabling smart inverter adoption in the Company's service territory. A full description of the Smart Inverter Program is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

6. The second program for which the Company is requesting authorization is the Microgrid Program in which the Company will collaborate with Utah State Sustainable Electrified Transportation Center and Hill Air Force Base to deploy a microgrid demonstration project at the USU Electric Vehicle Roadway research facility and test track. A full description of the Microgrid Program is attached hereto as Exhibit B. The Company is requesting authorization to spend up to \$250,000 for the Microgrid Program.

7. As more fully described in the Direct Testimony of Jake Barker accompanying this Application, the Company believes that, as additional distributed energy resources interconnect to the grid, the Company will need to gain experience with technology that will allow the distributed resources to connect with and operate jointly with the Company's existing distribution system. These projects will allow the Company to demonstrate the feasibility of new "smart" technologies, and understand the impact and benefits they can provide to the existing grid. Without the ability to study these technologies now, adoption of these and potentially other "smart grid" technologies will take longer to deploy and integrate into the system.

WHEREFORE, Rocky Mountain Power respectfully requests that the Commission approve this Application and the proposed programs, as filed, with an effective date of November 1, 2017.

DATED this 15th day of August, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Jeff Richards", is written over a horizontal line.

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