



## Idaho Public Utilities Commission

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C.L. Butch Otter, Governor

Paul Kjellander, Commissioner  
Mack A. Redford, Commissioner  
Marsha H. Smith, Commissioner

*Case No. PAC-E-14-07, Order No. 33122*

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[www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov)

## Rocky Mountain customers can comment until Nov. 14 on prudency application for conservation investment

**BOISE (Oct. 24, 2014)** – Eastern Idaho customers of Rocky Mountain Power can comment through Nov. 14 on the utility’s application for a prudency determination on nearly \$26 million of the company’s investment in demand-side management (DSM) programs during 2010-13. This application does not impact rates.

DSM generally refers to utility activities and programs that encourage customers (the “demand” side as opposed to the “generation” side) to use less energy or shift use away from peak hours, thus reducing demand on Rocky Mountain’s generation system. Customers pay for the programs through a rider that appears on customer bills as “Customer Efficiency Services.” The rider is currently set at 2.1% of a customer’s monthly billed amount.

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission’s prudency review is to determine if the funds invested in demand-side programs were reasonable and beneficial to customers. Rocky Mountain Power claims the programs saved the utility 11,963 megawatt hours in 2010; 8,688 MWh in 2011; 11,420 MWh in 2012 and 18,324 MWh during 2013. That reduced consumption reduces power supply expense for all customers and eliminates or delays the need to build new generating facilities.

Three of the programs are available to residential customers. “Home Energy Saver” provides products and services such as attic insulation and floor insulation, energy efficient windows, CFL lighting and other services. “Refrigerator Recycling” offers customers rebates for removal and recycling of inefficient refrigerators and freezers. “Low Income Weatherization” provides energy efficiency services to residential customers meeting income guidelines.

Three other programs target commercial, industrial and agricultural customers. These include “FinAnswer Express” to help commercial and industrial customers improve the efficiency of their lighting, HVAC, electric motors, building envelopes and other equipment. “Energy FinAnswer” is available to commercial and industrial customers in excess of 20,000 square-feet and includes incentives for improvements to HVAC systems, motors, refrigeration, lighting and other equipment. “Agricultural Energy Services” is designed to improve overall efficiency of

irrigation systems. A final program for qualifying volunteer irrigation customers offers financial incentives to irrigators if they irrigate during non-peak hours.

Rocky Mountain reports that five of the programs were cost-effective in all years, one during two of the three years and another, Low Income Weatherization was not cost-effective during the three-year period. The company says it has taken action to improve the cost-effectiveness of that program.

Rocky Mountain Power, a division of PacifiCorp, serves 73,500 customers in eastern Idaho.

Comments are accepted via e-mail through Nov. 14, 2014, by accessing the commission's Website at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov) and clicking on "Case Comment Form," under the "Electric" heading. Fill in the case number (PAC-E-14-07) and enter your comments. Comments can also be mailed to P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074 or faxed to (208) 334-3762.

The company's application and other documents related to this case are on the commission's Website. Click on "Open Cases," under the Electric heading and scroll down to the above case number.

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