

Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Case No. PAC-E-13-15, Order No. 32935

December 11, 2013

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Rocky Mountain seeks to refund customers for over-collection in rider account

Rocky Mountain Power wants to credit its eastern Idaho customers to reduce the over-collection of funds in an account that pays for energy efficiency programs.

Customers pay a “Customer Efficiency Services” charge of 2.1 percent of their total billed amount. The money collected in that account can go only toward funding cost-effective programs that increase energy efficiency. If the account collects significantly more than the company anticipated, it must either reduce the rider or refund customers. The rider has already been reduced from a high of 4.72 percent in 2010 to 2.1 percent today.

Rocky Mountain Power is asking the Idaho Public Utilities Commission to grant its request to issue a one-time refund to customers that would be about \$8.32 for the average residential customer. The amount of the refund varies depending on the amount of energy use. The credit would be applied against either the February or March bill depending on each customer’s billing cycle.

The programs funded by the rider are designed to delay or eliminate the need for the utility to build new generation. All of the programs funded by the Customer Efficiency Services rider must pass cost-effectiveness tests that show customers would be paying more for electricity if the programs were not in place.

Rocky Mountain Power claims that it is surpassing its goals for energy efficiency even with the reduced amounts in the account. In 2012, the goal was to reach 8.5 million kilowatt-hours of savings and the company attained 10.54 million kWhs. As of September 30 of this year, the company has achieved 11.47 million kWhs of savings, already surpassing 2012 totals. The goal for this year is 14.38 million kWhs.

Comments are accepted via e-mail through Jan. 10, 2014, by accessing the commission’s homepage at www.puc.idaho.gov and clicking on “Case Comment Form,” under the “Electric” heading. Fill in the case number (PAC-E-13-15) and enter your comments. Comments can also be mailed to P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074 or faxed to (208) 334-3762.