



# PUBLIC MEETING

## **Utah Committee of Consumer Services**

June 11, 2009



# Welcome & Business

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# Case Updates

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## Case Updates

# Rocky Mountain Power 2008 Rate Case

- Settlement achieved on the rate design portion of the 2008 rate case
- Completely consistent with the policies we intended to promote in our testimony
  - Raise customer charge to \$3.00
  - Lower first –tier summer rate
  - Slightly increase the winter and second-tier summer rate
  - Higher percentage rate increase on tailblock rate
- Other benefits
  - Implement rate design this summer, rather than waiting until 2010
  - Agreement to work together on low income credit



## Case Updates

# Pacificorp IRP

- Modeling upgrades from last IRP; results may not be significantly different
- Our analysis shows concerns with many of the same issues we've raised in the past
  - Heavy reliance on short-term market purchases
  - “Hard-wire” the selection of certain natural gas resources (rather than choosing what the model selects)
  - Restrictions on the levels of geothermal and wind resources
  - 12% v. 15% planning reserve margin
  - Business planning process still appears to be driving the resource planning process
- Unlikely any party will recommend acknowledgement because guidelines were not followed



## Case Updates

## Other Cases

- RMP 2009 rate case expected to be filed next week
  - New rates would go into effect in February 2010
- Rulemaking for requirements for a complete filing (resulting from SB75) underway
- RMP filed new DSM rider



# Workload Planning

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Workload Planning

## Summer: Expected Issues

- RMP rate case initial analysis
  - ECAM
  - Review of hedging practices
  - Tax normalization from last case
- IRP: both PacifiCorp and Questar
- SB75 rulemaking
- Other
  - Monitor telecom cases
  - Misc. DSM and EISA filings
  - UREZ Phase II and other studies



Workload Planning

## Fall: Expected Issues

- Testimony in RMP rate case (likely hearings in early 2010)
- Policies & Procedures for Committee
- Special Contracts Review: US Magnesium and Kennecott
- Other:
  - Host Utah Energy Forum
  - Review CET, DSM & 191 amortization cases
  - Monitor telecom cases



## Workload Planning

### Other: Timing Unknown or Ongoing

- DSM Advisory Group participation
- Revised OCS website
- PSC document management project
- NGV related issues
- Monitor pipeline development and other related natural gas issues
- Monitor climate change issues and participate as possible
- MSP related issues
- Expanded outreach to consumer groups



## Workload Planning

### Consultants: Under Contract or Being Sought

- Larkin won bid for RR review of RMP rate case
- Resource Insight (Cernick) won bid for ECAM
- RFP for Questar case cancelled due to postponement of filing of rate case
- Awaiting response to RFP for review of RMP's hedging practices
- Ongoing contracts:
  - Phil Hayet (IRP)
  - Phil Hayet & Randy Falkenberg (net power costs in RMP rate case)
  - Dan Lawton, Diversified (ROE review in RMP rate case)
  - Resource Insight (COS/rate design in RMP rate case)



# Training: Open and Public Meetings Act

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# NASUCA Update

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NASUCA Update

## Background

- NASUCA: National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates
- An association of 44 consumer advocates in 40 states and the District of Columbia
- NASUCA's members are designated by the laws of their respective jurisdictions to represent the interests of utility consumers before state and federal regulators and in the courts.
- Significant variation in the specific consumers and issues covered by the different NASUCA offices.
- Despite differences, NASUCA also advocates policy recommendations as an organization based on resolutions and as allowed by the by-laws.



## NASUCA Update

# Joint Actions with Other Consumer Groups

- NASUCA has recently teamed up with other consumer groups on important energy policy issues
- Ex: climate change policy (letter to Congressional leaders)
  - American Forest & Paper Association
  - Consumer Federation of America
  - Electricity Consumers Resource Council (ELCON)
  - Industrial Energy Consumers of America
  - National Association of State Energy Officials
  - National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates
  - National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners
  - National Community Action Foundation
  - National Consumer Law Center, on behalf of its low-income clients
  - Public Citizen
- Ex: opposition to decoupling (letter to Congressional leaders)
  - ELCON
  - NASUCA



NASUCA Update

## NASUCA Participation in Federal Issues

- Letters of policy recommendations to Obama administration and congressional leaders
- Testimony to FCC, FERC, and in Congressional hearings
- Recently worked with EEI to sponsor a webinar of an overview of the Waxman-Markey bill
- More information: [www.nasuca.org](http://www.nasuca.org)



NASUCA Update

## 2009 NASUCA Resolutions

- Smart Grid Principles of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates
- Principles for Energy Efficiency Measures of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates
- Advanced Electric Metering Principles of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates
- Lifeline and Link-Up Program Support for Broadband Internet Access Services and Devices
- Support for National Telephone Discount Lifeline Awareness Week as an Annual Event
- Calling for the Development of National Broadband Policies that Encourage the Deployment of Affordable Broadband to all Americans while Promoting Competition, Consumer Protection, and Open Access



# Other Business/Adjourn

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