

# PUCN Connection

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

Produced by the PUCN's Outreach & Public Information Offices

July 2021 Edition

## PUCN Report Summarizes Investigation of Electric Capacity Constraints Resulting from 2020 Heat Wave

After a widespread heat wave in the Western United States in August 2020 that led to public pleas to voluntarily conserve energy, the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) opened an investigation into resource adequacy and planning to ensure Nevada has sufficient resources to maintain continuous reliable electric service.

As a result of the ongoing investigation in Docket No. 20-08014, the PUCN approved an order on Tuesday, June 15, that accepted a report summarizing information examined during the investigation into the capacity restraints experienced in mid-August 2020 due to the extreme heat.

According to the report, “a western electric region increasingly tight on resources, a growing reliance on a market that is interconnected through California, a limited ability to ascertain the physical generation backing some sales and their potential deliverability, and an ever-rising number of market participants competing for the same resources worked in combination until excessive temperatures caused demand to rise to unexpected levels. This is the perfect storm that arrived in Nevada in August 2020.”

Additionally, the report notes that “the West as a region and Nevada as a state need a larger, regional market that integrates multiple utilities allowing renewable generating resources to balance across large geographic areas. A predictable, reliable western transmission system is critical to ensuring electric reliability in the region.”

The report states that although Nevada currently has a

robust integrated resource planning process through statute and regulation, the PUCN recommends a variety of actions to ensure that current practices and regulations provide for adequate, reliable, reasonably-priced energy resources for Nevadans. In particular, the investigation and report focused on Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company, d/b/a NV Energy (together, NVE), given that both are the primary PUCN-jurisdictional electric utilities serving the majority of Nevadans.



[Click to access the report . . .](#)

The report outlines five integrated subject areas of investigation: energy supply planning and load forecasting; balancing authority transmission system operations and related issues; wholesale market considerations for planning; demand response opportunities; and utility information dissemination and communications process.

“The electric grid in Nevada is a very complicated apparatus,” the report states. “As NV Energy’s customer demand increases and energy policy changes to adapt to climate concerns, the tools for ensuring reliable electric service must also adapt. This report is the first in many steps to move Nevada toward assessing what changes may be needed to assure our resource adequacy goals.”

At the June 15 PUCN meeting, Commissioner Tammy Cordova, the presiding officer in Docket No. 20-08014, noted: “Finally, customer communication and engagement must increase. NV Energy’s calls to its customers for conservation last August, and the call to all of our demand-side programs

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## Electric Capacity Report: *continued from page 1*

worked, and likely kept Nevada without a single forced electric interruption last summer. Kudos to everyone who responded to that call. There are lessons to be learned here which we need to integrate into our planning.”

The PUCN investigation to date has included a review of comments submitted by NVE, other power providers, and large commercial customers. Representatives of those stakeholders, the Regulatory Operations Staff of the PUCN, and the Nevada Bureau of Consumer Protection participated in a December 2020 workshop. Afterward, the PUCN requested that NVE provide follow-up comments addressing certain questions that arose during the workshop.

The full report approved on June 15 is included in the order filed in Docket No. 20-08014 and is available on the PUCN's website. From the top navigational bar on the home page, select Dockets, followed by Investigation and Rulemaking Dockets. Scroll to Docket No. 20-08014 and click View.

## Nevada Wildfire Awareness - Living With Fire Virtual Series

### Protect, Prevent and Prepare with NV Energy

On June 24, NV Energy provided a free, online webinar as part of Living With Fire's (LWF) annual wildfire awareness campaign. NV Energy's webinar centered on how the utility is working with customers and partners using innovative strategies to reduce the risk of wildfire.

LWF has conducted an annual wildfire awareness campaign since 2006. This year's campaign, held May through October, includes a series of nine free webinars to help Nevadans prepare, be informed and get involved in wildfire prevention.

#### **REGISTER FOR UPCOMING WORKSHOPS**

Go to [www.livingwithfire.com/webinars](http://www.livingwithfire.com/webinars) to register.

#### **Topics Include:**

- Wildfire Smoke and Health
- Home Hardening
- Reseeding and Flood after Wildfire
- Prescribed Fire in Tahoe and Nevada

#### **WATCH PREVIOUS WORKSHOPS (Including NV Energy's)**

Go to [www.livingwithfire.com/resources/living-with-fire-videos/](http://www.livingwithfire.com/resources/living-with-fire-videos/) to watch previous LWF workshops, webinars and videos.



Photo Source: [www.livingwithfire.com/webinars](http://www.livingwithfire.com/webinars)

LWF is a collaborative effort among federal, state, local firefighting agencies, and resource management agencies. LWF is managed by the University of Reno, Extension.



## Get to Know Us: *Rail Safety*

The Rail Safety Division, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Transportation and Federal Railroad Administration, participates in the enforcement of federal safety regulations and orders applicable to railroad tracks, hazardous materials shipments, rolling equipment, and operations in Nevada.

The division also reviews applications to

modify or construct new railroad crossings.

Visit the PUCN's website for more information: <https://puc.nv.gov/Safety/Rail/>.

# Dockets Opened at the PUCN in June 2021

Visit [puc.nv.gov/Dockets/Dockets/](http://puc.nv.gov/Dockets/Dockets/) to view documents filed in the dockets listed below.

Docket No.	Date Filed	Description
21-06001	6/1/2021	Joint Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for approval of their 2022-2041 Triennial Integrated Resource Plan and 2022-2024 Energy Supply Plan.
21-06002	6/1/2021	Application of Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for approval of its Natural Gas Conservation and Energy Efficiency Plan for the period 2022-2024.
21-06003	6/1/2021	Informational Report of Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy concerning its natural gas resource planning activities.
21-06004	6/2/2021	Notice by Boulder Flats Solar, LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct a temporary water pipeline associated with the Boulder Flats Solar Project to be located in Boulder City in Clark County, Nevada.
21-06005	6/2/2021	Notice by Boulder Flats Solar, LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct a permanent water pipeline and access road associated with the Boulder Flats Solar Project to be located in Boulder City in Clark County, Nevada.
21-06006	6/3/2021	Petition of Central Telephone Company d/b/a CenturyLink requesting exemption from NAC 704.680303 concerning plans for reporting and auditing performance measures and establishing performance incentives.
21-06007	6/2/2021	Application of 326FW 8me LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, for a permit to construct upgrades to the existing Mohave Substation, an approximately 2.2-mile 500 kV transmission line, and associated facilities to be located in Clark County, Nevada.
21-06008	6/4/2021	Application of Beehive Telephone Co., Inc., Nevada, filed under Advice Letter No. 8, to revise Tariff No. 1 to modify rates pursuant to 8YY Access Charge Reform Order in Federal Communications Commission Docket No. FCC 20-143.
21-06009	6/3/2021	Application of Great Basin Water Co. for authority to establish a system improvement rate in the Pahrump Division for an eligible project designated by the Commission in Docket No. 18-03005 and for other relief properly related thereto.
21-06010	6/7/2021	Application of Beehive Telephone Co., Inc., Nevada for authority to establish its annual revenue requirement for telephone service rates, set a new rate design, modify draws from the Nevada Universal Service Fund, reflect changes in the cost of capital, modify depreciation rates, and for other relief properly related thereto.
21-06011	6/7/2021	Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for approval of an Energy Supply Agreement w/Resorts World Las Vegas LLC.
21-06012	6/7/2021	Notice by Solar 373 LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Solar 373 Project consisting of a 400 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a 350 MW battery energy storage system, an approximately 2-mile generation-tie line, and associated facilities to be located in Nye County, Nevada.
21-06013	6/7/2021	Notice by Filer Mutual Telephone Company that current switched access service rates comply with Federal Communications Commission Docket No. FCC 11-161.
21-06014	6/7/2021	Filings by Eligible Telecommunications Carriers related to Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") Form 481 to comply with the FCC's annual reporting requirements pursuant to 47 CFR 54.314.
21-06015	6/7/2021	Filing by Oregon-Idaho Utilities, Inc. d/b/a Humboldt Telephone Company of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Inter-carrier Compensation Replacement funding eligibility pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 54.304.
21-06016	6/9/2021	Informational Report of Southwest Gas Corporation concerning its near-term natural gas resource planning activities.
21-06017	6/11/2021	Registration of NewPhone Wireless, L.L.C. as a commercial mobile radio service provider.
21-06018	6/11/2021	Notice by Rio Virgin Telephone Company d/b/a Reliance Connects that current switched access service rates comply with Federal Communications Commission Docket No. FCC 11-161.
21-06019	6/11/2021	Application of Rio Virgin Telephone Company d/b/a Reliance Connects, filed under Advice Letter No. 11, to revise Access Tariff No. 2 to modify rates pursuant to 8YY Access Charge Reform Order in Federal Communications Commission Docket No. FCC 20-143.
21-06020	6/14/2021	Notice by Vonage Holdings Corp. of its intent to request numbering resources for the Las Vegas and Reno rate centers from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator.
21-06021	6/14/2021	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Silver State Fence & Stain, LLC ("Silver State") requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of Nevada's One Call Law by Silver State.
21-06022	6/15/2021	Filing by Rural Telephone Company of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Inter-carrier Compensation ("CAF ICC") Replacement funding eligibility pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 54.304, supplemental TRP data pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 51.909, and annual certifications regarding CAF ICC data reported to the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 57.917.
21-06023	6/15/2021	Filing by Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc. of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Inter-carrier Compensation ("CAF ICC") Replacement funding eligibility pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 54.304, supplemental TRP data pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 51.909, and annual certifications regarding CAF ICC data reported to the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 57.917.
21-06024	6/15/2021	Filing by Moapa Valley Telephone Company of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Inter-carrier Compensation ("CAF ICC") Replacement funding eligibility pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 54.304, supplemental TRP data pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 51.909, and annual certifications regarding CAF ICC data reported to the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 57.917.

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## June Dockets: *continued from page 3*

Docket No.	Date Filed	Description
21-06025	6/15/2021	Notice by Virgo Solar LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Virgo Solar Project consisting of a 400 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a 400 MW battery energy storage system, a transmission line, and associated facilities to be located in Nye County, Nevada.
21-06026	6/15/2021	Notice by Gold Dust Solar LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Gold Dust Solar Project consisting of a 1,500 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a 1,000 MW battery energy storage system, a transmission line, and associated facilities to be located in Esmeralda County, Nevada.
21-06027	6/16/2021	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Target Construction, Inc. ("Target Construction") requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of Nevada's One Call Law by Target Construction.
21-06028	6/17/2021	Filing by Frontier Communications of the Southwest Inc. and Citizens Telecommunications Company of Nevada d/b/a Frontier Communications of Nevada of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Inter-carrier Compensation Replacement funding eligibility pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 54.304 and annual certification that price cap carrier is not seeking duplicative Eligible Recovery pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 51.915.
21-06029	6/17/2021	Notice by 328CH 8me LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Angora Solar Project consisting of a 700 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, an up to 800 MW battery energy storage system, an approximately 9-mile 500 kV transmission line, and associated facilities to be located in Clark County, Nevada.
21-06030	6/17/2021	Investigation and Rulemaking regarding any required changes to gas infrastructure replacement and natural gas expansion regulations.
21-06031	6/17/2021	Notifications and filings by natural gas utilities operating in Nevada of new and existing discounted rate contracts, contracts for alternative fuel capable customers, and contracts for special service pursuant to Section 2 of LCB File No. T006-21 and the Order issued in Docket No. 19-02024 for calendar year 2021.
21-06032	6/18/2021	Filing by Rio Virgin Telephone Company d/b/a Reliance Connects of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Inter-carrier Compensation Replacement funding eligibility pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 54.304.
21-06033	6/21/2021	Notice by EDF Renewables Development, Inc., under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Northwest Solar Project consisting of a 250 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a battery energy storage system, and associated facilities to be located in Clark County, Nevada.
21-06034	6/21/2021	Notice by EDF Renewables Development, Inc., under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Jackass Flats Solar Project consisting of a 1,000 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a battery energy storage system, a 525 kV transmission line, and associated facilities to be located in Nye County, Nevada.
21-06035	6/21/2021	Notice by EDF Renewables Development, Inc., under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the SB Solar Project consisting of a 500 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a battery energy storage system, a 230 kV transmission line, and associated facilities to be located in Nye County, Nevada.
21-06036	6/22/2021	Rulemaking to amend, adopt, and/or repeal regulations regarding resource planning in accordance with Senate Bill 448 (2021).
21-06037	6/22/2021	Rulemaking to amend, adopt, and/or repeal regulations regarding the Economic Development Electric Rate Rider Program in accordance with Senate Bill 448 (2021).
21-06038	6/22/2021	Rulemaking to amend, adopt, and/or repeal regulations regarding the requirement for transmission providers to join a regional transmission organization in accordance with Senate Bill 448 (2021).
21-06039	6/22/2021	Rulemaking to amend, adopt, and/or repeal regulations in accordance with Assembly Bill 173 (2021).
21-06040	6/22/2021	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Curtis & Sons Construction, Inc. ("Curtis Construction") requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of Nevada's One Call Law by Curtis Construction.
21-06041	6/23/2021	Staff report on Desert Utilities, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of NAC 704.627.
21-06042	6/24/2021	Application of CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink, filed under Advice Letter No. NV2021-09, to revise Tariff No. 1A to introduce Simply Unlimited Business package available to business customers and to remove the Privacy Protector calling feature.
21-06044	6/28/2021	Notice by Southwest Gas Corporation of its intent to file an application for adjustment in rates.
21-06045	6/29/2021	Peter Profant vs. Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada and AT&T Wholesale. Complaint regarding obtaining landline phone service.
21-06046	6/30/2021	Application of Boulder Flats Solar, LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, for a permit to construct the Boulder Flats Solar Project consisting of a 113 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a substation, switchgear yard, and associated facilities to be located in Clark County, Nevada.
21-06047	6/30/2021	Application of Rural Telephone Company for authority to establish its annual revenue requirement for telephone service rates, establish draw from the Nevada Universal Service Fund, effect changes in the cost of capital, modify depreciation rates, and for other relief properly related thereto.

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