

PUCN Connection

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

Produced by the PUCN's Outreach & Public Information Offices

May 2021 Edition

Wildfire Awareness Campaign: May - October

Wildfire can threaten Nevadan communities and impact homes, property and human life. One key to minimizing the wildfire risk in Nevada is for communities to be proactive and take steps to prepare and become fire adapted.

In response, representatives of Nevada's local, state, and federal firefighting agencies; wildfire-prone communities; and the University of Nevada, Reno Extension have conducted an annual wildfire awareness campaign since 2006. Wildfire can threaten Nevadan communities any time of the year. This year's campaign is extended from May – October 2021.

Here are some general tips to help you to prepare and become fire adapted:

- Keep the first five feet away from your home free of combustible materials such as wood, mulch, dried leaves,



Get Prepared

Learn how to evacuate and prepare your home and family to survive wildfire.

FIND OUT HOW ►



Get Informed

See what projects, prescribed fires and community events are taking place near you.

FIND OUT HOW ►

Natural Disaster Preparedness & Electric Utilities

The 2019 Nevada Legislature passed [Senate Bill 329](#) (SB 329) requiring electric utilities in Nevada to submit a natural disaster protection plan (NDPP) to the PUCN every third year beginning on or before March 1, 2020. The NDPP must outline procedures and protocols relating to the efforts of the electric utility to prevent or respond to a fire or other natural disaster.

On June 6, 2019, the PUCN opened an investigation and rulemaking to implement SB 329. The matter was designated as Docket No. 19-06009.

After receiving comments from many stakeholders and holding several workshops, on Jan. 30, 2020, the Commission adopted regulations contained within Chapter 704 of the Nevada Administrative Code.

The regulations include the following, among other, requirements for NDPPs:

- Identification of areas within the service territory of the electric utility that are subject to a heightened threat of a fire or other natural disaster.
- A description of the preventive strategies and programs, including, without limitation, operational practices, inspections and corrections, and system hardening that the electric utility will adopt to minimize the risk of its electric lines and equipment causing catastrophic wildfires.
- The protocols that the electric utility plans to use for disabling reclosers and de-energizing portions of the utility's distribution and transmissions system that

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Wildfire Campaign: *continued from page 1*

pine needles and flammable shrubs such as sagebrush and juniper. Instead, plant flowers, succulents, lawn or groundcover, or use rock, concrete, brick or pavers.

- Complete a home inventory, prepare an evacuation plan for you and your household and prepare an evacuation Go-Bag.
- Connect with your neighbors to encourage community



Get Involved

Get involved by attending a wildfire preparedness event or joining the Nevada Network of Fire Adapted Communities.

FIND OUT HOW ►

projects to help reduce the wildfire threat, and register your home and cell phones for your local emergency response system (often called reverse 9-1-1.)

- Check areas where burning embers might accumulate on your property during a wildfire. The places where the leaves pile up also tend to be where embers would too during a wildfire. Remove any easily ignited materials such as dried grass, leaves, needles and debris from your rain gutters. Inspect structures for any necessary improvements to prevent ember entry.
- All year long, we encourage you and your community to prepare for wildfire. Learn more ways to get prepared at LivingWithFire.com or talk to your local fire service representative.

Wildfire & Electric Utilities: *continued from page 1*

considers the associated impacts on public safety.

- A description of the procedures the electric utility intends to use to restore its distribution and transmission system in the event of the de-energization of those systems or a portion of those systems.
- A communication plan related to public safety outage management, which includes, without limitation, plans to communicate with customers, stakeholders and communication infrastructure providers.
- A description of the standard for vegetation management to be used by the electric utility.
- An electric utility shall separately track and account for all prudent and reasonable expenditures made by the electric utility to develop and implement its NDPP.

- On or before March 1 of each year, an electric utility shall submit to the Commission an application to recover the cost of prudent and reasonable expenditures made by the electric utility during the immediately preceding year to develop and implement the NDPP.

To view the adopted regulations, [click here](#).

To follow Docket 19-06009, [sign up for a service list](#).

In March 2021, Nevada Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company, both doing business as NV Energy, filed an application with the PUCN for approval of the first amendment to their 2020 joint NDPP. The docket number the PUCN assigned to this application is 21-03040. [Sign up for a service list](#) to follow orders and notices issued in this docket.

UTILITY BILL PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

SOUTHERN NEVADA

[CARES Housing & Utility Assistance - Clark County](#)
[City of North Las Vegas Relief Programs](#)
[Project REACH](#)
[Nevada Energy Assistance Program](#)
[Energy Share](#)

NORTHERN NEVADA

[CARES Housing Assistance Program - Washoe County](#)
[CARES Housing Assistance Program - Rural Nevada](#)
[Special Assistance Fund for Energy \(SAFE\)](#)
[United Way of Northern Nevada & the Sierra](#)
[Nevada Energy Assistance Program](#)
[Energy Share](#)

PUBLIC COMMENT AT AGENDA MEETINGS

On March 22, 2020, Governor Sisolak signed an emergency declaration suspending the requirement that public bodies in Nevada provide a physical location for the public to attend and participate in meetings. The public may comment at PUCN agenda meetings by phone or email. These procedures are in place until further notice.

PHONE: (775) 687-6014

Call in five minutes before the meeting starts to provide your name to PUCN personnel.

EMAIL: BPA@PUC.NV.GOV

Submit written comments prior to the meeting.

Links to agenda meeting supporting material and the live video stream of agenda meetings are available at puc.nv.gov.

Get to Know Us: *Staff Legal Counsel*

The Division of Staff Legal Counsel is responsible for providing legal counsel and support to Staff.

Staff Counsel's duties include formulating legal strategy and legal positions regarding utility filings; drafting case discovery; and preparing pleadings, briefs, responses to petitions, stipulations, and other filings applicable to the regulation of Nevada utilities.

Staff Counsel also reviews and assists in the development of Staff testimony and filings; ensures that Staff's positions

are in compliance with Nevada statutes and regulations; represents Staff at PUCN hearings and workshops; assists in the development of proposed regulations and legislation; and provides other legal support to Staff divisions.

Staff Counsel is the only division within Staff that addresses, in some form, every case filed with the PUCN.

Dockets Opened at the PUCN in April 2021

Visit puc.nv.gov/Dockets/Dockets/ to view documents filed in the dockets listed below.

Docket	Date Filed	Description
21-04001	04/01/2021	Filing by Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy of annual report on the quality of service metrics in compliance with the Order issued in Docket No. 15-06064.
21-04002	04/05/2021	Application of Citizens Telecommunications Company of Nevada d/b/a Frontier Communications of Nevada, filed under Advice Letter No. NV-21-03, for the Elko Division to revise Tariff No. 1-B to introduce Frontier Residential Unlimited Voice and Feature bundle.
21-04003	04/05/2021	Application of Citizens Telecommunications Company of Nevada d/b/a Frontier Communications of Nevada, filed under Advice Letter No. NV-21-04, for the Tonopah Division to revise Tariff No. 1-B to introduce Frontier Residential Unlimited Voice and Feature bundle.
21-04004	04/01/2021	Notice by HD Carrier LLC of its intent to request numbering resources for various rate centers from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator.
21-04005	04/05/2021	Notice by Nivloc Solar Energy LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Nivloc Solar Energy Project consisting of a 300 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a 138 kV transmission line, and associated facilities to be located approximately 30 miles west of Tonopah in Esmeralda County, Nevada.
21-04006	04/06/2021	Application of Dutchman Acres Water Company, filed under Advice Letter No. 10, to revise Water Tariff No. 1 to adjust water rates consistent with the most recent gross domestic product deflator.
21-04007	04/13/2021	Notice by TAG Mobile, LLC, TAG Mobile Bankruptcy Sale Entity, LLC, and Vector Holdings Group LLC of a transaction that will result in a transfer of control of a telecommunication company.
21-04008	04/07/2021	Application of Desert Utilities, Inc. for authority to increase rates for water and sewer service.
21-04009	03/02/2021	Joint Petition of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy ("Nevada Power") and Resorts World Las Vegas LLC ("Resorts World") requesting a waiver of the eligibility requirement of Nevada Power's Large Customer Market Price Energy Tariff for Resorts World.
21-04010	04/08/2021	Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, for a permit to construct upgrades to the existing 230 kV Reid Gardner Substation located in Clark County, Nevada.
21-04011	04/08/2021	Notice by Boulevard Associates, LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Esmeralda Solar Project consisting of a 500 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, an up to 500 MW battery energy storage system, a 525 kV generation-tie line, and associated facilities to be located in Esmeralda County, Nevada.
21-04012	04/09/2021	Joint Petition of CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink and NOS Communications, Inc. d/b/a 011 Communications, International Plus, The Internet Business Association, and iVantage Network Solutions for approval of an Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
21-04013	04/09/2021	Joint Petition of Central Telephone Company d/b/a CenturyLink and NOS Communications, Inc. d/b/a 011 Communications, International Plus, The Internet Business Association, and iVantage Network Solutions for approval of an Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
21-04014	04/09/2021	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 Chuckwalla Solar Transmission Line Project consisting of a 230 kV generation-tie line, a 500 kV generation-tie line, and associated facilities to be located in Clark County, Nevada.
21-04015	04/12/2021	Filing by Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy of changes in rates within its Gas Tariff Schedule No. INGR pursuant to NAC 704.522 and NAC 704.526.
21-04016	04/26/2021	Joint Application of Spectrotel, Inc. ("Spectrotel") and Spectrotel of the West LLC ("Spectrotel of the West") for approval of the transfer of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") 2829 Sub 1 from Spectrotel to Spectrotel of the West and a notice of a transaction that will result in the transfer of control of a telecommunications company.
21-04017	04/13/2021	Annual Report of Shell Energy North America (US), L.P. on compliance with the Portfolio Standard for Renewable Energy for Compliance Year 2020.

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April Dockets: *continued from page 3*

Docket	Date Filed	Description
21-04018	04/13/2021	Application of CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink, filed under Advice Letter No. NV2021-06, to revise Tariff No. 1A to add language pursuant to 47 CFR 9.16(b)(3) pertaining to Ray Baum's Act.
21-04019	04/14/2021	Annual Report of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy on compliance with the Portfolio Standard for Renewable Energy for Compliance Year 2020.
21-04020	04/14/2021	Joint Petition of Central Telephone Company d/b/a CenturyLink and DISH Wireless L.L.C. for approval of a CMRS Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
21-04021	04/14/2021	Joint Petition of Central Telephone Company d/b/a CenturyLink and DISH Wireless L.L.C. for approval of the Routing of Traffic Through a Third Party Transit Provider Amendment to their CMRS Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
21-04022	04/15/2021	Annual Report of Tenaska Power Services Co. on compliance with the Portfolio Standard for Renewable Energy for Compliance Year 2020.
21-04023	04/15/2021	Annual Report of Macquarie Energy LLC on compliance with the Portfolio Standard for Renewable Energy for Compliance Year 2020.
21-04024	04/15/2021	Annual Report of Switch Ltd. on compliance with the Portfolio Standard for Renewable Energy for Compliance Year 2020.
21-04025	04/15/2021	Annual Report of Exelon Generation Company, LLC on compliance with the Portfolio Standard for Renewable Energy for Compliance Year 2020.
21-04026	04/16/2021	Notice by Rural Telephone Company of its intent to file an application for adjustment in rates.
21-04027	04/19/2021	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Network Communications International Corp. d/b/a 1800Call4Less and Mundo Telecom ("NCIC") requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violation of NAC 704.7472(1)(d) by NCIC.
21-04028	04/21/2021	Registration of Troomi Wireless, Inc. as a commercial mobile radio service provider.
21-04029	04/22/2021	Filing by Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy of changes in rates within its Gas Tariff Schedule No. INGR pursuant to NAC 704.522 and NAC 704.526.
21-04030	04/22/2021	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Brightview Landscape Services, Inc. f/k/a Signature Landscapes, LLC ("Brightview") requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of Nevada's One Call Law by Brightview.
21-04031	04/23/2021	Filing by Spark Energy Gas, LLC of updated corporate officer listing.
21-04032	04/22/2021	Notice by The Hanover Insurance Group on behalf of Cascade Access, LLC d/b/a Reliance Connects of a bond renewal.
21-04033	04/26/2021	Notice by Great American Insurance Group on behalf of North Star Gas Company, LLC d/b/a YEP Energy of a bond cancellation for gas service conducted under License No. G-37.
21-04036	04/26/2021	Joint Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for acceptance of their Second Additional Joint Energy Supply Plan Update for 2021.
21-04037	04/26/2021	Notice by 336SP 8me LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Rhyolite Ridge 2 Project consisting of a 200 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a 200 MW battery energy storage system, a 525 kV transmission line, and associated facilities to be located in Esmeralda County, Nevada.
21-04038	04/26/2021	Notice by 335ES 8me LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Rhyolite Ridge 1 Project consisting of a 380 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a 380 MW battery energy storage system, a 525 kV transmission line, and associated facilities to be located in Esmeralda County, Nevada.
21-04039	04/27/2021	Notice by Boulevard Associates, LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Sawtooth Energy Center Project consisting of a 1,000 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, an up to 1,000 MW battery energy storage system, a 230 kV generation-tie line, and associated facilities to be located in Nye County, Nevada.
21-04040	04/29/2021	Registration of Excess Telecom, Inc. as a commercial mobile radio service provider.

Prior editions of PUCN Connection are available at puc.nv.gov/About/Media_Outreach/PUCN_Connection/.
For questions or comments about this newsletter, contact Consumer Outreach Director Dawn Rivard at drivard@puc.nv.gov or
Communications Director Peter Kostas at pkostas@puc.nv.gov.