

PUCN Connection

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

July 2022 Edition

Planning for Nevada's Electricity, Natural Gas and Water Needs

INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN (IRP)

An IRP is a utility's long-term (20-year) plan to meet demand for gas, water, wastewater or electric services in an efficient, reliable and sustainable manner at the lowest reasonable cost to consumers. The 20-year IRP includes an immediate 3-year plan.

PLANNING PRUDENCE DETERMINATIONS

IRPs are referred to as planning prudence determinations, meaning utility expenditures for plant, generation, transmission and distribution are scrutinized and approved by the PUCN before the facilities are actually acquired or constructed. A determination is made by the PUCN in an IRP that a specific facility is a prudent investment and the utility should proceed with its plan for the facility. The IRP process is thorough and analyzes and assesses many different ways to meet forecasted demand, including conservation and renewable energy resources.

FREQUENCY OF IRP FILINGS

Even though IRPs cover a 20-year period, the Legislature requires electric and certain water and wastewater utilities to submit an IRP every three years to the PUCN. This schedule allows utilities to address continuing changes in consumer needs, such as the necessity to build facilities to meet increasing demand for electricity or sewer and water services. However, construction predicted in a utility's IRP to be necessary many years in the future may or may not come

20-YEAR PLAN
An integrated resource plan is a utility's long-term (20 year) plan to meet demand for gas, water, wastewater or electric services. The 20-year IRP includes an immediate 3-year plan.



to fruition as the utility's IRP changes with each three-year filing due to customer demand growing or slowing. IRP filings must go through the PUCN's hearing process to determine whether the utility's plans to meet future demand are efficient, reliable and sustainable and will be achieved at the lowest possible cost to consumers.



HEARING PROCESS
IRP filings go through the PUCN's hearing process to determine the utility's plans to meet future demand are efficient, reliable, sustainable, & will be achieved at the lowest possible cost.

IRP

3-YEAR SCHEDULE
The Nevada Legislature requires electric utilities to submit an IRP every 3 years. This schedule allows utilities to address changes, such as the necessity to build facilities to meet consumer demand.



NATURAL GAS INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Natural gas utilities do not generate their product. Natural gas is extracted from the earth by a third party and distributed to the utility by a pipeline. The natural gas utility is responsible for delivery of the natural gas to end use customers. As a result, the Legislature requires natural gas utilities to file annual informational reports with the PUCN to detail their resource planning. These reports do not go through the hearing process.

IRP HEARING PROCESS

The receipt of an electric utility's IRP filing by the PUCN initiates a process that must, by Nevada law, be completed within 180 days. The law requires the PUCN to "accept or deem inadequate" the plan contained in the IRP filing within that period of time, with the exception of the energy supply plan portion of an electric utility's IRP filing, which must be accepted or deemed inadequate within 135 days.

Electric utility IRP proceedings are typically contested cases,

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About General Consumer Sessions . . .

Each calendar year, the PUCN must conduct at least one general consumer session in the county with the largest population (Clark) and in the county with the second largest population (Washoe). The PUCN also conducts a general consumer session in Elko County, although not statutorily required to do so.

General consumer sessions allow the public to provide input about any topic concerning utilities regulated by the PUCN, including NV Energy and Southwest Gas, as well as some telecommunication, railroad

and water companies. The record from the consumer sessions is provided to the Legislature.

Information about when and where consumer sessions are held is publicly noticed in local newspapers, available on the PUCN's website, in inserts in your monthly gas, water, wastewater and electricity bills, or by contacting PUCN offices in Las Vegas or Carson City.

Planning: *continued from page 1*

involving many parties to the proceeding conducting discovery and presenting evidence at a hearing. For more Information about PUCN processes and procedures in contested cases, see the PUCN's [Utility Regulation in Nevada](#) fact sheet.

IRP hearings are typically divided into phases. The energy supply plan is the subject of one part of the hearing, and other issues may be heard in one or more separate phases as necessary. The PUCN typically issues a procedural order in the IRP docket determining which issues will be addressed in each phase of the proceeding, and setting a procedural schedule for things such as testimony and discovery in the separate phases.

The PUCN is not required to conduct a consumer session when an IRP application is filed, but may and often does conduct consumer sessions for IRP filings. Consumer sessions offer a forum for the public to voice opinions directly to PUCN commissioners.

IRP AMENDMENTS

If a utility needs to change its IRP prior to the utility's required filing every three years, the utility may file an application with the

PUCN to amend its IRP. IRP amendments are typically treated as contested cases in which parties participate in discovery and evidence is presented at a hearing. The PUCN must take action on IRP amendments in 135 days rather than 180 days.

MEETING NEVADA'S ELECTRICAL NEEDS THIS SUMMER

On May 18, the PUCN held a consumer session related to the PUCN's ongoing investigation in Docket No. 20-08014 regarding resource adequacy and planning to ensure Nevada has sufficient resources to maintain continuous, reliable electric service.

The consumer session included a presentation from NV Energy about its preparations for this summer, how consumers can prepare for summer, and how NV Energy ensures resource adequacy - particularly during times of peak demand.

To view the presentation, visit https://pucweb1.state.nv.us/PDF/AxImages/DOCKETS_2020_THRU_PRESENT/2020-8/18587.pdf.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Wednesday, July 6 Verdi Meadows Utility Company Consumer Session

6:00 p.m.

Verdi, NV

[More Info](#)

Tuesday, July 12

Agenda Meeting

10:00 a.m.

PUCN Carson City & Las Vegas offices
(Live streamed on the PUCN website)

[More Info](#)

Tuesday, July 26

Agenda Meeting

10:00 a.m.

PUCN Carson City & Las Vegas offices
(Live streamed on the PUCN website)

[More Info](#)

Monday, August 15 Washoe County General Consumer Sessions

1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Washoe County Commission Chambers
1001 E. 9th Street, Building A
Reno, Nevada 89512

[More Info](#)

Thursday, August 25 Elko County General Consumer Session

6:00 p.m.

Elko County Commission Chambers
Nannini Administration Building
540 Court Street, Suite 120
Elko, NV 89801

[More Info](#)

Tuesday, September 20 Clark County General Consumer Sessions

1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
9075 W. Diablo Dr., #250
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148

[More Info](#)

Dockets Opened at the PUCN in June 2022

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

Docket No.	Date Filed	Description
22-06001	6/1/2022	Public Utilities Commission of Nevada-sponsored Consumer Session to be held in Washoe County, Nevada, pursuant to NRS 704.069(2).
22-06002	6/1/2022	Public Utilities Commission of Nevada-sponsored Consumer Session to be held in Clark County, Nevada, pursuant to NRS 704.069(2).
22-06003	6/1/2022	Public Utilities Commission of Nevada-sponsored Consumer Session to be held in Elko County, Nevada.
22-06004	6/1/2022	Filing by Oregon-Idaho Utilities, Inc. d/b/a Humboldt Telephone Company of letter of intent submitted to Solix, Inc. in its capacity as Administrator of the Nevada Universal Service Fund ("NUSF") for allowance of NUSF funding for the year commencing January 1, 2023.
22-06005	6/1/2022	Application of Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc., filed under Advice Letter No. 54, to revise Access Service Tariff No. 2 to modify rates pursuant to 8YY Access Charge Reform Order in Federal Communications Commission Docket No. FCC 20-143.
22-06006	6/1/2022	Application of Moapa Valley Telephone Company, filed under Advice Letter No. 12, to revise Access Service Tariff No. 3 to modify rates pursuant to 8YY Access Charge Reform Order in Federal Communications Commission Docket No. FCC 20-143.
22-06007	6/1/2022	Notice by Rural Telephone Company that current switched access service rates comply with Federal Communications Commission Docket No. FCC 11-161.
22-06008	6/1/2022	Petition of STN Holding Group, LLC, STN Rockwell Group, LLC, STN Parcel 2 Group, LLC, STN Parcel 3 Group, LLC, and STN Parcel 4 Group, LLC (referenced together as "STN") for a Declaratory Order finding that Great Basin Water Co. ("GBWC") cannot impose charges and fees to STN for de-annexing its real property from GBWC's Spanish Springs service territory and for an Order to Show Cause requiring GBWC to justify why it should not pay for its own costs and fees to de-annex STN's real property from its Spanish Springs service territory.
22-06009	6/1/2022	Filing by Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc. of letter of intent submitted to Solix, Inc. in its capacity as Administrator of the Nevada Universal Service Fund ("NUSF") for allowance of NUSF funding for the year commencing January 1, 2023.
22-06010	6/2/2022	Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff to open an investigatory and rulemaking docket regarding the existence of electric customer-owned service ("COS") lines located in the service territories of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy, the safety and economic implications of having COS lines, and other issues related to utility facilities map accuracy.
22-06011	6/3/2022	Application of Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc. for authority to establish its annual revenue requirement for telephone service rates, set a new intrastate rate design, 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.
22-06012	6/8/2022	Registration of Cox Wireless, LLC d/b/a Cox Mobile as a commercial mobile radio service provider.
22-06013	6/6/2022	Application of the Nevada Department of Transportation for authority to alter the existing Upper Valley Road Bridge No. G-29 over the Union Pacific Railroad tracks located near Lovelock, Nevada.
22-06014	6/6/2022	Application of Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for authority to adjust its annual revenue requirement for general rates charged to all classes of electric customers and for relief properly related thereto.
22-06015	6/6/2022	Application of Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for approval of new and revised depreciation and amortization rates for its electric operations.
22-06016	6/6/2022	Application of Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for approval of new and revised depreciation and amortization rates for its gas operations.
22-06017	6/6/2022	Filing by Oregon-Idaho Utilities, Inc. d/b/a Humboldt Telephone Company of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Intercarrier Compensation Replacement funding eligibility pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 54.304.
22-06018	6/13/2022	Application of Smart Communications Holding, Inc. for authority to operate as a competitive supplier of telecommunication service within the State of Nevada.
22-06019	6/13/2022	Registration of Tello, LLC as a commercial mobile radio service provider.
22-06020	6/15/2022	Registration of Pareteum Corporation as a commercial mobile radio service provider.
22-06021	6/14/2022	Joint Petition of Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada and AT&T Wholesale and Onvoy, LLC for approval of Amendment Nos. 5 and 6 to their Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
22-06022	6/14/2022	Joint Petition of Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada and AT&T Wholesale and Easton Telecom Services, L.L.C. for approval of Amendment No. 1 to their Interconnection and/or Resale Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

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Docket No.	Date Filed	Description
22-06023	6/23/2022	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.
22-06024	6/23/2022	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.
22-06025	6/23/2022	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.
22-06026	6/8/2022	Notice by SureTec Insurance Company 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.
22-06027	6/16/2022	Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of 49 CFR Part 192 of the Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations by Mt. Charleston Cabins Association.
22-06028	6/15/2022	Notice by Filer Mutual Telephone Company that current switched access service rates comply with Federal Communications Commission Docket No. FCC 11-161.
22-06029	6/16/2022	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 Dry Lake East Energy Center Project consisting of an up to 200 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a 230 kV generation-tie line, a battery energy storage system, and associated facilities to be located in Clark County, Nevada.
22-06030	6/16/2022	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 Dry Lake East Energy Center Project consisting of an up to 200 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a 230 kV generation-tie line, a battery energy storage system, and associated facilities to be located in Clark County, Nevada.
22-06031	6/16/2022	Filing by Churchill County Board of Commissioners d/b/a CC Communications of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Inter-carrier Compensation Replacement funding eligibility pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 54.304.
22-06032	6/16/2022	Informational Report of Southwest Gas Corporation concerning its near-term natural gas resource planning activities.
22-06033	6/17/2022	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.
22-06034	6/14/2022	Application of Advantage Telecommunications, Corp. to voluntarily discontinue telecommunication service conducted under Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") 2419 Sub 1.
22-06035	6/17/2022	Joint Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for approval of the first amendment to their Joint Expanded Solar Access Program Plan.
22-06036	6/21/2022	Joint Petition of Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada and AT&T Wholesale and ACN Communication Services, LLC for approval of Amendment Nos. 7 and 8 to their Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
22-06037	6/23/2022	Application of NetFortris Acquisition Co., Inc. to voluntarily discontinue telecommunication service conducted under Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") 2799 Sub 7.
22-06038	6/27/2022	Application of Claro Enterprise Solutions, LLC. to voluntarily discontinue telecommunication service conducted under Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") 3070.
22-06039	6/28/2022	Notice by Balanced Rock Power Development, LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Bristlecone Solar Ranch Project consisting of an approximately 450 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, an up to 450 MW battery energy storage system, a 138 kV generation-tie line, and associated facilities to be located in Nye County, Nevada.
22-06040	6/29/2022	Request of Alliant Technologies of Nevada, LLC to cancel its commercial mobile radio service registration.

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.