A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

July 2023 Edition

### **Natural Disaster Planning**

Senate Bill (SB) 329, enacted during the 2019 legislative session, requires electric utilities to submit natural disaster protection plans (NDPP) to the PUCN on or before June 1 of every third year.

The corresponding NDPP regulations adopted by the PUCN in 2019 require the plans to contain procedures and protocols relating to the efforts of the utility to prevent or respond to natural disasters, such as wildfires. The NDPP regulations authorize electric utilities to recover all prudent and reasonable expenditures made by the public utility to develop and implement the plan as a separate monthly rate on customer bills.

The NDPP has important implications for the regulation of Nevada utilities, as risk of natural disasters such as wildfires and other weather events are expected to play an ongoing and significant role in how NV Energy directs the focus of its capital spending. Similar to an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), the NDPP determines significant investment decisions for NV Energy in the future.

In Docket No. 21-03040, the PUCN approved NV Energy's first amendment to its joint NDPP. The agreement reached by the parties expands the Public Safety Outage Management (PSOM) program to additional risk tier areas, amends risk tier maps, and increases the NDPP budget for additional weather stations, increased patrols and inspections and accelerated wood pole replacements.

The amendment approved by the PUCN increased the total budget to implement the NDPP by \$8.8 million, bringing the total approved capital projects and operations and maintenance programs budget for the NDPP to \$242.1 million for the 2020-2023 plan period.

On March 1, NV Energy filed an application with the PUCN for approval of the cost recovery relating to the development and implementation of its 2022 NDPP. The application is designated as Docket 23-03004. The PUCN will host a consumer session on July 11 to hear public comment on the 2022 NDPP.

Sign up for the service list for Docket 23-03004 to receive notification of all notices and orders issued in this docket.

#### **JULY CALENDAR**

Meetings are livestreamed between PUCN offices in Carson City & Las Vegas and online at puc.nv.gov.

JULY 11 | REGULAR AGENDA | 10 A.M.

#### **JULY 11 | CONSUMER SESSION | 6 P.M.**

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 cost recovery of the regulatory assets relating to the development and implementation of their Joint Natural Disaster Protection Plan.

**DOCKET 23-03004** 

#### JULY 12 | WORKSHOP | 1 P.M.

Investigation related to examining process, modelling, and analytical improvements to Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy's integrated resource planning.

**DOCKET 23-05013** 

#### **JULY 17 - 18 | HEARING | 10 A.M.**

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 cost recovery of the regulatory assets relating to the development and implementation of their Joint Natural Disaster Protection Plan.

**DOCKET 23-03004** 

JULY 25 | REGULAR AGENDA | 10 A.M.

The full calendar is available at puc.nv.gov.























Every year on August 11, the <u>Nevada Regional Common</u>
<u>Ground Alliance</u> joins stakeholders across the country to promote the *811 Call Before You Dig* message.

On Friday, August 11, the NRCGA will be at Cowabunga Bay in Henderson from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. to remind homeowners to call 811, or go online to <a href="mailto:usanorth811.org">usanorth811.org</a>, prior to any digging project to request to have underground utility lines marked for free.

The Cowabunga Bay event will feature a DJ, prize and swag giveaways at vendor booths, and a chance to win an annual family 4-pass for next year!

Striking a utility line while digging can cause injury, repair costs, inconvenient outages and fines. Every digging project, no matter how large or small, requires contacting 811 by phone or online.

Visit https://nrcga.org/811-day/ for more information.

## **Underground Damage Prevention**

The table at right shows that in 2021, Nevada experienced its lowest gas excavation damage rate in recorded history. This is measured in the number of gas damages per 1,000 One-Call tickets.

Despite significant increases in the volume of One-Call tickets, Nevada continues to decrease its number of gas damages for every 1,000 tickets called in – a trend that has maintained since 2014.

Over the past five years, Nevada has consistently ranked in the top five states with respect to having the lowest number of natural gas excavation damages and in 2021 Nevada was the third best performing state.

#### STATE OF NEVADA GAS EXCAVATION DAMAGE NUMBERS

Year	One-Call Center Tickets	One-Call Center Tickets (1000's)	Change from Prev. YR	% Change from Prev. YR	Number of Gas Damages Reported	Gas Damages (10s)	Change from Prev. YR	% Change from Prev. YR	Gas Damages per 1,000 Tickets
2000	103,365	103			1,472	147.2			14.24
2001	107,785	108	4,420	4.28%	1,389	138.9	-83	-5.64%	12.89
2002	133,030	133	25,245	23.42%	1,495	149.5	106	7.63%	11.24
2003	161,360	161	28,330	21.30%	1,333	133.3	-162	-10.84%	8.26
2004	175,075	175	13,715	8.50%	1,237	123.7	-96	-7.20%	7.07
2005	199,630	200	24,555	14.03%	1,200	120	-37	-2.99%	6.01
2006	204,485	204	4,855	2.43%	1,140	114	-60	-5.00%	5.57
2007	171,550	172	-32,935	-16.11%	768	76.8	-372	-32.63%	4.48
2008	121,815	122	-49,735	-28.99%	550	55	-218	-28.39%	4.52
2009	72,250	72	-49,565	-40.69%	346	34.6	-204	-37.09%	4.79
2010	67,460	67	-4,790	-6.63%	319	31.9	-27	-7.80%	4.73
2011	69,010	69	1,550	2.30%	306	30.6	-13	-4.08%	4.43
2012	74,246	74	5,236	7.59%	305	30.5	-1	-0.33%	4.11
2013	75,531	76	1,285	1.73%	328	32.8	23	7.54%	4.34
2014	82,965	83	7,434	9.84%	356	35.6	28	8.54%	4.29
2015	105,143	105	22,178	26.73%	431	43.1	75	21.07%	4.10
2016	114,101	114	8,958	8.52%	385	38.5	-46	-10.67%	3.37
2017	129,991	130	15,890	13.93%	398	39.8	13	3.38%	3.06
2018	138,910	139	8,919	6.86%	431	43.1	33	8.29%	3.10
2019	150,593	151	11,683	8.41%	341	34.1	-90	-20.88%	2.26
2020	150,145	150	-448	0	341	34.1	0	0.00%	2.27
2021	169,737	170	19,592	20	365	36.5	24	7.04%	2.15

Gas Damages per 1,000 Tickets. Data derived from utility excavation damage reports and USA North Reports.

# Dockets Opened at the PUCN in June 2023 Visit <u>puc.nv.gov/Dockets/Dockets/</u> to view documents filed in the dockets listed below.

Docket No.	Date Filed	Description			
23-06001	6/1/2023	Public Utilities Commission of Nevada-sponsored Consumer Session to be held in Washoe County, Nevada, pursuant to NRS 704.069(2).			
23-06002	6/1/2023	Public Utilities Commission of Nevada-sponsored Consumer Session to be held in Clark County, Nevada, pursuant to NRS 704.069(2).			
23-06003	6/1/2023	Public Utilities Commission of Nevada-sponsored Consumer Session to be held in Elko County, Nevada.			
23-06004	6/2/2023	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, 2024.			
23-06005	6/13/2023	Application of Oregon-Idaho Utilities, Inc. d/b/a Humboldt Telephone Company 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.			
23-06006	6/5/2023	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.			
23-06007	6/5/2023	Application of Nevada 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.			
23-06008	6/5/2023	Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for approval of new and revised depreciation and amortization rates for its electric and common accounts.			
23-06009	6/22/2023	Notice by Tempo Telecom, LLC d/b/a Tempo and Insight Mobile, Inc. of a transaction that will result in a transfer of control of a telecommunication company.			
23-06010	6/7/2023	Notice by Filer Mutual Telephone Company that current switched access service rates comply with Federal Communications Commission Docket No. FCC 11-161.			
23-06011	6/7/2023	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Nevada Gold Mines LLC ("NGM") requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of 49 CFR Part 192 of the Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations by NGM.			
23-06012	6/8/2023	Filing by Beehive Telephone Co., Inc., Nevada of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Intercarrier Compensation Replacement funding eligibility pursuant to the requirements of 47 CFR 54.304.			
23-06013	6/8/2023	Application of CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink, filed under Advice Letter No. NV2023-06, to revise Tariff No. 1A to standardize the language related to the TDD surcharge and to modify the TDD surcharge pursuant to the Order issued in Docket No. 23-01031.			
23-06014	6/14/2023	Registration of AFNET, LLC as a commercial mobile radio service provider.			
23-06015	6/22/2023	Notice by TerraCom Inc. and MAXSIP TELECOM CORPORATION of a transaction that will result in a transfer of control of a telecommunication company.			
23-06016	6/20/2023	Filing by Rural Telephone Company of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Intercarrier 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.			
23-06017	6/15/2023	Raymond Snow vs. Southwest Gas Corporation. Complaint regarding missing payments with Southwest Gas Corporation.			
23-06018	6/15/2023	Ellen Meade vs. Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy. Complaint regarding s billing dispute.			
23-06019	6/15/2023	Andrew Deesing vs. Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy. Complaint regarding a billing dispute.			
23-06020	6/15/2023	Filing by Rural Telephone Company of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Intercarrier 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.			
23-06021	6/15/2023	Filing by Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc. of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Intercarrier 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.			

## **Dockets:** continued from page 3

Docket No.	Date Filed	Description
23-06022	6/15/2023	Filing by Moapa Valley Telephone Company of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Intercarrier 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.
23-06023	6/15/2023	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and CenturyLink of Nevada, LLC d/b/a CenturyLink ("CenturyLink") requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of Nevada's One Call Law by CenturyLink.
23-06024	6/20/2023	Application of Desert Gold RV Park to withdraw \$18,404.51 from the tenant service charge account for reimbursement of expenses incurred to repair and maintain the electrical system.
23-06025	6/16/2023	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 Intercarrier 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.
23-06026	6/16/2023	Application of Google Fiber Nevada, LLC for authority to operate as a competitive supplier of telecommunication service within the State of Nevada.
23-06027	6/16/2023	Joint Petition of CEA Dairy RNG Nevada, LLC and Vanguard Renewables for a Declaratory Order finding that pipeline facilities at the Mason Renewable Natural Gas Project are classified as Type R onshore gas gathering pipelines and that truck transportation of renewable natural gas from the dairy farms to the injection site performs a gathering function.
23-06028	6/20/2023	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.
23-06029	6/20/2023	Informational Report of Southwest Gas Corporation concerning its near-term natural gas resource planning activities.
23-06030	6/16/2023	Filing by Rio Virgin Telephone Company d/b/a Reliance Connects of annual data regarding Connect America Fund Intercarrier 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.
23-06031	6/20/2023	Daniel Meyer on behalf of Tand, Inc. vs CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink. Complaint seeking an advisory opinion or declaratory order on the application of the State of Nevada's statutes and regulations.
23-06032	6/21/2023	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.
23-06033	6/21/2023	Revised registration of Tempo Telecom, LLC d/b/a Tempo to update information.
23-06034	6/22/2023	Application of CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink, filed under Advice Letter No. NV2023-07, to revise Tariff No. 1A to reflect grandfathered residential and small business services are no longer eligible for temporary suspension and are not eligible for transfer of service between customers.
23-06035	6/26/2023	Application of Cathect Communications, Inc. to voluntarily discontinue telecommunication service conducted under Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") 3071.
23-06036	6/28/2023	Notice by Southwest Gas Corporation of its intent to file an application for adjustment in rates.
23-06037	6/28/2023	Notice by Intrado Communications, LLC of a pro forma change of control.

Prior editions of PUCN Connection are available at <a href="mailto:puc.nv.gov/About/Media\_Outreach/PUCN\_Connection/">puc.nv.gov/About/Media\_Outreach/PUCN\_Connection/</a>.

For questions or comments about this newsletter, contact Consumer Outreach Director Dawn Rivard at <a href="mailto:drivard@puc.nv.gov">drivard@puc.nv.gov</a> or Communications Director Peter Kostes at <a href="mailto:pkostes@puc.nv.gov">pkostes@puc.nv.gov</a>.