PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

LCB File No. R069-15

August 20, 2015

EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bold, italics*** is new; matter in brackets ~~[omitted material]~~ is material to be omitted.

Section 1. NAC 704.9385 is hereby amended to read as follows:

NAC 704.9385 Supply plan: Contents; tables; transmission plan; information regarding purchase of power; maps; conceptual renewable energy zone transmission plan.

1. The supply plan of the utility must develop and document the origins of:

(a) The assumptions, data and projections used by the utility to calculate the costs and benefits of its options.

(b) The assessment of current and anticipated electric market conditions by the utility for the region in which the utility operates.

(c) The basic economic and financial limitations of the utility.

(d) The assumptions used by the utility for developing the environmental costs and the net economic benefits to the State from each of the options of the utility for future supply.

(e) The criteria used by the utility for determining the reserve margin.

(f) The assumptions used by the utility for renewable resources.

(g) The assumptions used by the utility for independent power producers.

(h) The assumptions used by the utility for the reduction in demand and energy requirements associated with customers exiting service from the utility and customers utilizing distributed generation resources.

2. Regarding generation, a utility's supply plan must contain a table of all its existing and planned facilities for electric generation that it expects to be operating in each of the 20 years covered by its forecast. Each of the following items of information must be set forth in the table if applicable to a listed facility:

(a) The planned or actual commercial operation date of the facility;

(b) The date of the planned retirement of the facility, including the criteria used to select that date;

(c) The type of facility;

(d) The rated generating capacity and net expected generating capacity of the facility;

(e) The fuel used;

(f) The capacity of the facility for storing fuel; and

(g) The designation of the capacity type of the facility, such as base load, intermediate or peaking~~[.]~~***;***

(h) If a generation asset has more than one owner, the identity of each owner and each owner's percentage share of the generation asset;

(i) If a generation asset meets the definition of an asset as set forth in Section 3 of Senate Bill 416 of the 78th (2015)Session of the Nevada Legislature, whether the asset is operational, pre-operational reserve, post-operational reserve, surplus, or decommissioned; and

(j) If an asset is classified as pre-operational reserve or post-operational reserve as those terms are defined in Sections 7 and 8 of Senate Bill 416 of the 78th (2015) Session of the Nevada Legislature, whether the asset is viable for future use for energy generation.

3. The supply plan of a utility must include a transmission plan for the 20 years covered by the forecast in the supply plan. The transmission plan must include, without limitation:

(a) A summary of the capabilities of the transmission system, including import, export and the rating of significant transmission paths within the system of the utility, and of the existing and planned transmission system of the utility for each year in the period covered by the resource plan.

(b) A description of the transmission projects the utility is considering for expanding or upgrading the capabilities of its transmission system, the anticipated timing of those projects and the impact of the projects on the transmission capabilities of the existing and planned transmission system of the utility.

(c) Identification of the transmission capacity required to serve bundled retail transmission customers, unbundled retail transmission customers and those wholesale transmission customers for whom the utility has an obligation to provide transmission services, for annual and peaking periods throughout the period covered by the resource plan.

(d) Identification of all existing and proposed transmission service agreements, and their expiration dates, with transmission customers for transmission service on the transmission system of the utility and the impact of these agreements on available capacity for bundled retail transmission customers on the proposed or existing transmission facilities.

(e) A table identifying all the transmission capacity that the utility has secured for its bundled retail transmission customers on both its transmission system and the transmission systems of other entities.

(f) A description of the participation of the utility in regional planning organizations and an explanation of the role of those organizations in the transmission planning process of the utility.

(g) A summary of the impacts of relevant orders of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issued since the utility filed its last resource plan.

(h) A demonstration that the utility has attempted to reduce the impact of line losses upon its future resource requirements.

4. Regarding the purchase of power, the supply plan must contain a list showing:

(a) All sources from which the utility has contracted to buy, or has plans or potential opportunities to buy, electric power during the 20 years covered by the supply plan; and

(b) The amount of electric power that the utility has contracted to buy, or has plans or potential opportunities to buy, from each source and the years for which delivery of the electric power is contracted or planned.

5. The utility shall include in its supply plan a map or maps that identify the location of each existing or planned generation or transmission facility, renewable energy system and independent power producer that are projected to be relied upon during the period covered by the action plan.

6. In addition to the transmission plan required by subsection 3, the supply plan of a utility must include, as a discrete but integrated item in the supply plan, a conceptual renewable energy zone transmission plan for the 20 years covered by the forecast in the supply plan. The renewable energy zone transmission plan must include distinct conceptual transmission plans, which may include capacity for export to other states, for serving each of the renewable energy

zones designated by the Commission pursuant to NAC 704.880. Each of the distinct conceptual transmission plans must include:

(a) A description of the construction or expansion of transmission facilities required to be added to the utility's existing transmission system;

(b) An estimate of cost at the planning level, including, without limitation, estimates for permitting and other expenses of transmission development and estimated development schedules for the transmission facilities included in the transmission plan, based on information known by the utility at the time the transmission plan is submitted to the Commission;

(c) A description of any restrictions or limitations on the construction or expansion of transmission facilities, including, without limitation, generator tie-lines in the applicable transmission plan due to any local topographical, environmental, governmental, land use or other factors or limitations that are known by the utility at the time the transmission plan is submitted to the Commission; and

(d) An estimate of the capacity of the renewable energy resources capable of being developed in the applicable zone, based on information that is known to the utility at the time the transmission plan is submitted to the Commission.

Sec. 2. NAC 704.9489 is hereby amended to read as follows:

NAC 704.9489 Requirements for action plan.

1. Each resource plan of a utility must include a detailed action plan based on an integrated analysis of the demand side plan and supply plan of the utility. In its action plan, the utility shall specify all its actions that are to take place during the 3 years commencing with the year following the year in which the resource plan is filed. The action plan must contain:

(a) An introductory section that explains how the action plan fits into the longer-term strategic plan of the utility.

(b) A list of actions for which the utility is seeking the approval of the Commission.

(c) A schedule for the acquisition of data, including planned activities to update and refine the quality of the data used in forecasting.

(d) A specific timetable for acquisition of options for the supply of electric energy and for programs for energy efficiency and conservation.

(e) If changes in the methodology are being proposed, a description fully justifying the proposed changes, including an analysis of the costs and benefits. Any changes in methodology that are approved by the Commission must be maintained for the period described in the action plan.

(f) A section describing any plans of the utility to acquire additional modeling instruments.

(g) A section for the utility's program for energy efficiency and conservation, including:

(1) A description of continued planning efforts;

(2) A plan to carry out and continue selected measures for energy efficiency and conservation that have been identified as desirable; and

(3) Any impacts of imputed debt calculations associated with energy efficiency contracts in the preferred plan.

(h) A section for the utility's program for acquisition of resources for the supply of electric energy for the period covered by the action plan, including:

(1) The immediate plans of the utility for construction of facilities or long-term purchases of power;

(2) The expected time for construction of facilities and acquisition of long-term purchases of power identified in subparagraph (1);

(3) The major milestones of construction; ~~[and]~~

(4) Any impacts of imputed debt calculations associated with renewable energy contracts or energy efficiency contracts in the preferred plan~~[.]~~***and***

(5) A surplus asset retirement plan for any generation facilities which either the utility has classified as surplus or the Commission has reclassified as surplus after the filing of the utility's last resource plan.

2. The action plan must contain an energy supply plan.

3. The action plan must contain a budget for planned expenditures suitable for comparing planned and achieved expenditures. Expenses must be listed in a format that is consistent with the categories and periods to be presented in subsequent filings. The budget must be organized in the following categories:

(a) Forecasting of loads;

(b) Energy efficiency and conservation;

(c) Plan for supply; and

(d) Financial plan.

4. The action plan must contain schedules suitable for comparing planned and actual activities and accomplishments. Milestones and points of decision committing major expenditures must be shown.

5. The action plan must contain a renewable energy zone transmission action plan for serving one or more of the renewable energy zones designated by the Commission or an explanation of why no renewable energy zone transmission action plan is contained in the action plan. In addition to the other action plan requirements set forth in this section, the renewable energy zone transmission action plan must include, with supporting data and documentation, for each action item recommended by the utility:

(a) For permitting, routing study and right-of-way acquisition expenses, evidence addressing:

(1) How such expenditures will facilitate compliance with NRS 704.7821 in a manner consistent with NAC 704.8901 to 704.8937, inclusive; and

(2) All other benefits Nevada retail ratepayers will derive from the expenses;

(b) For proposed construction and expansion of transmission facilities:

(1) Evidence of how the proposed construction and expansion will facilitate compliance with NRS 704.7821 in a manner consistent with NAC 704.8901 to 704.8937, inclusive;

(2) A listing and description, including detailed cost estimates and development schedules, of the transmission facilities recommended by the utility for construction or expansion;

(3) A listing and description of transmission alternatives that were considered by the utility, including transmission development partnerships;

(4) Data and economic analysis that supports the transmission projects recommended by the utility, including, without limitation, a comparison of the levelized cost, including transmission, of procuring renewable resources from the renewable energy zones proposed to be served by the utility's recommended transmission projects to other renewable resource options, including those that are located in and out of renewable energy zones designated by the Commission;

(5) Evidence of the financial commitments from developers of renewable energy projects located in the affected renewable energy zones;

(6) An estimate of the level of capacity and energy that the utility expects to utilize from the affected renewable energy zones in the next 20 years, commencing with the year following the year in which the resource plan is filed; and

(7) The estimated time frame to fully utilize the capacity of the construction and expansion of transmission facilities recommended by the utility; and

(c) In addition to the renewable energy zone transmission action plan requirements set forth in paragraph (b), for construction and expansion of transmission infrastructure that will serve both Nevada retail ratepayers and export markets outside of Nevada:

(1) Evidence that any renewable energy developers wishing to export energy outside of Nevada have a buyer for their energy and that the buyer has a means of delivering the energy from the transmission system of the Nevada utility to the point of delivery;

(2) A strategic plan to mitigate the potential financial risks to Nevada retail ratepayers associated with stranded investment and infrastructure that is not intended to provide service to Nevada retail ratepayers, including, without limitation, safeguards to monitor the financial risk to Nevada's retail ratepayers and criteria to trigger an amendment to the renewable energy transmission action plan should changes in circumstance occur which could expose Nevada retail ratepayers to such risks; and

(3) Identification of the potential resources in the renewable energy zones, including the resources under contract, resources under development, known completion dates and the known amount of capacity and energy to be produced by renewable energy projects in the affected renewable energy zones for customers outside of Nevada.

6. The surplus asset retirement plan must include:

(a) A brief description of the asset, including without limitation, its generating capacity, its current condition and any details regarding ownership;

(b) A plan for the decommissioning of the site, including without limitation, the closure of any remaining operational activities, any required environmental remediation, the removal and disposal of any physical assets deemed unsuitable for redevelopment and remediation, as determined by the Division of Environmental Protection of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources pursuant to NRS 704.7318, or if decommissioning is underway or completed, a full description of the decommissioning program;

(c) A marketing plan for the sale of the asset, prepared in consultation with the Office of Economic Development, which must disclose any environmental issues or other restrictions and emphasize the value of the asset in its marketplace; and

(d) A timeline for implementation of the plan, including without limitation, key dates for completion of benchmarks including a final sale date. To the extent reasonably possible, the timeline must indicate a final sale date that is within 30 months after commencement of the plan.