BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF) POWDER RIVER ENERGY CORPORATION) FOR AUTHORITY TO REVISE ITS RULES AND REGULATIONS TO ESTABLISH METER) EQUIPMENT CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS TO PREVENT **INTERFERENCE** WITH) MAINTENANCE AND TESTING ACTIVITIES,) NON-INDUSTRIAL REVISE ITS LINE) EXTENSION POLICY TO PROVIDE FOR THE) COLLECTION OF COSTS INCURRED UP TO) THE POINT OF CANCELLATION, AND REVISE) ITS METER TESTING AND VERIFICATION) PROGRAM CONSISTENT WITH THE) TRANSITION TO AN AMI METER AND) COMMUNICATION SYSTEM)

Docket No. 10014-229-CT-23 (Record No. 17274)

ORDER

(Issued August 31, 2023)

This matter is before the Wyoming Public Service Commission (Commission) upon the Application of Powder River Energy Corporation (PRECorp or Cooperative) for authority to revise its rules and regulations to establish Meter Equipment Clearance Requirements to prevent interference with maintenance and testing activities, revise its Non-Industrial Line Extension Policy to provide for the collection of costs incurred up to the point of cancellation, and revise its Meter Testing and Verification Program consistent with the transition to an AMI meter and communication system (Application).

The Commission, having reviewed the Application and tariff sheets, its files regarding PRECorp, applicable Wyoming utility law, and otherwise being fully advised in the premises, FINDS and CONCLUDES:

1. PRECorp is a public utility subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. Wyo. Stat. §§ 37-1-101(a)(vi)(C) and 37-2-112.

2. On March 31, 2023, PRECorp filed an Application requesting authority to revise its rules and regulations to establish Meter Equipment Clearance Requirements to prevent interference with maintenance and testing activities, revise its Non-Industrial Line Extension Policy to provide for the collection of costs incurred up to the point of cancellation, and revise its Meter Testing and Verification Program.

3. On April 10, 2023, the Commission issued its *Suspension Order* pursuant to Wyoming Statute § 37-3-106(c), suspending the effectiveness of the Application for the initial statutory period.

4. On April 14, 2023, the Commission issued its *Notice of Application*, which described the Application and provided an intervention deadline of May 15, 2023, for public comments, statements, interventions, protests, or requests for public hearing. Newspapers in PRECorp's service

area published the *Notice of Application* once a week for two consecutive weeks. The Commission received no public comments, interventions, or hearing requests.

5. On June 30, 2023, PRECorp filed revised tariffs. Commission Staff reviewed the revised tariffs and concluded they comply with Commission Rules.

6. The Commission considered PRECorp's Application pursuant to due notice at its regular Open Meeting on July 27, 2023. Joe Roth, Vice President of Member Service, appeared for the Cooperative and presented the Application. He explained the requested revisions respond to the technological advances associated with the Cooperative's transition to an AMI metering system. He confirmed the proposed changes to the non-industrial line extension policy correct an oversight in a previous docket, and will align both industrial and non-industrial extension policies, as well as correct certain clerical issues in tariff sheets. He also confirmed the number of meters tested per pallet is a sampling, which, based on experience, PRECorp believes adequately demonstrates the meters' accuracy.

7. Based on the Application, the representations of the Cooperative, and the recommendations of Commission Staff, the Commission finds and concludes that PRECorp has adequately supported its request.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. Pursuant to Open Meeting action taken on July 27, 2023, the Application of Powder River Energy Corporation for authority to revise its rules and regulations to establish Meter Equipment Clearance Requirements to prevent interference with maintenance and testing activities, revise its Non-Industrial Line Extension Policy to provide for the collection of costs incurred up to the point of cancellation, and revise its Meter Testing and Verification Program consistent with the transition to an AMI meter and communication system, is approved, effective August 1, 2023.

2. This *Order* is effective immediately.

MADE and ENTERED at Cheyenne, Wyoming, on August 31, 2023.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

HRONE, Chairman

CHRISTOPHER B. PETRIE, Deputy Chair

MICHAEL M. ROBINSON, Commissioner

BLAN

IVAN H. WILLIAMS, Assistant Secretary

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the <u>day</u> day of September, 2023, a copy of the Commission's *Order* was sent via electronic mail or hand delivery to the following:

Brian J. Mills Chief Executive Officer Powder River Energy Corporation PO BOX 930 Sundance, Wyoming 82729

Kara Ellsbury Attorney for Applicant PO BOX 1083 Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003

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