The Utility Agreement – Requested Action

- Signing the **Utility Agreement** is a required procedural step for communities that want to participate in the Utah Renewable Communities (URC) Program
- The URC Board approved on July 17, 2023 and executed on October 2, 2023 a Utility Agreement addressing four elements required by Utah law
- All 18 member communities are now requested to sign the Utility Agreement by November 17, 2023

The Utility Agreement does <u>not</u>:

- Finalize a community's participation in the program (this can only be done by adopting the Participation Ordinance)
- Include projected program rates for participating customers (this will be estimated in the Program Application and finalized by Order of the Public Service Commission)
- Require any additional monetary commitment by any community
 - Initial noticing costs are binding only if a community also later adopts the Participation Ordinance
 - The cost of renewable energy resources acquired for the Program will be paid by Program customers through Program rates



What have the Utah Renewable Communities (URC) been up to?

Since launching in July 2021, the Utah Renewable Communities (URC), our three committees, and consultants have met regularly to advance the development of the URC Program. While there is a lot of work remaining before Rocky Mountain Power files the Program Application, significant progress has been made.

As an Agency we have coordinated with:

- Rocky Mountain Power
- Key state offices: Division of Public Utilities and Office of Consumer Services
- Utility assistance program implementers
- Clean energy advocates
- Interested community members
- And many more stakeholders

Portions of the Program Application have been completed or substantial progress has been made, including:

- Model Ordinance finalized and approved
- Individual community low-income plans finalized and approved
- Boundary maps created
- Customer counts, load forecasts drafted
- Proposed form of opt-out notices drafted
- Utility Agreement approved

Discussions continue to determine how the program will acquire new renewable energy resources, how those resources will be valued and what they will cost, what that means for participating customer rates, and how we will meet State statute by ensuring that costs and benefits aren't shifted between participating and non-participating customers

Steps to design and launch the Utah Renewable Communities (URC) Program



Enabling Legislation and Rules Adopted



State legislature and Utah PSC

Establishes requirements & defines pathway to develop program



Community net-100% Resolution Adopted



23 communities adopted

Establishes net-100% goal to ensure eligibility for Program, as required by law



Governance Agreement Signed



18 communities signed

Maintains eligibility for Program, as required by law, and outlines Utah Renewable Communities (URC) interlocal cooperative arrangement and governance



Utility Agreement



All communities sign with the utility

Maintains eligibility for Program, as required by law

One agreement, approved by the Board and signed by each community



Program Application



Agency approves and utility submits

Describes detailed Program information including projected Program rates

Target submission: by end of 2023



Program Approval



Utah Public Service Commission (PSC) Reviews Program Application

PSC order may approve, change, or deny Program; finalizes initial Program rates

Potential timeline: 3-6 months



Participation Ordinance



Each community adopts

Communities review approved Program and initial Program rates and decide whether to finalize participation

90 days from Utah PSC approval

Utility Agreement - Content

Four required elements addressed in the Utility Agreement:

- Communities agree to pay for consultants used by the Division of Public Utilities and Office of Consumer Services
 - This cost has already been agreed to (not to exceed \$200k) and funded by the 18 member communities
- Communities agree to reimburse RMP for costs associated with two required opt-out notices sent to customers before program launch
 - Each community's cost has been estimated (see following slide) and will not become binding unless and until a community adopts the participation ordinance
- Description of how unpaid termination fees will be addressed
 - URC and Rocky Mountain Power agree that any unpaid termination fees to the extent they represent actual costs will be covered by monies collected through Program rates in the manner decided by the Utah Public Service Commission
- Identification of any thermal power plants which will not serve Program customers ("replaced assets")
 - URC proposes no replaced assets at this time but may in the future

The Utility Agreement does not:

- Finalize a community's participation in the program (this can only be done by adopting the Participation Ordinance)
- Include projected program rates for participating customers (this will be estimated in the Program Application and finalized by Order of the Public Service Commission)
- Require any additional monetary commitment for any community
 - Initial noticing costs are binding only if a community also later adopts the Participation Ordinance
 - The cost of renewable energy resources acquired for the Program will be paid by Program customers through Program rates

Noticing Cost Estimates and FY 2024 Budget Guidance

Community	Customer Count	Notice #1	Notice #2	Total mailing cost	Recommended FY 2024 Budget Amount (+5%)	
Alta	263	0.7317	0.6767 \$	370.41	\$	388.93
Castle Valley	283	0.7317	0.6767 \$	398.58	\$	418.51
Coalville	1,137	0.7317	0.6767 \$	1,601.35	\$	1,681.42
Cottonwood Heights	14,602	0.7317	0.6767 \$	20,565.46	\$	21,593.73
Emigration Canyon Township	473	0.7317	0.6767 \$	666.17	\$	699.48
Francis	713	0.7317	0.6767 \$	1,004.19	\$	1,054.40
Grand County Unincorporated	3,298	0.7317	0.6767 \$	4,644.90	\$	4,877.15
Holladay	13,207	0.7317	0.6767 \$	18,600.74	\$	19,530.78
Kearns	10,702	0.7317	0.6767 \$	5 15,072.70	\$	15,826.33
Millcreek	25,510	0.7317	0.6767 \$	35,928.28	\$	37,724.70
Moab	3,653	0.7317	0.6767 \$	5,144.89	\$	5,402.13
Oakley	752	0.7317	0.6767 \$	1,059.12	\$	1,112.07
Ogden	37,710	0.7317	0.6767 \$	53,110.76	\$	55,766.30
Park City	10,907	0.7317	0.6767 \$	15,361.42	\$	16,129.49
Salt Lake City	105,373	0.7317	0.6767 \$	148,407.33	\$	155,827.70
Salt Lake County Unincorporated	11,994	0.7317	0.6767 \$	16,892.35	\$	17,736.97
Springdale	706	0.7317	0.6767 \$	994.33	\$	1,044.05
Summit County Unincorporated	11,886	0.7317	0.6767 \$	16,740.24	\$	17,577.25
TOTALS	253,169		\$	356,563.22	\$	374,391.38

Update on Agency Communications

The Community Renewable Energy Agency hired communications firm Penna Powers to improve outreach:

- The Agency "rebranded" by adopting a new logo, informal name, and tagline. Instead of being called the Community Renewable Energy Program, we are now Utah Renewable Communities: 100% Committed to Clean Energy. The updated logo is below.
- Penna Powers substantially updated the Program website and changed the url: https://www.utahrenewablecommunities.org/
- Penna Powers updated the Agency Mailchimp newsletter template, and is developing newsletter and social media content. Please visit the website and click "subscribe" to join the newsletter mailing list, and follow Utah Renewable Communities on Facebook and Instagram to learn more.

 Penna Powers will support the Agency in issuing press releases, preparing program opt-out letters and noticing statements, and creating various other marketing and communications collateral as the program design and implementation processe continues

