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Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

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by: /s Paulette Henriod

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MWEG NEVADA

Mormon Women for Ethical Government
www.mweg.org

November 4 , 2026

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
1150 East William Street
Carson City, NV 89701-3109

RE: Public Comment Regarding NV Energy's Integrated Resource Plan (Docket No. 26-05007)/2026 IRP)

Dear Commissioners Williamson, Brown and Cordova,

Mormon Women for Ethical Government (MWEG) has been following the docket for NV Energy's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) with great interest due to our concern for energy availability and affordability in our state. As the Commission moves into the final phase, we wish to thank the commissioners, staff, intervenors, and experts who have engaged in this process. We urge continued scrutiny as the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) arrives at a decision for the long-term energy needs of our state. Nevada stands at a critical juncture where these decisions will determine grid reliability, influence economic strength, and dictate progress toward statutory clean energy targets for decades to come.

We commend NV Energy's plans for an additional 4,370 MW of solar, 5,305 MW of battery storage, and 180 MW of geothermal energy. Prioritizing these resources aligns with Nevada's Renewable Portfolio Standard and provides protection from the volatility of fossil fuel prices and the negative health effects of pollution. Nevada is fortunate to possess abundant solar and geothermal energy resources, which decrease the need to import more expensive, polluting natural gas. We urge the PUCN not to approve new natural gas peaker plants, which operate infrequently at higher generation costs per megawatt-hour.[1]

NV Energy's current IRP relies heavily on significant demand increases driven by projected hyper-scale data centers and large industrial users. The Commission must exercise rigorous regulatory oversight when reviewing these speculative growth forecasts that may not materialize at projected timelines or

[1] https://epignosisinsights.com/blog/battery-storage-economics-when-does-storage-beat-peaker-plants#:~:text=The%20U.S.%20Government%20Accountability%20Office%20defines%20a,to%20keep%20it%20permitted%2C%20staffed%2C%20and%20maintenance%2Dready.

capacities. Ordinary residential and small business ratepayers should be protected from higher rates due to stranded infrastructure costs if these entities relocate or scale back. We ask the Commission to enforce binding financial assurance for data center developers and ensure that commercial energy consumers fully pay for their own specialized infrastructure additions rather than shifting these risks onto working families.

The PUCN should direct NV Energy to expand community-based energy solutions like customer-owned rooftop solar, distributed residential and business battery storage, smart thermostats, and automated demand response programs. Together, these technologies enable the utility to manage demand peaks more affordably than building new fossil fuel power plants.[2]

Nevadans rely on the PUCN to ensure safe, reliable utility service at fair and reasonable costs. Ratepayers are currently facing an increased cost of living with rising healthcare, housing, fuel, and grocery costs. Higher energy bills create an additional strain. The PUCN's approval process for NV Energy's IRP is an opportunity to ensure that future energy costs are thoroughly examined and justified as the most affordable and least risky option for ratepayers.

We respectfully request that the Commission reject unnecessary fossil fuel expansion, require risk-sharing mechanisms for larger data centers, and approve a cost-effective resource plan centered on renewable energy resources, battery energy storage, and distributed customer programs. Thank you for your leadership and your service to Nevada's energy consumers.

Sincerely,

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[2]https://epignosisinsights.com/blog/battery-storage-economics-when-does-storage-beat-peaker-plants#:~:text=The%20U.S.%20Government%20Accountability%20Office%20defines%20a,to%20keep%20it%20permitted%2C%20staffed%2C%20and%20maintenance%2Dready.