

RESOLUTION NO. 10-20

Background

- A. Platte River Power Authority (Platte River) was formed to provide electric generation and transmission services to its owner communities.
- B. Platte River is obligated by contract to serve the owner communities' wholesale electrical capacity and energy needs through 2060.
- C. Platte River and its owner communities collaborate to conduct supply-side and demand-side planning.
- D. Platte River uses integrated resource planning to support its development of a resource portfolio consistent with its "three pillars" of reliability, environmental responsibility and financial sustainability.
- E. By law and to remain eligible for federal hydropower allocations, Platte River must submit a formal integrated resource plan (IRP) to the Western Area Power Administration every five years.
- F. In 2018, the board of directors (board) adopted the Resource Diversification Policy, which (1) directs Platte River's general manager/CEO to proactively work toward the goal of reaching a 100% non-carbon resource mix by 2030, while maintaining Platte River's three pillars of providing reliable, environmentally responsible and financially sustainable electricity and services, and (2) recognizes nine caveats describing advancements that must occur in the near term to achieve the 2030 goal.
- G. Platte River remains committed to the Resource Diversification Policy, recognizing the urgent nature of climate change; this is reflected, among other things, in (1) Platte River's commitment to retire all coal-fired generation by 2030, (2) the addition of more than 50 MW of new solar generation since 2016, together with two MWhs of battery storage, (3) 225 MW of new wind-powered generation brought online in 2020, and (4) a contract for a major new solar installation anticipated before year end.
- H. Platte River staff has prepared and presented to the board the 2020 IRP to further the Resource Diversification Policy and fulfill Platte River's obligations to the Western Area Power Administration.

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I. The 2020 IRP reflects existing and potential future resources based on current information, technology and system capabilities and recognizes these and other factors (including Resource Diversification Policy caveats) will continue to evolve.

J. Staff has recommended selection of the 2020 IRP's zero-coal option – also known as Portfolio 2 or P2 – to establish a new baseline for planning, budgetary and ratemaking purposes.

K. The 2020 IRP and P2 provide a path for Platte River to reduce its carbon emissions by more than 90% from 2005 levels, and are therefore consistent with the Resource Diversification Policy and surpass Colorado legislative goals for greenhouse gas reductions.

L. Platte River's adaptive and flexible resource procurement strategies have served its owner communities well.

M. Platte River will continue efforts on advancements noted in the Resource Diversification Policy, recognizing the critical role of developing and actively managing distributed energy resources (as reflected in the leadership of the distributed energy resource committee and the scheduled release of its initial strategic plan in 2021) and Platte River's planned entry into an organized real-time dispatch market.

N. Staff will prepare an updated IRP no later than 2024 and complete at least one additional IRP between 2024 and 2030, while continuing to communicate transparently and foster public engagement in Platte River's long-term resource planning activities.

O. Platte River will continue to proactively pursue a 100% noncarbon energy mix by 2030, seeking innovative solutions that would enable Platte River to provide reliable and financially sustainable electric service to its owner communities without new fossil-fueled resources, if possible, while using P2 as the planning, budgetary and ratemaking baseline to advance Platte River's progress toward this goal.

P. References in P2 to future fossil-fueled resources do not require additional fossil-fueled resources at this time, but rather serve to provide a technology safeguard for Platte River to regulate intermittent renewable resources that displace retired coal facilities, should it become necessary.

Q. Staff will provide regular public updates to inform board discussions on technological advancements, progress on integrating distributed energy resources in Platte River's owner communities and proposed changes to Platte River's resource mix.

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Resolution

The board of directors of Platte River Power Authority therefore resolves that:

1. The 2020 IRP, as contained in the October 2020 meeting packet, is approved, and
2. Staff's recommendation to select P2 as Platte River's new baseline for planning, budgetary and ratemaking purposes is accepted.

AS WITNESS, I have signed my name as Secretary and have affixed the corporate seal of the Platte River Power Authority this 29 day of October, 2020.

Angel Walsh
Secretary

Adopted: October 29, 2020
Vote: 7-1

