

1 Q. Please state your name and business address.

2 A. My name is D. Douglas Larson. My business address is One Utah Center, Suite
3 2300, 201 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84140-2300.

4 **Qualifications**

5 Q. What is your current position at PacifiCorp (the Company) and your previous
6 employment history with the Company?

7 A. I am currently employed as the Director, Regulatory Policy – Utah, Idaho and
8 Wyoming, in the Regulation Department. I joined the Company in 1981 in the
9 Financial Accounting Department and have held various accounting and
10 regulatory related positions prior to assuming my current position.

11 Q. What are your responsibilities as Director of Regulatory Policy?

12 A. My responsibilities include management of regulatory proceedings in Utah, Idaho,
13 and Wyoming. This would include revenue requirement, cost of service, rate
14 design and all other proposed changes to the Company's tariffs. In addition, I
15 have the responsibility for developing regulatory policy on issues that the
16 Commissions must address and making recommendations to management on
17 policy direction.

18 Q. What is your educational background?

19 A. I graduated from Brigham Young University in 1982 with a Bachelor of Science
20 Degree in Accounting. In addition to formal education, I have also attended
21 various educational, professional and electric industry related seminars during my
22 career at the Company. I am currently a member of the board of directors of the
23 Intermountain Electric Association, and I am a licensed CPA in the State of Utah.

1 **Purpose of Testimony**

2 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

3 A. My testimony presents evidence that, based on its normalized and adjusted 1999
4 results of operations, PacifiCorp is earning an overall return on equity (ROE) in
5 Utah of 4.17 percent. This return is less than the 11 percent ROE currently
6 authorized by the Utah Public Service Commission (the Commission) and less
7 than the 11.5 percent ROE required to provide a fair and equitable return for the
8 Company's shareholders. In support of this conclusion, I introduce and describe
9 the Company's Utah normalized and adjusted Results of Operations Report for
10 the twelve months ended December 31, 1999. The results of operations were
11 prepared in a manner consistent with the Commission's order in Docket 99-035-
12 10 except where noted.

13 **Results of Operations**

14 Q. I show you what has been marked as Exhibit UP&L ____.1 (DDL-1) and ask if you
15 can identify it?

16 A. Yes. Exhibit UP&L ____.1 (DDL-1) is the Company's Utah Results of Operations
17 Report for the twelve-month test period ended December 31, 1999. I will
18 hereafter refer to this exhibit as the "results" or the "report".

19 Q. Was the report prepared under your direction?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Please describe the contents of this report.

22 A. The results of operations report details revenues, expenses and rate base assigned
23 to the Company's Utah service territory using a rolled-in allocation method. The

1 report provides twelve-month totals for revenues and expenses and expresses rate
2 base as the average of beginning and end-of-year balances. Operating results for
3 the period are presented in terms of both return on rate base and return on equity.
4 The results begin on page 1.0 with a summary of the normalizing adjustments to
5 actual 1999 results. The unadjusted results (Column 1) are a product of allocation
6 factors derived from weather-normalized loads. Column 2 combines and
7 summarizes the effect of Type 1 Adjustments (normalization for out-of-period
8 adjustments and unusual items that occur during the test period) and Type 2
9 Adjustments (annualization of changes that occurred during the test period) to
10 produce “total adjusted actual results” (Column 3). Column 4 summarizes Type 3
11 Adjustments (known and measurable items) that are necessary to reach the “total
12 adjusted results” in Column 5. The Type 3 adjustments included in this filing are
13 specifically identified later in my testimony. Column 6 shows the increase in
14 Utah revenues that would be required for the Company to earn a 11.50 percent
15 return on equity from its Utah operations. Column 7 reflects the total adjusted
16 results with this revenue increase included. For comparison purposes, page 1.0
17 reflects returns on rate base and equity for both the unadjusted and normalized
18 results.

19 The unadjusted results allocated to Utah using a rolled-in allocation
20 method are detailed under Tab 2. Supporting documentation for the data in Tab 2
21 is provided under Tabs B1 through B20. The total column of the unadjusted
22 results on page 2.2 corresponds to the actual data recorded in the Company’s
23 accounting records. The normalizing adjustments, which are required to smooth

1 the impact of any unusual events which may have occurred during the test period
2 are identified on page 1.1 and further documented under Tabs 3-8. Tab 9 is blank.
3 The calculation of the rolled-in allocation factors is described under Tab 10.

4 Q. What conclusions do you draw from the results of operations summary presented
5 on page 2.2?

6 A. I observe that, as detailed in Column 6 of page 1.0, an overall price increase of
7 \$142.2 million (19.1 percent) would be required to increase the Company's earned
8 ROE to 11.50 percent as recommended by Samuel C. Hadaway.

9 **Development of Base Data (Unadjusted Results)**

10 Q. Please explain the process for compiling the base data used in the results.

11 A. The revenue, expense and rate base data which comprise the unadjusted results of
12 operations is extracted directly from the Company's accounting system and has
13 been summarized under Tabs B1 through B20. The extraction process is largely a
14 matter of downloading information from computer files, supplemented by manual
15 inputs.

16 Q. Does the unadjusted base data fairly represent the Company's results of operations
17 for 1999?

18 A. The base data reflects the operating environment and the unique set of
19 circumstances that occurred during calendar year 1999. It is a fair depiction of
20 1999 actual results, but it is entirely inadequate as a predictor of on-going
21 Company performance. To adequately reflect results on a going-forward basis, it
22 is necessary to make certain adjustments to reflect normal conditions. These
23 adjustments annualize specific events in the test period or normalize unusual

1 events. The following section uses the term “normalizing adjustment” in a
2 generic sense to refer to both annualization of in-period events and normalization
3 of unusual events.

4 **Normalizing Adjustments**

5 Q. Please describe what you mean by normalizing adjustments.

6 A. In reporting its results of operations, it is the Company’s goal to develop a
7 “typical” test period, free from effects of unusual events. Normalization adjusts
8 for the impact of unusual, non-recurring events. As I indicated earlier,
9 adjustments for unusual items that were booked during the test period are
10 categorized as Type 1 Adjustments in the results of operations report.
11 Normalization also requires an adjustment for the effect of changes that occur part
12 way through the test period. For example, a wage increase that takes place in
13 March should be adjusted to reflect a full twelve-month impact. This type of
14 adjustment is known as annualization and is referred to as a Type 2 Adjustment in
15 the report.

16 Normalizing adjustments need not be restricted to events that occurred
17 within the test period. PacifiCorp believes that to most effectively match prices
18 with anticipated conditions in the rate-effective period, it is necessary to reflect
19 significant known and measurable out-of-period adjustments in the ratemaking
20 process. Such out-of-period adjustments are referred to as Type 3 in the results of
21 operations report. The following Type 3 adjustments are included in this filing:

- 22 • Updating test year revenues to reflect tariffs approved in Docket 99-035-
23 10 that became effective May 25, 2000 and as subsequently modified by

1 the Commission's Order on Reconsideration dated October 6, 2000
2 (Adjustment 3.2);

- 3
- 4 • Including revenues from the sale of SO2 emission allowances in 2000
5 (Adjustment 3.4);
- 6
- 7 • Including revenues from the rental of office space in One Utah Center
8 during 2000 (Adjustment 3.8);
- 9
- 10 • Normalizing uncollectible accounts expense based on 2000 actual
11 experience (Adjustment 4.6);
- 12
- 13 • Updating power costs to reflect current market conditions (Adjustment
14 5.1);
- 15
- 16 • Reflecting the depreciation accounting adjustment approved in Docket No.
17 98-2035-03 (Adjustment 6.2), and normalizing depreciation expense and
18 accumulated depreciation to reflect the new rates approved in the same
19 docket, applied to year end depreciable plant balances (Adjustments 6.5
20 and 6.6); and
- 21
- 22 • Removing Centralia-related costs and including amortization of the gain
23 from the Centralia sale (Adjustments 8.18 and 8.19).
- 24

25 The related calculations of interest synchronization and cash working capital
26 associated with these adjustments have also been included.

27 Q. Would you explain each of the 1999 normalizing adjustments?

28 A. Yes. The report detail under Tabs 3 through 8 supports the summary sheets on
29 pages 1.1 and the normalized returns on page 1.0. Considerable description for
30 each of the adjustments is provided within the exhibit; however, I believe it will
31 be useful to review these explanations at this point in my testimony. In order to
32 understand why the Company believes that the normalized returns on rate base
33 and equity that have been developed are reasonable predictors of future
34 performance, it is necessary to understand the reasons for the underlying
35 adjustments. I will discuss the Revenue adjustments presented in Tab 3 and

1 certain other adjustments in Tab 4 and Tab 8 as described below. The remaining
2 adjustments in Tabs 4-8 will be addressed by other Company witnesses. For
3 discussion purposes the adjustments will be presented in pre-tax dollars, where
4 applicable. The income tax effect of each adjustment is calculated and reflected
5 on the summary page following each tab.

6 Q. Who are the Company witnesses that describe the other normalizing adjustments
7 in Tabs 4-8?

8 A. Tab 4 (O&M expense) contains 22 individual adjustments. I address Adjustments
9 4.1 through 4.5, 4.7, 4.8, 4.10, 4.13, 4.14 and 4.18. Mr. Daniel Peterson presents
10 Adjustments 4.6, 4.17 and 4.19 through 4.22. Mr. Ted Weston addresses
11 Adjustments 4.9, 4.11, 4.12, 4.15 and 4.16.

12 The Net Power Cost adjustments in Tab 5 normalize revenues and
13 expenses in a manner consistent with normalized operation of production facilities
14 described in Mr. Widmer's testimony. The normalized net power cost developed
15 and explained in Mr. Widmer's testimony is reflected in Adjustment 5.1. Mr.
16 Weston explains how net power cost is reflected in results and also sponsors
17 associated Adjustment 5.2 related to an incremental coal cost discount. Mr.
18 Weston also sponsors Adjustment 5.4 related to wheeling revenue. Mr. Widmer
19 sponsors Adjustments 5.3 and 5.5 related to sales for resale.

20 The adjustments in Tab 6 (Depreciation and Amortization) and Tab 7 (Tax
21 Adjustments) are explained by Mr. Peterson.

22 Tab 8 (Rate Base) consists of 20 individual adjustments. I will address
23 Adjustments 8.1 through 8.8, 8.12, 8.13 and 8.20. Mr. Peterson will present

1 Adjustments 8.9, 8.14, 8.15 and 8.16. Mr. Weston will address Adjustments
2 8.10, 8.11, 8.17, 8.18 and 8.19.

3 Q. Please explain the revenue adjustments summarized under Tab 3, page 3.0.

4 A. **Weather Normalization** (Adjustment 3.1) – Weather normalization reflects
5 weather or temperature patterns that were measurably different than normal, as
6 defined by 30-year historical studies by the National Oceanic & Atmospheric
7 Administration. Only residential and commercial sales are considered weather
8 sensitive. Industrial sales are more sensitive to specific economic factors. In its
9 order in Docket No. 99-035-10, the Commission required the Company to provide
10 a report documenting its recommendations for the maintenance of, or
11 modifications to, the weather normalization procedure. While progress has been
12 made on the studies necessary for this report, they are not yet complete.
13 Therefore, this adjustment reflects the same normalization procedures used in the
14 99-035-10 case. Adjustment 3.1 increases 1999 Utah residential revenues by
15 \$667,000 and decreases commercial revenues by \$455,000.

16 **Effective Price Change** (Adjustment 3.2) – The price change adjustment
17 annualizes existing contract and tariff changes to reflect a full year of revenues
18 based on the new rates. The annualization is done by comparing actual revenues
19 in the test period to the annualized revenues calculated by applying the new rates
20 in the contracts and tariffs to current energy usage. Adjustment 3.2 results in a net
21 increase of \$1,074,709 in Utah’s allocated share of special contract revenues.
22 This adjustment also reduces revenues to annualize the impact of the
23 Commission-ordered price reduction in Docket No. 97-035-01 and increases

1 revenues to reflect the recent Commission-ordered increase in Utah residential,
2 commercial and industrial tariffs in Docket No. 99-035-10.

3 **Revenue Normalizing** (Adjustment 3.3) – This adjustment normalizes 1999
4 revenues by removing out of period adjustments. The adjustment increases Utah
5 situs revenues by \$1,371,491 and decreases its allocated share of revenues from
6 system contracts by \$291,401.

7 **SO2 Emission Allowances** (Adjustment 3.4) – As I indicated earlier, the
8 Company has included all emission allowance sales made through November
9 2000, utilizing a four-year amortization of the gain from these sales as ordered in
10 Docket 97-035-01. Adjustment 3.4 increases Utah allocated revenues by
11 \$3,775,048, reduces rate base by \$4,083,176 and reflects deferred tax impacts.

12 **Unbilled Revenue** (Adjustment 3.5) – This adjustment corrects an error in the
13 unbilled revenue calculation that occurred in 1998 but was not discovered until
14 1999. Docket 99-035-10 increased Utah’s 1998 revenues \$6,109,000 for the
15 recognition of revenues in 1999 that related to 1998. Adjustment 3.5 reduces 1999
16 Utah revenues by \$6,109,000 to remove the amount applicable to the prior period.

17 **Pilot Revenue** (Adjustment 3.6) – During 1999, the Company received revenues
18 for sales of energy into the pilot customer choice programs of both Puget Sound
19 Power & Light Company in Washington and Portland General Electric in Oregon.
20 This adjustment reassigns those revenues from Washington and Oregon to a
21 system-wide allocation that is consistent with the allocation of the associated
22 costs, thereby increasing Utah revenues by \$215,118.

1 **USBR/UKRB Discount** (Adjustment 3.7) – Under long existing contracts with
2 PacifiCorp, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) and the Klamath Basin
3 Water Users’ Protective Association (UKRB) receive a reduced price compared to
4 fully tariffed customers. The contracts preserve the Company’s interests in three
5 hydro projects on the Klamath River. The reduced irrigation revenues have been
6 treated for accounting purposes as situs revenues of Oregon and California.
7 However, since all customers share in the benefits of the hydro production from
8 these plants, it is appropriate that the costs be shared in the same way. This
9 adjustment treats the discount as a cost of PacifiCorp’s entire hydro system rather
10 than as a state specific cost, thereby increasing Utah’s allocated share of hydro
11 expense by \$2,639,552.

12 **Rental Revenues** (Adjustment 3.8) – This adjustment annualizes sublease
13 revenue for the second floor of the Oregon Square Building for 1999 and for the
14 sixth and seventh floors of One Utah Center for 2000. Adjustment 3.8 increases
15 Utah allocated revenues by \$328,429.

16 **Guaranteed Merger Credit** (Adjustment 3.9) – In December 1999 the Company
17 recognized for book purposes the merger credit liability. Merger Credits are not
18 included in the revenue requirement calculation. Adjustment 3.9 removes that
19 credit from results which increases Utah revenues by \$24,000,000.

20 **Reversal of Revenue Adjustments** (Adjustment 3.10) – This adjustment reverses
21 the effect of an accounting entry made to reflect a billing dispute that resulted in
22 the write-off of \$9 million. Adjustment 3.10 increases Utah allocated revenues by
23 \$3,278,134.

1 **DSM Revenue Adjustment** (Adjustment 3.11) – This adjustment corrects the
2 allocation of Oregon Deferred DSM revenues that were erroneously allocated
3 system-wide. Adjustment 3.11 reduces Utah allocated revenues by \$473,508.

4 **Customer Reclassification** (Adjustment 3.12) – This adjustment reclassifies the
5 revenues from firm sales to an Idaho firm customer that were inappropriately
6 allocated system-wide. Adjustment 3.12 reduces Utah allocated revenues by
7 \$531,800.

8 **Tariff 300 Revenue Normalized** (Adjustment 3.13) – In an order dated
9 September 13, 1999 in Docket No. 97-035-01 the Commission approved changes
10 to Tariff Schedule 300 customer charges, including charges for interest, returned
11 check charges and miscellaneous service revenues. This adjustment annualizes
12 the effect of these changes as though they had been in effect for the entire year.
13 Adjustment 3.13 reduces Utah revenues by \$256,412.

14 Q. Please explain O&M adjustments 4.1 through 4.5, 4.7, 4.8, 4.10, 4.13, 4.14 and
15 4.18 in Tab 4.

16 A. **FAS 106 Deferred Charges** (Adjustment 4.1) – FAS 106 established accounting
17 as well as disclosure standards for employers with post-retirement benefit plans.
18 It requires that post-retirement benefit expenses be recognized while employees
19 are actively employed and earning these benefits rather than after they have
20 retired. Prior to this new accounting standard, PacifiCorp was accounting for
21 these benefits on a pay-as-you-go (i.e. cash) basis. In Docket Nos. 20000-ET-92-
22 50 and 20001-ET-92-22, the Wyoming Public Service Commission (WPSC)
23 authorized an accrual method of accounting for FAS 106 along with deferral

1 treatment for the difference between accrual and pay-as-you-go for no more than
2 three years and then amortization of the balance over the next seven years.
3 PacifiCorp deferred the difference between the two methods of accounting for
4 these costs January 1993 through December 1995; during that time \$9.8 million
5 was deferred as Wyoming's portion of FAS 106 costs. In 1996 the Company
6 stopped deferring this difference and began amortization of the accumulated
7 balance. The deferred costs are now being amortized to Account 929, which is
8 allocated system wide on a System Overhead (SO) allocation factor. Adjustment
9 4.1 is necessary to correct the allocation of these costs, which should be directly
10 assigned to Wyoming. The Wyoming deferred balance will be completely
11 amortized by the end of 2002. This adjustment was approved in Docket 97-035-
12 10 and decreases Utah expense by \$519,090.

13 **FICA Adjustment** (Adjustment 4.2) – Adjustment 4.5 annualizes general wage
14 increases effective during 1999. This adjustment reflects the FICA tax increase
15 associated with the annualized General Wage Increase (Adjustments 4.5).
16 Adjustment 4.2 increases Utah tax expense by \$32,555.

17 **Early Retirement Adjustment** (Adjustment 4.3) – In 1998 PacifiCorp
18 announced an early retirement program, targeted primarily at reducing the number
19 of corporate staff and administrative support personnel. A total of 961 qualified
20 employees opted to take advantage of this program. Those qualified for early
21 retirement were able to begin leaving in April 1998. Adjustment 4.3 amortizes
22 the expense of the program over five years as authorized by the Commission's

1 order in Docket No. 99-035-10, increasing Utah expense by \$7,974,736,
2 increasing rate base by \$16,586,434 and reflecting deferred tax effects.

3 **Remove LTIP** (Adjustment 4.4) – This adjustment removes the costs of the
4 Company’s long-term executive incentive compensation plan, LTIP, from the test
5 period in accordance with the Commission’s order in Docket No. 97-035-10.
6 Adjustment 4.4 decreases Utah’s expense by \$853,417.

7 **Annualized - General Wage Increase** (Adjustment 4.5) – PacifiCorp has several
8 labor groups, each with different effective contract renewal dates. The Company
9 negotiates wage increases with each of these groups throughout the year.
10 Adjustment 4.5 annualizes the effective wage increases received during 1999 for
11 labor charged to operation and maintenance accounts. This annualization was
12 calculated by identifying actual wages for each labor group, by month and then
13 applying the negotiated wage increase to the wages for the months prior to the
14 effective contract date. This adjustment restates expense as though the wage
15 increase was effective for the entire test period. No adjustment to rate base was
16 made to reflect the increase in capitalized wages. Adjustment 4.5 increases
17 Utah’s allocated share of operating and maintenance expense by \$506,122.

18 **Pension Adjustment** (Adjustment 4.7) – In 1997 PacifiCorp adopted the method
19 of recognizing pension expense mandated by FAS 87 for financial reporting
20 purposes, resulting in the write-off of the pension regulatory asset. This
21 adjustment reflects the second year of a ten-year amortization of the pension
22 regulatory asset and is consistent with the Commission’s order in Docket 99-035-

1 10. Adjustment 4.7 increases Utah's allocated share of pension expense by
2 \$3,164,747 and reflects the appropriate deferred income tax effects.

3 **Allocation of CSS Costs** (Adjustment 4.8) – During 1999 the ongoing support
4 and miscellaneous enhancement costs for the Company's Customer Service
5 System (CSS) were charged to administrative and general expense accounts that
6 are allocated on the System Overhead (SO) factor. This adjustment reverses the
7 allocation of CSS costs on the SO factor, removes one third per Commission
8 order in Docket 99-035-10 and properly allocates the remaining costs on the
9 Customer Number (CN) factor. Adjustment 4.8 reduces Utah allocated expense
10 by \$198,182.

11 **California Wind Removal** (Adjustment 4.10) – During 1999 some miscellaneous
12 charges associated with a California wind project were inadvertently charged
13 above the line. Adjustment 4.10 removes those costs from results reducing Utah
14 expense by \$9,899.

15 **Implement Customer Service Standards** (Adjustment 4.13) – One of the
16 Company's commitments in connection with the ScottishPower merger was to
17 implement customer service standards in Utah at no additional cost to customers.
18 This adjustment removes costs related to the implementation of these standards
19 from the 1999 test year. Adjustment 4.13 reduces Utah allocated expense by
20 \$319,958 and reduces Utah allocated rate base by \$106,896.

21 **PacifiCorp Trans Adjustment** (Adjustment 4.14) – This adjusts the 1999
22 corporate aircraft residual to reflect the percent of residual allowed in electric
23 operations in Docket No. 99-035-10 based on nautical miles. In addition the gain

1 on the sale of aircraft number 206PC which was captured in the previously cited
2 case is removed. The net impact of adjustment 4.14 is to increase Utah expense by
3 \$97,603.

4 **Costs Triggered by Merger** (Adjustment 4.18) – This adjustment amortizes 1999
5 test period expense costs that were not merger costs, but that were triggered by the
6 merger. These costs relate to transition planning to achieve electric operation
7 efficiencies or the acceleration of stock plans due to the merger. The merger-
8 triggered costs are being amortized over three years for ratemaking purposes.
9 Adjustment 4.18 reduces Utah allocated expense by \$2,550,146 and increases
10 Utah allocated rate base by \$1,275,073 to reflect the un-amortized balance of
11 these costs.

12 Q. Please explain Rate Base adjustments 8.1 through 8.8, 8.12, 8.13 and 8.20 in Tab
13 8.

14 A. **Environmental Settlement** (Adjustment 8.1) – In 1996 PacifiCorp received an
15 insurance settlement of \$33 million for environmental clean-up projects. These
16 funds were transferred to a subsidiary called PacifiCorp Environmental
17 Remediation Company (PERCO). In 1998 PERCO received an additional \$5
18 million of insurance proceeds. This adjustment is necessary to reflect the
19 insurance proceeds in the test period as a reduction to rate base. The rate base
20 credit will be reduced or amortized over time as PERCO expends dollars on
21 clean-up costs. Adjustment 8.1 reduces Utah allocated rate base by \$11,422,410.

22 **CSS Disallowance** (Adjustment 8.2) - This adjustment removes one-third of the
23 Company's investment in its customer service system (CSS) software from the

1 1999 test period, consistent with the Stipulation approved by the Commission in
2 its order dated February 26, 1999 in Docket No. 97-035-01. Adjustment 8.2
3 decreases Utah allocated rate base by \$8,197,430 and expense by \$1,092,991.

4 **Trapper Mine Rate Base** (Adjustment 8.3) – PacifiCorp owns a 21.47 percent
5 interest in the Trapper Mine, which provides coal to the Craig generating plant.
6 The normalized coal cost for Trapper includes all operating and maintenance costs
7 but does not include a return on investment. This adjustment is necessary to add
8 the Company-owned portion of Trapper Mine plant investment to rate base, since
9 this investment is recorded in Account 123.1 – Investment in Subsidiary
10 Company. Account 123 is not normally a rate base account. The adjustment
11 reflects net plant rather than the actual balance in Account 123 to recognize the
12 depreciation of the investment over time. Adjustment 8.3 increases Utah
13 allocated rate base by \$1,985,371.

14 **Bridger Coal Co. Rate Base** (Adjustment 8.4) – PacifiCorp owns a two-thirds
15 interest in the Bridger Coal Company, which supplies coal to the Jim Bridger
16 generating plant. The Company’s investment in Bridger Coal Company is
17 recorded on the books of Pacific Minerals, Inc. (PMI), a wholly-owned subsidiary.
18 Because of this ownership arrangement, the coal mine investment is not included
19 in electric plant in service. The normalized coal costs for Bridger Coal Company
20 include the operating and maintenance costs of mining, but provide no return on
21 investment. Therefore, this adjustment is necessary to properly reflect the Bridger
22 Coal Company plant investment in test period rate base. Adjustment 8.4 increases
23 Utah allocated rate base by \$16,933,403.

1 **Dave Johnston (Glenrock Coal Co.) Mine Closure** (Adjustment 8.5) –
2 PacifiCorp is aggressively pursuing ways to lower fuel costs at all of its facilities.
3 Mine stripping ratios at the Dave Johnston mine have made it difficult to compete
4 with coal from the Powder River Basin. In the past, rail transportation constraints
5 have made the continued operation of the mine the most economic alternative.
6 However, PacifiCorp was able to negotiate a new transportation contract that
7 made purchasing market coal the least cost option. As a result the Dave Johnston
8 mine was closed in October 1999. This closure is ten years earlier than the
9 previously estimated mine life. Early closure means that mine reclamation cost
10 and depreciation expense were under-accrued. Therefore, in December 1997
11 PacifiCorp made an accrual for reclamation, depreciation and employee severance
12 costs to bring the accumulated balances in these accounts to the proper level by
13 the date of mine closure. This issue was presented in Docket No. 97-035-01 and
14 again in Docket No. 99-035-10. In Docket No. 99-035-10, the Commission
15 deferred to the future recovery of the mine write-down but allowed a five-year
16 amortization of the \$33 million reclamation expense incurred at the time of the
17 mine write-down to begin in 1998. This adjustment returns the mine asset to rate
18 base, takes the first year of amortization expense on the mine assets and the
19 second year of a five-year amortization of reclamation costs. It is important to
20 note that the decision to close Dave Johnston mine has resulted in savings in 1999
21 fuel costs as a result of the use of Powder River Basin coal. A full year of the fuel
22 savings from these Powder River Basin coal purchases is reflected in the Net
23 Power Cost Study. The Company is requesting the Commission to allow a five-

1 year recovery of the assets written-off, beginning in this filing. Adjustment 8.5
2 increases Utah allocated expense by \$4,677,883, adds the remaining unamortized
3 balance of \$17,624,861 to rate base and appropriately reflects deferred tax
4 effects.

5 **Computer Mainframe Write-Down** (Adjustment 8.6) – The Company removed
6 one of the mainframes from service in January 1998. In Docket No. 99-035-10
7 the Commission ordered a five-year amortization of these costs. Adjustment 8.6
8 reflects the second year of amortization increasing Utah expenses by \$885,061,
9 increases rate base by \$3,097,714 and reflects deferred tax effects.

10 **SAP Rate Base** (Adjustment 8.7) – This adjustment is necessary to annualize the
11 cost of the SAP system added to rate base during 1999. Adjustment 8.7 increases
12 expense by \$1,704,275, increases rate base by \$9,647,152 and reflects deferred tax
13 effects.

14 **Software Write-down** (Adjustment 8.8) – The Company’s new SAP (Systems
15 Applications and Products) software product replaced several outdated finance,
16 human resources, materials, work management, and project administration
17 software systems. With the installation of new systems, the existing systems
18 became obsolete. In order to complete the amortization of the old software costs,
19 an adjustment was necessary. The remaining unamortized balance was written off
20 in 1997. In Docket No. 99-035-10 the Commission ruled that “SAP was not fully
21 implemented during the test year so expected productivity enhancements have not
22 yet occurred”, and the write-off was added back to rate base. SAP was used
23 throughout 1999, and adjustment 8.8 reflects the first year of a three year

1 amortization, thus increasing Utah allocated software amortization expense by
2 \$843,282, adds the unamortized balance of \$2,108,205 to rate base and reflects
3 deferred tax effects.

4 **QF Contract Buyouts** (Adjustment 8.12) – Under the 1978 Public Utilities
5 Regulatory Policy Act (PURPA), investor-owned utilities were required to
6 purchase power from qualifying generation facilities that could provide power at
7 or below the utility’s avoided cost. These contracts, which have been approved by
8 state regulatory commissions, are known as Qualifying Facilities (QF) contracts.
9 During 1999 the Company negotiated a buy-out of the Bogus Creek QF contract at
10 less than the present value of the future required payments under the contract.
11 This buy-out is being amortized over the remaining life of the contract. Rate base
12 is being adjusted to reflect the buyout as if it had occurred at January 1, 1999. In
13 1998, PacifiCorp negotiated a buyout of the Lacombe Irrigation QF contract that is
14 being amortized over the remaining life of that contract. This adjustment also
15 removes prior period amortization expense related to the Lacombe contract,
16 annualizes the amortization expense and restates the beginning balances for the
17 contracts to reflect the appropriate amortization. Adjustment 8.12 decreases Utah
18 allocated operating expense by \$9,016 and increases rate base by \$287,134.

19 **Remove SERP Reserve** (Adjustment 8.13) -- Supplemental Executive
20 Retirement Plan (SERP) expense is accrued each year in accordance with the
21 actuarial report. The excess of this accrual over payouts under the plan is recorded
22 as a liability. The SERP reserve liability account was not identified as a rate base

1 deduction in the Company's unadjusted results of operations. Adjustment 8.13
2 includes the SERP reserve as a rate base deduction to Utah of \$5,983,799.

3 **Amortization of Y2K Cost** (Adjustment 8.20) – The Company has incurred
4 expense for the last three years to ensure that all the Company’s computer
5 hardware and software systems were Y2K compliant. The Commission ordered a
6 three-year amortization of those costs in Docket No. 99-035-10. Adjustment 8.20
7 reverses costs incurred during 1999 and replaces those with the second year
8 amortization of 1998 and the first year of 1999. This adjustment reduces Utah
9 allocated expense by \$508,111 and increases rate base by \$4,121,222.

10 **Changes from Docket No. 99-035-10**

11 Q. You indicated earlier that this filing was prepared in accordance with the
12 provisions of the Commission’s order in Docket No. 99-035-10 with certain
13 exceptions. Please describe these differences.

14 A. This filing is consistent with the findings of the most recent Commission order
15 with the exception of seven issues that I have identified below. For each of these
16 issues the Company is asking the Commission to adopt a different position than it
17 adopted in Docket No. 99-035-10. Those issues are: (1) the allocation of
18 Account 903 expenses; (2) the development of the System Generation (SG) factor;
19 (3) the amortization of system software write-downs; (4) the amortization of the
20 Glenrock Mine write-off, (5) the normalization of bad debt expense; (6) the
21 inclusion of Condit Hydro Plant removal costs in depreciation expense; and (7)
22 the inclusion of Bridger Coal Company Accounts Receivable.

1 Q. Please explain how the filing in the proceeding departs from the Commission's
2 previous order with respect to the seven issues you have identified.

3 A. I will address each of these issues individually.

4 **Account 903 Expense Allocation**

5 In the Company's last two general rate case filings before this Commission, the
6 Division of Public Utilities (DPU) has raised concerns about the appropriate
7 allocation factor that should be used to allocate costs in Customer Services
8 Account 903. In Docket 99-035-10 the Commission ordered the DPU and the
9 Company to work together to determine the appropriate allocation factor for
10 Account 903 costs before the next rate case. Since the date of the order, Company
11 representatives have met with the DPU, and an approach for reviewing this issue
12 has been discussed. However, this review process has not been completed
13 because both Division and Company staff assigned to the project have been
14 occupied by other pressing issues. Because test period data indicates a
15 relationship between the number of customers served and the incurrence of
16 customer expense, the Company has used the CN factor to allocate Account 903
17 costs in this filing. For example, current data shows that the number of phone
18 calls to the Business Centers that originated in Utah continues to closely track the
19 relative number of customers in Utah, as represented by the CN factor. Use of the
20 CN factor for Account 903 and other customer accounts provides an overall level
21 of Utah customer service expense that is cost-causation based and consistent with
22 prior years' amounts.

23

1 **Calculation of the System Generation (SG) Factor**

2 In its order in Docket No. 99-035-10 the Commission observed that the SG factor
3 is the weighted average of the System Capacity (SC) factor, a measure of peak
4 load responsibility, and the System Energy (SE) factor, a measure of annual usage.
5 The Commission explained that the SC factor is constructed by identifying the
6 hour when the combined firm retail loads of all jurisdictions attain a maximum for
7 every month of the test year. Each jurisdiction’s load is measured in megawatts at
8 the identified peak hour of the month. The monthly peak loads for each
9 jurisdiction are then added together to obtain an annual jurisdiction figure. The
10 SC factor is the ratio of a jurisdiction’s annual figure to the total for all
11 jurisdictions.

12 In this same docket, the DPU argued that the SC factor is relatively
13 sensitive to changes in the time of day used to identify the monthly peak. The
14 Division observed that in 1998 all four monthly system winter peaks occurred
15 during the evening, which was a departure from timing of winter peaks in
16 previous years. The Division argued that the calculation of the SC factor in the
17 manner described by the Commission produced an abnormal result in 1998
18 because of this change in the timing of these monthly peaks. On this basis the
19 DPU proposed to set aside the Commission-approved method of calculating the
20 SG factor and substituting a “normalized” factor based on the 4% average growth
21 rate in the SC factor from 1992 to 1996. The Company opposed the Division’s
22 adjustment, explaining that the 1998 SC and SG factors were consistent with
23 general load growth trends during 1992-1998. Believing that it lacked an

1 appropriate explanation for the deviation of the 1998 SC factor from a 1993 to
2 1997 trend line, the Commission adopted the DPU adjustment.

3 PacifiCorp believes that information from the 1999 test period shows the
4 lack of basis for the Division's "normalizing" of the SC factor. In 1999 the
5 Company experienced two winter evening peaks, down from the four evening
6 peaks experienced in 1998 and consistent with the two evening peaks seen in
7 1997. However, the SC factor calculated by the method described above by the
8 Commission increased from 34.95 percent in 1998 to 36.30 percent in 1999.
9 Thus, we see that the SC factor increased from 1997 to 1998 when the winter
10 evening peaks increased from two to four and increased again from 1998 to 1999
11 when the winter evening peaks decreased from four to two. Contrary to the
12 DPU's assertion in the 99-035-10 case, it is now clear that the increase in the SC
13 factor is not due to sensitivity to changes in the time of day used to identify the
14 monthly peak. Rather, as the Company has maintained, the growth in the SC and
15 SG factors has been and continues to be driven by the high load growth on the
16 Utah system, relative to the load growth in the Company's other retail
17 jurisdictions. This explanation is entirely consistent with the construction of the
18 SC factor as explained by the Commission. The fact is that during 1999 Utah
19 grew by 3.8 percent, which is far more than any other jurisdiction. Indeed, since
20 1989 the Utah jurisdiction has outgrown all other jurisdictions by more than a
21 two-to-one margin. Based on this continued pattern of load growth, the Company
22 has calculated the SG factor used in this filing in accordance with this
23 Commission's authorized method described in Docket 97-035-04. It is important

1 to note that the Company has not updated the loads used in this filing to reflect
2 2000 usage levels, resulting in allocation factors that are already conservative
3 from a Utah perspective.

4 **Software Write-offs**

5 In Docket No. 99-035-10 the Commission found that the Company's "legacy"
6 software (replaced by SAP) was still used and useful during 1998 and ordered it to
7 be added back to rate base until a better match of cost and benefits could be
8 achieved. SAP was the Company's accounting system for all of 1999. In addition
9 customers have benefited from lower labor costs through 1999 from the early
10 retirement program, a part of which was enabled by SAP. Therefore, the
11 Company began a three-year amortization of these obsolete software costs,
12 beginning in 1999.

13 **Glenrock Mine Cost Write-off**

14 The Commission ruled in Docket 99-035-10 that since reclamation work at the
15 Glenrock Mine had begun during the 1998 test period, the Company would be
16 allowed to begin amortization of those reclamation costs over a five-year period.
17 However, the Commission ruled that the Company could not begin amortization
18 of the rate base in that case because the "primary savings" associated with the
19 purchase of Powder River Basin coal did not occur in 1998. The current filing
20 continues with the second year of reclamation amortization approved by the
21 Commission and begins the first year of rate base amortization. The Company
22 believes this is appropriate since the Glenrock mine was closed in October of

1 1999 and fuel costs have been normalized to reflect a full year of the Powder
2 River Basin contract coal prices.

3 **Normalization of Bad Debt Expense**

4 In Docket No. 99-035-10 the Commission found that actual 1998 uncollectible
5 expense was problematic and chose to normalize bad debts by using a three-year
6 1994 through 1996 average. However, in this proceeding the Company has
7 included bad debt expense at a level consistent with 2000 actual experience (11
8 months actual, 1 month estimated). In recent years the Company has made a
9 concerted effort to reduce uncollectible accounts, and in 2000 bad debt expense
10 has dropped to a level consistent with the 1994-1996 average. Since recent
11 experience is now consistent with benchmark levels, the Company believes it is
12 appropriate to put aside the historical averaging approach and use the best
13 available current data in determining test period uncollectible expense.

14 **Condit Hydro Plant Removal Cost**

15 In Docket No. 99-035-10 the Commission found that additional depreciation
16 expense accrued in 1998 for the Condit dam removal should be removed from the
17 test period because the removal agreement was signed after the test year and had
18 not been approved. However, the removal agreement was signed and the FERC
19 approval process was initiated in 1999. In addition, on April 1, 2000, new
20 depreciation rates became effective that continue the recovery of Condit dam
21 removal costs. Because the dam removal agreement has been formalized and the
22 recovery of dam removal costs has begun through Commission-approved

1 depreciation rates, the Company's filing makes no adjustment to 1999 Condit dam
2 removal costs.

3 **Bridger Coal Company Accounts Receivable**

4 In its order in Docket No. 99-035-10 the Commission adopted an adjustment
5 proposed by the Committee of Consumer Services to eliminate the Bridger
6 Accounts Receivable from rate base. This adjustment was opposed by both the
7 Company and the DPU. In fact, the accounts payable balance for Bridger Coal
8 Company is included in the updated lead-lag study (December 1998) used to
9 calculate cash working capital in this case. The Bridger Coal Company receivable
10 balance must, therefore, be included in ratebase to offset the lower cash working
11 capital that results from including Bridger's payable balance. For this reason the
12 Company has included the Bridger Coal Company accounts receivable balance in
13 the test period rate base.

14 **Loads**

15 Q. Have loads been updated to 2000 levels?

16 A. No. As previously mentioned, the Company has only made price changes to
17 reflect current tariffs or market prices. No adjustment was made to loads for
18 revenues, allocation factors or power costs.

19 **Conclusion**

20 Q. In summary what conclusion does your testimony support?

21 A. My testimony, along with that of Messrs. Peterson and Weston, demonstrates that
22 PacifiCorp's normalized earnings in its Utah service territory supports a price
23 increase of \$142.2 million (19.1 percent).

1 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

2 A. Yes.