

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address and present position with**  
2 **PacifiCorp (the Company).**

3 A. My name is Daniel J. Rosborough. My business address is 825 N.E. Multnomah,  
4 Suite 1800, Portland, Oregon 97232. My present position is Director of  
5 Employee Benefits.

6 **Qualifications**

7 **Q. Briefly describe your education and business experience.**

8 A. I have been employed by PacifiCorp for 21 years and I have served as the  
9 Director of Benefits for approximately 11 years. I attended Lane Community  
10 College and the University of Oregon.

11 **Q. Please describe your current duties.**

12 A. My responsibilities include the analysis, design, administration and compliance of  
13 the Company's health and welfare and retirement programs.

14 **Purpose of Testimony**

15 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

16 A. My testimony is divided into two parts. In the first section, I will describe two  
17 types of PacifiCorp's pension expenses for which the Company is seeking  
18 recovery in this case. The Company proposes to recover in base rates \$41.6  
19 million in annualized pension costs for PacifiCorp's defined benefit pension plan  
20 for the future Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 test period used in this case. In addition, the  
21 Company is seeking to recover in base rates \$3.0 million in pension expense  
22 associated with a test-year contribution for the significant majority of employees  
23 of PacifiCorp represented by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

1 (“IBEW”) Local 57. In the second section of my testimony, I describe the  
2 Company’s proposal to recover in rates the \$111.9 million in the test period  
3 medical, dental and other benefit coverage costs and explain the major reasons for  
4 the increase in those costs. Finally, I describe the actions the Company is taking  
5 to control those costs.

6 **Pension Expense**

7 **Defined Benefit Pension Plan Expense**

8 **Q. How is the Company’s pension expense determined?**

9 A. The expense for the plan is determined annually by an independent actuary,  
10 Hewitt Associates, as prescribed by the Financial Accounting Standards Board  
11 through its accounting standard governing the calculation of pension expense  
12 (SFAS 87). Under SFAS 87, the pension expense amount is calculated by the  
13 actuary based upon the actual demographics of the participants in the plan, the  
14 expected benefits to be paid, expected terminations and retirements, expected pay  
15 raises, current interest rates for valuing the plan’s liabilities and a forecast of the  
16 expected long-term rate of return on plan assets. Pension expense is calculated by  
17 the actuary on a calendar year basis but SFAS 87 permits this calculation to be  
18 used by companies utilizing a different fiscal year, such as PacifiCorp, provided  
19 the fiscal year end is no more than three months divergent from the calendar year.  
20 To the extent that actual investment returns and other experiences with the plan  
21 differ from the expectations, these differences are amortized into future expense  
22 once they exceed a certain threshold.

1 **Q. What is the plan's current funding status?**

2 A. The plan is currently underfunded. This situation exists for two primary reasons:  
3 unusually low interest rates (which means the current valuation of liabilities are  
4 artificially high); and poor investment returns over the 2000 – 2002 period when  
5 most investment markets have performed poorly. Strong investment performance  
6 in 2003 and significant cash contributions (the company contributed \$61 million  
7 in April of 2004) have stabilized and actually improved the funded status over the  
8 past 18 months. As of January 1, 2004, the plan's funded status was  
9 approximately 70 percent.

10 **Q. Is the plan underfunded due to offering benefits that are more valuable than**  
11 **those of other comparable utility companies?**

12 A. No. The company retains Hewitt Associates to conduct a comparison of its  
13 benefit programs to those of other utilities every other year to ensure  
14 competitiveness. The last such survey was done in mid-2002 and showed the  
15 PacifiCorp Retirement Plan to be comparable to the average defined benefit plan  
16 value of other surveyed utilities. Attached as Exhibit UP&L\_\_\_(DJR-1) is an  
17 introduction to the survey results and the page related to the evaluation of the  
18 defined benefit plan. As the survey shows, PacifiCorp's defined benefit plan is  
19 within 2 percent of the value of the average of all other plans included in the  
20 survey group.

21 **Q. Who actually participates in the company retirement plans?**

22 A. As of January 1, 2004, the PacifiCorp Retirement Plan has approximately 4,150  
23 active participants and the Local 57 plan approximately another 1,460. Of this

1 total of 5,610 participants, approximately 2,100 (37 percent) reside and work in  
2 the state of Utah.

3 **Q. Are the pension plans of other utilities impacted by the same economic**  
4 **conditions?**

5 A. Yes. PacifiCorp is no different than other utilities, or plan sponsors in other  
6 industries for that matter, in this regard. Trust fund investments over the 2000 -  
7 2002 period performed poorly for almost every large fund, and interest rate  
8 declines inflate the liabilities of all pension plans. Investment returns were strong  
9 in 2003 which helped asset growth, but interest rates remained very low, if not  
10 lower than in 2002, which means that liabilities of plans stayed very high.

11 **Q. Who oversees the money that is contributed to the Company's pension plan?**

12 A. The Company has appointed a Committee that has a fiduciary responsibility to  
13 oversee the prudence of the investment of those assets and determine the asset  
14 allocation investment strategy. All plan assets are held in a trust and those assets  
15 can only be used for the benefit of plan participants. PacifiCorp's Committee has  
16 retained outside consultants to assist in this function and have delegated the actual  
17 investment responsibility to outside professional investment managers. The plan  
18 assets are broadly diversified across asset classes and investment managers.  
19 Relative to comparable corporate plans, over the last five years the PacifiCorp  
20 plan's investment returns have been above those of the median peer plan.

21 **Q. What is the level of pension expense included in the Company's request?**

22 A. The Company is seeking to recover \$41.6 million in expected pension expense.  
23 This is based on actual FY 2005 expense of \$31.5 million which was a SFAS 87

1 actuarial calculation conducted by the Company's actuary, Hewitt Associates.  
2 The FY 2006 calculation included in this filing was developed using the actual  
3 2005 expense as a baseline and incorporated an expected actual investment return  
4 of 4 percent for calendar year 2004 (because the actual calendar year through May  
5 2004 was essentially zero to 1 percent positive) and 8 percent for 2005. The  
6 calculation also included an expected increase in the discount rate used to value  
7 the plan's liabilities from 6.25 percent, which is the discount rate used in the FY  
8 2005 calculations, to 6.50 percent. Page 1 of Exhibit UP&L\_\_\_\_(DJR-2) explains  
9 the allocation of FY 2004 and FY 2005 pension expense and page 2 of Exhibit  
10 UP&L\_\_\_\_(DJR-2) provides a reconciliation of projected FY 2006 pension  
11 expense to actual FY 2005 pension expense. Both pages of this exhibit were  
12 prepared by its actuary, Hewitt Associates. The filing also requests recovery of  
13 \$3.0 million in budgeted pension expense related to contributions to the Local 57  
14 Retirement Program that the Company intends to make in February of 2006.

15 **Q. What does the company expect to happen to pension expense after FY 2006?**

16 A. Using the same baseline data utilized in the FY 2006 analysis, we expect pension  
17 expense for the PacifiCorp plan to increase to \$42.2 million in FY 2007. This  
18 analysis is based on an expected actual 8 percent asset return for 2006 and an  
19 increase in the discount rate to 6.75 percent.

20 **Q. Why is the expected cost rising so dramatically?**

21 A. The PacifiCorp Retirement Plan expense increased dramatically from FY2004  
22 (\$14.8M) to FY 2005 (\$31.5M) and is expected to increase dramatically again in  
23 FY 2006 (\$41.6M). The average increase between 2003 through 2006 is \$13.7

1 million per year. This is primarily due to investment losses which occurred  
2 between 2000 and 2002. During those three years, the Plan experienced \$450  
3 million of asset losses. Reflecting those has an obvious and significant impact on  
4 pension expense. However, because we spread those losses over the succeeding  
5 five years (spreading losses and gains to mitigate volatility is allowed under FAS  
6 87 and a very commonly used practice among large pension plans), the resulting  
7 increase in pension expense is smoothed over the period and, in effect, what could  
8 be a really dramatic increase in pension expense is smoothed. But that also means  
9 that those losses continue to build into the succeeding years' pension expense  
10 until each year is fully amortized, so it will take until 2007 or 2008 for them to be  
11 fully recognized. The expense pattern for the Local 57 Plan has been steadier and  
12 actually declined since it reached \$5.65M in FY 2004. We expect that the need  
13 for continuing contributions will not reach those same levels for several years.

14 **IBEW 57 Pension Expense**

15 **Q. Please describe the IBEW 57 pension expense.**

16 A. The Company contribution for this expense is subject to the collective bargaining  
17 process. In accordance with that process, the Company made a \$5 million  
18 contribution in 2003 and \$5.6 million contribution in 2004 and intends to make a  
19 \$3.0 million contribution during the test period. The reason for the lower test  
20 period contribution (relative to earlier levels) is that the plan's investment return  
21 was very positive in 2003 and the necessity of additional cash contributions has  
22 lessened. When the plan was first established pursuant to collective bargaining in  
23 1998-1999, the union and the Company agreed that the Company would

1 contribute 7 percent of eligible pay to the plan, but that favorable investment  
2 return would be recognized as lessening the need for contributions at that 7  
3 percent level.

4 **Q. Why is this pension expense separate from the defined benefit plan expense**  
5 **discussed above?**

6 A. Simply because it is a separate plan. The Local 57 plan was negotiated in  
7 1998/1999 and effective July 1, 1999. PacifiCorp is not the plan sponsor but is  
8 contractually obligated through the collective bargaining process to make  
9 contributions on the behalf of employees represented by Local 57 and eligible to  
10 participate. Prior benefits earned by these same employees, and assets to pay the  
11 benefits, were transferred to this new plan in 2001 and those benefits are now the  
12 obligation of that Trust and not the obligation of the PacifiCorp Retirement Plan.  
13 The Trustees of the PacifiCorp/IBEW Local 57 Retirement Trust Fund now  
14 manage these assets. There are four Trustees from PacifiCorp management and  
15 four from Local 57 IBEW leadership. The Trust employs professional actuarial  
16 consultants, administrators, an attorney, an auditor and investment managers.  
17 PacifiCorp provides funding to the plan based upon a collectively bargained  
18 agreement and annual negotiations.

19 **Q. What ratemaking treatment is PacifiCorp seeking for the IBEW 57 pension**  
20 **expense?**

21 A. PacifiCorp proposes to recover the \$3.0 million test period contribution it intends  
22 to make in February 2006.

1 **Medical, Dental and Other Benefit Coverage Costs**

2 **Q. What level of medical, dental and other benefit costs are included in the**  
3 **Company's revenue requirement in this case?**

4 A. The Company expects to record \$111.9 million in FY 2006 for medical, dental  
5 and other benefit costs that it expects to incur during the test period (non-pension  
6 expenses). This represents an increase of \$7.6 million over the equivalent FY  
7 2005 expense of \$104.3 million.

8 **Q. Please explain the reasons for the increase in these costs.**

9 A. The increase in medical coverage costs is the primary reason for the increase in  
10 these costs. PacifiCorp's health plans, like almost every other health plan in the  
11 United States, have been experiencing significant increases in medical inflation.  
12 The primary drivers behind the increases are:

- 13 • Lesser degree of effectiveness of managed care plans. It is widely believed  
14 that after several years of successful negotiations with providers to minimize  
15 annual cost increases, the "market" has now turned and providers are being  
16 more successful at negotiating increases with managed care networks;
- 17 • Government mandates and continued cost shifting by government plans to the  
18 private sector;
- 19 • An aging population;
- 20 • The cost of prescription drugs, compounded by very effective direct consumer  
21 marketing;
- 22 • Increased prevalence of chronic and high cost treatment; and
- 23 • Development and expansion of new medical technology.



1 **Q. How do the medical cost increases that PacifiCorp has been experiencing**  
2 **relate to the cost increases being experienced by other employers?**

3 A. Over the past several years, PacifiCorp's increases relative to other medical plans  
4 have been relatively favorable. Exhibit UP&L\_\_\_\_(DJR-3) outlines the recent  
5 history of increases for PacifiCorp's primary health plans relative to how a similar  
6 set of plans would have fared using national medical inflation experience. As the  
7 exhibit demonstrates, PacifiCorp's plans have performed better than the average  
8 plan experience. As illustrated in Exhibit UP&L\_\_\_\_(DJR-3), PacifiCorp's  
9 electric operations group has experienced a five-year trend of 55.5 percent in  
10 medical costs while the national average for the same types of plans have  
11 increased by 66.8 percent.

12 **Q. Has PacifiCorp made any changes to its medical programs or practices to try**  
13 **to mitigate the cost increases?**

14 A. Yes. Over the past few years, a number of changes have been incorporated into  
15 the PacifiCorp plan design to attempt to mitigate cost increases, including:

- 16 • Implementation of a mail order prescription drug program. These programs  
17 have proven affective at slowing the increases in this area, which for most  
18 plans has been the most difficult cost challenge;
- 19 • Required employee contributions have been increased each year for the past  
20 several years, with the most significant increases coming in the 2002-2005  
21 period. Over this period, PacifiCorp is moving to an overall lower level of  
22 Company subsidy for medical benefits;

- 1           • Expansion of geographic locations offering managed care plans. In areas  
2           where a managed care plan can be supported, the Company has expanded  
3           these offerings accordingly;
- 4           • The plan has for several years included a fully paid physical exam benefit for  
5           covered individuals. In order to continue to emphasize long term cost savings  
6           and improved health through a “preventive medicine” approach, this benefit  
7           was slightly improved in 2003;
- 8           • The Company has continually expanded the educational materials and  
9           resources for plan participants in order to make them better consumers of the  
10          plan and best utilize plan benefits. Included in this arena are access to a 24  
11          hour Nurse Advice Line, an on-line health risk assessment tool and access to  
12          specialty programs for transplants and other high costs claim areas; and
- 13          • Employee cost sharing has steadily increased over the past several years  
14          through increases to annual out of pocket limits. During 2004, the company  
15          paid 91 percent of the total plan cost and employees paid 9 percent. This will  
16          be adjusted again in 2005 so that employees will be paying 10 percent of the  
17          monthly cost of the plan.
- 18          • Elimination of the \$100 deductible medical plan. This plan option was the  
19          least cost effective plan offered by PacifiCorp and is being eliminated in 2005.
- 20          • Implementation of a Consumer Driven Health Plan and a Disease  
21          Management program. These plans are anticipated to be instrumental in  
22          controlling the long term cost challenges of our programs. In 2004, we  
23          implemented changes to the prescription drug program to increase the

1           employee's cost sharing and further incent the use of generic drugs.

2           Exhibit UP&L\_\_\_(DJR-4) is an exhibit which provides a summary of  
3           survey results for the Company's health care programs, conducted in 2002 by  
4           Hewitt Associates. This survey data demonstrates that PacifiCorp's plans are  
5           very representative of those offered by other electric utilities.

6   **Q.   Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

7   A.   Yes.