

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH**

<p><b>In the Matter of the Application of US Magnesium LLC for Determination of Rates and Conditions for Interruptible Service From and QF Sales To Rocky Mountain Power</b></p>	<p><b>DOCKET NO. 09-035-20</b></p>
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**PREFILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF PAUL H. CLEMENTS**

August 20, 2009

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

3 A. My name is Paul H. Clements. My business address is 201 S. Main, Suite 2300,  
4 Salt Lake City, Utah 84111. My present position is Originator/Power Marketer  
5 for PacifiCorp Energy. PacifiCorp Energy and Rocky Mountain Power are  
6 divisions of PacifiCorp (the Company).

7 **QUALIFICATIONS**

8 **Q. Please briefly describe your education and business experience.**

9 A. I have a B.S. in Business Management from Brigham Young University. I have  
10 been employed with PacifiCorp for five years as an originator/power marketer  
11 responsible for negotiating qualifying facility contracts, negotiating interruptible  
12 retail special contracts, negotiating renewable energy contracts, and managing  
13 wholesale energy and capacity contracts with other utilities and power marketers.  
14 I also worked in the merchant energy sector for 10 years in pricing and  
15 structuring, origination, and trading roles for Duke Energy and Illinova.

16 **PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY**

17 **Q. On whose behalf are you testifying in this proceeding?**

18 A. I am testifying on behalf of PacifiCorp, dba Rocky Mountain Power.

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

20 A. I will be presenting information in support of the five year electric service  
21 agreement (“ESA”) between Rocky Mountain Power and US Magnesium LLC  
22 (“US Mag”) dated August 17, 2009. I will also present information in support of

23 the one year qualifying facility power purchase agreement (“QF PPA”) executed  
24 by the parties on August 19, 2009.

25 **TESTIMONY OVERVIEW**

26 **Q. Please provide a brief overview of the items you will address in your**  
27 **testimony.**

28 A. The focus of my testimony will be in two areas: 1) issues related to the ESA and  
29 2) issues related to the QF PPA. Regarding the ESA, I will first provide a brief  
30 overview of how past agreements between the parties have been structured. I will  
31 then provide a summary of the structure and the material terms and conditions of  
32 the proposed new ESA. I will then provide more specific details regarding certain  
33 key components of the new ESA, including the initial energy rates, the  
34 mechanism to be used to adjust the rates throughout the term, and the interruptible  
35 terms and conditions included in the ESA. Regarding the QF PPA, I will first  
36 provide a summary of the terms and conditions of the QF PPA. I will then  
37 provide some comments on the line loss adjustment included in the QF PPA.

38 **TESTIMONY RELATED TO THE ESA**

39 **Q. Please provide a brief overview of past electric service agreements between**  
40 **the parties.**

41 A. It is my understanding that Mr. Roger Swenson intends to provide an overview of  
42 the past agreements between the parties and the unique history and operating  
43 characteristics of US Mag as part of his direct testimony filed on behalf of US  
44 Mag. I will also provide a brief overview, focusing mostly on the current  
45 agreement which will expire at the end of 2009, in order to provide additional

46 context for how the parties arrived at the proposed new ESA. US Mag has been  
47 an interruptible customer of the Company since the late 1960s. The specific  
48 structure and terms of the electric service agreements between the parties have  
49 varied somewhat over the years, but the interruptible nature of the contract has  
50 been constant. In late 2004, the Commission approved the existing agreement  
51 between the parties, which is set to expire on December 31, 2009, in Docket No.  
52 03-035-19. That agreement contained to following material terms and  
53 conditions:

- 54 1. US Mag's initial rates were set based on the cost of service study. The  
55 cost of service study accounted for interruptible rights granted to the  
56 Company by US Mag for the purpose of reducing peak demand.
- 57 2. US Mag's rates adjusted during the term of the contract based on  
58 changes to Utah Schedule No. 9.
- 59 3. The agreement included interruptible rights that allowed the Company  
60 to interrupt US Mag's load during periods of peak demand. The  
61 Company had the right to curtail US Mag's load for up to four hours  
62 per day during the summer months of June through September when  
63 the day-ahead temperature forecast reached a certain level. The  
64 Company could curtail US Mag's load an additional two hours per day  
65 in the event the temperature forecast was above 99 degrees Fahrenheit.  
66 The Company also had the right to curtail US Mag's load during the  
67 months of December and January for up to four hours per day  
68 regardless of temperature.

69                   4.    The agreement included additional interruptible rights that allowed the  
70                                    Company to interrupt US Mag’s load at any time in the event of a  
71                                    system emergency.

72   **Q.    Please provide an overview of the structure and the material terms of the**  
73   **new ESA.**

74   A.    The structure and the terms of the new ESA are similar to those found in the  
75   existing agreement which was approved by the Commission in Docket No. 03-  
76   035-19 and described earlier in my testimony. The initial rates in the new ESA  
77   are based on the cost of service study resulting from the Company’s most recently  
78   decided general rate case, Docket No. 08-035-38. The cost of service study  
79   accounts for the interruptible rights set forth in the agreement for the purpose of  
80   reducing peak demand. The agreement includes automatic step increases that  
81   result in US Mag arriving at the targeted cost of service study rate within four  
82   years. The step increases are front end loaded, which results in US Mag closing  
83   the gap between the current and the targeted rate in a more accelerated manner.  
84   In addition to the automatic step increases, the agreement includes a rate  
85   adjustment provision that provides for additional rate increases over the term of  
86   the agreement based on changes to the Utah Schedule No. 9 rates. The agreement  
87   also includes interruptible provisions similar to the existing agreement, in which  
88   the Company is allowed to interrupt US Mag’s load in the summer months based  
89   on the day-ahead temperature forecast and in the winter months regardless of  
90   temperature. As a modification from past agreements, the Company will now be  
91   allowed to bank curtailment hours during times when interruption is allowed by

92 the agreement but not needed by the Company and then use those banked hours  
93 during times when interruption is not otherwise allowed by the agreement but the  
94 Company deems interruption is needed for operational flexibility.

95 **Q. How were the initial rates in the ESA determined?**

96 A. The initial rates were set based on the cost of service study resulting from the  
97 Company's most recently decided general rate case, Docket No. 08-035-38. The  
98 cost of service study showed a required increase of 31.26%, or \$7.2 million, for  
99 US Mag. Given the magnitude of the required increase, the parties agreed to a  
100 concept of gradualism in the implementation of the increase, with the conditions  
101 that a schedule be set forth that resulted in the implementation of the full increase  
102 in a reasonable time period and that a mechanism be put in place to prevent such  
103 large deviances from the cost of service study in the future. The new ESA  
104 accomplishes both of these objectives. The new ESA includes automatic step  
105 increases that result in US Mag arriving at full rates based on the cost of service  
106 study within four years. The step increases are front end loaded, with 30% of the  
107 required increase occurring effective January 1, 2010, 25% of the required  
108 increase occurring effective January 1, 2011, 20% of the required increase  
109 occurring effective January 1, 2012, 15% of the required increase occurring  
110 effective January 1, 2013, and 10% of the required increase occurring effective  
111 January 1, 2014. This results in automatic increases of 9.4% in 2010, 7.1% in  
112 2011, 5.3% in 2012, 3.8% in 2013 and 2.4% in 2014. With these automatic step  
113 increases, US Mag will close the current 31.26% gap between its 2009 contract  
114 rates and the rates required by the cost of service study in the most recently

115 decided general rate case within four years. US Mag will be subject to  
116 incremental rate changes during this term as well, which I will describe next in  
117 my testimony.

118 **Q. In addition to the automatic step increases, how else will US Mag's rate**  
119 **adjust over the term of the new ESA?**

120 A. Similar to the existing ESA, the new ESA contains a rate adjustment mechanism  
121 that calls for US Mag's rates to adjust annually based on changes that occurred in  
122 the prior year to the Utah Schedule No. 9 rates. In the existing agreement, the  
123 adjustment was based on 50% of the change to the Utah Schedule No. 9 rates. In  
124 the new ESA, the adjustment is based on 100% of the change to the Utah  
125 Schedule No. 9 rates. This means US Mag's rates will adjust annually by the  
126 same percentage change that other large industrial customers receive who take  
127 service under Utah Schedule No. 9. This adjustment mechanism will result in US  
128 Mag's rates being more closely aligned with the cost of service study rates  
129 throughout the term of the agreement.

130 **Q. Are there other provisions in the agreement which may lead to additional**  
131 **changes to US Mag's rate over the term of the agreement?**

132 A. Yes. Similar to what has been done with other recent retail special contracts in  
133 Utah, the parties agreed to add language to the agreement to address how contract  
134 rates may be affected by the following items: a potential energy cost adjustment  
135 mechanism ("ECAM"), applicable demand side management costs, and potential  
136 future greenhouse gas related costs.

137 **Q. Please describe the new contract language addressing an ECAM.**

138 A. In response to the recent Company filing regarding an ECAM, the parties agreed  
139 to include language in the new ESA that addresses how a potential ECAM will  
140 apply to US Mag. The language states, in summary, that in the event the  
141 Commission adopts an ECAM for the Company in Utah and applies the ECAM to  
142 US Mag, the agreement will be amended as necessary, as determined by the  
143 Commission in the ECAM proceeding.

144 **Q. Please describe the new contract language addressing demand side**  
145 **management costs.**

146 A. The parties agreed to include in the ESA language that states, in summary, that  
147 US Mag will be subject to demand side management surcharges if so ordered by  
148 the Commission.

149 **Q. Please describe the new contract language addressing potential future**  
150 **greenhouse gas related costs.**

151 A. In response to potential future greenhouse gas related legislation or costs, the  
152 parties agreed to include language that states, in summary, that if any greenhouse  
153 gas costs are imposed on the Company or on US Mag, the agreement will be  
154 amended as necessary, as determined by the Commission in an appropriate  
155 proceeding.

156 **Q. Please provide a summary of the interruptible terms and conditions in the**  
157 **new ESA.**

158 A. The new ESA contains interruptible terms and conditions that are similar in  
159 structure to those found in the existing agreement. For the winter months of  
160 December and January, the Company has the right to curtail US Mag for two

161 blocks of two hours each for a total of four hours each weekday. For the summer  
162 months of June through September, the Company has the right to curtail US Mag  
163 for up to four consecutive hours each weekday if the day-ahead forecasted  
164 temperature at the Salt Lake City International Airport exceeds certain triggers.  
165 The table below shows the temperature triggers, in degrees Fahrenheit, for each  
166 month:

Month	Temperature Trigger
June	87° F
July	93° F
August	91° F
September	83° F

167  
168 The temperature triggers in the new ESA were developed using historical data for  
169 the 20 year time period 1988 through 2007. The trigger for June reflects the  
170 average historical data for the last 15 days of June in each year, and the trigger for  
171 September reflects the average historical data for the first 15 days of September in  
172 each year. The triggers for July and August reflect the average historical data for  
173 the entire month. The triggers were structured in this manner to better coincide  
174 with the Company's peak demand periods in these months. When provided with  
175 a notice to curtail, US Mag may elect to either physically curtail or to buy through  
176 at market prices, if energy is available.

177 The new ESA also includes new provisions that allow the Company to  
178 bank curtailment hours for use at a later date instead of using the hours on the date  
179 allowed by the agreement under the terms described above. On days in which

180 curtailment is normally allowed under the terms described above, the Company,  
181 at its sole option, can provide notice to US Mag that it desires to bank the allowed  
182 curtailment hours. US Mag is then not required to interrupt on that date but  
183 instead will be required to interrupt on a later date when provided notice by the  
184 Company. Then, on a later date when ordinary curtailment under the terms  
185 described above is not available but the Company is in need of curtailment for  
186 operational flexibility, the Company may elect to use the banked hours and can  
187 provide notice to US Mag that it must interrupt. This additional flexibility in the  
188 use of interruptible rights provides the Company with even greater ability to  
189 respond to periods of high demand.

190 **TESTIMONY RELATED TO THE QF PPA**

191 **Q. Please provide a brief overview of the terms and conditions of the QF PPA.**

192 A. The parties executed a one year QF PPA for calendar year 2010. Under the  
193 agreement, the Company pays US Mag prices which were calculated using the  
194 methodology approved by the Commission in a Report and Order in Docket No.  
195 03-035-14. US Mag will be paid, on average, a price of \$39.93 per megawatt  
196 hour. The pricing in the agreement is structured as on peak and off peak prices  
197 for each month. The contract includes an avoided line loss adjustment of 4.36%  
198 applicable to all deliveries.

199 **Q. How was the avoided line loss adjustment determined?**

200 A. The avoided line loss adjustment was determined using a methodology that is  
201 similar to what has been used in recent years for other short term QF contracts.

202 **Q. Why is the Company required to address avoided line losses for the US Mag**  
203 **QF PPA?**

204 A. In its clarification order dated May 26, 2006 in Docket No. 03-035-14, the  
205 Commission set forth on page one the procedure through which avoided line  
206 losses for qualifying facilities (QFs) should be considered:

207 “First, we clarify the April Order did not preclude consideration of  
208 payments for avoided transmission losses to QFs. The April Order did not  
209 approve a generic method for calculating losses. The Commission rejected  
210 the two proposed methods due to insufficient evidence upon which to  
211 conclude that either method was generally reasonable and met the  
212 ratepayer indifference standard. The Commission will consider the  
213 reasonableness of payments to QFs for avoided transmission losses on a  
214 case-by-case basis when QF contracts including such payments are  
215 presented for our approval.”

216 In consideration of the Commission’s order to determine line losses on a case by  
217 case basis, the Company evaluated the circumstances unique to the proposed one  
218 year US Mag QF PPA and made the determination that an adjustment to the price  
219 to account for avoided line losses was reasonable and necessary.

220 The Company acknowledges that the methodology and analysis used to  
221 determine the recommended avoided line loss adjustment for this particular  
222 contract does not set precedence for future QF contracts and does not restrict  
223 either the Company or any other interested party from recommending a different  
224 methodology or position in future proceedings.

225 **Q. What are the general steps the Company proposes be used to determine if an**  
226 **avoided line loss adjustment is necessary for the US Mag QF PPA?**

227 A. The methodology used to determine the avoided line loss adjustment for the US  
228 Mag QF PPA is summarized in the following general steps:

- 229 1. Determine if the QF is located in the Wasatch Front load center,  
230 as defined by the combination of the “Utah North” and the “Utah  
231 South” transmission nodes/bubbles in the GRID topology.
- 232 2. If the QF is located in the Wasatch Front load center, an  
233 adjustment for avoided line losses may be justified. If the QF is  
234 not located in the Wasatch Front load center, no adjustment for  
235 avoided line losses will be made, unless unique circumstances  
236 justify an adjustment (see step 4.)
- 237 3. If the QF satisfies the location condition in step 2, proceed with  
238 the “QF Avoided Line Loss Calculation” explained in more  
239 detail below.
- 240 4. Review any unique circumstances applicable only to that  
241 particular QF that may impact line losses. For example, is the  
242 QF at the end of a long isolated radial line or does the QF utilize  
243 any project-specific transmission lines that may impact line  
244 losses?

245 **Q. Why is a line loss adjustment analysis necessary?**

246 A. Line losses are a physical reality that occurs when electricity flows from the  
247 generator source to the load sync. The avoided cost principle provides for the  
248 payment to a QF to equal the value or benefit that the QF brings to the system  
249 such that the ratepayer is indifferent as to whether the energy comes from the QF  
250 or from another source. Therefore, if the QF contract provides a line loss savings

251 (or, conversely, additional cost) when compared to the avoided resource, an  
252 adjustment to the price is justified.

253 **Q. Are line losses calculated in the GRID model run that is used to calculate the**  
254 **avoided costs?**

255 A. No. The GRID pricing model used to determine the avoided costs, or price, for  
256 QF contracts determines the avoided cost of generation only. While the GRID  
257 model does take into account transmission constraints when determining which  
258 resource is avoided, the model does not calculate or address any potential benefit  
259 or detriment attributable to line losses when the QF is added to the resource  
260 portfolio. Therefore, any adjustment for avoided line losses must be done outside  
261 of the GRID model.

262 **Q. Is there a definitive method that can be used to precisely measure the impact**  
263 **a QF has on line losses on the PacifiCorp system?**

264 A. The Company evaluated several methods to measure the impact a QF has on  
265 avoided line losses. The only way to precisely measure line losses is to put one  
266 meter at the source point and another meter at the sync point and calculate the  
267 losses on that isolated path. This is not feasible or possible on an integrated  
268 system with multiple sources and syncs. Nor is it cost effective or practical for  
269 the issue at hand. All other approaches are subject to the impact of assumptions  
270 and inputs which can greatly influence the results. Therefore, the Company set  
271 forth to establish a methodology that utilizes reasonable and applicable  
272 assumptions and inputs to reasonably estimate the impact a QF has on line losses.

273 **Q. Is there a means by which the impact a QF contract has on line losses can be**  
274 **reasonably estimated?**

275 A. Yes. The Company has developed a methodology that it recommends be used to  
276 determine the avoided line loss adjustments to be included in the US Mag QF  
277 PPA. The Company has defined this method as the “QF Avoided Line Loss  
278 Calculation.” The Company acknowledges that this method contains concepts  
279 that are a result of prior collaborative discussions between interested parties in  
280 other QF dockets, and, as such, no party is bound by this method, either in part or  
281 in whole, in future QF proceedings.

282 **Q. What are the detailed steps included in the QF Avoided Line Loss**  
283 **Methodology?**

284 A. The QF avoided line loss methodology utilizes, as a starting point, output from  
285 the GRID model run that was used to calculate the avoided costs for the specific  
286 QF contract. PacifiCorp’s FERC OATT rate for line losses is also used in the  
287 calculation.

288 The GRID model includes several transmission nodes or bubbles that  
289 represent major locations of load and/or resources. These locations are often  
290 connected by high voltage transmission paths, which are also modeled in GRID  
291 consistent with their rated capacities and other constraints. When calculating the  
292 avoided cost, GRID determines which resource is backed down or avoided when  
293 the QF is added as a resource. The avoided resource may or may not be in the  
294 same transmission bubble as the QF resource, as GRID will optimize the available  
295 transmission between all bubbles and dispatch the system economically. The

296 GRID output file contains a summary of the number of megawatt hours that were  
297 avoided in each transmission bubble as a result of the addition of the QF. The  
298 sum of the avoided megawatt hours in all the bubbles equals the total amount of  
299 megawatt hours provided by the QF. Therefore, it is possible to determine the  
300 percentage of the total megawatt hours that the avoided resource was a resource  
301 outside the transmission bubble where the QF is located.

302 The US Mag QF is located in the Utah North transmission bubble, which,  
303 along with the Utah South transmission bubble, defines the Wasatch Front load  
304 center. The Utah North transmission bubble consists primarily of the northern  
305 Salt Lake valley and parts of southeast Idaho and southwest Wyoming, and the  
306 Utah South transmission bubble consists of the area from approximately Mona to  
307 the south half of the Salt Lake valley. After reviewing the GRID output, it was  
308 determined that there are no current transmission constraints between the Utah  
309 North transmission bubble and the Utah South transmission bubble, so these two  
310 bubbles were considered to be a single bubble representing the Wasatch Front  
311 load center in this analysis. This particular area contains a significant sized load  
312 but is primarily a large importer of energy from the other bubbles. Therefore, it is  
313 reasonable to assume that locating a resource inside this Wasatch Front load  
314 center (the Utah North and Utah South bubbles) will reduce the need to import  
315 energy from outside this area, thus decreasing the amount of physical losses that  
316 will occur as power does not have to travel as far to serve the load in this area.

317 To calculate a reasonable estimation of the amount of avoided line losses  
318 attributable to the US Mag QF PPA, the Company calculated the percentage of

319 the total megawatt hours that the US Mag PPA avoided that were outside the Utah  
320 North and Utah South transmission bubbles (the Wasatch Front load center) and  
321 multiplied it by the PacifiCorp FERC OATT transmission level line loss rate of  
322 4.48%. The Company incurs the “cost” of line losses at the tariff rates contained  
323 in PacifiCorp’s FERC OATT. The tariff does not differentiate line loss rates  
324 based on any factor other than delivery voltage. Therefore, the tariff rate is an  
325 appropriate reflection of the financial avoided cost of line losses and is used in  
326 these calculations.

327 The US Mag QF PPA avoided resources which were outside the Utah  
328 North and Utah South bubbles 79.46% of the time. Therefore, the starting point  
329 for the US Mag QF PPA contract line loss adjustment should be an increase to the  
330 contract price of 3.56% (4.48% x 79.46%.)

331 Once this starting point has been determined, the Company evaluated  
332 whether a further adjustment is required to account for any project specific  
333 characteristics that impact line losses. In the case of the US Mag QF PPA, such a  
334 characteristic exists. The US Mag QF is located at the end of a radial line that  
335 initiates at the Terminal substation and terminates at the US Mag facility. The  
336 load at the US Mag facility is greater than the output of the US Mag QF.  
337 Therefore, when the US Mag QF is operating and the US Mag facility is drawing  
338 its typical load, energy that would normally be transmitted across this radial line  
339 from the Terminal substation to the US Mag facility to serve load is being avoided  
340 by the energy that is produced by the US Mag QF, which is adjacent to the US  
341 Mag facility. Therefore, the operation of the US Mag QF results in the avoidance

342 of energy being transmitted from the Terminal substation to the US Mag facility,  
343 which results in a line loss savings across that particular radial line. The parties  
344 agreed the line losses associated with that line equate to .8%. Therefore, .8%  
345 should be added to the starting point adjustment of 3.56%, resulting in a total  
346 proposed avoided line loss adjustment of 4.36% for the US Mag QF PPA.

347 **Q. Does a further adjustment need to be made to reflect the fact that the US**  
348 **Mag QF PPA is a non firm PPA, meaning there are no minimum delivery**  
349 **obligations?**

350 A. No. The Company does not believe that the level of “firmness” of a contract has  
351 any impact on the physical reality of line losses. Line losses occur when physical  
352 power actually flows. The actual flow of power is not affected by the firmness of  
353 a resource, so line losses are not impacted by whether a resource is firm or non  
354 firm. Therefore, no further adjustment is required.

355 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

356 A. Yes.