BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

In the Matter of the Application) Docket No: of PacifiCorp, by and through) 11-035-73 its Rocky Mountain Power) Division, for Approval of a) Solicitation Process for an) All-Source Resource for the 2016) Time Period)

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING PROCEEDINGS

TAKEN AT: Public Service Commission

160 East 300 South Salt Lake City, Utah

DATE: December 12, 2011

TIME: 9:06 a.m.

REPORTED BY: Kelly L. Wilburn, CSR, RPR

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DECEMBER 12, 2011

9:06 A.M.

PROCEEDINGS

CHAIRMAN BOYER: This is the time and place duly noticed for the hearing on the application of Rocky Mountain Power for approval of a solicitation process.

The caption of the case reads: In the Matter of the Application of PacifiCorp, by and through its Rocky Mountain Power Division, for Approval of a Solicitation Process for an All-Source Resource for the 2016 Time Period. And it's Docket No. 11-035-73.

Prior to going on the record we had a brief conversation among the Commission and parties, counsel, and have decided that we'll proceed in panel -- in a panel format, with the Company going first and then hearing from other parties.

The witnesses who have helped prepare the comments that have been filed, those speaking today will adopt those as their testimony and will offer the comments into the record as evidence.

And we will have an opportunity -- we'll provide an opportunity for cross examination of those speaking and an opportunity for the Commissioners to ask questions. And after that we'll have an opportunity for something like redirect to clarify

1	anything that may have arisen during that cross
2	examination and the Commissioners' questioning.
3	So now let's take appearances, and let's
4	begin with Ms. Hogle for the Company.
5	MS. HOGLE: Yvonne Hogle on behalf of Rocky
6	Mountain Power. With me is Stacey Kusters and Greg
7	Duvall.
8	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Thank you Ms. Hogle.
9	Ms. Schmid?
10	MS. SCHMID: Patricia E. Schmid, with the
11	Attorney General's Office, representing the Division
12	of Public Utilities. And with me is Dr. William, or
13	Artie, Powell.
14	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Thank you. Welcome
15	Dr. Powell.
16	Mr. Oliver?
17	MR. OLIVER: Yes. I'm Wayne Oliver with
18	Merrimack Energy. And I'm the independent evaluator
19	for the process.
20	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Thank you for making the
21	trip out. I thought you were gonna participate by
22	phone, but we're delighted to have you here.
23	MR. OLIVER: Thank you.
24	MR. PROCTOR: Thank you.
25	Mr. Proctor?

1	MR. PROCTOR: Paul Proctor on behalf of the
2	Office. And Ms. Cheryl Murray will be the Office's
3	witness today.
4	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Thank you. Welcome
5	Ms. Murray.
6	For the record, Mr. Dodge, representing UAE,
7	has contacted us. He wishes he could be here, but
8	because of a scheduling conflict he can't be here. So
9	it's not for lack of interest, but he will not be
10	here.
11	Okay. Well, then let's begin with the
12	Company's witness Ms. Kusters. And we'll need to
13	swear shall we swear all of the witnesses at once?
14	I don't think anyone's been sworn in this proceeding,
15	so why don't we have all of the witnesses, including
16	Mr. Duvall in case he has to testify.
17	(The witnesses were duly sworn.)
18	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Thank you. All agreed in
19	the affirmative.
20	Ms. Hogle, you may proceed.
21	MS. HOGLE: Sure, thank you.
22	***
23	STACEY KUSTERS,
24	called as a witness, having been duly sworn,
25	was examined and testified as follows:

1	DIRECT EXAMINATION
2	BY MS. HOGLE:
3	Q. Ms. Kusters, can you please state and spell
4	your name for the record, and tell us what your
5	business address is and who you work for?
6	A. Sure. Stacey Kusters, S-t-a-c-e-y,
7	K-u-s-t-e-r-s. I'm the director of origination. I'm
8	located at 825 Northeast Multnomah, Sixth floor,
9	Portland, Oregon.
10	Q. And in your capacity did you assist the
11	Company in filing direct and reply comments in the RFP
12	in this proceeding?
13	A. I did.
14	Q. And other than the edits that were made to
15	the redlined RFP that was filed with the reply
16	comments for the Company, are there any other changes
17	that you wish to make to the RFP?
18	A. No.
19	Q. Have you prepared something for today?
20	A. I have.
21	Q. Okay.
22	MS. HOGLE: She may proceed.
23	THE WITNESS: Great. Good morning
24	Commissioners.
25	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Good morning.

THE WITNESS: The Company, the Office, UAE, and the Division, and the IE, as well as the Commission staff, held a technical conference on December the 8th. The parties went through the Company's reply comments, which addressed corrections, clarifications, and issues.

The Company believes that the parties reviewed the corrections and clarifications and narrowed the remaining issues to the following five topics, which I'll just briefly cover for you.

The first issue is adjusting the schedule.

And the question came as to whether the Commission is going to approve the schedule, or is the schedule an anticipated schedule. And so we'd like some clarification around the schedule.

The second issue is the indexing of the capacity and the operating costs within the, within the RFP itself. RMP's reinstated the indexing of the operating, the O&M costs; however, the Company doesn't believe that we should be indexing the capacity costs.

And as you recall in the 2008 RFP, due to the volatility of the market at that given point in time we came in front of the Commission and 40 percent of the capacity cost was indexed to two separate indexes: Twenty-five percent was indexed to the PPI -- or to

the CPI, and then 15 percent was indexed to the producer price index, metals, and metal products.

The third issue is the bid evaluation. And within the bid evaluation there are three separate issues. The first issue is the bid categories, and determining whether the Company should be allocating the proposals into separate bid categories or whether the bidders should submit their bids into those specific bid categories.

The second issue is the fixed versus the floating. And the, the issue here is whether the resources post-2016 should be fixed or allowed to float.

The Company believes that we had originally provided for the floating of the front office transactions, and we have also provided an update in our RFP to allow for the floating of the gas resources, but we believe that the wind resources and the DSM should be fixed.

The third issue is with regards to the preferred portfolio overall.

The fourth item for discussion is the benchmark. There were some discussions around whether the Company should or shouldn't have a benchmark as a separate submission. And the Company in this RFP has

1 revised the RFP to allow for an EPC category as well 2 as -- will also allow for the asset purchase and sale 3 agreement on the Company's site of Currant Creek. 4 So as opposed to holding two separate RFPs in 5 parallel we're now looking for EPC bidders to 6 participate in one form. Previously they had to 7 participate in either an EPC bid process with our 8 generation group, or participate in the RFP. We would 9 like to bring all of those together under one category 10 and have them participate in one RFP as opposed to 11 running two separate RFPs on a parallel track. 12 The fifth issue is the coal resource. 13 Currently the RFP only allows for coal resources up to 14 five years from a period standpoint due to our rules 15 and regulations in other states. The question arose 16 as to whether coal resources should be allowed to 17 submit bids in the same duration as other eligible resources in the RFP. 18 19 And that concludes my introduction. 20 CHAIRMAN BOYER: Okay, thank you Ms. Kusters. 21 Would you like to have Ms. Kusters formally 22 adopt the comments that have been filed today? 23 MS. HOGLE: Yes, thank you Commissioner. And 24 I would also move to have them entered into the 25 record, thank you.

1	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Are there any objections to
2	the adoption of the comments and their introduction as
3	evidence? Seeing none, they are admitted.
4	(Rocky Mountain Power's comments were
5	admitted.)
6	CHAIRMAN BOYER: All right, thank you. We'll
7	reserve cross examination, if any, and the
8	Commissioners' questions till we've heard from all of
9	the commenters.
10	Ms. Schmid?
11	MS. SCHMID: Thank you. The Division's
12	witness is Dr. William Powell.
13	DR. WILLIAM POWELL,
14	called as a witness, having been duly sworn,
15	was examined and testified as follows:
16	DIRECT EXAMINATION
17	BY MS. SCHMID:
18	Q. Dr. William Powell, are you also known as
19	Artie Powell?
20	A. Yes.
21	Q. Could you please state your employer, your
22	position, and your business address for the record?
23	A. I'm employed by the Division of Public
24	Utilities. I'm the manager of the energy section.
25	Our business office is here in the Heber Wells
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1	Building, 160 East 300 South.
2	Q. On behalf of the Division have you
3	participated in this docket, Docket No. 11-035-73?
4	A. Yes.
5	Q. As part of your participation on behalf of
6	the Division did you participate in the preparation
7	and filing of the Division's confidential comments on
8	November 18th and the Division's corrected redacted
9	comments on November 23rd?
10	A. Yes, I did.
11	Q. Do you have any corrections to those
12	comments?
13	A. No corrections.
14	MS. SCHMID: The Division would like to
15	request that the confidential comments be marked as
16	DPU Confidential 1.0, and request admission into the
17	record. And also request that the corrected redacted
18	comments be marked as DPU Corrected Redacted Comments
19	1.0 and also be admitted into the record.
20	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Thank you Ms. Schmid. Are
21	there any objections to the adoption and introduction
22	of the comments into the record?
23	MS. HOGLE: No objection.
24	CHAIRMAN BOYER: They are admitted then,
25	thank you.

1 (The Division's comments were admitted.) 2 CHAIRMAN BOYER: You may proceed. 3 0. (By Ms. Schmid) Since the filing of those comments have events occurred that have affected the 4 5 Division's position? 6 Α. Yes. 7 Q. Could you please comment? 8 Α. Okay. Yes, we've had conversations with the 9 Company. And Ms. Kusters explained the -- we had a 10 technical conference last Friday. Based on those conversations in the technical conference the Division 11 12 would like to revise its initial recommendation in 13 this particular case. 14 In our comments that were filed on the 18th 15 and the 23rd we recommended that the Commission reject 16 the Commission's -- or excuse me, the Company's RFP 17 and order the Company to revise and resubmit that RFP 18 for approval. 19 Since that time many of the issues that the 20 Division raised in its memorandum have been resolved 21 by the Company, either through our discussions or 22 through the redline version of the RFP that the Company is proposing that the Commission consider at 23 24 this time.

So we would recommend that the -- at this

time that the RFP be approved, with one or two recommendations.

- Q. Do you have a statement you would like to make at this time?
- A. Yes, let me make a brief statement and state what our position is on the several issues that Ms. Kusters went over. As Ms. Kusters indicated, between the intervenors, their filed comments, there were approximately 14 issues that were raised.

Those issues I think have been resolved, except for the five that Ms. Kusters went over. Specifically whether or not the Commission is approving the schedule as proposed in the RFP, it's the Division's position that the Commission is actually approving a schedule. But we recognize that there has to be some flexibility so that the Company can manage the RFP efficiently.

In the past we've had an understanding with the Company that if the schedule is to slip by five days, five business days or more, that the Company would come to the Commission and explain the problems or the reasoning for the slip in the schedule, and how that slip in the schedule will affect the final outcome of the RFP. It's our understanding of the schedule as it's proposed there's not much room for

play and still get a resource online by 2016.

With regards to the indexing, this was an issue that the Division brought up in its memorandum. And we believe that the Company's resolution -- or proposed resolution to this issue is adequate. And that is, is that indexing would be reinstated for the O&M costs. We accept the Company's argument or explanation that it's probably not that advantageous to have capacity index.

In the bid evaluation process our main concern was the fixed versus the floating resources post-2016. The Company has proposed to let those resources float, except for the DSM and the wind resources. The Division still is of the position that the wind resources should be allowed to float as far as the evaluation process is concerned.

We want to make it clear, if it wasn't clear in our memorandum, that we're not asking the Company at this time to revise its preferred portfolio. But we think allowing all resources to float in the post-2016 period will ensure or help ensure that we're getting the least-cost resource out of the RFP.

We do agree with the Company, in terms of the bid category determination, that it should be the bidder that determines whether -- or what category it

wants its bid or proposal to be evaluated in.

There were some issues in the past RFPs, particularly the Currant Creek, where I believe there was some confusion over what a bidder was actually trying to propose. And there was some contention over whether or not those bids had been evaluated properly. We think the bidder is probably in the best category to interpret, at least initially, its bids.

With respect to the benchmark, we recognize that the Company doesn't have a benchmark, per se, in this RFP, but the way it's structured its RFP with the EPC category and the addition of the APSA bids that in a sense it will satisfy or, or play the part of a benchmark. With the understanding that we get a robust pool of bids into this RFP.

The Division would consider that three bids in each of the categories would be a minimal to ensure -- at least to give some level of assurance that we really do have a competitive process. We would like to see five or more bids in each of those categories.

The Division still does have some concerns that the Company has not put forward an alternative to the RFP in the case that the RFP is not successful in acquiring a least-cost-least-risk resource.

And then finally with respect to the coal resource, the Division's memorandum was asking for a clarification of when coal resources would be considered in the RFP. The proposed redline version of the RFP at this time does make that clarification, and so as far as what we raised in our memorandum the Division is satisfied that under those limited circumstances coal resources will be considered if they bid into the process.

We recognize that some of the other intervenors have broader issues with the way coal resources are handled in the RFP. And that if coal resources are not allowed to bid into the RFP processes, that is resources with terms longer than five years, that there may be some question at the time the Company brings the RFP winning resource to the Commission for approval that it will be difficult to ascertain whether or not that truly is the least-cost resource.

I can't speak for the other intervenors, but I did want to at least point out that we recognize that there are broader issues that have been raised on that particular point. And that will conclude my comments this morning. Thank you.

MS. SCHMID: Thank you. Dr. Powell is

1	available for cross examination and questions from the
2	Commission as the Commission deems appropriate and
3	when.
4	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Okay. Thank you Dr. Powell
5	and Ms. Schmid.
6	I think let's pass over Mr. Oliver for the
7	moment and go to the Office. And then we'll ask you,
8	Ms. Schmid, if you'll help Mr. Oliver adopt his report
9	he has filed and get it into the record, and then
10	we'll hear his statement as well.
11	But for now we'll hear from the Office
12	witness, Ms. Murray.
13	MR. PROCTOR: Thank you Mr. Chairman.
14	<u>CHERYL MURRAY</u> ,
15	called as a witness, having been duly sworn,
16	was examined and testified as follows:
17	DIRECT EXAMINATION
18	BY MR. PROCTOR:
	DI TIK. TROCTOR.
19	Q. Ms. Murray, on November 18th and December 7th
19 20	
	Q. Ms. Murray, on November 18th and December 7th
20	Q. Ms. Murray, on November 18th and December 7th of this year did you file with the Commission, on
20 21	Q. Ms. Murray, on November 18th and December 7th of this year did you file with the Commission, on behalf of Office of Consumer Services, comments with
20 21 22	Q. Ms. Murray, on November 18th and December 7th of this year did you file with the Commission, on behalf of Office of Consumer Services, comments with respect to the application in this docket?

1 Α. Yes. 2 MR. PROCTOR: We would move for the admission 3 of those comments as evidence in this matter. 4 CHAIRMAN BOYER: Is there any objection to 5 the admission of the comments filed by the Office? 6 Okay, they are admitted. 7 (The Office's comments were admitted.) 8 0. (By Mr. Proctor) Ms. Murray, I understand 9 that you have a description of our position at this 10 point in time, can you please provide that? 11 Α. Yes. The majority of the Office's issues 12 have been resolved by the Company's agreement to 13 modify the RFP. There are, however, two remaining 14 areas of concern to the Office. 15 First is the issue characterized or 16 encompassed in our comments on due diligence. 17 Company has agreed to promptly provide due diligence 18 reports to the IE, which addresses part of the 19 concerns on this issue. 20 In our December 7, 2011, comments we 21 recommended that the Commission require the IE and the 22 Division to report to the Commission on issues of 23 concern immediately. We further suggested that when issues of significance arise, a technical conference, 24 25 briefing, or some other means should be used to inform

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1 other parties who might be disadvantaged by not 2 receiving adequate notice of problems. 3 The Commission should emphasize the need for 4 parties who have more direct and immediate access to 5 information, such as the IE and the Division, to bring 6 concerns forward early to minimize or avoid issues 7 such as those associated with the 2008 RFP. 8 Our second remaining issue is in regards to 9

the determination of the Company's IRP preferred portfolio. And as stated in our September 7, 2011, IRP comments, the Office asserts that the Company has not adequately demonstrated that its preferred portfolio represents a low cost, low risk, and reliable set of resources.

To the extent this portfolio is used in the RFP evaluation process, any bias in the preferred portfolio will carry through in resource selection. If the Commission takes any action that impacts the preferred portfolio prior to the bid evaluations we recommend that the Company incorporates the new preferred portfolio in its analysis. And that concludes my comments.

> CHAIRMAN BOYER: Thank you Ms. Murray. And welcome, Mr. Oliver, again.

Ms. Schmid, will you assist, so he doesn't

1	have to wear two hats assist him in gotting his
_	have to wear two hats, assist him in getting his
2	report into the record, please?
3	MS. SCHMID: Certainly.
4	<u>WAYNE OLIVER</u> ,
5	called as a witness, having been duly sworn,
6	was examined and testified as follows:
7	DIRECT EXAMINATION
8	BY MS. SCHMID:
9	Q. Mr. Oliver, could you please state your full
10	name and your capacity in this docket, for the record?
11	A. Yes. My name is Wayne Oliver. I'm principal
12	of Merrimack Energy Group, Incorporated, 155 Borthwick
13	Avenue, Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801. And I'm the
14	independent evaluator representing the Commission for
15	this process.
16	Q. Thank you. On or about November 28th did you
17	file documents entitled: Report of the Independent
18	Evaluator, with Exhibit A, the Draft 2016 RFP, and
19	then also Report of the Independent Evaluator with
20	line numbers?
21	A. Yes, I did.
22	Q. Do you have any changes or corrections to
23	those?
24	A. No.
25	MS. SCHMID: The Division, on behalf of the
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1	IE, requests that these documents be admitted as
2	evidence in this case.
3	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Thank you. Is there any
4	objection to the admission of Mr. Oliver's report into
5	the record as evidence?
6	Seeing none, it is admitted.
7	(The Independent Evaluator's report was
8	admitted.)
9	MS. SCHMID: Thank you.
10	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Mr. Oliver, do you have a
11	statement to make?
12	MR. OLIVER: Yes, I have, I have a brief
13	statement.
14	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Thank you.
15	MR. OLIVER: As independent evaluator, one of
16	the key roles and requirements is to provide a written
17	evaluation including a review of the Draft RFP,
18	recommendations to the Commission, and approval of the
19	proposed solicitation or modifications required for
20	approval.
21	I prepared the written report on the 2016
22	all-source RFP on November 28, 2011, that deals with
23	these, with these issues. PacifiCorp's 2011
24	all-source RFP is modeled largely on the 2008
25	all-source RFP, that resulted in a robust response

1 from the market and a competitive overall process. 2 While I have raised a number of issues in my 3 report on the RFP and also sought clarification from PacifiCorp regarding some of the revisions made to the 4 5 2016 all-source RFP, I am of the opinion that the RFP 6 process should be a reasonably transparent process 7 which is generally designed to be fair and equitable to all bidders. 8 9 Several parties have raised issues with 10 regard to components of the RFP. These issues can be 11 resolved to the satisfaction of the parties and the 12 Commission. It is my view that approval of the 2016 13 all-source RFP is a reasonable result after resolution 14 of these issues. 15 And in that regard I did raise 14 or 15 16 issues in the -- in my draft -- in my report regarding 17 the draft RFP, several of which were discussed at the 18 technical conference and a few of which are 19 outstanding issues to be discussed here today. 20 CHAIRMAN BOYER: Very well. Anything further you'd like to? 21 22 MR. OLIVER: If you'll -- would you like me to provide my opinions on the outstanding issues at 23 24 this point?

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CHAIRMAN BOYER: That would be very helpful

1 to us. 2 MR. OLIVER: Sure. CHAIRMAN BOYER: Thank you. 3 4 MR. OLIVER: Yes. We had initially, in our 5 comments, raised an issue about the schedule that was 6 proposed by PacifiCorp for this RFP. And in 7 particular -- or I should say Rocky Mountain Power. 8 Rocky Mountain Power had provided, in our view, a 9 longer time frame for the bidders to submit their 10 initial, their initial indicative bid. 11 And as a result also adjusted the schedule 12 downward for the evaluation of the short list on the 13 part of the Company and the IE, and also reduced the 14 schedule for submission of the best and final offer. 15 And it was our opinion that the schedule 16 should be revised slightly to provide more time for 17 the short list evaluation, and also additional time 18 for bidders to submit their final bid. 19 That schedule was discussed on Friday at the 20 technical conference. But the -- our focus was 21 basically on the, on the schedule itself, and we 22 really didn't raise any issues about the clarification 23 of the schedule or that the schedule would be part of 24 the approval of the RFP in this process. 25

With regard to the second issue, which is

indexing, we had raised two points. One, that the Company had removed the indexing of the O&M costs, in particular variable and fixed O&M costs.

And our recommendation was that those costs should be allowed to be indexed, which -- by an inflation index or, you know, something very similar to inflation. That's very typical in RFPs. And the Company has agreed to reinstitute the indexing for O&M costs.

And we also raised the point about capacity indexing again, both indexing capacity and capital-related costs as a comparability issue. We do recognize that the market has changed significantly from the time when we discussed these issues during the approval of the 2008 RFP.

We have seen less focus on indexing and other solicitations as well for capital and capacity-related costs. But our concern was that there may -- from a comparability standpoint there may be some bidders that would still be interested in indexing a portion of their costs, consistent with the previous process. Although, again, no bidder really requested or used indexing in the last RFP -- in the 2000 RFP process.

During the discussion on Friday the point that we raised as an alternative would be to allow

bidders the opportunity to request an index -- to request a capacity-related index or a capital cost-related index as part of the RFP process.

So in other words the RFP wouldn't make mention of the fact that indexing is allowed, but would allow bidders that would like to use different indices to request the use of an index. And the Company, in conjunction with the IE, would make that determination of whether that index could be forecasted as a transparent index and could be managed by -- and the risk could be managed by the Company.

In terms of the bid evaluation, we had raised the issue about the fact that, you know, there are three categories that the Company has applied in the RFP. Which includes a base load category for projects which have a capacity factor greater than 60 percent, an intermediate category for projects which have capacity factors of 20 to 60 percent, and then short-term resources that are not dependent on capacity factor.

The point we had raised -- and again, it's not related to any points that were raised in the last solicitation. But in our view one of the things we asked the Company to consider would be whether or not it was more feasible for the Company to make the

determination of where the resource should be included based on the Company's own evaluation of how that project would be dispatched in the Company's base load -- RFP base load model to assess what the capacity factor would be.

In other words, if a bid came in at a 62 percent capacity factor, which we'd categorize that bid as a base load bid under the capacity factors utilized, the bidder could actually come in and say, We want that bid to be evaluated in the intervening category instead.

Because the bidders don't -- won't know what the actual capacity factor is gonna be or how they would actually operate. They're making their best guess of where they think that bid should be, should be evaluated.

Bidders in the RFP do have the opportunity of saying, We want our bid to be evaluated in both categories, if they pay the bid fees. So there is that option for them to be classified in either category.

But again, we raise that as a consideration of, you know, a point to discuss whether or not it makes sense for the Company to make the determination as opposed to the bidders making the determination of

which category they should be included in.

Secondly we got the fixed-versus-floating portfolio. It was our view that the Company should allow gasified resources to float, as opposed to being fix resources in their IRP plan. In our view the, you know, based on discussions from the hearings on Lakeside II as well as statements that the Company had made during that period, you know, in our view that would allow for more optimized portfolio resources by allowing the gasified resources to float with, you know, however new resources were included in the portfolio.

So in other words, a new resource that might be selected could delay the data for the resources that would be required through the IRP process.

In terms of the benchmark, we do recognize that, you know, allowing EPC bids is, the way the Company has proposed in this solicitation, is really akin to providing a benchmark resource, assuming there is sufficient competition.

And that was one of the concerns we had.

Will the Company receive a robust response to the RFP.

Given the limited number of EPC contractors out there.

We had suggested that the Company also allow absent bidders to bid for that -- the project on the

Company's site.

And absent would allow, for example, a project development firm to maybe combine with an EPC and bid to also provide the same service on that site. The difference would be that the developer would take more of the initiation -- or more of the role in actually the project development activities.

This would be akin to the, the Summit bid into the Lakeside I process, but it would allow -- I guess our concern was it would allow the opportunity for more competition at that site. And we do agree that, you know, a response with multiple bidders would be a good indication that the market is performing as it should.

And lastly the coal resources. You know, it's our view that coal resources should be considered in the RFP process. In most of the solicitations we've been involved in recently we really haven't seen coal participate for the new generation options, given the cost of natural gas and the economics of gas versus coal.

But, you know, allowing all options to compete is again, you know, I think a reasonable -- would allow a reasonable process to take place. Thank you.

1	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Okay. Thank you very much,
2	Mr. Oliver.
3	Are there any questions for any of those
4	who've testified this morning? Any cross examination
5	of Ms. Kusters, Dr. Powell, Mr. Oliver, Ms. Murray?
6	Let's see if the
7	MS. SCHMID: The Division has a couple of
8	questions for Ms. Kusters.
9	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Okay. You may proceed,
10	Ms. Schmid.
11	MS. SCHMID: Thank you.
12	<u>STACEY KUSTERS</u> ,
13	called as a witness, having been duly sworn,
14	was examined and testified as follows:
15	CROSS EXAMINATION
16	BY MS. SCHMID:
17	Q. Good morning.
18	A. Morning.
19	Q. What does the Company plan to do if only one
20	or two EPC bidders put bids in this RFP?
21	A. Let me just add some context to that before I
22	answer it. And, you know, based on the process that
23	we went through in the last RFP where we did have two
24	separate processes, one where the generation group
25	went out and issued an RFP for EPC parties.
	30

They identified around 11 different counterparties that could provide EPC responses. Of those, three of them solicited an interest in providing a proposal. When they asked -- when the proposals came in only two out of those three provided responses. And the other third decided to participate as part of the RFP, as opposed to the EPC process.

So I think to answer the question is we've identified six potential EPC entities that we think will participate in this RFP. Of those we believe that we're going to get a more robust participation if we run, if we run one process, as opposed to requiring them to determine whether or not they should participate in the EPC process RFP or in the RFP process RFP. So by having one single RFP we will not require them to make that determination.

And we do believe we can't make people -- we can't make entities participate or bid. But by allowing them to have the same rules and by allowing them to have the same schedule we believe we will get the most robust participation from the EPC entities.

Now, to answer the question with regards to what would we do. We believe that there will, in fact, be participation from the EPC market based on where the market is today. We've discussed this with

1 the different EPC parties and they've indicated that 2 they will participate. 3 0. Perhaps I can ask it a bit more bluntly. 4 recognize that you have talked with the EPC bidders 5 and you've done some investigation, but if only one or 6 two EPC bidders put bids in, what will the Company do 7 to reassure the Commission and stakeholders that the 8 EPC bid can be used as a de facto benchmark for the 9 least cost, least risk, best resource in evaluating 10 this project? MS. HOGLE: Objection, asked and answered. 11 12 MS. SCHMID: She did not answer the one to 13 two and what would the Company do issue. 14 CHAIRMAN BOYER: I don't think she did answer 15 it. I mean, she answered that they don't anticipate 16 that eventuality, but what would happen I think is 17 Ms. Schmid's question. 18 THE WITNESS: We would, we would review all 19 of the other, the other proposals and determine 20 whether or not the proposals that we received from the 21 market are robust enough and cost effective, and 22 determine how we'd proceed with the RFP. (By Ms. Schmid) Another hypothetical. 23 Q. Although it may be unlikely, what would the Company do 24

if the RFP failed completely? For example, did not

receive sufficient quality bids. How would the, how would the Company meet the resource need?

A. We would review what the alternatives are at the time and determine how we are going to serve load. Essentially do we have to reissue the RFP? Do we have to go through a bilateral process and negotiate it? Do we need to go out and buy, you know, intermediate turbines and locate them in other locations?

I mean, it's not going to change our ability to serve and ensure that we have a resource in 2016.

- Q. If the RFP did completely fail, is one option the Company might look at getting -- buying market resources, gas on the market and other things like that which would be on the market?
- A. It would be highly dependent on where -- what the transmission restrictions are, and what the alternatives for sites would be, and how we would end up procuring the resources to serve the load, and what timelines we'd have to do so.
- Q. So pursuing front-office sorts of transactions wouldn't be your primary?
- A. We currently have front-office transactions as part of the preferred portfolio. We have some restrictions in import capabilities, depending on where those front-office transactions are being

1	pursued.
2	As you know, in the preferred portfolio for
3	2016 we have a combined-cycle resource as our proxy
4	resource. And that is what we'll be soliciting as
5	part of this process in order to ensure that we have
6	sufficient resources to serve load in specific
7	locations.
8	MS. SCHMID: Thank you.
9	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Thank you. Are there other
10	questions of any of those who have testified this
11	morning? Mr. Proctor?
12	MR. PROCTOR: Yes, thank you. I have one
13	question of Ms. Kusters, please.
14	CHAIRMAN BOYER: You may proceed.
15	CROSS EXAMINATION
16	BY MR. PROCTOR:
17	Q. Ms. Kusters, does the fact that there's no
18	benchmark make it more difficult, and therefore more
19	lengthy, for an EPC to bid on the particular company
20	site that they would be looking at?
21	A. Maybe just to clarify, what would you mean
22	when you say "more lengthy"? What, what?
23	Q. It's going to be more difficult for that
24	bidder to determine what their bid would be because
25	thev have no guidelines as to what's going to be

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1
    constructed on your particular site. There's no
    suggestions/guidelines from the Company in the form of
 2
 3
    a benchmark.
             MS. HOGLE: I'm sorry, is that a statement or
4
5
    was there a question?
6
              MR. PROCTOR: I think there was a question.
7
              CHAIRMAN BOYER: Yeah, I think there was a
8
    question.
9
              Do you understand, Ms. Kusters?
10
              THE WITNESS: I think, I think I understand.
11
    But if I miss the point please, you know, rephrase.
12
    The Company's spent a lot of time and resources to
13
    fully scope out the spec that's attached to the RFP.
14
    So it's, it is clear that bidders that would have
15
    otherwise been bidding as part of an EPC-only RFP,
16
    they know exactly what to bid to on our site.
             And so this isn't any -- you know, including
17
18
    the EPC as a category in the RFP isn't any different
19
    than what would have otherwise occurred had the
20
    generation group gone out and specifically requested
21
    the bids from the EPC parties because those EPC
22
    parties have a, over a hundred page document that
23
    lists out exactly what the specs are at the site, and
24
    that is what they'll be bidding to.
25
              So I don't, I don't think it'll be any
```

1 lengthier of a process. If anything it should shorten 2 the process and align how we're evaluating the 3 different eligible resources under the RFP. 4 MR. PROCTOR: Okay, thank you. That's it. 5 CHAIRMAN BOYER: Okay. Once again, any 6 further questions of any who have testified this 7 morning? 8 All righty, then let's turn to the 9 Commissioners. Commissioner Allen, do you have any 10 questions? 11 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I 12 have one question for Ms. Kusters. Certainly we all 13 recognize the challenges in working with your 14 multi-state issues, but in the last RFP I think we 15 requested that an all-source RFP should include all 16 sources, including coal. 17 At this point, at this juncture, if we were 18 to request that we wanted to invite unrestricted coal 19 bids would this create any insurmountable problems for 20 the Company that we're not -- that we should be aware 21 of? 22 MS. KUSTERS: No. I think we can manage the 23 process. We'd have to educate the bidders, which is probably where the, the biggest concern fell last time 24 25 around. Was by issuing two separate RFPs the bidders

1 were very confused as to, you know, do they have to provide proposals under both RFPs? Is it a different 2 3 process? And as much as we'd like to be able to inform 4 5 them and advise them, You only have to submit one RFP, 6 you know, one proposal under one RFP, they, they never 7 get it. So -- but we can manage it. It's more of a 8 process. 9 And then I think it's a question of more, 10 when you get the proposals in and we do the 11 evaluation, as to, if we do have a coal resource, then 12 how does that coal resource then get evaluated as part 13 of our step four when we're looking at overall cost 14 allocation, and how does that occur from a, from a 15 individual state perspective. 16 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Okay. And does --17 MS. KUSTERS: Is the challenge. 18 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Thank you. 19 Does our evaluator, Mr. Oliver, do you have 20 anything to add to that? Concerns about when we have 21 coal open bids? 22 MR. OLIVER: No. And I think if it's an all-23 source solicitation all resources should be allowed to 24 compete. And I, you know, if it falls with what 25 Ms. Kusters says I really don't see us having a big

1 issue on the RFP process itself. Although I do 2 recognize that last time there may have been some 3 confusion, given there was two RFP processes. COMMISSIONER ALLEN: 4 Thank you. 5 CHAIRMAN BOYER: Commissioner Campbell? 6 COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: I have a few 7 questions. I'd like to hear the Company and the 8 Division respond to the Office's issue related to due 9 diligence, as far as whether you have a process to be 10 able to inform interested parties as issues arise. 11 It's my experience that if you address issues 12 up front, then months down the road maybe you avoid a 13 fight later. So is there any consideration -- have 14 you considered any alternatives to dealing with the 15 Office's concern? 16 MS. KUSTERS: From the Company's perspective, 17 to the extent that we have or end up with an asset 18 under which we would then be required to do due 19 diligence, we see that there's not an issue with 20 regards to setting up a process under which we would 21 inform other interested parties. 22 Our only concern would be to ensure the 23 confidentiality, depending on where we are in the 24 process. And how we want to ensure that, you know, 25 that aspect of it is protected. But that would be our

only concern.

DR. POWELL: We're perfectly willing to comply or keep the Office informed of what's going on and what our concerns are.

I think there were a couple of incidences in the past, RFPs where issues arose. The IE, and the Division, and the Company were discussing those issues. And it did take a while to resolve those issues. And then the Company filed something with the Commission in response to the issue itself. And so the Office wasn't informed that those discussions were going on.

And we can keep the Office more up-to-date on a more, I guess, realtime basis on what those issues are. We don't have any problems with that.

COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: Let me ask -- I've got a couple other questions. Let me -- and I'm gonna ask these questions specifically to witnesses, but if others want to chime in, please feel free to do so.

I'm gonna start with you, Dr. Powell, on the issue of whether wind should float past 2016. And if I heard your testimony correctly, your justification was least cost. That if they were allowed to float we'd get more of a least-cost answer.

And my understanding is, is that, as we've

gone through this IRP process, that wind has been included as part of a portfolio approach. As we've taken not only cost but risk into account that wind potentially can be a hedge against gas.

And so my question is is if we, if we allow it to float for least cost do we lose that portfolio viewpoint of resources and that that wind, while it might be a little more costly, does provide a hedge in some instances?

DR. POWELL: Yeah, let me elaborate on what our reasoning is. Because we recognize exactly the point that you're raising that the portfolio, the preferred portfolio with the wind resources was designed to meet not only the least cost but it's a balance of the risk involved also.

And that's why I mentioned that we're not asking the Company to change its preferred portfolio or to change its decisions on what wind it may or may not acquire in the future. Our concern is is that, if those resources aren't allowed to float, that you may have a scenario where a bid is rejected. It's not -- it doesn't make the short list because it wasn't allowed to displace, in that evaluation process, those wind resources.

So our concern is more making sure that we

have the least-cost resources that come out of the port -- or out of the RFP that were identified as meeting the least-cost-least-risk criteria of the IRP.

The Company, once it acquires the resource, will be redoing its IRP in the future, and that resource then will become part of the resource stack. And at that point the Company can reevaluate all of its other resources, including wind and DSM.

And then we will see, out of that subsequent IRP process, whether or not the current IRP and its resources are consistent with that future IRP. So that's a future decision that has to be made.

Another side concern that we brought up is that we're aware of at least one wind resource that will come online prior to what the IRP has indicated, and whether or not that resource then will become part of the resource stack that the Company will be using to evaluate the bids in this RFP.

And so we're not quite as convinced by the Company's argument that it has to maintain that portfolio in order to have some consistency because, as I mentioned, we already know that that portfolio is going to change -- or is likely to change before the RFP evaluation is initiated and completed.

COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: All right.

1 Ms. Murray, when you -- I want to talk 2 about -- or ask you a question about your preferred 3 portfolio approach. And I understand your statement 4 that if the Commission acts. And I assume you're 5 assuming an IRP order that addresses the parties' 6 statements regarding the preferred portfolio. 7 But let's say we don't. What -- do you have 8 any other suggestions or any other -- I mean, what 9 should the Company do if there's, if there's not a, if 10 there's not a Commission statement related to the preferred portfolio, based on your, your concern about 11 12 the preferred portfolio what does the Company do --13 MS. MURRAY: Well --14 COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: -- otherwise? 15 MS. MURRAY: Although we would have liked to 16 have seen some better analysis or what we would 17 consider a more complete analysis, at this point in 18 time we have to be concerned with the ability of the 19 Company to actually get a resource on in 2016. 20 And so barring a Commission order in the IRP 21 that makes any adjustments, they would just proceed with the analysis. 22 23 COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: So there's no other alternative you're suggesting, aside from a Commission 24 25 IRP order, might provide --

1 MS. MURRAY: No, we don't have another 2 alternative. Due to the timing of getting a resource 3 online. COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: 4 Okay. 5 Mr. Oliver, I -- on the -- you said there's a 6 comparability issue related to the indexing of 7 capacity cost. Could you just maybe elaborate and 8 tell me why, or tell me what you're comparing? where the comparability is if you don't do that? 9 10 MR. OLIVER: Well, generally the -- when we 11 look at company-owned resources, for example an EPC or 12 a self-built versus a PPA, the Company-owned resource 13 would be subject to cost-of-service regulations. And 14 if the Company can prove that those costs were 15 prudently incurred, you know, those costs could 16 change. Even if, even if they're -- you know, with 17 the changes in the actual marketplace. 18 Whereas a PPA, if a PPA submits a bid, those 19 prices are generally locked in. And the capital --20 the capacity charge or the capital cost of those 21 projects wouldn't be allowed to vary, even if the 22 market did change. 23 So the indexing basically has allowed the PPA

bids to be put on a more equal footing than, you know,

with the self-built options because now the, you know.

24

25

And in fact, you know, both subjects are the same, same cost adjustments.

But, you know, that's where we've advocated in the past that both would be allowed to use indexing for a portion of the capital cost to adjust to, you know, to adjust to the market in case, in case market conditions, you know, did change over time.

COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: So that has nothing to do with -- I mean, now that the Company doesn't have a self-built option, I mean, that -- you still see a comparability issue in the long term, versus if they were accepting EPC and rate base versus a PPA?

MR. OLIVER: Well, even -- I think even with an EPC, I mean, some of those costs could -- would be locked in. And I think, you know, the approach the Company has taken to use an indicative bid and a best-and-final offer has served to mitigate some of the need for the -- for indexing because the intent is to have the vast majority of the cost being fixed at the time that the contract is signed.

But there's still -- there still could be some modifications in cost that would be included in the EPC bid without being included in a PPA. Although again I think, you know, the approach that's been taken would -- it would moderate that possibility

1	quite a bit.
2	COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: All right, thank you.
3	CHAIRMAN BOYER: All right. Well, my
4	questions have been asked and answered.
5	Ms. Hogle, do you have anything further?
6	MS. HOGLE: We do not.
7	CHAIRMAN BOYER: Yours was the only witness
8	that was really cross examined.
9	Do any of the other parties wish to say
10	anything further?
11	Okay, very well. Well, we thank you for your
12	participation today. We will we understand the
13	time constraints. We will take this under advisement
14	and get an order out as soon as we possibly can.
15	Thank you all, and happy holidays.
16	(The hearing was concluded at 9:59 a.m.)
17	***
18	***
19	***
20	***
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22	***
23	***
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25	***
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1	CERTIFICATE
2 3 4	STATE OF UTAH)) ss. COUNTY OF SALT LAKE)
5 6 7 8 9	This is to certify that the foregoing proceedings were taken before me, KELLY L. WILBURN, a Certified Shorthand Reporter and Registered Professional Reporter in and for the State of Utah. That the proceedings were reported by me in stenotype and thereafter caused by me to be transcribed into typewriting. And that a full, true, and correct transcription of said proceedings so taken and transcribed is set forth in the foregoing pages, numbered 1 through 45, inclusive.
11 12 13 14	I further certify that I am not of kin or otherwise associated with any of the parties to said cause of action, and that I am not interested in the event thereof. SIGNED ON THIS 23rd DAY OF December, 2011.
15 16 17	Kelly L. Wilburn, CSR, RPR Utah CSR No. 109582-7801
18 19 20	
21 22 23	
24 25	46

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