

1 **Introduction**

2 **Q. Are you the same Natalie L. Hocken who submitted direct testimony in this**  
3 **proceeding on behalf of PacifiCorp dba Rocky Mountain Power (“the**  
4 **Company”)?**

5 A. Yes.

6 **Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony in this proceeding?**

7 A. The purpose of this rebuttal testimony is to respond to proposed Transmission and  
8 Distribution (“T&D”) plant addition adjustments that were made by Mr. Richard S.  
9 Hahn, of La Capra Associates, in his direct testimony filed on behalf of the Utah  
10 Division of Public Utilities (“DPU”). My rebuttal testimony responds to two of the  
11 proposed adjustments to T&D plant additions that were included in Exhibit DPU  
12 3.0 Dir-Rev Req and further detailed in Mr. Hahn’s direct testimony. These include  
13 the following projects:

- 14 • Sigurd to Red Butte 345 kV transmission line and
- 15 • Whetstone 230-115 kV substation project

16 Specifically, I will demonstrate that the DPU’s proposed plant addition  
17 adjustments for these projects should be rejected and the Company should be  
18 granted the plant addition amounts submitted. In addition, my testimony responds  
19 to concerns expressed by Mr. Hahn regarding late capital additions to this rate case,  
20 and specifically regarding the Pomona Heights project. My testimony will  
21 demonstrate that this project is necessary and will be used and useful within the test  
22 period and the capital investment should be allowed in this rate case.

23 **Sigurd to Red Butte 345 kV Transmission Line**

24 **Q. What is the plant adjustment proposed by Mr. Hahn for the Sigurd to Red**  
25 **Butte 345 kV transmission line?**

26 A. Mr. Hahn proposes removal of the requested \$363 million proposed plant addition  
27 for the new 345 kV transmission line between the existing Sigurd substation and  
28 the Red Butte substation in Utah on the basis that one item listed as a critical activity  
29 in the substation work schedule provided by the Company would not be timely  
30 completed for the Company to meet the June 2015 in-service date.

31 **Q. Do you agree with the proposed reduction for this project?**

32 A. No. This project is prudent and necessary for continuing to provide safe and reliable  
33 service to customers as described further in my direct testimony. The substation  
34 work schedule was developed by the substation engineer, procure and construct  
35 contractor and erroneously prolonged the duration of the activity “Tag House -  
36 Manufacture.” The number of workdays is a fixed input in the substation schedule.  
37 The substation contractor updated the percentage complete but did not make the  
38 manual correction to the number of workdays. A corrected project schedule is  
39 provided in Confidential Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(NLH-1R) and was provided to the DPU  
40 as a supplemental response to CONF DPU Data  
41 Request 41.9.

42 **Q. Will the Sigurd to Red Butte 345 kV transmission line project be in-service by**  
43 **June 2015?**

44 A. Yes. As of May 2014 on the transmission line work, 622 foundations (84 percent  
45 of project total) have been completed, 560 structures (74 percent of project total)

46 have been erected, and 25 percent of the conductor has been strung. All foundations  
47 are complete at Sigurd substation including the shunt reactor foundation.  
48 Approximately 50 percent of the foundations are complete at Red Butte substation.  
49 All major equipment is scheduled to be on site by July 2014, with the majority of  
50 the equipment already on site at the Sigurd and Red Butte substations.

51 **Whetstone 230-115 kV Substation Project**

52 **Q. What is the plant adjustment proposed by Mr. Hahn for the Whetstone 230-**  
53 **115 kV substation project?**

54 A. Mr. Hahn proposes removing the requested \$17.7 million plant investment for the  
55 Whetstone substation project on the basis that one of the milestones listed on the  
56 project schedule provided to Mr. Hahn showing activity current as of April 3, 2014  
57 would extend completion of the project beyond June 30, 2015. Specifically, Mr.  
58 Hahn is concerned with the milestone “Construction-Revenue Metering” that  
59 showed a start date of January 16, 2014, with a 333 workday activity to completion.  
60 The project schedule did not show this milestone had commenced as of April 3,  
61 2014 which would push completion to July 13, 2015, at the earliest, and beyond the  
62 projected in-service date of June 30, 2015.

63 **Q. Do you agree with the proposed reduction for this project? If not, why not?**

64 A. No. The \$17.7 million plant investment amount requested by the Company in the  
65 rate case for this project should be included. The Whetstone projection will be  
66 complete, in-service and used and useful by June 30, 2015. The milestone  
67 “Construction - Revenue Metering” is not applicable to this project work and was  
68 erroneously carried-over from a prior project that used a similar project schedule

69 template. Revenue metering is only necessary when the project involves  
70 interchange metering for billing purposes. The Whetstone substation project does  
71 not involve any customer interconnection work that would necessitate revenue  
72 metering. A corrected project schedule is provided in Confidential  
73 Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(NLH-R2) and was provided to the DPU in supplemental response  
74 to DPU CONF Data Request 41.11.

75 **Q. Will the Whetstone Substation project be in-service by June 30, 2015?**

76 A. Yes. With the corrected project schedule and progress made to date, the Whetstone  
77 Substation project is on track to meet the in-service date.

78 **Pomona Heights Project**

79 **Q. What concern does Mr. Hahn express related to the Pomona Heights project?**

80 A. Pomona Heights is one of ten capital investment projects Mr. Hahn expresses  
81 concern for in his direct testimony. Specifically, this group of projects was part of  
82 an update to the capital additions in the rate case as described further in the rebuttal  
83 testimony of Mr. Steven R. McDougal. In DPU 35.4, detail regarding these projects  
84 was requested. The project schedule provided as Attachment DPU 35.4 showed  
85 detail for a Washington distribution project to be in-service December 1, 2014. This  
86 milestone, “NLT In-Service (Distro Sub/Breaker Changes),” was erroneously  
87 included on the list and rather, should have been for the work to be completed at  
88 the Pomona Heights substation to be in-service November 2014. A corrected  
89 project schedule is provided as  
90 Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(NLH-3R) and was provided to the DPU in supplemental response  
91 to DPU Data Request 35.4. In addition, Mr. Hahn expresses concern about the lack

92 of project support provided and requests similar detail to what has been provided  
93 for in other capital addition projects.

94 **Q. Please describe the additional plant investment for the Pomona Heights**  
95 **project.**

96 A. The transmission capital investment is approximately \$3.1 million for the Pomona  
97 Heights project. This plant investment represents the costs to expand the ring bus  
98 at the Pomona Heights substation which will be placed in-service and will be used  
99 and useful in November 2014. This ring bus expansion will improve reliability and  
100 is necessary to provide adequate breaker separation between lines and transformers  
101 for breaker failure and bus fault events.

102 **Q. Please provide the details of the project cost.**

103 A. The total cost of the project is approximately \$3.1 million, comprised of the  
104 following:

**POMONA HEIGHTS PROJECT**  
**Summary of Estimated Spend by Cost Category**

<b>Labor</b>	Internal Crews/Construction, Engineering, PM, etc)	<b>\$143,429</b>
<b>Material</b>	Control House, MW Tower and antennae's, 230kV breakers, Steel support and dead-end structures, switches, and relay panels.	<b>\$1,477,174</b>
<b>Purchased Services</b>	External Crews/Construction	<b>\$1,209,395</b>
<b>Other</b>	Property Tax	<b>\$36,444</b>
<b>Surcharge &amp; AFUDC</b>		<b>\$219,955</b>
<b>Total Estimate for Rate Period</b>		<b>\$3,083,397</b>

105 **Q. Please explain why the additional plant investment for the Pomona Heights**  
106 **project is needed.**

107 A. The plant investment for the Pomona Heights project is needed to comply with  
108 NERC standard TPL-002 “System Performance Following Loss of a Single Bulk  
109 Electric System Element (Category B).” In the existing Pomona Heights 230 kV  
110 ring bus configuration, a breaker failure event can cause a simultaneous outage of  
111 the Wanapum-Pomona Heights 230 kV transmission line, the Pomona Heights-  
112 Union Gap 230 kV transmission line and the Pomona Heights 230 kV capacitor  
113 bank. Separately, a single bus fault or breaker failure event can cause simultaneous  
114 loss of both 230-115 kV transformers at Pomona Heights. This ring bus expansion  
115 to a six breaker ring will improve reliability and is necessary to provide adequate  
116 breaker separation between lines and transformers for breaker failure and bus fault  
117 events. This work will also enable a second sequence of work to construct a new  
118 230 kV transmission line from Vantage substation to Pomona Heights substation  
119 estimated to be placed in-service in October 2016.

120 **Summary and Conclusion**

121 **Q. Please summarize your rebuttal testimony.**

122 A. The proposed reductions to capital investment for Sigurd to Red Butte and  
123 Whetstone transmission projects should be rejected. These projects are necessary  
124 to continue to provide safe and reliable service to customers and were solely based  
125 on project schedule inaccuracies which have since been corrected and provided as  
126 supplemental data request responses in this rate case. In addition, the Pomona  
127 Heights ring bus expansion will be placed in service in November 2014 and be used  
128 and useful during the test year.

129 **Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?**

130 A. Yes.