BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

In the Matter of the Formal Complaint of Ellis-Hall Consultants against PacifiCorp/Rocky Mountain Power

Docket No. 14-035-24

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	SCHEDULING CONFERENCI	E HEARING PROCEEDINGS
TAK	KEN AT:	Public Service Commission Hearing Room 401 160 East 300 South Salt Lake City, Utah
DAT	TE:	Thursday, March 13, 2014
TIM	IE:	10:02 a.m.
REF	PORTED BY:	Nancy A. Fullmer, RMR

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	Scheduling Conference Fleating Proceedings 03/13/14	3
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11	Also Present:	
12	Paul Clements, Rocky Mountain Power	
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1	Scheduling Conference Hearing Proceedings
2	March 13, 2014
3	PROCEEDINGS
4	THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Why don't we go
5	ahead and go on the record. Good morning, everyone. This is
6	the time for the scheduling conference in the matter of the
7	formal complaint of Ellis-Hall Consultants against PacifiCorp,
8	slash, Rocky Mountain Power, Docket No. 14-035-24.
9	My name is Jordan White. And the commissioners
10	have asked that I act as presiding officer for the scheduling
11	conference. Why don't we go ahead and start by taking
12	appearances. We'll start over here at the end of the table over
13	here with Mr
14	MR. COLEMAN: Brent Coleman with the Attorney
15	General's Office on behalf of the Office of Consumer Services.
16	MR. JETTER: Justin Jetter for the Utah Division of
17	Public Utilities.
18	MR. SOLANDER: Daniel Solander on behalf of
19	Rocky Mountain Power. And I have with me Paul Clements,
20	Director of Regulations for Rocky Mountain Power.
21	MS. WOOD: Mary Anne Wood and Stephen Wood
22	on behalf of Ellis-Hall.
23	THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. You might want
24	to pull the microphone over so we can hear you okay.
25	Okay. So we have Ellis-Hall's formal complaint that

was filed on March 3rd. And after the Commission has issued a notice of hearing Ellis-Hall then filed a motion for expedited hearing. The request is the Commission issue a decision prior to the week of April 28, 2014.

Before we start talking about process and scheduling, it would be helpful for me, at least--I don't know if it's Ms. Wood or Mr. Wood, but it would be helpful to kind of get a very brief timeline of the events surrounding the complaint just so we can have an understanding as we go through the scheduling.

MR. WOOD: Are you--are you asking what are the deadlines that we need to--

THE HEARING OFFICER: Yeah. I would like to understand, you know--you know, I mean, again, I have the complaint, but it's, you know, when indicative pricing happened, when you filed, when you were informed of the change in indicative pricing, and why you need to have expedited treatment, I guess.

MR. WOOD: Well, I think the background of what happened that led up to our complaint as set forth, I mean, the facts are in the complaint and we received indicative pricing in March--excuse me--in May of 2013. That was the indicative pricing we were given. Subsequently, as you know, we filed a--or we intervened in another matter, complained of disparate treatment, and then--and a varying application of Schedule 38

1	and, subsequently, when we attempted to execute PPA,
2	thePacifiCorp took the position that our indicative pricing was
3	no longer valid under the Commission's order.
4	THE HEARING OFFICER: Stop you here for one
5	minute. When was that? When was the initial notice from
6	PacifiCorp about that that you just mentioned?
7	MR. WOOD: When did they give us notice that they
8	would no longer honor that indicative pricing? Let me just
9	confer with my client.
10	MS. WOOD: The important thing is that there had
11	been ongoing negotiations and we filed an informal complaint
12	that they've ignored.
13	THE HEARING OFFICER: I appreciate that. I'm
14	just trying to get a scope of the dates here.
15	MS. WOOD: Well, what difference does it make?
16	We've been trying to negotiate a PPA for a year.
17	THE HEARING OFFICER: I need to understand the
18	timeline here because
19	MR. WOOD: Well, we'll have to give you exact
20	dates, but we believe it was in September of 2013,
21	approximately the time that we held the hearing in the Blue
22	Mountain and Latigo matters.
23	THE HEARING OFFICER: And when were you
24	informed of the change in indicative pricing?
25	MR. WOOD: In 2000in September of 2000.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. All right. 1 2 MR. WOOD: We'll have to--we'll have to confirm 3 those dates. 4 MR. SOLANDER: Mr. Clements has that date if the 5 Commission would like. THE HEARING OFFICER: Yeah. 6 7 MR. CLEMENTS: Following the Commission order 8 in the cost docket for renewable projects larger than three 9 megawatts, which was in August 2013, I believe, the Company 10 provided letter notice to all parties who had received indicative 11 pricing prior to that order who were not in receipt of executed 12 power purchase agreement. And so in August of 2013 letters 13 were provided stating that the indicative pricing was no longer 14 valid. 15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. That's helpful. I 16 appreciate it. That's all I needed. I'm just trying to get a basic 17 time frame here. 18 So returning to the motion for expedited hearing, 19 Ellis-Hall states the question is simply the correct application of 20 the Commission's August 16, 2013 order and docket 21 12-035-100, which states in part future requests for indicative 22 pricing for one QF. QFs under Schedule 38 will be calculated 23 using the proxy PDR method. 24 Based upon the Ellis-Hall's reading of the order,

they assert that because they had indicative pricing before that

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1 order was issued, they are entitled to that indicative pricing. Is 2 that the correct characterization of the questions presented in 3 the complaint, Mr. Wood? 4 MR. WOOD: Yes. 5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. That's helpful. 6 So if that's the question, I guess the next point is here what 7 process do we need to bring that question to a pointed position 8 before the Commission? Is this a--would the Commission need 9 to examine refined facts here? Is this simply a legal issue? 10 What are the parties thoughts on that? And why don't we go 11 ahead and start with Mr. Wood. 12 MS. WOOD: We think it's a legal issue. 13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Do any of the 14 parties dispute that, Mr. Solander or Mr. Jetter or Coleman? 15 MR. JETTER: No. We don't dispute that. 16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. So if it's a legal 17 issue, it sounds like we don't need--there's not going to be 18 discovery. How about the question do we need a hearing? I 19 mean, is there something we could do by a couple rounds of 20 briefs? 21 MS. WOOD: I think it can be done solely by briefs. 22 THE HEARING OFFICER: By briefs? Okay. Well, 23 let's talk about that then. I note that you noted that you are looking for a determination before April 28th. So without a 24

hearing date, why don't we just talk about, you know, whether

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1	it's an initial brief and responses or howwhat do the parties
2	think? Mr. Jetter.
3	MR. JETTER: I just wanted to bring up one issue.
4	THE HEARING OFFICER: Sure.
5	MR. JETTER: I think we do need some facts, which
6	are basically the chronology of dates of the communications
7	between the Company and Ellis-Hall.
8	THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay.
9	MR. JETTER: So I don't know that any of those are
10	disputed, but we would like just a chance to make sure that we
11	have a full record for our own understanding.
12	MR. COLEMAN: If I may?
13	THE HEARING OFFICER: Yes.
14	MR. COLEMAN: It's my understanding that the
15	Office has submitted some data requests along those lines just
16	to get the factual background. So ifyou know, I think it would
17	be helpful for our position to have the capacity to get their
18	responses back to have a more full understanding.
19	Because ofbecause of the, you know, the
20	conversations that arekind of formed the gravamen of some of
21	these issues that were held between just the Company and
22	Ellis-Hall, from our perspective and our responsibility to protect
23	some of the interests of the ratepayers, we need to have a
24	better understanding of some of those facts as we present our
25	input into the situation.

1 MS. WOOD: How are those the least bit relevant? 2 The only relevant question is what the Commission's order 3 means. That's the only issue that is relevant. We all know the 4 history of communications between the--PacifiCorp and our 5 client and that that is currently before the supreme court. 6 MR. COLEMAN: I think that they're relevant 7 inasmuch as given some of the language of Schedule 38 and 8 how those conversations went back and forth against the time of 9 Schedule 38. I think those questions are relevant. 10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Let me ask you this: Is 11 this something that, for example, I mean, the--you know, by 12 parties, I mean Rocky Mountain Power and Ellis-Hall would 13 potentially stipulate to the facts that are outlined in their 14 pleadings and their informal complaint? 15 MR. WOOD: I don't--I mean, I haven't spoken to 16 Rocky Mountain Power. But, you know, on this basic issue, I 17 don't think there would be any dispute. I mean, it would be the 18 date that we were given indicative pricing, the date that they 19 told us that, you know, applicants would then have to have the 20 new pricing, and whether the Commission's order--when it says 21 future requests, I mean, what does future requests mean? That, 22 I think, is the only issue here. 23 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. MR. WOOD: I mean, I don't think anyone's in 24 25 dispute that we made a request for indicative pricing, that we

were given indicative pricing. Nobody's in dispute that the Commission later issued an order that changed the pricing methodology and we just have a difference of opinion about what this one question is, what does future requests for indicative pricing mean.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Coleman, I tend to agree based upon, you know, I had asked him to reiterate this, the narrow scope of their question about if there's no dispute about--and, again, I kind of see the--I mean, obviously, I agree that we need to have an establishment of dates in the context of the order, the request, et cetera. But, you know, if you look at the informal complaint, the correspondence, et cetera, I think it outlines, you know, certain dates. And if the parties are willing to agree to that--

MR. COLEMAN: Yeah. If there's an agreement upon those deadlines, then we can, you know, frame some of our position. Again, with respect to Schedule 38, that would be helpful.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Do you want to go off the record for a minute and just confer, you know, and maybe potentially discuss? I mean, again, they're in the informal complaint papers and also some of those dates are outlined in the actual formal complaint.

MR. SOLANDER: I mean, I think those are the only facts that are going to be in evidence and the scope isn't--you

1 know, is that narrowed? Then I think we're fine proceeding 2 without a hearing, the Company would be. 3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. 4 MR. SOLANDER: If we could, you know, the 5 parties outside of this could put together a stipulated summary of facts and submit it for the Commission, something like that. 6 7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. I think that would 8 be fine. Again, if it's just a legal issue, I don't necessarily need 9 to--you know, there are pretty clear dates in terms of, you know, 10 original indicative pricing, order comes out, and then the letter 11 that Mr. Clements describes coming out in August--late August 12 of '13. 13 That would be helpful if you could get together and 14 file some kind of, you know, again, brief stipulated. And that 15 could be done, you know, simultaneously with or prior to the 16 briefing. But--so let's talk about briefing here. Any thoughts 17 with respect to, you know, initial briefs and then a potential 18 response? MS. WOOD: I think we ought to have PacifiCorp 19 20 and Ellis-Hall file simultaneous opening briefs and then anybody 21 who wants to respond can respond when we're responding to 22 each other's briefs. 23 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Do the parties have thoughts on that? 24 MR. JETTER: Yeah. I think that's fine. I would 25

1	suggest that it would be open to all the parties to file at the
2	opening at the same time for an initial brief.
3	MS. WOOD: That's fine.
4	MR. JETTER: And we could probablyI think ten or
5	15 days from now is fine for the Division, but I don't know what
6	the other parties prefer.
7	THE HEARING OFFICER: So today's the 13th of
8	March. So what do we think about the 28th of March or longer
9	for initial briefs?
10	MS. WOOD: March 28th is fine.
11	MR. WOOD: I think we could do it shorter, actually.
12	I mean, the 24th?
13	THE HEARING OFFICER: You knowI mean, I
14	can't speak, but I know there's a lot of dockets going on here so
15	I'll leave it up to the folks at the Commission and the Office.
16	Can you do it the 24th or do you need longer?
17	MR. SOLANDER: We'd prefer two weeks. The 28th
18	would be fine.
19	THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay.
20	MR. COLEMAN: And I guess I would just want
21	toand I know Your Honor has addressed this and I just want to
22	confirm because of the
23	some of the difference in scope between what's included in the
24	informal complaint and that of the formal complaint so I can
25	better understand. You know, we're being asked to proceed

relatively quickly. It seems, you know, the informal complaint was resolved in November and now we're asked to move on a pretty quick schedule.

But so if I can just make sure I understand. The sum and substance of the complaint, as I understand it, and I guess I would again ask for confirmation, is that it's not the disparate treatment that is referenced in the informal complaint, but is simply the status of the indicative pricing quotation.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Ms. or Mr. Wood, can you correct them? As they characterize it, they have a specific legal question with respect to the Commission's, I guess, application of the order in the context of timing and when they received indicative pricing, and then they received the letter from Mr. Clements pursuant to indicative pricing. Is that correct, Mr. Wood?

MR. WOOD: Yeah. I mean, the question of the disparate treatment is before the Utah Supreme Court and whether or not that should have been addressed in the other matter. So we don't think it would be appropriate for us to be tracking an issue that's before the supreme court. So although we referenced that in our informal complaint, the issue on--that we're seeking a resolution of the Commission is simply the correct interpretation of the court's--or excuse me--the Commission's order. What does it mean when the Commission said future requests for indicative pricing.

1	THE HEARING OFFICER: So just to be clear,
2	there's going to be no issue of any complaints regarding the
3	Schedule 38 with respect to PacifiCorp?
4	MR. WOOD: No. Not in this complaint, no.
5	THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay.
6	MR. COLEMAN: I just wanted to better understand
7	because I work on, you know, short-term time framingmy
8	position
9	THE HEARING OFFICER: Understood. That's an
10	appropriate question.
11	Okay. So we have initial briefs from all parties that
12	will be due the 28th of March. Response briefs, if any?
13	MS. WOOD: Let's do it a week later.
14	MR. SOLANDER: The 11th, I think.
15	THE HEARING OFFICER: The 11th?
16	MR. SOLANDER: That would be Rocky Mountain
17	Power's preference.
18	THE HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Jetter and Mr.
19	Coleman?
20	MR. JETTER: I would like two weeks to respond.
21	MR. COLEMAN: Yeah. I think that would be
22	appropriate.
23	THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. So I think we
24	have some consensuswell, I think we have consensus among
25	the parties, which begins with a specific legal question with

1	respect to, I guess, the Commission's application or
2	interpretation of the Commission's order. And we have initial
3	briefs from all parties that would be due Friday, March 28, 2014
4	with response briefs, if any, would be due Friday, April 11th. Is
5	that correct?
6	Okay. With that, are there any other matters of
7	housekeepingor sorry.
8	MR. JETTER: Just we had talked about a
9	stipulated set of, like, a chronology of events. I suppose we
10	should have some sort of a date for that.
11	THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay.
12	MR. JETTER: I don't know how long that would
13	take.
14	MR. SOLANDER: Before the 24th?
15	THE HEARING OFFICER: Why don't we go ahead
6	and go off the record for a second and you guys talk about that.
17	(Discussion off the record.)
18	THE HEARING OFFICER: As I just mentioned, as I
19	left the scheduling conference before, the parties were
20	discussing potential stipulating to a few pivotal dates in the
21	context of a legal question with respect to application of the
22	Commission's order. Do the parties have a consensus on that?
23	MR. JETTER: No. At this point the Division is
24	considering withdrawing our support for the expedited schedule.
25	THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay.

1 MR. JETTER: We think that there may be some 2 facts that might be important to this. We would like the ability 3 to ask Data Request, the Company, and Ellis-Hall. 4 MR. WOOD: Your Honor, I apologize. This is 5 simply rehashing the issue that you already decided, which is 6 they're trying to broaden the scope of what we're trying to make. 7 Our question is very, very simple. It is what did the Commission 8 mean when it said future requests for indicative pricing. And 9 what they're holding up on is--the argument is we'll agree to that 10 if this order has no precedential value, which is the strangest 11 thing in the whole world. 12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Let's back up for a second here, Mr. Jetter. So---13 14 MR. JETTER: So--THE HEARING OFFICER: Just a minute here. So 15 16 this is Ellis-Hall's complaint. 17 MR. JETTER: It is. 18 THE HEARING OFFICER: In their complaint and what they've reiterated here today is that it's a very narrow 19 20 issue, a legal issue. Help me understand a little bit more about 21 why the Division is--we need to have further fact finding beyond 22 just those three or four dates. 23 MR. JETTER: Well, if the question simply applies 24 to the issue of whether the phrase in the order--what that means 25 generally, then I don't think that the specific facts of Ellis-Hall

If the question is is Ellis-Hall entitled a year later to

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are particularly important.

the same pricing, is this pricing good forever, how does this pricing apply specifically to Ellis-Hall's set of facts, then I think we need the facts in the record to make that determination.

Because we have some concerns outside of just the specific question of the indicative pricing from that order and, specifically, some questions about how long it's good for, the actions of the party, and, in fact, whether we support or do not support the use of the specific indicative pricing.

MS. WOOD: Obviously, that can be decided at the time our PPA comes before us for approval. But you have to have an interpretation of the order. And the order shouldn't turn on who the person is that's asking for the interpretation.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Jetter, I understand where you're coming from. This is Ellis-Hall's complaint, though. They can--if they want to have issues addressed with respect to, you know, potential treatment by PacifiCorp in the context of Schedule 38, that's their option.

MR. JETTER: It is their option, but I don't think they have a right necessarily to go ahead on an expedited schedule if they want to do that without any facts in the record.

THE HEARING OFFICER: But I guess what I'm saying in terms of the facts, if that's their question, I'm not sure I see relevant facts beyond, again, indicative pricing pre, you

know, August 16, 2013 order and indicative pricing post. I don't--if they want to expand that, I agree that if it's going to turn into an issue of basically a complaint against Rocky Mountain Power with respect to Schedule 38, that will require additional time, fact finding, and a hearing.

MR. SOLANDER: And the Company is fine with the schedule that was discussed before the recess provided that the scope is broadened during brief and discovery becomes--I mean, if it is limited to that legal question, the Company is fine with the schedule we discussed.

MR. WOOD: Your Honor, we reiterated it several times. Our scope is simply what did the Commission mean when it said future requests for indicative pricing. And there's only three dates that are going to matter. The date we were given indicative pricing, the date of the order, and the date they sent out notice that those requests--that that--

THE HEARING OFFICER: But I just want to be clear, though. And this kind of goes back to your complaint. It's not necessarily what does the question mean, whether--in the context of that language, whether or not Ellis-Hall is entitled to the pre August order indicative pricing. Is that not correct?

MR. WOOD: Well, did PacifiCorp err in the interpretation of the Commission's order? Obviously. But that doesn't mean that we are asserting that our indicative pricing as the Division is expressly concerned is good forever. We're not

1 making that request. That's not before the Commission right 2 now. Ours is simply--we read the Commission's order as saying 3 a future request. We believe our request was not a future 4 request, but a prior request for indicative pricing. It's not that 5 complicated. 6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. It's not a 7 question to Ellis-Hall of whether or not they're entitled to it 8 forever. He's just asking about the interpretation of whether 9 they're entitled to it based upon an order. I don't know if I see, 10 you know, additional fact finding beyond those dates unless, 11 again, if Ellis-Hall wants to expand the narrow scope of their 12 complaint to a complaint within the context of Schedule 38. 13 MR. COLEMAN: From my perspective, I've 14 reviewed the informal complaint and the formal complaint, which 15 I believe, you know, the three--16 the three dates that have been referenced, I can find one that's 17 missing. And so I--if I can get that one date, which apparently, 18 from my understanding, is the date of the letter post phase two 19 order from Rocky Mountain Power to all indicative pricing 20 holders, if I can get the date of that, I think I can proceed for my 21 client. 22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Is it August 27, 2013? 23 That's the date I saw in just a quick review. MR. WOOD: We'll have to confirm with our letter, 24

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but that sounds right.

1	THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. So, again, if you
2	want to confirm or whatever, then file something jointly or
3	stipulated, et cetera, yeah, I agreeI mean, again, based upon
4	this very specific narrow issue with outlines and reiterated
5	numerous times today, I don't see necessary fact finding beyond
6	those issues. Again, this is Ellis-Hall's complaint.
7	MR. JETTER: Okay.
8	THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. So what are the
9	parties' plans for stipulating or introducing those stipulated
10	timing facts?
11	MR. WOOD: I think that we can justI mean, we
12	have the other two dates already in our formal complaint and
13	informal complaint. We'll get the third date confirmed. And
14	we'll each put Rocky Mountain Power and we will just put that
15	date
16	plug that date into our brief. I don't think our brief is going to
17	be very long.
18	THE HEARING OFFICER: We have no opposition
19	to that.
20	MR. COLEMAN: If I can get that date before the
21	brief so I can maybe include it in some of my
22	MS. WOOD: We should be able to get it to you
23	today.
24	MR. COLEMAN: Okay. That would be great. Thank
25	you.

MS. WOOD: Unless Rocky Mountain Power and we 1 2 have different letters. It's going to be within two or three days, 3 the date of their letter and also the date of our receipt. 4 MR. CLEMENTS: Yeah. I mean, we can provide 5 the letters that were actually provided for indicative pricing and 6 then the letter that was provided post order in 2013 if that would 7 be helpful from a fact finding standpoint. We can provide those 8 letters to all parties. 9 MR. COLEMAN: Yeah, that would be great. 10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. 11 MR. COLEMAN: Before--just one other housekeeping matter. 12 13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Sure. 14 MR. COLEMAN: Before this discussion, there were 15 a couple of data requests that were issued, so do we need to 16 address whether or not there are responsibilities around those 17 or do you want--I mean--18 THE HEARING OFFICER: You know, here's what I 19 guess I would say. As you know, the Commission doesn't view 20 data request responses unless there are ultimate issues in 21 evidence. If whoever you issued them to doesn't believe they're 22 in the scope and they want to object to it, I guess I would say 23 that ultimately it's not going to come into evidence. And so I would say it's probably moot from that respect. I'm not really--I 24

don't really have the specifics of what they are to make a ruling

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1 on it, but if there's a dispute about that and we need to come 2 back in here and talk about it, we can do that. 3 MR. SOLANDER: I think we can handle that 4 amongst ourselves. 5 MR. CLEMENTS: Yeah. I mean, we would rather 6 reach an agreement to not respond to those requests only 7 because we're not doing discovery in this docket. So if we're 8 not doing discovery, then we shouldn't be obligated to respond 9 to those. However, if the statement of facts and the letters we 10 provide is not sufficient, we would discuss individually with you 11 any other information you may need. 12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Does that sound fair? MR. JETTER: Yeah. I think that's fine. We have 13 14 authority to ask data request without a docket. I don't think that 15 information's relevant given the narrow scope, so--16 THE HEARING OFFICER: So now we have a 17 briefing schedule that, you know, is expedited, et cetera. What 18 I'm saying is you mentioned in your request for expedited 19 hearing that you're looking for a--could you help me understand 20 the date because I'm hoping we can accommodate that. 21 MR. WOOD: Yeah. The dates necessary. There's 22 a couple of things. One is the parties have negotiated a 23 PPA--parties have negotiated the LGA that is waiting for this determination. And the dates under that require completion by. 24 25 I believe it's December 2015. That completion date is also

1	required under the tax credits. So in order to get the project
2	done by that date, we need a decision by the 1st of May.
3	THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. All right. That's
4	helpful. Any other matters of housekeeping?
5	MR. CLEMENTS: I would just note the Company
6	may disagree with some of those representations, but we're not
7	opposed to the expedited schedule for the record.
8	THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. That makes
9	sense. Anything else? I appreciate everyone meeting on such
10	a short notice. And with that, we're adjourned. Thank you.
11	(Hearing concluded at 10:45 a.m.)
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## CERTIFICATE This is to certify that the foregoing proceedings were taken before me, NANCY A. FULLMER, a Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Utah; That the proceeding was 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 testimony so taken and transcribed is set forth in the foregoing pages; 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. Nancy Fullmer, RMR