BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER TO INCREASE) DOCKET NO. 14-035-31) Exhibit No. DPU 1.0R)
THE DEFERRED EBA RATE THROUGH THE ENERGY BALANCING ACCOUNT MECHANISM.) Rebuttal Testimony and Exhibits) Matthew Croft)

FOR THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE STATE OF UTAH

CONFIDENTIAL

Rebuttal Testimony of

Matthew Croft

September 23, 2014

- 1 Q. Please state your name and occupation?
- 2 A. My name is Matthew Allen Croft. I am employed by the Utah Division of Public Utilities
- 3 ("Division") as a Utility Technical Consultant.
- 4 Q. Did you previously provide testimony in this docket?
- 5 A. Yes. I previously provided direct testimony in this docket.
- 6 Q. What is the purpose of the testimony you are now filing?
- 7 A. My purpose is to respond to the testimonies of Rocky Mountain Power ("Company")
- 8 witnesses Messrs. Brian Dickman and John A. Apperson, and Office of Consumer Services
- 9 ("OCS") witness Mr. Danny Martinez.
- 10 Q. Can you please summarize the Division's rebuttal position with regards to the EBA
- 11 **deferral balance?**
- 12 A. Yes. The Division recommends specific adjustments that result in a \$7.05 million reduction
- to the original \$28.34 million requested by the Company in its original application. The table
- on the next page summarizes the individual adjustments proposed by the Division.

15 **TABLE 1**

DPU and La Capra EBA Adjustments

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				UT
				EBA Deferral
			NPC	Adjustment
Line	ADJUS	TED ACTUAL NPC - As Filed		
1		Sales for Resale - 447	(289,215,427)	
2		Purchased Power - 555	645,884,836	
3		Wheeling Expense - 565	139,021,802	
4		Fuel - Coal - 501	781,070,177	
5		Fuel - Natural Gas - 547	338,957,536	
6		Other Generation - 503	3,816,173	_
7		Total Adjusted Actual NPC - As Filed	1,619,535,097	
8	DPU &	LA CAPRA ADJUSTMENTS		
9	DPU	Jim Bridger Aerial Survey Adjustment	1	11,233
10	DPU	Deal 1127544 - GF - Trade Purpose	(485,300)	(157,002)
11	DPU	Deal 697009 - PF - Trade Purpose	(574,236)	(195,721)
12	DPU	Deal 697030 - PF - Trade Purpose	(615,816)	(209,909)
13	DPU	Deal 696714 - PF - Trade Purpose	(1,200,832)	(409,308)
14	DPU	Deal 697068 - PF - Trade Purpose	(612,736)	
15	DPU	Deal 697109 - PF - Trade Purpose	(574,236)	(195,721)
16	DPU	Deal 697110 - PF - Trade Purpose	(574,236)	(195,721)
17	DPU	Deal 674556 - GF - Improper Approval	(1,914,411)	(588,747)
18	DPU	Deal 674806 - GF - Improper Approval	(2,520,000)	(859,091)
19	DPU	Black Cap Solar - unsupported	(144,799)	(47,663)
20	DPU	Buy-throughs - unsupported	(606,986)	(199,590)
21	LCA	Deal 1128158 - GF -split deal	(473,000)	(157,349)
22	LCA	Deal 1128159 - GF-split deal	(374,600)	(124,433)
23	LCA	Deal 674809 - GF -Trade Purpose	(1,962,600)	(635,517)
24	LCA	Deal 772398 - GF - Trade Purpose	(3,291,500)	(1,065,826)
25	LCA	Deal 1235914 - GP- Trade Purpose	(94,550)	(32,848)
26	LCA	Deal 697015 -PF-Trade Purpose	(558,836)	(190,465)
27	LCA	Deal 1352677 - PP -Unjustified Damages	(327,604)	(99,630)
28	LCA	Craig Unit 1 Outage replacement power	(3,086,810)	(972,915)
29	LCA	Chehalis Outages replacement power	(1,863,177)	(570,143)
30		Total DPU and La Capra Adjustments	(21,856,264)	(7,105,224)
31		Scalar/Factor Update		57,241
32		Total DPU and La Capra Adjustments		(7,047,984)

Notes: GF = Gas Financial, GP = Gas Physical, PF = Power Financial, PP = Power Physical. AFR = Additional Filing Requirement. This table is included as a tab in the excel file called "DPU Exhibit 1.7R to 1.9R - DPU Adj Summary and Calculations_CONF." The Scalar/Factor Update includes the impacts of the revised SE and SG factors from Mr. Dickman's response testimony and the Division's NPC adjustments shown in the table above.

17	Q.	What is your general response to the Company's response testimonies?
18	A.	With regard to issues addressed in Mr. Dickman's testimony, most of the supporting
19		documentation issues identified in the Division staff's audit report have been resolved. Each
20		of the specific issues will be addressed below. With regards to Mr. Apperson's testimony, the
21		Division believes the Company has greatly mischaracterized the La Capra and DPU audit
22		reports specifically as it relates to reasons for disallowing certain hedging transactions. The
23		Division also believes the Company's claim that ETP, tenor and notional value limits are
24		unofficial is untrue, at least in the common understanding of the word "unofficial," and could
25		be misleading. I will first address issues discussed in Mr. Dickman's testimony and then I
26		will address issues in Mr. Apperson's testimony.
27	Q.	What issues in Mr. Dickman's testimony will you be responding to?
28	A.	I will address Mr. Dickman's response to the following adjustments that were included in our
29		audit report.
30		1. Deal #1226654 invoice discrepancy
31		2. Special contract buy-throughs
32		3. Black Cap Solar
33		4. Double counted pipeline fees
34		5. Bridger Coal – Invoice discrepancy/accounting support
35		6. Bridger Coal – Royalty accruals
36		7. Bridger Coal – Loss on disposal of asset
37	De	al #1226654 Invoice Discrepancy

38	Q.	Has the Company resolved your issue with regards to the invoice discrepancy for deal
39		# 1226644?
40	A.	Yes. Lines 96-100 of Mr. Dickman's response testimony provided a reconciliation of the
41		invoice amount to the amount included in filing requirement (FR) 6.2. The Division is
42		satisfied with the Company's explanation and therefore withdraws this adjustment.
43	Sp	ecial Contract Buy-throughs
44	Q.	Has the Company resolved your issue with regards to the unsupported buy-through
45		dollars?
46	A.	No.
47	Q.	Please explain.
48	A.	Lines 184-189 of Mr. Dickman's response testimony states the following:
49 50 51 52 53 54 55		Data request DPU 20.1 requested customer invoices, and the Company responded that customer invoices cannot be provided without the consent of the customer, but once consent was received the Company would provide invoices. On August 13 and 15, following receipt of customer consent, the Company provided supplemental DR responses that included detailed information supporting the buy-through amounts removed from the EBA.
56 57		On lines 193-195 Mr. Dickman's response testimony further states:
58 59 60		As indicated above, the Company has now provided the detailed information after receiving consent from the individual customers.
61	Q.	What is your response to Mr. Dickman's statements?
62	Α.	It appears the Company is attempting to show that since consent has now been received, the
63		"detailed information" has been provided. It appears that the Company is giving a false
64		impression that the Division has been provided with what it needs to verify the buy-through
65		amounts.

66	Q.	Has the Company given you <u>all</u> the information you need to verify the buy-through
67		amounts?
68	A.	No. The Company has provided a spreadsheet with numbers that apparently required
69		customer consent but the invoices (which the Company continues to claim also require
70		customer consent) for one of the customers have still not been provided. Curiously, the
71		contracts for the industrial customers have been provided yet the invoices for one of the
72		industrial customers have not been provided. The Company's statement that it has provided
73		"the detailed information after receiving consent" is misleading, especially since the invoices
74		are the key source documents and require customer consent to be provided.
75	Q.	Do you have additional concerns with the buy-throughs?
76	A.	Yes. The Company has already corrected the buy-through amounts twice, once in DPU data
77		request response 20.1-3 and then again in attachment response DPU 20.1-2 2 nd Supplemental.
78		These corrections warrant further concern and increase the need for reviewing the invoices.
79	Q.	If the industrial customer needs to provide consent, why should the Company be held
80		responsible?
81	A.	The EBA is the Company's cost recovery mechanism. The Company is aware that it must
82		provide adequate information to the regulators in order to recover costs. It has chosen a claim
83		of confidentiality over the opportunity to recover the associated costs. It is the Company's
84		responsibility to make the appropriate arrangements to provide adequate support for EBA
85		costs and revenues in a timely manner. In short, the Company bears the burden of proving its
86		costs and their prudence. A spreadsheet with numbers apparently representing invoiced

87 amounts is insufficient to do so. Regulators of a regulated utility must have access to 88 underlying documentation; in this case the invoices. 89 O. What is your response to the following statement in Mr. Dickman's testimony about the 90 buy-through adjustment? He states, (lines 195-198), that: 91 Furthermore, the DPU has reviewed the buy-through adjustment 92 in previous EBA filings. While similar timing constraints were 93 encountered relating to obtaining customer consent to provide 94 detailed information, the DPU did not conclude further 95 adjustments were required in those filings. 96 97 A. On page 23 of the Division's EBA Audit report in Docket No. 13-035-32 the Division stated: 98 The Company has only been able to provide the invoices regarding 99 one of those customers. As a result, three of the months in calendar 100 year 2012 cannot be reconciled. Given that the total amount of the 101 buy-through dollars in the EBA are greater than the total of the 102 invoices provided for the one customer, this adjustment seems 103 reasonable. However, the Division reserves the right to 104 challenge this adjustment at a later time if and when the 105 missing invoices are provided. (Emphasis added) 106 107 While the Division's initial response in the previous EBA docket was to not propose an 108 adjustment, the issue was never resolved and the case was settled. To my knowledge, the 109 invoices in that docket were never provided. Regardless of how the Division initially treated 110 this issue in the last EBA case, lines 195-198 of Mr. Dickman's response testimony is a clear 111 recognition of the fact that the Company has known about this issue and has still not resolved 112 it. Not proposing an adjustment in the current EBA filing would only encourage further 113 irresponsiveness to the Division's requests for supporting documentation. The Company has 114 been aware of this issue and apparently took no steps to resolve it until after the expenses 115 were suggested for disallowance. In other words, a known problem was not sufficiently

116	important for the Company to resolve until a disallowance was suggested. This is
117	unacceptable.
118	Q. How was the 25% figure used to calculate the adjustment adopted?
119	A. Although the 25% was not adopted through a formula, the Division believes the 25% is a
120	figure that will encourage the Company to be appropriately responsive to future Division
121	requests for information. The Division is not opposed to using a different and better
122	calculation but it is unaware of any at this time.
123	Q. Have you changed the buy-through adjustment since the invoices for one of the
124	customers have been provided?
125	A. Yes. The 25% is now only applied to the reported buy-through amounts related to the
126	customer for which the invoices have not been provided. This calculation can be seen in the
127	"Attach DPU 20.1-2 2nd SUPP CONF" tab in Confidential DPU Exhibit 1.9R. The
128	Division's buy-through adjustment reduces total Company NPC by \$606,986 and Utah's
129	EBA deferral balance by \$199,590.
130	Black Cap Solar
131	Q. What is Mr. Dickman's response to your Black Cap Solar adjustment?
132	A. Lines 240-242 of Mr. Dickman's testimony states, "All necessary information to validate the
133	mark-to-market calculation has been provided. The Company does not agree with the
134	disallowance of the Black Cap solar adjustment."
135	Q. Has all necessary information to <u>validate</u> mark-to-market prices been provided?
136	A. No. The Company has <i>provided</i> numbers representing average prices but has not <i>validated</i>
137	them with the actual source data or calculations. The prices used in the Black Cap Solar

adjustment (Additional Filing Requirement 15) can be tied back to a spreadsheet in Filing

Requirement (FR) 6-11. An excerpt from this spreadsheet is shown below.

TABLE 2: FR 6-11 Excerpt

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Start Date	1/1/2013	Data Source:	ICE	ICE	ICE	ICE	ICE	ICE
End Date	12/31/2013	Commodity:	ELEC	ELEC	ELEC	ELEC	ELEC	ELEC
		POD:	COB N-S	COB N-S	PV	PV	MID-C	MID-C
			CC	ОВ	Palo V	erde/	Mid-Co	lum bia
			Historica	al Prices	Historica	al Prices	Historica	al Prices
Start	End	Peak Type:	HLH	LLH	HLH	LLH	HLH	LLH
01/01/13	01/31/13	Jan 2013	\$31.30	\$27.16	\$31.52	\$25.60	\$28.96	\$25.35
02/01/13	02/28/13	Feb 2013	\$31.27	\$29.58	\$31.75	\$27.55	\$28.82	\$27.91
03/01/13	03/31/13	Mar 2013	\$34.91	\$32.28	\$33.38	\$27.89	\$32.56	\$30.33
04/01/13	04/30/13	Apr 2013	\$35.91	\$24.31	\$37.46	\$29.36	\$31.07	\$18.53
05/01/13	05/31/13	May 2013	\$36.55	\$15.86	\$38.03	\$26.37	\$34.00	\$12.17
06/01/13	06/30/13	Jun 2013	\$36.07	\$22.67	\$38.48	\$27.38	\$33.70	\$20.41
07/01/13	07/31/13	Jul 2013	\$49.51	\$22.65	\$48.13	\$27.19	\$45.17	\$20.79
08/01/13	08/31/13	Aug 2013	\$41.38	\$27.50	\$38.36	\$26.11	\$39.02	\$25.78
09/01/13	09/30/13	Sep 2013	\$41.93	\$30.68	\$36.75	\$27.84	\$38.01	\$29.36
10/01/13	10/31/13	Oct 2013	\$38.68	\$30.94	\$34.18	\$28.19	\$36.82	\$30.64
11/01/13	11/30/13	Nov 2013	\$39.91	\$32.00	\$32.72	\$27.87	\$37.37	\$30.29
12/01/13	12/31/13	Dec 2013	\$56.52	\$44.85	\$44.84	\$38.11	\$55.78	\$45.82

142 12/01/13 12/31/13 Dec 2013 \$56.52 \$44.85 \$44.84 \$38.11 \$55.78 143 144 The values in the FR 6-11 spreadsheet are values only, that is, there are no formulas showing how the numbers are calculated. Further, source data for the underlying prices is not provided.

Q. Has the Company stated that the numbers in FR 6-11 are calculated rather than simply reported values?

A. Yes. The first supplemental response to DPU 20.2 states, "Monthly historic prices are <u>Company calculated averages</u> based on daily Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) prices."

(Emphasis added)

- Q. Has the Company provided any spreadsheet or other document showing how the "Company calculated averages" were made?
- 154 A. No.
- Q. Even if the Company had provided the calculations in a spreadsheet, would further validation be needed for ICE prices?
- 157 A. Yes.
- 158 Q. Are ICE prices proprietary?
- 159 A. According to the Company's first supplemental response to DPU 20.2, "The daily ICE prices 160 are proprietary information of ICE." Regardless of their proprietary nature, the Division still 161 believes the Company needs to demonstrate that the daily prices used in the Company's 162 averaging calculations (which have not been provided) are in fact ICE prices. If the 163 verification cannot be provided in the form of a document, the Company should show 164 Division staff how such information was obtained. The DPU has independent statutory 165 authority to require all regulated utilities to provide information, records, data, and other 166 materials "relevant to matters within the jurisdiction of the Commission." (Utah Code §54-167 4a-1) The Commission has similar authority. (Utah Code §54-3-21) While I am not an 168 attorney or legal expert, it seems the Company should not be able to contract away its 169 statutory duties to the Commission and the DPU. As stated previously, the EBA is the 170 Company's cost recovery mechanism. It is the Company's responsibility to make the 171 appropriate arrangements to provide adequate support for EBA costs and revenues in a 172 timely manner. If the Company does not do so, it must bear the risk of loss.

173 Q. Since the market prices have not been adequately validated why have they been relied 174 upon in calculating the replacement power cost of plant outages? 175 A. The market prices that have been provided by the Company were the best information the 176 Division had to calculate replacement power costs. Regardless of the Division staff or La 177 Capra's use of the Company provided market prices in other adjustments or reviews, the 178 Company should not be excused from providing the validating documentation for the prices 179 used in the Black Cap Solar adjustment. 180 Q. Has the Division been able to verify the daily ICE prices from another source besides 181 the Company? 182 A. Yes. Early in the week prior to the filing of this testimony La Capra Associates was able to 183 obtain historical ICE daily prices from its data provider GlobalView¹ and, with four 184 exceptions, was able to reproduce the same average price values shown in FR6-11. Only one of the four price differences relates to the Black Cap Solar Adjustment. Even if the La Capra 185 186 calculated price were used in the Black Cap Solar adjustment the resulting cost difference 187 would be immaterial. This effort was undertaken by the Division's consultants, which it employs and pays. Such effort should not be required given the Company's duties to the 188 189 Commission and the Division. 190 Q. Since the Division has been able to verify the prices used in the Black Cap Solar 191 calculation are you withdrawing the adjustment? 192 A. No. The Company has had ample opportunity to provide the information needed and still has 193 not done so. The Division will leave for the Commission's decision the question of whether

¹ La Capra Associates has an Excel add-in that pulls the data from GlobalView.

otherwise verified expenses should be recoverable when the Company has failed to provide information it is statutorily required to provide upon request. The Company may see this adjustment as a penalty, but the Division is concerned that without such financial imposition, the Company's responsiveness to data requests will not improve. True, many data request responses are not late or incomplete. However, there have been enough issues in recent EBA and general rate cases that the Division now believes an adjustment is warranted in cases where the Company has not provided information in a timely manner, even if the cost or revenue could otherwise be justified. This case is a review of the third EBA year and the Division has had difficulty in each year with the Company's responsiveness to data requests. Despite assurances otherwise and settlement stipulations, problems remain. Given the Division's past indulgences of tardiness and incompleteness, it is evident that the problems will not be solved until the Company is made to bear the cost of its failures. The Division believes this adjustment is warranted despite its verification of information through other sources. The Division therefore maintains its original adjustment which reduces Utah's EBA deferral balance by \$47,663.

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Q. Does the Division have recommendations for information received late in an EBA docket?

A. Yes, the Division believes that a cut-off date should be established beyond which subsequently provided data or information may be disregarded if the data or information was previously requested. As most parties are aware, Company responses to data requests often lead to clarifying or subsequent requests. Untimely responses shorten available time for follow up questions and impede the Division's ability to adequately evaluate the Company's

responses. Given the Company's history of responding with additional data that was the subject of earlier requests only after the Division suggests a disallowance, such an approach may be warranted. It is unfair to the Division, to other parties, and to the Commission's process for the Company to be allowed to complete its data request responses only after it sees if and why an adjustment is suggested by other parties, particularly in an accelerated docket. Whether intentional or not, the Company's failures have required much additional effort from the Division, La Capra and possibly others, shortened the time for analysis, and engendered regulatory skepticism about the Company's motives that is reasonable even if ultimately unwarranted.

Double Counted Pipeline Fees

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- Q. Please briefly describe the Division's original adjustment and current position regarding double counted pipeline fees.
- 228 A. Prior to the audit report filing, the Division was not able to identify the accounting entry that 229 would remove certain known double counted pipeline fees from the EBA. The Division sent 230 a data request to the Company regarding the matter but the response was not due until after 231 the audit report filing. The Division therefore elected to propose an adjustment but stated in 232 its audit report "that should additional information be provided by the Company this 233 adjustment may be removed." In response to DPU 31.1 the Company did explain what the 234 correcting accounting entry was and how it reconciled to the original double counted amount. 235 The Division is satisfied with the Company's explanation and therefore withdraws the 236 adjustment originally included in the Division's audit report.

Bridger Coal – Invoice discrepancy/accounting support

238 O. Please briefly describe the Division's original position and current position regarding 239 the Bridger Coal invoice discrepancy/accounting support adjustment. 240 A. The Division identified several Bridger Coal costs in the Bridger Coal Company (BCC) 241 accounting detail that did not tie to supporting invoices or did not have accounting support. 242 The Division proposed an adjustment but also expanded the scope of BCC costs to review. 243 The expansion of scope was due to the fact that all invoices reviewed did not tie to the accounting detail and the fact that the amounts in the accounting detail were more than the 244 245 amount on the invoices. On August 5, 2014 the Company issued a second supplemental 246 response to DPU data request 26.1. That response states: 247 The Company is providing this supplemental response to reply to the 248 differences noted by the DPU in information previously supplied in (a), 249 (g), and (h). A majority of the differences are primarily associated in the 250 application of sales tax to the invoices. Bridger Coal Company remits 251 sales tax directly to the State and not to the vendor. As such, the invoices 252 previously submitted were directly from the vendor and did not itemize 253 the tax associated with the purchase. The Company failed to make this 254 distinction in the previous response. Please see Attachment s DPU 26.1 -1 2nd Supplemental and DPU 26.1 -2 2nd Supplemental. 255 256 257 Based on this response and a review of the second supplemental response attachment, the 258 Division is withdrawing this adjustment. With regard to the expanded scope of costs to 259 review, the Company informed the Division via a phone conference that the original request 260 would involve thousands of line items to review. The Division therefore reduced the scope of 261 the original request significantly. However, even though the scope was reduced, there were 262 still hundreds of line items for which the Company did provide supporting documentation. The Company's fourth supplemental response to DPU 34.1 states "the Company has now 263 264 supplied over 1,900 pages of documentation specifically for the Mechanical Repairs portion

	of DPU Set 34 and expended over 90 man-hours." The Division appreciates the Company's
	cooperation and work to provide this documentation. Several Division staff members
	reviewed documentation provided and found that, with a few minor immaterial exceptions,
	the documentation ties to the amounts included in the BCC accounting detail. Part of the
	Company's response consisted of journal entries related to expenses for items released from
	inventory. Given the amount of time and resources required, the Division cannot perform a
	detailed review of the inventory methodology used (ie, LIFO, FIFO, etc). The Division may
	in future EBA dockets request more supporting inventory calculations but for a smaller scope
	of costs. As a result of its review, the Division is not proposing any adjustment related to the
	expanded scope of BCC costs.
Br	idger Coal – Royalty accruals
Q.	Please briefly describe the Division's original adjustment regarding BCC royalty
	accruals?
A.	accruals? The Division proposed an adjustment to reduce the royalty accrual amount based on what
A.	
	The Division proposed an adjustment to reduce the royalty accrual amount based on what
Q.	The Division proposed an adjustment to reduce the royalty accrual amount based on what appeared to be abnormally high \$/ton coal costs that were not adequately supported.
Q.	The Division proposed an adjustment to reduce the royalty accrual amount based on what appeared to be abnormally high \$/ton coal costs that were not adequately supported. What was the Company's response to this adjustment?
Q.	The Division proposed an adjustment to reduce the royalty accrual amount based on what appeared to be abnormally high \$/ton coal costs that were not adequately supported. What was the Company's response to this adjustment? The Company disagrees with the adjustment and states on lines 68-70 of Mr. Dickman's

calculations?

A. No. While some important calculations had been provided, a key input to those calculations was a \$/ton cost figure for the surface and underground mine. As of the time the Company filed its response testimony, not a single document had been provided to validate the \$\forall ton figures even though the issue had been specifically identified in the Division's audit report (See page 23). While I disagree that the Company had, as of the time of its response testimony, provided necessary information to validate the royalty accrual calculations, the Division is withdrawing its adjustment based on the combination of information provided in Mr. Dickman's testimony, the accounting nature of the royalty accrual, and information provided in response to DPU data request set 37 and the third and fourth supplemental responses to DPU data request 26.1. The third and fourth supplemental responses to DPU 26.1 as well as the response to DPU 37.1 demonstrated how the estimated coal cost (in \$/ton) was estimated at the beginning of the year and how it was used every month until September 2013 when a new estimate was calculated. In addition, accounting adjusting/true-up entries were made in September 2013 that offset the over accruals made previously during the year. The Company also provided royalty payment confirmations and other documents demonstrating how the accrual and adjusting journal entries reconciled with the actual royalty payments. Based on the information provided the Division is withdrawing this adjustment.

Bridger Coal – Loss on Disposal of Asset

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Q. Please briefly describe the Division's original adjustment regarding the BCC loss on disposal of asset?

307	A.	The Division originally proposed an adjustment to remove a loss on disposal of asset related
308		to a mine roof collapse at the Bridger Mine. The Division believed the Company should have
309		explained the circumstances surrounding the mine roof collapse to demonstrate that it was
310		not at fault.
311	Q.	What was the Company's response to this adjustment?
312	A.	The Company disagrees with the adjustment. Mr. Dickman's testimony refers to root cause
313		analysis and reviews by the U.S Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health
314		Administration ("MSHA") that did not find fault with the Company. The Division has
315		reviewed the MSHA and other mine roof collapse documents provided in DPU data request
316		32. Based on this review it does not appear that the Company is at fault for the roof collapse.
317		The Division is therefore withdrawing this adjustment.
318	Q.	What issues in Mr. Apperson's testimony will you be responding to?
319	A.	I will be addressing the following issues:
320		1. Mischaracterization of the Division staff's audit report regarding reasons for
321		disallowing certain trades.
322		2. Unsupported trades
323		3. Trade approvals
324		4. Risk policy standards and guidelines
325	Q.	Which statements from Mr. Apperson's testimony mischaracterize the Division and La
326		Capra's audit reports?
327	A.	At a minimum, the following list of statements from Mr. Apperson's testimony
328		mischaracterize the Division and La Capra's audit reports and testimony. The statements

329	below are in reference to the adjustments shown in DPU Exhibit 1.4, lines 14-20 and lines
330	29-32 which was filed with the Division's audit report. Collectively I will refer to the trades
331	associated with these adjustments as "Unsupported Trades."
332	1. "The DPU's recommendation is based on whether the Company guessed correctly of
333	prices going up or down which is not the appropriate basis for disallowance" (lines
334	138-140)
335	2. "Is it reasonable for the Company to be judged and penalized by the DPU, i.e., base
336	the disallowance of certain transactions, on its ability to predict future prices?" (lines
337	243-245)
338	3. "Therefore, a measure based on perfect hindsight of market prices, as the DPU is
339	essentially employing, is not reasonable." (lines 248-249)
340	4. "This statement shows that the DPU's recommended disallowance of so-called
341	"discretionary trades" is not based on whether they were prudent at the time they
342	were made, but whether in hindsight they are "in the money" or "out of the money."
343	(lines 271-273)
344	Q. Is the Division's recommendation based on a) if the Company guessed correctly on
345	prices going up or down, b) the Company's ability to predict future prices, c) a measur
346	based on perfect hindsight of market prices or d) whether the deals were "in the
347	money" or "out of the money?"
348	A. No. Simply put, the Division recommended the Unsupported Trades for disallowance
349	because the Company had not adequately stated why such trades were made or what their
350	purpose was. Where Unsupported Trades settled with a gain the Division did not suggest

351		disallowance because to do so would be to allow the Company to profit from trades it has not
352		shown to be prudent when asked to do so.
353	Q.	Did the Division ask the Company why these trades were made or what their purpose
354		was?
355	A.	Yes. As stated on pages 34 and 35 of the DPU audit report, the Division asked why the trades
356		were made in DPU data request 6.1 (g) and 6.2(a), which was sent to the Company on May 7
357		2014. The exact data requests are stated here again. DPU 6.1 stated:
358		
359 360		Hedging Transaction Sample
361		For each transaction listed in the attached spreadsheet, "Hedge
362		Transactions Sample List.xlsx", please provide the following
363		information and documentation:
364		information and documentation.
365		(a) Provide the transaction confirmation, including instant message
366		logs for any transactions completed via instant messaging;
367		(b) Provide any receipts or invoices related to the trade;
368		(c) Identify the trader by position and trading authority level
369		(maximum notional value, tenor, effective trading period, etc.);
370		(d) Does the transaction exceed the trader's authority level? If so,
371		provide documentation of all management approvals for the
372		trade;
373		(e) Provide the forward price curves for the market locations
374		relevant to each transaction for the prior day and the current
375		day;
376		(f) Does the Company consider this transaction to be a hedging
377		transaction? Please explain in detail why or why not.
378		(g) Was this transaction mandated by the currently-effective Risk
379		Management Policy to alleviate a limit excursion? If so,
380		describe the applicable limit excursion. If not, explain why
381		this trade was made? What was the strategic purpose of
382		hedging the particular position at the particular time the
383		trade was made? [Emphasis added]
384		(h) Is the trade strategically linked to any other transactions in the
385		EBA (e.g. a buy and a sell paired to hedge some basis
386		differential)? If so, identify the other transaction(s) and the
387		purpose of making the trades together.

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388 389 For Detail deals in the Division's sample, the Division further requested the following in 390 DPU 6.2: 391 392 **Hedging Transaction Sample** 393 394 For each transaction listed with "Detail" in the third column 395 (column C) in the attached spreadsheet, "Hedge Transactions 396 Sample List.xlsx", please provide the following *additional* 397 information and documentation: 398 399 (a) Provide supporting documentation showing why this 400 transaction was executed. Documentation may include emails 401 or memos between traders and management; hedging strategy 402 documents, market studies, etc. [Emphasis added] 403 404 (b) Provide Daily Management reports similar to those provided in 405 the previous EBA docket in response to On-Site Audit Request 406 2.1. Documents responsive to this request might include, but 407 are not limited to: Prior day and current day position reports; 408 position limit reports; HVaR/TEVaR reports, Percent Hedged 409 Reports. 410 411 (c) Credit exposure reports published by credit risk management 412 demonstrating that this transaction with this counterparty at this 413 time was permitted. 414 415 Q. What was the response to DPU 6.1(g)? 416 A. The Company's response states: 417 For gas physical / gas financial transactions, please refer to Confidential Attachment 418 DPU 6.1 -8; specifically the file entitled "_Summary Gas CONF", the worksheets entitled 419 "GasFinancial" and GasPhysical", columns AH and AI. For documentation, where 420 applicable, please refer to the Company's response to subpart (d) above. 421 For power physical / power financial transactions, please refer to Confidential Attachment DPU 6.1 -9; specifically the file entitled "_Summary Power CONF", the 422 worksheets entitled "PowerFinancial" and "PowerPhysical", columns AH and AI. For 423 424 documentation, where applicable, please refer to the Company's response to subpart (d) 425 above. 426 427 The worksheets referred to in the statement above included a column header that stated 428 "6.1(g)". Under this column, for deals that were not limit exceedences, the worksheet simply

429		stated "none." The Company response quoted above also references documentation in
430		subpart (d) of DPU 6.1. Subpart (d) included several approval email chains. Some of the
431		emails provided reasoning for why a trader wanted to execute a particular trade. These
432		explanations were quoted in the Division's audit report. There were many deals however for
433		which there was no reasoning provided for why the trades were made.
434	Q.	What was the response to DPU 6.2(a)?
435	A.	The response simply stated "Please refer to the documentation provided with the Company's
436		response to DPU Data Request 6.1." As discussed previously DPU 6.1 included some
437		documentation explaining the reasoning for some of the trades but not all of them.
438	Q.	For clarification, was the Division's audit report recommending disallowance for trades
439		on the basis that they are "discretionary"?
440	A.	No. Regardless of how one defines "discretionary," the intent of using this word was to
441		describe a characteristic of the trades disallowed but not the basis for disallowance.
442		Furthermore, using the word "discretionary" was not intended to mean or imply speculation.
443		As stated previously, the purpose of the recommended disallowance was that the Company
444		has not adequately explained what the Unsupported Trades' purpose was or why they were
445		made.
446	Q.	For clarification, did the Division disallow the Unsupported Trades because they violate
447		Company policy?
448	A.	No.
449	Q.	If there was not a policy violation why should the Unsupported Trades be disallowed?

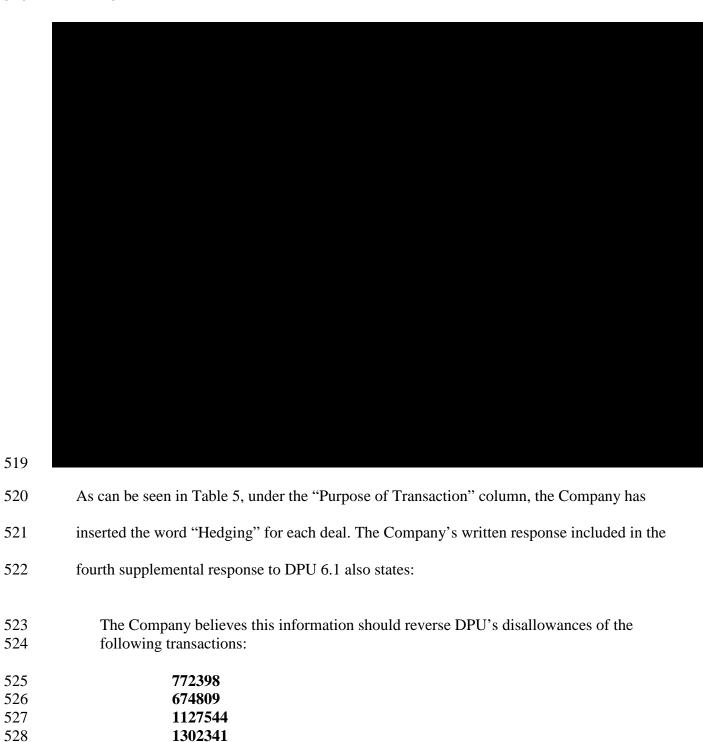
450	A.	The policies in place give the traders a wide latitude of possible actions that could be taken.
451		Should a trader wait to execute a trade rather than at the current moment? Should a trader
452		average in several hedging transactions over time as opposed to a single hedge at the current
453		time? How much volume should a trader hedge? What is the trader's price view at the
454		moment? While the Company may be acting within its policies, the Division believes it is
455		still the Company's responsibility to show why it executed the trades that it did. Merely
456		remaining within the hedging policy's position limits does not mean all trades completed
457		were prudent. The Division is called on in this EBA proceeding to determine whether
458		specific expenses were prudently incurred. Where the Company has not demonstrated
459		prudence, the Division cannot simultaneously discharge its duty to the public interest and
460		ignore the Company's failure to explain certain expenses.
461	Q.	If the Division were disallowing trades simply on the basis that they were "out of the
462		money" would the Division have proposed many other disallowances for other trades?
463	A.	Yes. However, trades settling "out of the money" was not the basis for our recommended
464		disallowance.
465	Q.	Were there any "out of the money" trades reviewed by the Division staff for which an
466		adjustment was NOT recommended?
467	A.	Yes. There were four deals that were "out of the money" that were not recommended for
468		disallowance because the Company provided emails that demonstrated why the trader wanted
469		to execute the trades.
470	Q.	Were there any "in the money trades" in the Division staff's sample whose purpose was
471		not adequately explained?

472	A. Yes. Table 4 of the audit report shows one trade that resulted in a \$49,662 gain.
473	Q. Since this deal was unexplained, did the Division propose to disallow the gain, thus
474	resulting in an increase to NPC and to Utah's EBA deferral balance?
475	A. No. As stated on page 47 of the Division staff's audit report:
476 477 478 479	As stated, this deal resulted in a gain. However, the Division believes ratepayers should not be liable for under-supported hedging transactions. Therefore, we find no reason to increase EBA costs for removing this transaction.
480 481	The La Capra audit report mentions a similar situation with an "in the money" deal that was
482	not supported. At the end of discussing this particular deal, La Capra's audit report states on
483	page 48, "Since ratepayers should not be liable for under-supported hedging transactions, we
484	find no reason to adjust the EBA cost for this transaction."
485	Unsupported Trades
486	Q. Since the Division filed its audit report has the Company provided an explanation for
487	why the Unsupported Trades were executed, and if so, is it sufficient?
488	A. Mr. Apperson's response testimony addresses the Unsupported Trades and states on lines
489	176-177,
490 491 492 493	That is, these transactions were executed to reduce the Company's fixed- price exposure to future unfavorable wholesale prices. They were executed to maintain open energy positions within the Company's risk limits.
494	Lines 193-196 further state:
495 496 497 498	In every case, the transaction resulted in the Company being more hedged, which means that every transaction reduced the Company's price risk. This demonstrates the purpose of each transaction was to hedge the Company's open energy position.

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500 Regarding why these trades were executed on particular days, Mr. Apperson's testimony 501 states on lines 212-214: 502 The Company's traders executed the hedge transactions to stay within applicable Company policy risk limits based on a view of how wholesale 503 504 market prices would change from then-current prices. 505 506 Without intending to mischaracterize Mr. Apperson's testimony, it appears the Company's 507 explanation for the Unsupported Trades is that they were executed to hedge the Company's 508 open energy position, maintain the open energy position within Company limits and were 509 executed at a certain time based on a trader's price view. This view of Mr. Apperson's 510 testimony is supported by the Company's fourth supplemental response to DPU data request 511 6.1, which was received on Wednesday, September 17, more than four months after it was 512 initially sent to the Company. The supplemental response purports to finally explain the 513 reason for the trades that were not made to correct a limit exceedance. The response provides 514 a revised version of a spreadsheet provided in DPU 6.1(8). The revised version is included as 515 Confidential DPU Exhibit 1.6R. The written response to the fourth supplemental response to 516 DPU 6.1 is also included as DPU Exhibit 1.5R. An excerpt from the revised spreadsheet in 517 the fourth supplemental response to DPU 6.1 is shown on the next page.

518 TABLE 3



The Division does not understand how this explanation could possibly be considered sufficient for explaining the purpose of any specific trade or what the trader's reasoning was at the time the trade was made. The Division is further confused why the Company appears to be stating that the "hedging" explanation is sufficient for only some of the deals that were recommended for disallowance. The Company's September 17th response is exceedingly late and insufficient. Far from robust, the Company's response does nothing at this late date to give the Division a meaningful opportunity to evaluate the information relied on by the Company in choosing the transactions for which it now seeks recovery. If the Company's response was robust, its tardiness would still not leave a meaningful opportunity for evaluation in advance of filing deadlines.

Q. Why does the Division accept the "limit exceedance" reason as an acceptable purpose but not "hedging?"

A. A limit exceedance explains why a hedge was made: to get the Company's position back within limits. The limit exceedance is the driving force behind why a trader executed the deal. Given the Company's policy requiring a narrow period of time² for bringing the

For the single power deal in the Division's sample that exceeded a limit Policy (5/22/12) required management to

the applicable Risk Management

olicy (5/22/12) required management to

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² Per Section 9 of the Risk Management Policies (1/13/10 and prior) applicable to the gas deals included in the Division's sample, the Company had position limits and value-at-risk limits

Company's position back within policy limits, there is much less room for Company and trader discretion in timing, pricing, and other terms of trades made to return to compliance. If the Company is already within limits, the question is why was the deal made? The response "to hedge" or "hedging" does not answer much of anything. A trader could in theory not execute any transaction and still maintain an open energy position. Likewise, a trader could hedge at a tenor of 18 months instead of 12 months and still maintain an open energy position. The key issue is not whether a transaction is or is not a hedge but why did it hedge at the time and in the manner it did if the Company was already within limits. The Division is not saying it is necessarily wrong to hedge if the Company is already within its limits, we just want to know why it hedged in the manner it did or what the trader's reasoning was.

The Division's standard for deal explanation is not set too high. The Division has accepted many emails as sufficient explanation for many deals despite the often short reasoning provided. For example, the following email explanation was provided for deal 1164419.



This explanation provides specific positions at specific locations for specific months. It also provides the trader's price view and why the trader had that specific view. A second example from the Division's report is for deal 1158801. The approval email for this deal states

This example is less descriptive than the first but it at least gives reference to a PIRA price forecast and references year-to-date demand and a weekly planned transaction report. These are all references specific to deal 1158801. This email gives insight into the reasoning used by the trader to execute the deal.

- Q. If the Commission were to accept such a simplified trade purpose as "hedging" what would be the effective result?
- A. Accepting such an explanation would effectively provide a blanket approval (with regards to the sufficiency of a trade purpose explanation) of all non-limit exceedance related hedging transactions in not only this EBA docket but all future EBA dockets. Under such a Commission ruling, a trader could, in theory, enter into a hedge transaction without any reason whatsoever and it would it still be acceptable because the trade was a hedge. In short, the Company is effectively arguing for a presumption of prudence when it operates within its policies. However, such a standard is not in the public interest. Given the latitude the policy/limits provide, it is entirely in the realm of possibilities for a trader to execute a trade that is compliant with policy yet consists of attributes that are not prudent. The Division believes the Company's explanation is not adequate. The Division maintains its original

599 adjustments for the Unsupported trades. The Division staff's Unsupported Trade adjustments 600 reduce total Company NPC by \$4,637,392 and Utah's EBA deferral balance by \$1,572,239. 601 **Trade Approvals** 602 Q. Please briefly describe the Division's original adjustment regarding unsupported trade 603 approvals? 604 A. The Division identified two deals that required, per Company provided information, the 605 authorization of Mr. Stefan Bird because of their ETP value. The Company provided 606 authorizations from Mr. Apperson but no authorizations have been provided from Mr. Bird. 607 Q. What is the Company's response to these adjustments? A. It appears the Company disagrees with the adjustment on the basis that the ETP authorization 608 levels relied on by the Division are "unofficial" and not stated in the Company's Risk 609 610 Management Policy or Corporate Governance and Approvals Process⁴. The Company also 611 appears to believe that the issue regarding approval for ETP limits was resolved in prior EBA 612 settlements. Q. Do you agree that the ETP limits relied on by the Division are "unofficial" or "not a 613 614 policy obligation"5? 615 A. Absolutely not. The Company's Front Office Procedures and Practices (FOPP) document 616 requires traders and trader management to abide by certain authorization levels. 617 618

³ See lines 386-396 of Mr. Apperson's response testimony.

⁴ See lines 331-378 of Mr. Apperson's response testimony.

⁵ See line 394 of Mr. Apperson's response testimony.

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are enough to show its official status, DPU data request 38.12 asked the Company if it considers the FOPP to be unofficial. The Company's response stated "No." Q. What section of the FOPP addresses authorization levels?

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A. Section 6.1 addresses authorization issues. The introductory paragraph under Section 6 as well as Section 6.1 of the 2008 FOPP are stated below in its entirety.





Q. Did the Company provide you with the authorized signing levels maintained in SAP?

A. Yes. The Company's attachment response to DPU 6.1(8) and 6.1(9)⁶ provided Excel worksheets with tabs entitled "SAP Governance." This tab specifies the authorization levels. The data in the SAP Governance tabs for gas and power transactions are shown below.

TABLE 4

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⁶ See DPU Exhibit 1.3R and 1.4R.



Q. When were these authorization limits implemented?

- A. According to the Company's response to DPU data request 38.29, "Maximum tenor and maximum effective transaction period (ETP) were added to SAP in late 2013." Mr. Apperson also makes a similar statement on lines 406-411 of his response testimony.
- Q. Why does the Company state that the limits were not added to SAP until late 2013 when clearly the SAP authority levels were referenced in Exhibit 3 of the July 2008 FOPP?
- A. I don't know. It is clear from the 2008 FOPP that the signing authority levels existed well before 2013 and that they were in SAP. Furthermore, it is the Company that provided the Division with the spreadsheets⁷ that identified the specific max notional value, max tenor and max ETP limits for each deal (regardless of trade date time) included in DPU data request 6.1. The spreadsheets also calculated the actual tenor and ETP value for each deal. An excerpt from those spreadsheets for the two deals in question is shown below in Table 5.

TABLE 5

⁷ See DPU Exhibit 1.3R and 1.4R

Q. Does the Corporate Governance and Approvals Process (CGAP) document further	
support your position?	
A. Yes. While Mr. Apperson uses the CGAP to further his position I believe it does the	
opposite. Page 4 states the following:	
Page 4 further states that, Footnote 1 from the statement above states,	
	support your position? A. Yes. While Mr. Apperson uses the CGAP to further his position I believe it does the opposite. Page 4 states the following: Page 4 further states that,

731	These statements from the CGAP clearly recognize approval levels other than those stated in
732	Appendix 1 of the CGAP. The CGAP referred to in the statements above ⁸
733	
734	
735	
736	
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738	Thus, it appears that approval limits other
739	than the ones referred to in Appendix 1 of the CGAP have been in place since at least
740	November 2007.
741	Q. Is recommending disallowance for these two deals in violation of past stipulations as
742	alleged by the Company?
743	A. No.
744	Q. What part of the stipulation does the Company appear to be referring to?
745	A. The Company does not specify which or what part of past stipulations the Division has
746	violated. Lines 46-49 of Mr. Apperson's testimony simply states:
747 748 749 750	In addition, the issue raised by the DPU Reports regarding trades that allegedly exceed ETP limits is the same issue raised in the prior Energy Balancing Account ("EBA") reviews, which the Company believes had been resolved in prior settlements.
751 752	However, based on the Company's fourth supplemental response to DPU 6.1 which was
753	received on September 17 th , it appears the Company believes the Division is in violation of
754	the stipulation in Docket No. 13-035-32. Exhibit A of that stipulation included a list of

⁸ See Mr. Apperson's Confidential Exhibit JAA_2AR.

hedging deals with ETP periods greater than 48 months. These deals are referred to and described in paragraph 5 of the stipulation. Paragraph 6 of the stipulation states:

The Parties agree that, given these representations, they will not challenge any of the transactions identified in Paragraph 5 above for prudence based, in whole or in part, on the grounds that they (a) <u>violate the Company's policy</u> or require a policy exception <u>due to their effective transaction periods</u> or because they are considered seasonal products, or (b) violate the Company's policies for governance for "splitting" the transactions to avoid such governance. (Emphasis added)

Q. Is the Division advocating that the two deals in question have ETPs that violate

Company policy?

A. No. The Division is NOT stating that the ETP for these two deals is what is violating policy or that the ETP requires a policy exception. The core issue in the previous case was the belief that the ETPs greater than 48 months were in and of themselves violations of Company policy and that such policy violations required a policy exception from the president of PacifiCorp Energy. The Division makes no claim that the beyond 48 month ETP nature for the two deals in question violates company policy and requires a policy exception. The fact that these two deals require Mr. Bird's approval is simply a requirement of the policy and not a requirement to obtain a policy exception. If the two deals in question were gas deals with ETPs of 37 months and only had the trader's (Bruce Evans) authorization, they would have been recommended for disallowance because Mr. Apperson's (or Mr. Bird's) approval is needed for deals with ETPs over 36 months. Again, the fact that such a deal would be over 36 months is not a policy violation but the policy does require a higher authorization. In short, disallowance is suggested because of a failure to obtain appropriate approvals, not because of the underlying character of the deal.

781 Q. Table 3 above appears to show that the Company has recalculated the ETP values that 782 were previously provided in response to DPU 6.1(8). Is this true? A. Yes. However, given the lateness of the September 17th response the Division does not have 783 784 the time to verify if the Company's revised calculations are consistent with its policies and 785 procedures or with ETPs that may have been calculated in previous EBA filings. 786 Furthermore, the Company's ETP revisions just add to other reliability issues of Company 787 provided information namely: multiple buy-through corrections; IM log trade date times; and FR trade date times⁹. 788 789 O. Can you please summarize your trade approvals adjustment? 790 **A.** Yes. The Company has official policies in place regarding transaction authorizations. It is 791 clear that these policies were not followed. The Division is not challenging these deals 792 because the length of their ETP violates policy or requires a policy exception. Therefore, the 793 stipulation in Docket No. 13-035-32 does not prevent the Division from proposing this 794 adjustment. The adjustments for the two trades in question reduces total Company NPC by 795 \$4,434,411 and reduces Utah's EBA deferral balance by \$1,447,838. 796 **Risk Policy Standards and Guidelines** 797 Q. Do you have any response to Mr. Apperson's testimony regarding risk policy current 798 standards and guidelines? 799 A. Yes. The Division appreciates the Company's willingness to continue to be responsive to 800 data requests regarding TEVaR. The Division also appreciates the Company's willingness to 801 inform the Commission, DPU and other interested parties when it makes changes to its

⁹ See the rebuttal testimony of Mr. Hahn in this docket for a discussion of the trade date times.

802	policy as well as why such changes are being made. It is still unclear to the Division why the
803	Company suspended its stop loss limits and or guidelines in 2011 and has still not reinstated
804	such limits or guidelines. This suspension was NOT made at the direction of the hedging
805	collaborative. The Division understands the Company is not a speculative trading Company.
806	However, if it was important to the Company to have stop loss limits/guidelines previously
807	(when it was presumably not a speculative trading Company) it stands to reason that such
808	limits might also be important now. The Company has still not adequately explained why
809	such limits or guidelines have been suspended for so long. However, while a stop loss limit,
810	guideline or cumulative mark-to-market threshold is not currently in use, the Company states
811	on lines 557-560 that,
812 813 814	management has visibility to changes in value of its hedges and open positions through net power cost modeling as well as daily monitoring of exposures with counterparties which are heavily influenced by the mark-to-market value of hedges.
815 816	Mr. Apperson's testimony also states on lines 560-563 that,
817 818 819	The Company plans to implement logic in the new energy trading system to provide detailed profit and loss data as part of the upgrade to the energy trading system, currently scheduled for early 2015.
820 821	The Division will continue to monitor the Company's progress towards new "cumulative
822	mark-to-market thresholds" and may address the issue of these thresholds or stop loss limits
823	in future dockets.
824	Rate Spread
825	Q. What is the OCS position with regards to rate spread?
826	A. Lines 82-86 of Mr. Martinez's testimony states:
827 828	The appropriate NPC Allocator to use in this EBA proceeding is the one from the 11-035-200 GRC, which properly aligns the NPC forecast with the 2013 EBA accrual period. This

829 830 831		NPC Allocator was used to derive the Company's rate spread proposal, as presented in Exhibit RMP (JRS-1).
832	Q.	Do you agree with the OCS position?
833	A.	Yes. After reviewing the issue with the Office staff the Division believes the appropriate
834		NPC Allocator to use in this proceeding is the one from Docket No. 11-035-200.
835	Q.	Can you please summarize your testimony?
836	A.	With the exception of the Black Cap Solar Adjustment and part of the original buy-through
837		adjustment, the Company has resolved the Division staff adjustments addressed in Mr.
838		Dickman's testimony. With regards to Mr. Apperson's testimony, the Division maintains that
839		the Unsupported Trades are still insufficiently supported. The Division also believes the ETP
840		limits are official limits and that there are two trades for which adequate approval was not
841		obtained based on information provided to the Division with adequate time for review. The
842		total of these adjustments plus the Jim Bridger Aerial Survey Adjustment (which was
843		accepted by the Company) reduce Utah's EBA deferral by \$3,256,098. Including the La
844		Capra adjustments and the scalar/factor update, the Division recommends specific
845		adjustments resulting in a \$7,047,984 reduction to the original \$28,339,553 requested by the
846		Company.
847	Q.	Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?
848	A.	Yes.