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Sam's West, Inc.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

In the Matter of Rocky Mountain Power's

Proposed Revisions to Electric Service

Schedule 32, Service from Renewable

Energy Facilities

Docket No. 14-035-T02

DIRECT TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS OF STEVE CHRISS ON BEHALF OF WAL-MART STORES, INC. AND SAM'S WEST, INC.

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. and Sam's West, Inc. hereby submits the Direct Testimony of Steve W. Chriss.

Dated this 9th day of September, 2014.

/s/____

Meshach Y. Rhoades Attorneys for Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. and Sam's West, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 9th day of September, 2014, I placed a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing **DIRECT TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS OF STEVE CHRISS ON BEHALF OF WAL-MART STORES, INC. AND SAM'S WEST, INC.** was served upon the following as indicated below:

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s/ Julie Eaton

Julie Eaton

STATE OF UTAH PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER'S)
PROPOSED ELECTRIC SERVICE SCHEDULE) DOCKET NO. 14-035-T02
NO. 32, SERVICE FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY)
FACILITIES)

DIRECT TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS OF STEVE W. CHRISS

ON BEHALF OF

WAL-MART STORES, INC. AND SAM'S WEST, INC.

Dated: September 9, 2014

- 1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS, AND OCCUPATION.
- A. My name is Steve W. Chriss. My business address is 2001 SE 10th St., Bentonville,
- 3 AR 72716-0550. I am employed by Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. as Senior Manager,
- 4 Energy Regulatory Analysis.

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- 5 Q. ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING IN THIS DOCKET?
- 6 A. I am testifying on behalf of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. and Sam's West, Inc. ("Walmart").
- 7 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE.
 - In 2001, I completed a Master of Science in Agricultural Economics at Louisiana State University. From 2001 to 2003, I was an Analyst and later a Senior Analyst at the Houston office of Econ One Research, Inc., a Los Angeles-based consulting firm. My duties included research and analysis on domestic and international energy and regulatory issues. From 2003 to 2007, I was an Economist and later a Senior Utility Analyst at the Public Utility Commission of Oregon in Salem, Oregon. My duties included appearing as a witness for PUC Staff in electric, natural gas, and telecommunications dockets. I joined the energy department at Walmart in July 2007 as Manager, State Rate Proceedings, and was promoted to my current position in June 2011. My Witness Qualifications Statement is included herein as Exhibit SWC-1.

Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TESTIMONY BEFORE THE UTAH PUBLIC SERVICE

COMMISSION ("THE COMMISSION")?

- 3 A. Yes. I submitted testimony in Docket Nos. 07-035-93, 09-035-15, 09-035-23, 10-035-4 124, 11-035-200, and 13-035-184.
- 5 Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TESTIMONY BEFORE OTHER STATE

6 **REGULATORY COMMISSIONS?**

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7 A. Yes. I have submitted testimony in over 95 proceedings before 33 other utility regulatory commissions and before the Missouri House Committee on Utilities, the 8 Missouri Senate Veterans' Affairs, Emerging Issues, Pensions, and Urban Affairs 9 Committee, and the Kansas House Standing Committee on Utilities and 10 11 Telecommunications. My testimony has addressed topics including, but not limited to, cost of service and rate design, ratemaking policy, qualifying facility rates, 12 telecommunications deregulation, resource certification, energy efficiency/demand 13 side management, fuel cost adjustment mechanisms, decoupling, and the collection 14 of cash earnings on construction work in progress. 15

Q. ARE YOU SPONSORING ANY EXHIBITS WITH YOUR TESTIMONY?

17 A. Yes. I am sponsoring Exhibit SWC-1, consisting of ten pages, and Exhibit SWC-2,

18 consisting of one page.

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

A. The purpose of my testimony is to respond to Rocky Mountain Power's ("RMP" or "the Company") proposed Schedule No. 32, Service from Renewable Energy Facilities

("Schedule 32"), responding specifically to the testimony and exhibits of David L.
 Taylor.

Q. PLEASE BRIEFLY DESCRIBE WALMART'S OPERATIONS IN UTAH.

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A. Walmart operates 53 retail units and employs 16,159 associates in Utah. In fiscal year ending 2014, Walmart purchased \$1.9 billion worth of goods and services from Utah-based suppliers, supporting 26,361 supplier jobs.¹

Q. PLEASE BRIEFLY DESCRIBE WALMART'S OPERATIONS WITHIN RMP'S SERVICE TERRITORY.

A. Walmart has approximately 51 stores, distribution centers, and related facilities serviced by RMP, primarily on Schedule 6 and Schedule 8. RMP proposes that Customer accounts on Schedule 6, Schedule 8, and Schedule 9 be eligible for Schedule 32, and across those facilities, Walmart has approximately 54 accounts served on a schedule proposed to be eligible for service under Schedule 32. *See* Exhibit M.

Q. WHAT IS WALMART'S INTEREST IN THIS DOCKET?

A. Walmart has established aggressive and significant renewable energy goals, including (1) to be supplied 100 percent by renewable energy² and (2) to drive, by 2020, the annual production or procurement of seven billion kWh of renewable energy across the globe.³ Schedule 32, as amended per my recommendations below, will be an opportunity for Walmart to utilize Utah's world class renewable energy resources to

¹ http://corporate.walmart.com/our-story/locations/united-states#/united-states/utah

² http://corporate.walmart.com/global-responsibility/environmental-sustainability

³ http://www.walmartgreenroom.com/2013/04/walmarts-next-big-step-on-renewable-energy-and-energy-efficiency/

1		meet our corporate goals as well as drive economic development and renewable
2		development in Utah.
3	Q.	PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION.
4	A.	My recommendations to the Commission are as follows:
5		1) Walmart does not object to the adoption of RMP's proposed customer charge
6		based on the Schedule 31 customer charge.
7		2) The Commission should reject the Company's proposed administrative fee.
8		3) The Commission should require the Delivery Facilities Charge ("DFC"),
9		Generation Backup Facilities Charge ("GBFC"), and backup power tariff
10		charges to be separately calculated for and applied to Customer Agreement
11		locations otherwise served on Schedule 6.
12	Q.	WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF RMP'S PROPOSED SCHEDULE 32?
13	A.	My understanding is that RMP's proposed Schedule 32 is a tariff governing the rates,
	A.	My understanding is that RMP's proposed Schedule 32 is a tariff governing the rates, terms, and conditions of service to an eligible customer from a Renewable Energy
13	A.	
13 14	A.	terms, and conditions of service to an eligible customer from a Renewable Energy
13 14 15	A. Q.	terms, and conditions of service to an eligible customer from a Renewable Energy Facility ("REF") located in the State of Utah per Utah Code Title 54, Chapter 17, Part
13 14 15 16		terms, and conditions of service to an eligible customer from a Renewable Energy Facility ("REF") located in the State of Utah per Utah Code Title 54, Chapter 17, Part 8. <i>See</i> Direct Testimony of David L. Taylor, page 13, line 265 to page 14, line 271.
13 14 15 16 17	Q.	terms, and conditions of service to an eligible customer from a Renewable Energy Facility ("REF") located in the State of Utah per Utah Code Title 54, Chapter 17, Part 8. <i>See</i> Direct Testimony of David L. Taylor, page 13, line 265 to page 14, line 271. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S PROPOSED CUSTOMER STRUCTURE FOR THE TARIFF?
13 14 15 16 17 18	Q.	terms, and conditions of service to an eligible customer from a Renewable Energy Facility ("REF") located in the State of Utah per Utah Code Title 54, Chapter 17, Part 8. <i>See</i> Direct Testimony of David L. Taylor, page 13, line 265 to page 14, line 271. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S PROPOSED CUSTOMER STRUCTURE FOR THE TARIFF? The Company's proposed customer structure is that a "Customer" is a person who
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Q.	terms, and conditions of service to an eligible customer from a Renewable Energy Facility ("REF") located in the State of Utah per Utah Code Title 54, Chapter 17, Part 8. <i>See</i> Direct Testimony of David L. Taylor, page 13, line 265 to page 14, line 271. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S PROPOSED CUSTOMER STRUCTURE FOR THE TARIFF? The Company's proposed customer structure is that a "Customer" is a person who executes or will execute a Renewable Energy Contract with the Company. A

1		the existing account for that location. By extension, my understanding is that a
2		Customer may have one or more Customer Agreements as they would have one or
3		more accounts now.
4	Q.	WHAT CHARGES DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR SCHEDULE 32?
5	A.	The Company proposes the following charges:
6	1)	A \$/Customer Agreement-month customer charge, differentiated by service voltage;
7	2)	A \$450/Customer Agreement-month administrative fee;
8	3)	A \$/kW-month DFC, differentiated by service voltage and applied to the Customer
9		Agreement's specified kW of Renewable Contract Power;
10	4)	A \$/kW-month GBFC, differentiated by service voltage and applied to the Customer
11		Agreement's specified kW of Renewable Contract Power;
12	5)	A \$/kW-day backup power charge;
13	6)	Supplementary power and energy charges billed under the pricing provisions of the
14		Customer Agreement location's otherwise applicable tariff; and
15	7)	The Schedule 193 surcharge. See Exhibit Q and Exhibit R.
16	Q.	DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS WITH THE PROPOSED CHARGES?
17	A.	Yes. I have concerns with the proposed administrative fee and the calculation of the
18		proposed DFC, GBFC, and backup power charges.
19	Q.	WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROPOSED CUSTOMER CHARGE?
20	A.	My understanding of the proposed customer charge is that it is based on the Back-Up,
21		Maintenance, and Supplementary Power ("Schedule 31") customer charge. See Direct
22		Testimony of David L. Taylor, page 8, line 181 to page 9, line 182.

1	Q.	DOES SCHEDULE 31 CONTAIN AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE FOR BILLING COSTS?
2	A.	No. See P.S.C.U. No. 49, First Revision of Sheet No. 31.4.
3	Q.	WHAT IS THE PROPOSED \$/MONTH CUSTOMER CHARGE FOR SECONDARY AND
4		PRIMARY CUSTOMERS?
5	A.	The proposed customer charge for secondary customers is \$131/Customer
6		Agreement-month, and the proposed customer charge for primary customers is
7		\$596/Customer Agreement-month. <i>See</i> Exhibit Q.
8	Q.	HOW DOES THIS COMPARE TO THE OTHERWISE APPLICABLE TARIFF CUSTOMER
9		CHARGES FOR SCHEDULE 6 AND SCHEDULE 8 CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS?
10	A.	The customer charge approved in Docket No. 13-035-084 for Schedule 6 is
11		\$54/customer-month and for Schedule 8 is \$69/customer-month. See RMP
12		Stipulation Exhibit C, Rate Design-Step 1. It should be noted that the Schedule 6 and
13		Schedule 8 customer charges are not voltage-differentiated.
14	Q.	WHAT IS THE RESULTING INCREASE IN CUSTOMER CHARGE IF A CUSTOMER
15		ACCOUNT MOVES FROM SCHEDULE 6 OR SCHEDULE 8 TO SCHEDULE 32?
16	A.	For a Schedule 6 account that takes service at secondary voltage, the increase in
17		customer charge is \$77/month, or 142 percent. For a Schedule 8 account that takes
18		service at secondary voltage, the increase is \$62/month, or 89 percent. For a Schedule
19		8 account that takes service at primary voltage, the increase is \$527/month, or <u>763</u>
20		percent.
21	Q.	WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMPANY'S PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE
22		FEE?

1	A.	My understanding is that RMP has proposed the administrative fee to cover the cost
2		of manual data collection and billing. The Company estimates that six to eight hours,
3		at \$75/hour, per Customer Agreement per month are required for a single Customer
4		Agreement. See Direct Testimony of David L. Taylor, page 9, line 182 to line 191.
5	Q.	DOES THE COMPANY PROVIDE ANY EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THEIR SIX TO EIGHT
6		HOUR ESTIMATE?
7	A.	No.
8	Q.	WHY ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROPOSED RATE AND STRUCTURE OF THE
9		ADMINISTRATIVE FEE?
10	A.	I am concerned that the proposed administrative fee is excessive and not supported
11		by substantial evidence that the estimated amount of labor is actually needed. The
12		Commission should also consider that the administrative fee is proposed to be
13		charged on top of significant proposed customer charge increases.
14		Additionally, the rate and structure of the administrative fee disadvantage
15		multi-site Customers who would pursue multiple Customer Agreements under
16		proposed Schedule 32.
17	Q.	HOW DOES THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE FEE DISADVANTAGE MULTI-SITE
18		CUSTOMERS?
19	A.	The rate and structure of the proposed administrative fee would create a significant
20		cost barrier to participation in Schedule 32 by multi-site Customers. For example, as
21		I state above, Walmart has 54 accounts that would be eligible for service under
22		Schedule 32. Under RMP's proposal, Walmart would then spend \$291,600/year just

for costs from the administrative fee, whereas a single-site Customer would incur only \$5,400/year. This is on top of the proposed increase in the customer charge from the otherwise applicable tariffs, which for the 54 accounts would add approximately \$50,000/year in cost.

Using RMP's estimate of six to eight hours per agreement per month, 54 agreements would require between 3,888 and 5,184 person-hours⁴, or 1.87-2.49 full-time equivalent⁵ employees to process. This is clearly excessive, particularly if the Company achieves economies of scale in processing procedures.

Q. DOES THE COST IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE FEE HAVE A POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON A MULTI-SITE CUSTOMER'S ACCESS TO A REF'S OUTPUT?

Yes, as an increase in the number of Customer Accounts, all else being equal, will correspondingly increase the Customer's cost per MWh or kWh. I have estimated the annual \$/MWh impact of the administrative fee as proposed, assuming a Customer purchases 75,000 MWh/year through Schedule 32, and have summarized the results in Table 1. For a single-site Customer, the administrative fee would constitute only \$0.07/MWh of the cost to the Customer. In contrast, for a Customer with 50 Customer Agreements, the administrative fee would constitute \$3.60/MWh in cost to the Customer. This difference could potentially make Schedule 32 prohibitively

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⁴ 3,888 person-hours is calculated as 6 hours/month x 12 months x 54 agreements. 5,184 person-hours is calculated as 8 hours/month x 12 months x 54 agreements.

⁵ Calculated using 2,080 hours/year.

expensive for a Customer and discourage the purchase of renewable energy through Schedule 32.

Table 1. Impact of RMP's Proposed Administrative Fee.			
Number of Customer Agreements	Annual MWh Purchased (MWh)	Annual Administrative Fee Cost (\$)	Administrative Fee Cost (\$/MWh)
(1)	(2)	(3) (1) X \$450 x 12	(4) (3) / (2)
1	75,000	\$5,400	\$0.07
25	75,000	\$135,000	\$1.80
50	75,000	\$270,000	\$3.60

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Q. ARE THERE ANY OTHER FACTORS THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD CONSIDER?

A. Yes. The Commission should consider that a deal between a Customer and REF under Schedule 32 will likely be 10 or more years in length. As a result, a multi-site customer could potentially incur millions of dollars over the life of the contract just in administrative fees.

Q. DOES WALMART DISPUTE THAT IT COULD TAKE MORE TIME AND COST TO BILL A CUSTOMER FOR SCHEDULE 32 AS THE NUMBER OF INCLUDED CUSTOMER AGREEMENTS INCREASES?

No. However, the proposed increase in customer charge, particularly for multi-site Customers, should be sufficient. As I stated above, if Walmart were to enroll its 54 eligible accounts in Schedule 32, we would incur approximately \$50,000/year in additional customer costs under the proposed customer charge.

Q. WHAT ARE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION ON THE ISSUE OF FIXED CHARGES?

- A. My recommendations to the Commission are that (1) Walmart does not object to the adoption of RMP's proposed customer charge based on the Schedule 31 customer charge and (2) the Commission should reject the Company's proposed administrative fee.
- 5 Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S STATED GOAL FOR THE DESIGN OF THE DFC, GBFC, AND
 6 BACKUP POWER CHARGE RATES?
- 7 A. The Company's stated goal for the design of the of the DFC, GBFC, and backup power
 8 charge rates is that a Schedule 32 Customer would pay "essentially the same" in
 9 facilities charges and power charges as a customer on the otherwise applicable
 10 general service tariff. See Direct Testimony of David L. Taylor, page 11, line 229 to line
 11 232.
- Q. WHAT IS YOUR CONCERN WITH THE PROPOSED DFC, GBFC, AND BACKUP POWER

 CHARGES?

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A. My concern with the proposed charges is that they are differentiated by service voltage without regard for the Customer Agreement location's otherwise applicable tariff. See Exhibit R. To derive the proposed Schedule 32 secondary and primary service charges, RMP uses only the Schedule 8 cost of service and billing determinants.

See Exhibit DLT-2, page 2 and page 4. However, Schedule 6 accounts are eligible to take service under Schedule 32. As I show below, Schedule 6 customers would be required to pay more for services under the proposed DFC, GBFC, and backup power charges than they would per their otherwise applicable tariff.

1 Q. HAVE YOU CALCULATED A DFC, GBFC, AND BACKUP POWER CHARGES FOR

SCHEDULE 6 CUSTOMERS USING THE SAME METHODOLOGY AS RMP?

A. Yes. I have calculated the DFC, GBFC, and backup power charges for Schedule 6 customers in the same manner and using comparable data⁶ as the Company. *See* Exhibit SWC-2.

Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR RESULTS.

7 A. Table 2 summarizes the results of my analysis.

Table 2. Comparison of Schedule 32 Charges, Schedule 6 Secondary Customer and Schedule 8 Secondary Customer.

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Charge	Schedule 6 Secondary	Schedule 8 Secondary
Delivery Facilities Charge	\$7.68/kW-month	\$7.97/kW-month
Generation Backup Facilities Charge	\$1.17/kW-month	\$1.25/kW-month
Backup Power Charge (May- Sept)	\$0.56/kW-day	\$0.64/kW-day
Backup Power Charge (Oct- Apr)	\$0.34/kW-day	\$0.39/kW-day
Source: Exhibit SWC-2		

As shown in Table 2, the DFC, GBFC, and backup power charges, when calculated separately for Schedule 6, are lower than those calculated for Schedule 8. Charging Schedule 6 customers the Company's proposed DFC, GBFC, and backup power charges, which are based on Schedule 8, unfairly and inappropriately disadvantages Schedule 6 customers who choose to take service under Schedule 32.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR RECOMMENDATION TO THE COMMISSION ON THIS ISSUE?

14 A. The Commission should require the DFC, GBFC, and backup power tariff charges to be
15 separately calculated for and applied to Customer Agreement locations otherwise
16 served on Schedule 6.

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⁶ See Company workpapers filed July 10, 2014.

Q. HOW WOULD YOUR RECOMMENDATION IMPACT THE PROPOSED TARIFF?

A. The proposed secondary and primary charges in the proposed tariff would be specified as being charged to Schedule 8 Customer Agreement locations. Additional Schedule 6 Customer Agreement location secondary and primary charges would be added to each of the DFC, GBFC, and backup power charge sections.

Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?

7 A. Yes.

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