

**- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -**

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PACIFICORP FOR  
AN INVESTIGATION OF INTER-JURISDICTIONAL ISSUES

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DPU EXHIBIT 1.0-DIRECT  
DOCKET No. 02-035-04  
2010 PROTOCOL

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Inter-jurisdictional Cost Allocations

Artie Powell, PhD

Division of Public Utilities

August 18, 2011

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Artie Powell  
Division of Public Utilities  
Direct Testimony—2010 Protocol

1 **INTRODUCTION**

2 **Q: Please state your name, employer, title, and address for the record.**

3 A: My name is Artie Powell; I am employed by the Utah Division of Public Utilities (DPU or  
4 Division) within the Department of Commerce; I am the Energy Section manager; my  
5 business address is 160 E 300 S, Salt Lake City, Utah.

6 **Q: On whose behalf are you testifying in this case?**

7 A: The Division.

8 **Q: Please summarize your qualifications.**

9 A: I hold a doctorate degree in economics from Texas A&M University. Prior to joining the  
10 Division, I taught courses in economics, regression analysis, and statistics both for  
11 undergraduate and graduate students. I joined the Division in 1996 and have since  
12 attended several professional courses or conferences including, the NARUC Annual  
13 Regulatory Studies Program (1995) and IPU Advanced Regulatory Studies Program  
14 (2005), dealing with a variety of regulatory issues. Since joining the Division, I have  
15 testified or presented information on a variety of topics including, electric industry  
16 restructuring, incentive-based regulation, revenue decoupling, energy conservation,  
17 evaluation of alternative generation projects, inter-jurisdictional cost allocations, and  
18 the cost of capital.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 **Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?**

21 A: The main purpose of my testimony is to explain the Division's support for the  
22 agreement on inter-jurisdictional allocations before the Commission in this docket  
23 ("2010 Agreement").

24 **Q: Can you summarize the reasons for the Division's support of the 2010 Agreement?**

25 A: In Docket No. 02-035-04 the Commission adopted a stipulation that specified that  
26 Utah's revenue requirement was the lesser of that determined under the Rolled-In  
27 methodology multiplied by a rate mitigation cap and the Revised Protocol methodology  
28 multiplied by a rate mitigation premium ("2004 Stipulation").

29 In its application in this docket, the Company proposed several amendments to  
30 the Revised Protocol that moves all of the states closer to a Rolled-In allocation of the  
31 Company's costs ("2010 Protocol"). However, since the merger between Pacific Power  
32 and Utah Power, the Commission has consistently stated that the Rolled-In  
33 methodology is the benchmark by which to judge other allocation methodologies. The  
34 2010 Agreement before the Commission in this docket essentially makes Utah's  
35 allocated share of the Company's costs equivalent to a fully Rolled-In allocated share.  
36 Therefore, the Division supports and recommends that the Commission adopt the  
37 proposed 2010 Agreement for purposes of allocating a reasonable share of the  
38 Company's costs judiciously to Utah.

39 **BACKGROUND**

40 **Q: Does the Division believe that a change in the current inter-jurisdictional allocation**  
41 **methodology is necessary in order to achieve just and reasonable rates in Utah?**

42 A: Yes. In Docket No. 02-035-04, the Commission approved the 2004 Stipulation  
43 supporting the use of the Revised Protocol methodology in conjunction with the Rolled-  
44 In methodology and certain rate mitigation measures for allocating or apportioning the  
45 Company's costs to Utah. For the years immediately preceding the adoption of the  
46 2004 Stipulation, Utah's revenue requirement was determined using the Rolled-In  
47 methodology. At the time the 2004 Stipulation was adopted, it was expected that for  
48 the first several years, the Utah revenue requirement would be greater under Revised  
49 Protocol than under Rolled-In. However, in the later years, starting in about 2011, it  
50 was expected that the Revised Protocol would produce a revenue requirement less than  
51 that produced by Rolled-In. On a present value basis, these differences approximately  
52 offset one another so that the long run impact on Utah's revenue requirement would be  
53 minimal. That is, over the term of the 2004 Stipulation, the difference in Utah's revenue  
54 requirement from continuing under Rolled-In and Utah's revenue requirement under  
55 the 2004 Stipulation would be minimal.

56 The Commission's adoption of the 2004 Stipulation was conditional on the  
57 realization of the then projected savings of the Revised Protocol methodology relative  
58 to the Rolled-In methodology. Specifically, the Commission stated in its order that,

59 Our approval of the [2004] Stipulation must be conditional. . . . in  
60 the long run, it must not result in significantly different impacts on  
61 Utah than now expected. If the projected savings to Utah in the  
62 later years, which substantially offset the increases in the early  
63 years, do not materialize, we may reconsider the further use of  
64 the [2004] Stipulation.<sup>1</sup>

65 Unfortunately, the projected savings in the later years have not materialized—  
66 Revised Protocol remains, and is projected to remain, above Rolled-In. Thus, the  
67 Division does not believe that the 2004 Stipulation and the concomitant revenue  
68 requirement can be relied on going forward to determine just and reasonable rates in  
69 Utah.

70 **Q: Is the Division’s position in this case consistent with the Division’s position on inter-**  
71 **jurisdictional allocations in the recently resolved rate case, Docket No. 10-035-124?**

72 A: Yes, it is. In the rate case, the Division recommended, “the Rolled-In be used to  
73 determine Utah’s revenue requirement in this case and going forward until such time as  
74 the Commission approves or adopts an alternative inter-jurisdictional costs allocation  
75 methodology.”<sup>2</sup> In this case, the Division is recommending that the Commission  
76 approve the use of the 2010 Agreement for allocating the Company's costs to Utah. As

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<sup>1</sup> "Report and Order," Docket No. 02-035-04, December 14, 2004, pp. 36-37.

<sup>2</sup> "Direct Testimony Revenue Requirement, Artie Powell," Docket No. 10-035-124, May 26, 2011, p. 5.

77 previously stated, the intent of the 2010 Agreement is to produce an outcome  
78 equivalent to the Rolled-In methodology.

79 **A BRIEF HISTORY OF INTER-JURISDICTIONAL ALLOCATIONS**

80 **Q: Would you briefly review the history of the Company's inter-jurisdictional allocations?**

81 A: The Commission's 2004 order adopting the 2004 Stipulation provides a concise history  
82 of inter-jurisdictional proceedings and decisions in Utah. Therefore, I will briefly  
83 highlight what I believe are the most relevant facts and ask that the Commission take  
84 notice of its own 2004 order in Docket No. 02-035-04 for more details.

85 According to the Commission's 2004 order, "Prior to the 1989 merger of Utah  
86 Power and Pacific Power (Docket No. 87-035-27), Utah Power served wholesale  
87 customers under FERC jurisdiction and retail customers in Utah, Idaho and Wyoming  
88 under state jurisdictions."<sup>3</sup> Although the Commission approved the merger, issues  
89 surrounding inter-jurisdictional allocations were not resolved. However, "The applicants  
90 [Utah Power and Pacific Power] assured the Commission that the merger benefits were  
91 so large that under any reasonable allocation method Utah ratepayers would be better  
92 off with the merger."<sup>4</sup> Nevertheless, the Commission's 1987 order specified that,  
93 "PacifiCorp shareholders were to assume all risks that may result from less than full

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<sup>3</sup> "Report and Order," Docket No. 02-035-04, p. 19.

<sup>4</sup> "Report and Order," Docket No. 02-035-04, p. 20.

94 system cost recovery due to the adoption of different allocation methods by its  
95 regulatory jurisdictions."<sup>5</sup>

96 **Q: Are there other relevant facts about inter-jurisdictional allocations you wish to**  
97 **comment on?**

98 A: As previously mentioned, the Commission did not resolve inter-jurisdictional issues in  
99 the merger docket—Docket No. 87-035-27. Instead, a task force, the PacifiCorp Inter-  
100 jurisdictional Task Force on Allocations, or PITA, was formed to address the allocation  
101 issues. PITA developed two inter-jurisdictional allocation methods: Rolled-In and  
102 Consensus. The Rolled-In methodology is a dynamic allocation methodology, which  
103 appropriately reflects current cost causation and usage. The Consensus method  
104 differed from Rolled-In in several respects; principally, it provided for divisional—Utah  
105 Power and Pacific Power—assignment of pre-merger plant, and hydro and transmission  
106 endowments.

107 In PacifiCorp's 1990 general rate case, Docket No. 90-035-06, the Commission  
108 found that an immediate movement to Rolled-In would unfairly shift costs from the  
109 Utah Power Division to the Pacific Power Division. However, the Commission declined  
110 to adopt the Consensus method, but for fairness reasons, adopted the outcome of the  
111 Consensus method. The difference in the revenue requirements between the two  
112 methods, approximately \$72.7 million, was a fairness premium, which the Commission

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<sup>5</sup> "Report and Order," Docket No. 02-035-04, p. 21.

113 viewed as the maximum divergence from Rolled-In that it would allow in maintaining  
114 inter-jurisdictional fairness.<sup>6</sup>

115           Expecting the elimination of the hydro and transmission endowments—a key  
116 difference between the two methods—over a reasonable period, "The Commission  
117 stated that a single-system, Rolled-In allocation method provided the only acceptable  
118 benchmark or standard by which alternative allocation methods may be judged."<sup>7</sup>

119 **Q: Has the Commission ever adopted an inter-jurisdictional allocation method?**

120 A: Yes. In Docket No. 97-035-04, the Commission's order, dated April 16, 1998, adopted  
121 Rolled-In for apportioning costs to Utah for the purposes of setting rates. The  
122 Commission also drew two conclusions relevant for judging the appropriateness of any  
123 allocation methodology. First, cost causation should reflect current usage rather than  
124 past usage. Second, attempts to achieve merger fairness using ad hoc adjustments  
125 within an allocation method will likely lead to unintended or inconsistent  
126 consequences.<sup>8</sup>

127           The Commission also reaffirmed its earlier decision to phase out the merger  
128 fairness premium. To this end, the Commission established a five-year schedule  
129 beginning in 1996 through 2000. The intent was that starting in 2001, some twelve

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<sup>6</sup> See, "Report and Order," Docket No. 02-035-04, p. 23.

<sup>7</sup> "Report and Order," Docket No. 02-035-04, p. 22.

<sup>8</sup> See, "Report and Order," Docket No. 02-035-04, p. 24.

130 years after the merger of Utah Power and Pacific Power, Utah's revenue requirement  
131 would be based on the Rolled-In methodology.

132 **Q: Did Utah move to Rolled-In in 2001 per the Commission's order in Docket No. 97-035-**  
133 **04?**

134 A: Actually, Utah moved to Rolled-In with the conclusion of the 1997 general rate case,  
135 Docket No. 97-035-01.

136 The Committee of Consumer Services, now the Office of Consumer Services, and  
137 the Division filed to initiate a general rate case on February 12, 1997. However, because  
138 of legislative action, which froze the Company's rates on an interim basis, rates did not  
139 go into effect until March 1, 1999. As of that date, March 1, 1999, it was determined  
140 that a total refund of \$111.5 million was owing to customers. The Commission also  
141 determined that the then present value of the remaining merger fairness premium it  
142 had established in Docket No. 97-035-04 was equal to \$71.24 million. Using part of the  
143 refund to "buy-out" the remaining portion of the merger fairness premium presented an  
144 opportunity for an earlier movement to Rolled-In, which the Commission ordered. Thus,  
145 the rates that went into effect on March 1, 1999, were based on the Rolled-In  
146 methodology plus the remaining (present) value of the merger fairness premium.

147 Rates were also set based on the Rolled-In methodology in three subsequent  
148 rate cases, Docket Nos. 99-035-10, 01-035-01, and 03-035-02.

149 **Q: If the Commission adopted Rolled-In in the 1997 general rate case, and used Rolled-In**  
150 **in several subsequent cases, what gave rise to the Revised Protocol and the use of the**  
151 **2004 Stipulation to set rates in Utah?**

152 A: In its order, dated November 23, 1999, in Docket No. 98-2035-04, the Commission  
153 approved the acquisition of PacifiCorp by ScottishPower. As part of the approval, the  
154 Company again assumed the risk of cost recovery arising from different inter-  
155 jurisdictional allocation methods utilized among the various state jurisdictions.<sup>9</sup>

156 However, on December 1, 2000, in Docket No. 00-035-15, the Company filed an  
157 application seeking approval of a corporate restructuring creating six distribution  
158 companies, one for each of the six state jurisdictions, a generation company, and a  
159 service company.<sup>10</sup> In its application, "The Company stated the continued gridlock over  
160 inter-jurisdictional allocations resulted in the Company continuing to suffer a material  
161 earnings shortfall, and created disincentives for future infrastructure investment."<sup>11</sup>

162 It is my understanding that most of the states either rejected the Company's  
163 initial corporate restructuring proposal or, like the Utah Commission, suspended the  
164 schedule in the docket.<sup>12</sup> At the same time the Commission suspended the schedule  
165 regarding the corporate restructuring, the Commission initiated (at the Company's

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<sup>9</sup> See, "Report and Order," Docket No. 02-035-04, p. 26.

<sup>10</sup> See, "Report and Order," Docket No. 02-035-04, p. 27.

<sup>11</sup> "Report and Order," Docket No. 02-035-04, p. 27.

<sup>12</sup> "Order Suspending Schedule," Docket No. 00-035-15, April 3, 2002.

166 request and in cooperation with PacifiCorp's other jurisdictions) the multi-state process,  
167 or MSP.<sup>13</sup> A MSP organizational meeting was held in Boise, Idaho on April 10-12, 2002.  
168 Subsequently, a series of meetings were held with the other jurisdictions, which led to  
169 the development of the Revised Protocol. This in turn led to the Commission adopting  
170 the 2004 Stipulation.

171 **CONCLUSIONS CONCERNING INTER-JURISDICTIONAL ALLOCATIONS**

172 **Q: What can you conclude from this history of inter-jurisdictional allocations?**

173 A: I think there are several important observations to make concerning this history:

- 174 • Since the original merger between Utah Power and Pacific Power,  
175 the Commission has consistently used Rolled-In as the standard by  
176 which to judge alternative allocation methods;
- 177 • Rolled-In is the only inter-jurisdictional allocation method formally  
178 adopted or approved by the Commission;
- 179 • Since the original merger, rates in Utah have included tens of  
180 millions of dollars above Rolled-In allocations to satisfy merger  
181 fairness;
- 182 • With the conclusion of the 1997 rate case, Utah ratepayers paid  
183 over \$71 million to buy-out the remaining fair value of the merger  
184 fairness premium;

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<sup>13</sup> "Order on PacifiCorp's Application to Initiate Investigation of Inter-jurisdictional Issues," Docket 00-035-15, April 3, 2004.

- 185                   • The projected benefits to Utah under the Revised Protocol  
186                   methodology have not materialized, and are not likely to  
187                   materialize;
- 188                   • The Company has explicitly born the risk of cost recovery arising  
189                   from differences in inter-jurisdictional allocation methods; and
- 190                   • Continued use of the 2004 Stipulation adopted in Docket No. 02-  
191                   035-04 to set rates in Utah will not lead to just and reasonable rates.

192 **ROLLED-IN VERSUS REVISED PROTOCOL**

193 **Q:     Would you briefly explain the difference between Rolled-In and Revised Protocol?**

194 A:     Rolled-in, as previously stated, is a dynamic allocation approach consistent with a single  
195     system (for both planning and operation) reflecting current cost-causation of joint-use  
196     resources. Rolled-In allocates cost of joint-use resources based on each jurisdiction's  
197     contribution to system peak demand and annual energy use.

198                   The Revised Protocol allocation method starts with Rolled-In and then adds four  
199     (4) ad-hoc adjustments. The adjustments center around (1) Company owned hydro, (2)  
200     Mid-Columbia Contracts, (3) QF contracts, and (4) seasonal loads.

201                   The Embedded Cost Differential Hydro Adjustment is based on the difference  
202     between two calculations: (1) the embedded cost of Company owned hydro including,  
203     post-merger costs, and (2) the embedded cost of the rest of the system excluding QF  
204     contracts.

205           The Mid-Columbia Contract Embedded Cost Differential adjustment assigns a  
206           substantial share of the low-cost Mid-C contracts to the Northwest. Oregon receives  
207           the lion's share of this adjustment. The calculation is based on the difference between  
208           the Mid-C contracts' costs and the costs of All Other resources. (The Revised Protocol  
209           states that as long as Oregon continues to support the Revised Protocol, PacifiCorp will  
210           not support any change to the hydro endowment adjustments).

211           The Revised Protocol also situs assigns approved pre-existing QF contracts.  
212           Finally, the Revised Protocol allocates certain seasonally defined resources based on  
213           seasonal loads rather than annual loads.

214   **Q: You describe Rolled-In as a dynamic allocation methodology. Would you explain what**  
215   **you mean?**

216   **A:** Under Rolled-In, the basis for determining a jurisdiction's allocation factors is largely its  
217           contribution to system peak. For example, the SG factor as defined in the 2004 Revised  
218           Protocol documents is

$$SG_i = 0.75 * SC_i + 0.25 * SE_i \qquad \text{Eq. 1}$$

219           where

220            $SG_i$  = the System Generation Factor for jurisdiction i;

221            $SC_i$  = the System Capacity Factor for jurisdiction i; and

222  $SE_i$  = the System Energy Factor for jurisdiction i.

223 Therefore, as a jurisdiction's loads grow relative to the other jurisdictions, its allocation  
224 factors will increase. This means that as the loads for one jurisdiction grow relative to  
225 the other jurisdictions, that jurisdiction will receive a larger allocated share of new  
226 resource costs, as well as receiving a larger share of the allocated costs of the existing  
227 resources.

228 **EXPECTED PERFORMANCE OF REVISED PROTOCOL**

229 **Q: Can you demonstrate the performance expectations of Revised Protocol at the time of**  
230 **adoption of the 2004 Stipulation?**

231 A: Yes. I have included as DPU Exhibit 1.1-Direct a forecast of the Revised Protocol relative  
232 to Rolled-In developed in the proceedings leading up to Docket No. 02-035-04. This  
233 exhibit is a copy of an exhibit, Exhibit C, attached to and part of the Commission's  
234 Report and Order in that docket.

235 As shown in the graph, the expectation in 2004 was that Revised Protocol would  
236 be greater than Rolled-In in the initial years, but would be less than Rolled-In in the later  
237 years, with the cross-over occurring in approximately 2011. The graph also  
238 demonstrates the intended effect of the rate mitigation cap and premium on Utah's  
239 revenue requirement.

240 **Q: What was the intent of the Rate Mitigation Cap?**

241 A: In the years immediately preceding the adoption of the 2004 Stipulation, Utah's revenue  
242 requirement was determined using Rolled-In. The Revised Protocol, therefore,  
243 represented in the initial years a shift in costs to the Utah jurisdiction from the other  
244 jurisdictions in which PacifiCorp operated. The purpose of the rate mitigation cap was  
245 to mitigate the rate impact of the Revised Protocol on Utah ratepayers.

246 Since adoption of the 2004 Stipulation, until the recently resolved rate case,<sup>14</sup>  
247 the Revised Protocol plus its premium has been greater than Rolled-In plus the cap.  
248 Thus, in the last five rate cases, Utah's revenue requirement has included an amount  
249 over Rolled-in. Table 1 depicts the premium amounts as originally requested by the  
250 Company for the five rate cases since 2004 and prior to the current rate case.

251 Table 1: Rate Mitigation Cap (As Filed by PacifiCorp)

Docket	Revised Protocol	Rolled-In	CAP Percent	CAP Value
04-035-42	1,279,449,499	1,248,104,005	1.50%	18,721,560
06-035-21	1,451,177,035	1,405,246,184	1.50%	21,078,693
07-035-93	1,533,044,193	1,490,798,620	1.25%	18,634,983
08-035-38	1,568,589,411	1,530,674,491	1.06%	16,263,416
09-035-23	1,551,446,173	1,523,737,373	1.00%	15,237,374

<sup>14</sup> The Commission approved the stipulations of the parties resolving the 2010 general rate case, Docket 10-035-124 in its Memorandum Decision dated August 11, 2011, indicating that a final order will be issued prior to September 21, 2011.

252 Thus, as contemplated under the 2004 Stipulation, Utah ratepayers have been paying a  
253 premium over Rolled-In since 2004 but, as previously explained, expected to benefit in  
254 the latter years as the Revised Protocol produced revenue requirements less than those  
255 under Rolled-In. However, the benefits contemplated under the 2004 Stipulation have  
256 not and are not likely to materialize in the future. Indeed, in the recently resolved rate  
257 case, the revenue requirement under the Revised Protocol methodology was still  
258 substantially greater than that under the Rolled-In methodology.

259 **Q: You indicated that the expected savings from Revised Protocol are not likely to**  
260 **materialize. Would you explain your reasoning for this conclusion?**

261 A: Yes. I have included as Confidential DPU Exhibit 1.2-Direct a forecast of Revised  
262 Protocol relative to Rolled-In developed by the Company in the multi-state process,  
263 MSP, in April 2010. As previously mentioned, this forecast indicates that Utah's Revised  
264 Protocol revenue requirement will not fall below that of Rolled-In for the duration of the  
265 study period, 2010-2018. In contrast, the 2004 forecast indicated that during this same  
266 study period, the Revised Protocol would be less than Rolled-In.

## 267 **2010 PROTOCOL**

268 **Q: Have you reviewed the Company's application in the current docket?**

269 A: Yes, I have reviewed the Company's application and testimony in this case. I also  
270 participated in the MSP workgroup meetings that lead to the Company's filing seeking

271 approval of modifications to the Revised Protocol, which for convenience is referred to  
272 as the 2010 Protocol.

273 **GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE 2010 PROTOCOL**

274 **Q: What is your understanding of the 2010 Protocol?**

275 A: The Application, which was filed in the 2002 inter-jurisdictional docket, explains that  
276 participants in the MSP workgroup reached an agreement in principle to amend the  
277 Revised Protocol. As explained in the Application and the Company's accompanying  
278 testimony, the 2010 Protocol is "to allow for a greater movement to a Rolled-In  
279 allocation methodology, while retaining a Hydro Endowment for the former Pacific  
280 Power & Light states of Oregon, California, Washington, and part of Wyoming."<sup>15</sup>

281 The 2010 Protocol contains at least two important modifications to the Revised  
282 Protocol. First, the Hydro embedded cost differential (ECD) has been "reduced and  
283 limited using a comparison of embedded costs based on resources in place on the  
284 Company's system prior to 2005."<sup>16</sup> Second, the ECD is fixed at a levelized value, which  
285 is applied respectively to each jurisdiction's revenue requirement under the Rolled-in  
286 methodology for the duration of the 2010 Protocol, which runs through December 31,  
287 2016.

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<sup>15</sup> PacifiCorp's Application, "In the Matter of the Application of PacifiCorp for an Investigation of Inter-Jurisdictional Issues," Docket No. 02-035-04, September 15, 2010, p. 5.

<sup>16</sup> PacifiCorp's Application, Docket No. 02-035-04, September 15, 2010, pp. 5-6.

288 **Q: What is the levelized ECD for Utah under the 2010 Protocol?**

289 A: The levelized ECD value is approximately \$1 million annually for years 2011 through  
290 2016. In other words, if the Commission were to adopt the 2010 Protocol as proposed  
291 by the Company, Utah's annual revenue requirement would be approximately \$1 million  
292 dollars less than that derived under the Rolled-In methodology.

293 **FINAL COMMENTS ON THE 2010 PROTOCOL**

294 **Q: Before moving to the 2010 Agreement, do you have any final comments on the 2010**  
295 **Protocol?**

296 A: Yes. Some may have concerns that the 2010 Protocol may constrain the Commission's  
297 ability to set just and reasonable rates for Utah ratepayers by decisions (or the lack  
298 thereof) in other states. In particular, in Section XIII, Sustainability of the 2010 Protocol,  
299 sub-paragraph C, 2010 Protocol Amendments, the 2010 Protocol states:

300 Prior to departing from the terms of the 2010 Protocol,  
301 consistent with their legal obligations, Commissions and  
302 parties will endeavor to cause their concerns to be presented  
303 at meetings of the MSP Standing Committee and interested  
304 parties from all States in an attempt to achieve consensus on  
305 a proposed resolution of those concerns.

306 I believe this concern is warrantless. First, there are two important qualifying clauses in  
307 this statement: (1) "consistent with their legal obligations"; and (2) "will endeavor."

308 Regardless of what other states may or may not do, the Utah Commission has a legal

309 obligation to set just and reasonable rates for Utah ratepayers and, if circumstances  
310 warrant, act unilaterally for the benefit of Utah ratepayers. The 2010 Protocol, in other  
311 words, acknowledges that conflicts of interests may arise between the various states  
312 and, like the Revised Protocol, only requests that parties “endeavor” to bring any  
313 concerns to the Standing Committee and seek a consensus resolution.

314 Furthermore, other parts of the 2010 Protocol make it clear that parties, even if  
315 they have signed the 2010 Protocol, are not bound to support rates that are shown to  
316 be unjust or unreasonable. For example, in Section I, Introduction, the 2010 Protocol  
317 states:

318 The assignment of a particular expense or investment, or  
319 allocation of a share of an expense or investment, to a State  
320 pursuant to the 2010 Protocol is not intended to, and should  
321 not, prejudice the prudence of those costs.

322 In that same paragraph, the 2010 Protocol continues:

323 Nothing in the 2010 Protocol shall abridge any State’s right  
324 and/or obligation to establish fair, just and reasonable rates  
325 based on the law of that State and the record established in  
326 rate proceedings conducted by that State.

327 In other words, even if a cost is allocated to Utah under the 2010 Protocol,  
328 parties are free to argue, and the Commission is free to determine, whether those costs  
329 are prudent and should be borne by Utah ratepayers. The 2010 Agreement reflects this  
330 same principle.<sup>17</sup>

### 331 **THE 2010 PROTOCOL AGREEMENT**

332 **Q: The Division supports and is recommending that the Commission approve the 2010**  
333 **Agreement for ratemaking purposes in Utah. Would you please comment?**

334 A: Yes, it is. Under the 2010 Agreement, Utah's allocated share will be equivalent to a  
335 Rolled-In allocated share. This is consistent with the Commission's long-standing policy  
336 that the Rolled-In methodology is the benchmark by which to judge other allocation  
337 methodologies and the preferred basis for inter-jurisdictional allocations is current cost  
338 causation and usage.

### 339 **SPECIFIC DETAILS OF THE 2010 PROTOCOL AGREEMENT**

340 **Q: Are there key features of the 2010 Agreement on which you would like to remark?**

341 A: Yes there are. Paragraph 2 of the 2010 Agreement states that, "for the duration of the  
342 2010 Protocol, a fixed dollar amount per year adjustment would be applied to Utah's  
343 revenue requirement under the Rolled-In allocation methodology." Utah's annual  
344 adjustment is approximately (\$1.0) million. In other words, Utah's revenue requirement  
345 under the 2010 Protocol would be approximately \$1 million less than that under a full

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<sup>17</sup> See in particular paragraphs 3, 15, and 18 of the 2010 Agreement.

346 Rolled-In allocation.<sup>18</sup> However, Paragraph 9 indicates that for ratemaking purposes,  
347 the net effect of the embedded costs differential (ECD) and the Klamath adjustments  
348 “will be deemed to” be zero. Therefore, essentially, under the 2010 Agreement Utah’s  
349 allocated share of the Company’s costs are equivalent to a Rolled-In share of those  
350 costs.

351 **Q: Why does the Division support forgoing an automatic million-dollar reduction to**  
352 **Utah’s allocated cost share?**

353 A: There are a couple of reasons. First, the Commission has consistently stated that Rolled-  
354 In is the benchmark by which to judge other allocation schemes. The Commission has  
355 also indicated that inter-jurisdictional allocations should be based upon current cost  
356 causation and not historic usage or causation. The Division agrees with both of these  
357 principles. The ECD, as construed under the Revised Protocol, is an ad hoc adjustment  
358 based on assumed historical cost causation and usage of system resources. While the  
359 treatment of the ECD as a fixed dollar amount under the 2010 Protocol is an  
360 improvement over the ECD treatment under the Revised Protocol, it is still an ad hoc  
361 adjustment and, as such, is difficult to justify on a principled basis.

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<sup>18</sup> As indicated in paragraph 2 of the Agreement, Utah’s fixed annual dollar adjustment is based on the netting of the embedded cost differential, as modified by the 2010 Protocol, and situs assignment of the Klamath Dam rate impacts. A similar adjustment is calculated for each of the other states. These adjustments are detailed in the direct testimony of Company witness Mr. Steven R. McDougal, Exhibits RMP\_(SRM-6) and RMP\_(SRM-7).

362                   Second, the Commission and at least some Utah parties have been advocating  
363 movement to the Rolled-In Methodology on one period or another since the original  
364 merger between Utah Power and Pacific Power. While the 2010 Protocol moves all of  
365 the states closer to Rolled-In allocations, the 2010 Agreement essentially makes Utah's  
366 allocated share of the Company's costs equal to a full Rolled-in share.

367 **Q: Please continue with your remarks on the 2010 Agreement.**

368 A: Paragraphs 4 through 7 of the 2010 Agreement discuss the disposition of the  
369 incremental costs associated with Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement or K-H-  
370 S-A (KHSAs). In brief, the 2010 Agreement specifies that the parties have not reached an  
371 agreement on the ratemaking treatment of the KHSAs rate impacts described in  
372 Paragraph 5. Specifically, Paragraph 7(b) of the 2010 Agreement states, "this agreement  
373 does not resolve, whether, under the Rolled-In inter-jurisdictional methodology, any  
374 such Klamath rate impacts should be borne by Utah customers." In the current rate  
375 case, Docket No. 10-035-124, the Commission has indicated its approval of the revenue  
376 requirement settlement stipulation in its memorandum decision issued on August 11,  
377 2011. Under the terms of that settlement, the Company agreed to remove the rate  
378 impacts of the KHSAs and, therefore, those impacts will not be reflected in Utah rates  
379 once rates go into effect on September 21, 2011.

380 Paragraph 8 of the 2010 Agreement specifies that “use of the 2010 Protocol shall  
381 begin with [the current rate case] Docket No. 10-035-124 and remain in effect for all  
382 Company filings made on or before December 31, 2016.” In its rebuttal position, the  
383 Company adopted the change in the allocation method in the current rate case, which  
384 resulted in an approximate \$15 million reduction in the Company’s revenue  
385 requirement. Thus, the revenue requirement settlement adopted by the Commission in  
386 the rate case reflects the change in allocation methodology.<sup>19</sup>

387 Paragraph 13 of the 2010 Agreement indicates that the Company will file its  
388 semi-annual result of operations (ROO) showing both the Rolled-In and 2010 Protocol  
389 allocations, including the ECD and Klamath adjustments, using actual test period data.  
390 Under the Revised Protocol, the ECD was allowed to float with actual data and did not  
391 perform as originally expected under the 2004 Stipulation. Even though the ECD  
392 forecast is treated as a fixed amount under the 2010 Protocol, the Company agrees to  
393 file its ROO so that the actual movement in the ECD and Klamath adjustments under the  
394 2010 Protocol can be tracked. This information will be valuable if or when the 2010  
395 Protocol expires or changes therein are proposed.

396 Finally, Paragraph 7(a) reiterates the Commission’s long standing policy that the  
397 Rolled-In methodology is the benchmark for judging other allocation methodologies.

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<sup>19</sup> See, Confidential Rebuttal Testimony of Steven R. McDougal, Docket No. 10-035-124, pp. 3-4, lines 39-60.

398 **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

399 **Q: Do you have any final remarks?**

400 A: The modifications proposed to the Revised Protocol as detailed in the 2010 Protocol and  
401 the Company's testimony move the states' allocations closer to the Rolled-In  
402 methodology and its results. Utah's allocation under the 2010 Protocol in particular is  
403 only about 0.05% different from the Rolled-In. Thus, the Division finds the modifications  
404 to be reasonable. Furthermore, the 2010 Agreement before the Commission in this  
405 proceeding essentially sets Utah's allocated share of the Company's costs equal to a full  
406 Rolled-In allocated share. Using the Rolled-In method to allocate costs to Utah is  
407 consistent with the Commission's, and the Division's, long standing principles  
408 concerning inter-jurisdictional allocations. Taken as a whole, the Division finds that the  
409 2010 Agreement is just and reasonable in results and is in the public interest.  
410 Therefore, the Division supports and recommends that the Commission approve the  
411 2010 Agreement for ratemaking purposes in Utah.

412 **Q: Does that conclude your direct testimony?**

413 A: Yes it does.