

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address, position and company.**

2 A. My name is Donald S. Roff and I am President of Depreciation Specialty
3 Resources. My business address is 2832 Gainesborough Drive, Dallas, Texas
4 75287-3483.

5 **Q. Are you the same Donald S. Roff who submitted direct testimony in this**
6 **proceeding?**

7 A. Yes.

8 **Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?**

9 A. The purpose of my rebuttal testimony is to address the topic of depreciation and
10 the proposals presented by Mr. Jacob Pous on behalf of the Committee of
11 Consumer Services (“CCS”) and by Mr. Charles W. King on behalf of the
12 Division of Public Utilities, Utah Department of Commerce (“DPU”). I will
13 demonstrate that their proposals regarding an appropriate level of depreciation
14 expense are inadequate and unfair, have been developed on the basis of
15 misleading conclusions, and result in significant intergenerational customer
16 inequity, in particular the treatment of the cost of removal component of
17 depreciation expense recommended by Mr. King. In fact, his proposal is a
18 violation of accounting principles and should be rejected.

19 **Q. Have you prepared any exhibits?**

20 A. Yes. Exhibit RMP___(DSR-1R) has been prepared to summarize the impact on
21 annual depreciation expense of each of the proposals in this proceeding on a Utah
22 jurisdictional basis. Also, I have prepared Exhibit RMP___(DSR-2R) to illustrate
23 the flaw in Mr. Pous’ treatment of third-party reimbursements. It will be

24 discussed later in my rebuttal testimony. Exhibit RMP____(DSR-3R) has been
25 prepared to illustrate the deferral in Mr. King's present value net salvage
26 calculation, and will be discussed later in my rebuttal testimony.

27 **Q. Were these exhibits prepared by you or under your supervision?**

28 A. Yes.

29 **Q. What does Exhibit RMP____(DSR-1R) show?**

30 A. Exhibit RMP____(DSR-1R) shows that the approved, existing depreciation rates
31 produce a level of annual depreciation expense of approximately \$161.4 million
32 on a Utah jurisdictional basis. My recommended depreciation rates produce a
33 level of annual depreciation expense of approximately \$151.7 million on a Utah
34 jurisdictional basis, or a reduction of \$9.7 million, or 6.0 percent. The primary
35 driver for this decrease is longer life spans associated with Steam Production
36 Plant. The depreciation rates recommended by Mr. Pous produce a level of
37 annual depreciation expense of approximately \$124.4 million on a Utah
38 jurisdictional basis, or a reduction of \$37.0 million, or 22.9 percent. The primary
39 drivers for this decrease are even longer life spans for Production Plant and
40 reduced negative net salvage for Steam Production, Transmission and Distribution
41 Plant. The depreciation rates recommended by Mr. King produce a level of
42 annual depreciation expense of approximately \$121.2 million on a Utah
43 jurisdictional basis, or a reduction of \$40.4 million, or 25.0 percent. The primary
44 drivers for this decrease are longer life spans for Production Plant and reduced
45 negative net salvage for Production Plant, Transmission and Distribution Plant, as
46 well as certain average service life adjustments for four asset categories. More

47 significant, however, is the approach that Mr. King is proposing to be utilized for
48 depreciation expense associated with cost of removal.

49 **Q. What are the issues associated with these depreciation expense adjustments?**

50 A. There are several issues associated with these depreciation expense adjustments.

51 The issues are:

- 52 - Power Plant Life Spans;
- 53 - Terminal Net Salvage for Power Plants;
- 54 - Interim Additions Associated with Power Plants;
- 55 - Average Service Lives for Certain Asset Categories; and
- 56 - Net Salvage for Transmission, Distribution and General Plant.

57 **Power Plant Life Spans**

58 **Q. What is the issue associated with power plant life spans?**

59 A. The issue is what the appropriate life spans are for Steam and Other Production
60 Units. This topic will be addressed in the rebuttal testimony of Company witness
61 Mr. Mark C. Mansfield. There seems to be no issue with respect to the life spans
62 and retirement dates utilized for the Hydraulic Production Plant function.

63 **Terminal Net Salvage for Power Plants**

64 **Q. What is the issue with respect to terminal net salvage for power plants?**

65 A. My depreciation study developed an estimate of current cost terminal net salvage
66 for the coal units of \$50/kW, based upon a collection of site-specific cost
67 estimates that I have accumulated. The studies were provided to the CCS and
68 DPU in a data request. This estimate produced a total steam plant terminal net
69 salvage amount of \$319 million. It should be noted that the existing, approved

70 depreciation rates for Steam Production Plant include a terminal net salvage
71 estimate of \$25/kW based upon a settlement agreement which was reached in the
72 last case where the Company also recommended \$50/kW. The settlement was
73 reached based upon agreement that a joint study be completed before the next
74 depreciation rate filing.

75 **Q. What is the recommendation of Mr. Pous with respect to terminal net**
76 **salvage for steam production plant?**

77 A. Mr. Pous recommends retaining the existing \$25/kW terminal net salvage
78 estimate. He claims that I have doubled the existing amount and further asserts
79 that my estimate is based on a “fatally flawed analysis”.

80 **Q. How did Mr. Pous arrive at his recommended level of \$25/kW?**

81 A. Mr. Pous took the results of my summary and identified eight high cost estimates
82 as outliers. Eliminating these eight estimates reduced the average figure to
83 \$46/kW. Mr. Pous did NOT eliminate any low cost estimates. Mr. Pous asserts
84 that I inappropriately escalated the studies to a current price level. He stated that I
85 ignored any potential change in productivity, any change or inconsistencies in any
86 internal assumption made within any study, any change in the level of asbestos
87 that may have been removed, or the fact that cost of removal and gross salvage
88 may have changed at different rates during this period. He also claims that I
89 failed to recognize that 17 generating units are in Canada and the changing value
90 of the Canadian dollar has an impact. Finally, he asserts that current scrap prices
91 for copper and steel reduces the results of my calculation.

92

93 **Q. What is your reaction to these assertions?**

94 A. With respect to the elimination of outliers, it would seem that if certain high cost
95 estimates were deemed to be outliers, then certain low cost estimates should be
96 eliminated for the same reason. Twelve of the high cost outliers were for units
97 with a capacity of less than 100 mW. If the eight lowest cost estimates are
98 eliminated in order to be consistent and symmetrical, the average cost becomes
99 \$52/kW, quite consistent with the aggregate average. If the Canadian plants are
100 eliminated, the average is also \$52/kW. With respect to current scrap prices, I
101 will admit that I can offer no speculation as to what scrap prices will be when the
102 Rocky Mountain Power units will be demolished or dismantled some 20 to thirty
103 years from today. In addition, Mr. Pous states that I ignored any potential change
104 in productivity, any change or inconsistencies in any internal assumption made
105 within any study, any change in the level of asbestos that may have been
106 removed, or the fact that cost of removal and gross salvage is inconsistent with
107 the facts. I have reviewed these items and have determined that the assumptions
108 used are consistent with the multiple outcomes which may occur for each plant at
109 the Company. I agree that each plant being retired, will have varying
110 characteristics, so a broad average cost makes the most sense at this point in time.
111 To me, that is an insufficient reason to retain the existing \$25/kW figure. It
112 would be equally uncertain to speculate as to what additional environmental
113 requirements might be in place in the future. I believe my estimate of \$50/kW
114 produces a fair and reasonable level of depreciation expense based on current
115 values. This cost will continue to increase over time based on normal inflation, as

116 well as changes in legal, environmental and regulatory requirements.

117 **Q. What is Mr. King's proposal with respect to terminal net salvage for**
118 **production plant?**

119 A. Mr. King proposes a present value approach for all negative net salvage. I will
120 address this topic later in my rebuttal testimony.

121 **Interim Additions for Power Plants**

122 **Q. What is the issue with respect to interim additions for power plants?**

123 A. In developing the depreciation rates for power plants, a number of factors
124 influence the depreciation rate. These include the depreciable balance, the
125 accumulated depreciation balance, interim activity, interim net salvage and
126 terminal net salvage. Because we are developing a depreciation rate that will be
127 applied for some period of time, generally five years, the time period between
128 depreciation studies, in effect, a regulatory lag occurs. In an effort to mitigate the
129 effect of always increasing depreciation rates at subsequent studies, due to interim
130 replacements, an attempt was made to recognize this fact in the depreciation rate.
131 There is no dispute that the interim retirements have an impact on average service
132 life, and it is therefore appropriate to recognize this effect in calculating
133 depreciation rates. It can also be demonstrated that when a retirement occurs, a
134 replacement is most often required. Moreover, this replacement exceeds the
135 retirement amount. Thus, every time a replacement occurs, and the endpoint of
136 the life of the plant is fixed, an upward adjustment to the depreciation rate is
137 required. This is because the new asset has a shorter total life than the total life of
138 the plant/unit.

139 **Q. Why should interim additions and retirements be included in the calculation**
140 **of depreciation rates for production plant?**

141 A. Interim retirements occur over the life of a production unit as items are replaced
142 or retired. This is clearly evident from a review of historical investment
143 experience. Recognition of the effect of these interim retirements in the
144 depreciation rate calculation is necessary to ensure that these interim retirements
145 are fully depreciated by the time they occur. Similarly, interim additions occur
146 over the life of a production unit as items are replaced or new items are installed.
147 This activity is also clearly evident from a review of historical investment
148 experience. Recognition of the effect of these interim additions in the
149 depreciation rate calculation is necessary because the estimated retirement dates
150 cannot be achieved without the replacement activity, and the estimated retirement
151 dates assume this activity will occur. In fact, if the interim additions are not
152 made, the expected useful life can not be attained. There are few (if any)
153 mechanical components at a generating station that can be retired and removed
154 without replacement.

155 **Q. What treatment of interim additions have you proposed?**

156 A. The treatment of interim additions that I have proposed is to recognize interim
157 additions equal to interim retirements over the period 2007 through 2011. This
158 amount is extremely conservative since normal replacement of retirements occurs
159 at levels two to three times the cost of the original investment. I have not
160 included any additions for periods beyond which I have anticipated the new
161 depreciation rates will be applied.

162 **Q. Have you quantified this level of interim additions?**

163 A. Yes. For the total Production Plant function (Steam, Hydraulic and Other
164 Production), the estimated interim additions that I have included in the
165 depreciation rate calculation is \$121.8 million. This represents an annual
166 depreciation expense of \$4.5 million.

167 **Q. How does this compare with PacifiCorp's construction budget?**

168 A. For 2007 alone, the estimated construction budget for Production Plant is over
169 \$190 million, excluding construction of new facilities for clean air and new wind
170 generation.

171 **Q. What is the treatment of interim additions proposed by Mr. Pous and Mr.
172 King?**

173 A. Mr. Pous and Mr. King propose to eliminate interim additions from the
174 depreciation calculation, although it should be noted that Mr. Pous' testimony and
175 exhibits show no change to the Company's proposed depreciation rate for Hydro
176 Production.

177 **Q. What is the basis for this exclusion?**

178 A. Mr. Pous claims that interim additions are inappropriate because they reflect the
179 estimation of potential additions to plant-in-service that currently do not exist and
180 are not used and useful in providing service. He further asserts that such interim
181 additions may never actually occur or may occur at a much different date or
182 amount than initially assumed. He also claims that the approval of such a process
183 represents a significant shift in policy.

184 Mr. King claims that the inclusion of interim additions represents an out-of-period

185 ratemaking adjustment and should be disallowed.

186 **Q. Do you agree?**

187 A. No. The treatment of interim additions that I propose merely recognizes the fact
188 that retired assets are routinely replaced, and therefore contribute to the proposed
189 service life of each plant/unit. Depreciation expense for these interim additions
190 only occurs when they are placed in service and the depreciation rate is applied to
191 the depreciable balance. This effect is no different than for any other future
192 addition recorded by the Company. It is not an out-of-period ratemaking
193 adjustment anymore than the estimation of future lives, inclusion of interim
194 retirements or consideration of future net salvage values. It does not change any
195 tariff rates, nor does it include in tariff rates a cost for facilities that are not yet
196 used and useful. The exercise of setting depreciation rates is an attempt to
197 appropriately spread the various costs related to an asset over its useful life so that
198 customers receiving service are charged correctly for the service they are
199 provided. The depreciation rate will not be applied to any interim addition until it
200 is actually made.

201 **Average Service Lives for Certain Asset Categories**

202 **Q. Were there any changes to average service lives proposed by Mr. King or**
203 **Mr. Pous for transmission, distribution, general plant or mining operations?**

204 A. Mr. Pous proposed no changes in average service lives for these asset categories.
205 Mr. King proposed changes to average service lives and Iowa curves in four asset
206 categories:

207 - Account 353.7 – Transmission Supervisory Equipment; A change

- 208 from 25 - R1.5 to 55 - S0.5;
- 209 - Account 357 - Transmission Underground Conduit; A change from 60
- 210 - R2 to 80 - R1.5;
- 211 - Account 366 - Distribution Underground Conduit; A change from 60
- 212 - R2 to 80 - R1.5; and
- 213 - Account 367 - Distribution Underground Conductors and Devices; A
- 214 change from 50 - R2 to 60 - R2.5.

215 The effect of his proposed changes would be a decrease in annual depreciation

216 expense of \$2,321,684 on a Utah jurisdictional basis.

217 **Q. Do you agree with these changes?**

218 A. No. Let us start with Account 353.7. This asset category contains primarily

219 computer related hardware and software, including about \$12 million of SCADA

220 remote terminal units. The average age of the survivors at December 31, 2006, is

221 11.47 years which represents the average time that the current plant balance in

222 Account 353.7 has been in service. This means that the majority of the assets

223 surviving in this Account have been placed in service in the last 20 years. It is

224 obviously inappropriate to assign an average service life of 55 years to these types

225 of assets. History indicates about \$3.9 million of retirements with an average age

226 of 10.51 years. The actuarial analysis indicates a lengthening of life above the

227 existing 20-year average service life and my recommendation increases the

228 average service life to 25 years. Mr. King's excessive recommendation is not

229 supported by the actuarial analysis and must not be accepted. It should be pointed

230 out that Mr. King made no change to the same account in Distribution Plant

231 (362.7), where a 25-year average service life was also recommended.

232 **Q. Please address Accounts 357 and 366.**

233 A. These accounts should be addressed together because Account 366 is the basis for
234 the recommendation for Account 357. Both of these accounts contain assets
235 related to underground conduit. Account 357 is relatively young, with an average
236 age of 7.83 years. Only three small retirements have occurred and the life
237 analysis is too incomplete to be reliable for estimating the service life. Reliance
238 was placed on the simulated plant analysis for Account 366. Account 366 has
239 experienced considerable growth, with over \$104 million of the \$133 million
240 balance added in the past twenty years. Retirements have averaged about \$210
241 thousand over that same period, with retirement volumes about 50 percent higher
242 in the past five years. While the wider bands (20, 30 and 40 years) yield life
243 indications in the range of 65 to 90 years, there are many indications of average
244 lives less than 60 years. In fact, the average of the best fitting lives is in the range
245 of 50 to 60 years. The existing approved average service life is 60 years, and my
246 recommendation is to retain that life. This is due to the shorter life indications in
247 recent years and the multitude of average life indications less than 60 years. Mr.
248 King provides only two sentences in his testimony addressing the results of his
249 life analysis for these two accounts. His summary analysis shows nearly 2/3 of
250 the dispersions with average lives less than 60 years.¹ The 80-year average
251 service life recommendation is without merit and should be rejected.

252

¹ King Exhibit DPU-CWK 2.2(c), page 10.

253 **Q. Please address Account 367 – Distribution Underground Conductors and**
254 **Devices.**

255 A. Account 367 is very similar to Account 366, in that substantial growth has
256 occurred. Over \$298 million has been added in the past twenty years of the \$383
257 million depreciable balance. Retirements have averaged about \$425 thousand
258 annually over that period, with retirements roughly 50 percent higher over the
259 past five years. Best fits were obtained to average lives ranging from 40 years to
260 100 years. There were numerous indications (approximately half) of average
261 lives less than 50 years. The existing, approved service life is 50 years. Due to
262 the number of shorter life indications, no change is recommended to the existing
263 average service life. Mr. King devotes one sentence to his recommendation of 60
264 years. His summary analysis shows that over 1/3 of the dispersions with average
265 lives less than 50 years.

266 **Net Salvage for Transmission, Distribution and General Plant**

267 **Q. What is the issue with respect to net salvage for transmission, distribution**
268 **and general plant?**

269 A. This issue needs to be addressed separately for Mr. Pous and Mr. King. First, I
270 will address Mr. Pous' analysis and recommendations. Mr. Pous recommends
271 changes to the net salvage allowances for eleven mass property accounts.² Mr.
272 Pous argues that the Company has elected to inappropriately remove all impacts
273 of reimbursed retirements from the salvage analysis. He also states that the
274 Company failed to evaluate whether the retirement activity, during the historical
275 data period relied upon, reasonably matches the type of investment remaining in

² Pous Testimony, page 33.

276 plant in service. He finally asserts that the Company failed to provide any
277 meaningful narrative of its selection process.

278 **Q. Do you have any comments regarding these assessments?**

279 A. Yes. But first, in order to understand my recommendations and to reject those of
280 Mr. Pous, one must understand what reimbursed retirements represent, so as to
281 appropriately recognize their impact from a depreciation standpoint.

282 **Q. What are reimbursed retirements?**

283 A. In Mr. Pous' testimony and discussion at page 34, lines 15 – 20 of his testimony
284 he states:

285 "Reimbursed retirements represent situations where an outside party
286 reimburses the Company for retirement activity. Examples of reimbursed
287 retirements may be situations where a governmental entity request that the
288 Company move its power poles due to road widening, or where an outside
289 party damages a pole due to an accident. In either case, the outside party has
290 to reimburse the Company for the event."

291 It is accurate with the exception of one significant assumption. That point is that
292 the payments received generally relate to the replacement assets and are
293 calculated on a replacement cost new basis which has minimal relationship to
294 removal cost or salvage of the existing plant.

295 **Q. What does this mean from the standpoint of significance to your depreciation
296 study?**

297 A. The significance to my depreciation study of the incorrect recommendations of
298 Mr. Pous is that the reimbursement amounts are **NOT** salvage. They should not
299 be treated as salvage, and doing so distorts the net salvage analysis and
300 inappropriately reduces annual depreciation expense.

301

302 **Q. Please explain.**

303 A. As this topic was researched, PacifiCorp personnel realized that these third-party
304 payments needed to be addressed in the depreciation study. My initial approach
305 was to relate the third-party reimbursements to the additions to which they relate,
306 to reflect the fact that these are payments for replacement assets. The
307 depreciation study workpapers as of March 31, 2006 reflect this treatment.
308 Further discussion with PacifiCorp personnel resulted in the identification of the
309 retirements, salvage and cost of removal for these third-party reimbursements for
310 the period 2004 – 2006. The historical data files were adjusted to remove this
311 activity for those three years.

312 It is apparent that Mr. Pous has a different interpretation of the Uniform
313 System of Accounts than I do. Mr. Pous treats these payments as salvage,
314 therefore relates them to retirements to reduce negative net salvage. This
315 treatment is patently wrong. All research by the Company indicates that the
316 reimbursements are payments for new assets. If these payments were received
317 from customers, they would reduce the depreciable asset base, and are called
318 Contributions in Aid of Construction (“CIAC”). This treatment is not questioned
319 by Mr. Pous or Mr. King. The source of the payment should make no difference
320 as to how such amounts are reflected in a depreciation study. These amounts are
321 appropriately recorded in the Accumulated Provision for Depreciation account in
322 the grouping of “Other items, including recoveries from insurance” and not in the
323 Salvage category.

324 The way the Company has historically treated these items in prior

325 depreciation studies is the only correct way to recognize them in a depreciation
326 study. Such a treatment results in the correct recognition of anticipated future
327 third-party credits. Exhibit RMP____(DSR-2R) illustrates this point.

328 **Q. Please explain Exhibit RMP____(DSR-2R).**

329 A. Exhibit RMP____(DSR-2R) shows the treatment used by the Company on the left-
330 hand side of the Exhibit and shows the treatment proposed by Mr. Pous on the
331 right-hand side. Clearly, recognizing the third-party payments as salvage creates
332 a shortfall, as seen at the bottom of the Exhibit. In fact, the amount is the
333 “excess” salvage proposed by Mr. Pous. To summarize, treating them as salvage
334 overstates the credit and incorrectly reduces depreciation expense. A review of
335 these amounts for various accounts illustrates how such payments cannot be
336 salvage. For example, in Account 364, Distribution Poles, Towers and Fixtures,
337 the amount of third-party payments for 1999, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006
338 exceeds the level of retirements. In fact, the actual salvage received for these
339 years totals only \$825,401, compared to retirements of \$15,607,847. Again, these
340 payments are NOT salvage, and should not be treated as salvage.

341 **Q. What does this mean to the changes in net salvage recommended by Mr.**
342 **Pous?**

343 A. It means that those recommendations are improper and must be rejected.

344 **Q. What is your recommendation regarding net salvage for Account 390 –**
345 **General Plant, Structures and Improvements?**

346 A. My recommendation is a positive 5 percent net salvage figure.

347

348 **Q. What is Mr. Pous' recommendation?**

349 A. Mr. Pous recommends a positive 20 percent net salvage figure based upon an
350 expected value for this account.

351 **Q. Do you agree?**

352 A. No. This recommendation appears to be more speculation than fact. His
353 recommendation is primarily driven by inappropriately assuming the sale of the
354 North Temple office at the end of its depreciable life. The appraised value for the
355 North Temple building has nothing to do with an appropriate net salvage
356 allowance for this account. The recommendation by Mr. Pous should be rejected.
357 My experience has not shown substantial positive net salvage for this asset
358 category.

359 **Q. Do you have any comments regarding the net salvage approach
360 recommended by Mr. King?**

361 A. Yes. In the simplest of terms, his recommendation must be rejected for a variety
362 of reasons.

363 **Q. Please explain.**

364 A. Mr. King is proposing to use a present value approach for the net salvage
365 component of depreciation expense. His proposal produces serious
366 intergenerational customer inequities, requires the use of numerous assumptions,
367 additional calculations and cumbersome monitoring, is in conflict with
368 depreciation accounting principles and, finally, I believe is inappropriate under
369 GAAP ("Generally Accepted Accounting Principles").

370

371 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. King's proposal?**

372 A. No. First, PacifiCorp is required to practice accrual accounting.³ The present
373 value basis proposed by Mr. King is not accrual accounting as I understand that
374 term. Second, the present value basis results in serious intergenerational inequity,
375 as well as adding significant complexity for the Commission to deal with in
376 evaluating recovery of removal costs. Third, Mr. King's present value basis
377 introduces an element of valuation to depreciation accounting that is inconsistent
378 with principles related to depreciation accounting. Fourth, even if this approach
379 were correct, I do not believe that Mr. King has calculated the present value
380 correctly. Fifth, the proper allocation of the total cost of fixed assets (investment
381 plus net salvage) should be assigned to the customers benefiting from the service
382 of those assets and not delayed to burden future customers. The present value
383 basis for cost of removal used by Mr. King results in later generations of
384 customers providing more than their fair share of the cost of removal compared to
385 earlier generations of customers. Sixth, treating cost of removal differently from
386 investment is not only inconsistent, it is improper and unfair.

387 **Q. Have you prepared an exhibit to address Mr. King's present value**
388 **approach?**

389 A. Yes. Exhibit RMP____(DSR-3R) has been prepared for two reasons. The first

³ Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Uniform System of Accounts, CFR 18, Part 101, General Instruction 11, *Accounting to be on Accrual Basis*. A. The utility is required to keep its accounts on the accrual basis. This requires the inclusion in its accounts of all known transactions of appreciable amount which affect the accounts. If bills covering such transactions have not been received or rendered, the amounts shall be estimated and appropriate adjustments made when the bills are received.

390 reason is to correct an error made by Mr. King. The second is to show the
391 intergenerational inequity created by his approach.

392 **Q. Please explain Exhibit RMP___(DSR-3R).**

393 A. Exhibit RMP___(DSR-3R) utilizes some of the information contained in Mr.
394 King's Exhibit CWK-2.1, Schedule 6. The calculation is for Account 364,
395 Distribution – Poles, Towers and Fixtures and is only for the 2006 vintage year
396 survivor. For this calculation, I have assumed an escalation rate of 2.5 percent.
397 The first step is to estimate the future cost of removal for vintage year 2006. Mr.
398 King did not do this. The cost of removal of 100 percent of the \$12,287,963
399 balance is escalated at 2.5 percent for 39.5 years, producing the future cost of
400 removal of \$32,589,116. The present value of that amount is \$1,310,724. This
401 amount is depreciated over 40 years (\$32,768). This is one part of the cost of
402 removal depreciation expense. The second part is the “unwinding” of the
403 discounting. It has been labeled “Accretion.” This is the component that
404 produces intergenerational inequity. Note that in the first year, the total
405 depreciation expense is \$142,410. In the last year, the total depreciation expense
406 is \$2,548,414. Thus the last generation of customers pay roughly 18 times what
407 the first generation of customers pay. This is unfair and should not be approved.

408 **Q. You state that you believe that the present value approach proposed by Mr.**
409 **King is a violation of accounting principles. Please explain.**

410 A. Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 90 deals with phase-in plans.
411 Paragraphs 36 and 37 of that Statement address depreciation methods that are no
412 longer acceptable. The present value approach proposed by Mr. King is in

413 essence an annuity method. As such, it would not be acceptable under GAAP.
414 The discussion of removal costs under GAAP is based on the premise that
415 removal cost is not part of depreciation expense, but rather a regulatory liability.
416 The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) Uniform System of
417 Accounts states cost of removal means:

418 The cost of demolishing, dismantling, tearing down or otherwise removing
419 electric plant, including the cost of transportation and handling incidental
420 thereto. It does not include the cost of removal activities associated with
421 the asset retirement obligations that are capitalized as part of the tangible
422 long-lived assets that give rise to the obligation.

423 It is also states in FERC Order 631:

424 36. As proposed in the NOPR, the rule applies to legal obligations
425 associated with the retirement of tangible long-lived assets. Under the
426 existing requirements of the Uniform Systems of Accounts removal costs
427 that are not asset retirement obligations are included as a component of the
428 depreciation expense and recorded in accumulated depreciation. The
429 Commission notes that certain jurisdictional entities may have been
430 receiving Docket No. RM02-7-000 - 18 - specific allowances for cost of
431 removal for non-legal retirement obligations as a specific component in
432 their rates approved by their regulators. The Commission did not propose
433 any changes to its existing accounting requirements for cost of removal for
434 non-legal retirement obligations. Accordingly, jurisdictional entities are
435 accounting for such costs consistent with the requirements of the Uniform
436 Systems of Accounts under Part 101 for public utilities and licensees, Part
437 201 for natural gas companies and Part 352 for oil pipeline companies.

438 It is clear that cost of removal is intended to be part of depreciation expense and
439 recognition of costs should be consistent with approved depreciation practices.

440 This approach must not be approved in this proceeding.

441 **Q. Do you have any additional comments on the recommendations of the other**
442 **parties?**

443 A. Yes. I am concerned with the significant decrease in annual depreciation expense
444 recommended by the other parties. While depreciation expense is not cash, it

445 does result in cash flow. Reducing cash flow at this time is not sound regulatory
446 policy and is financially irresponsible. PacifiCorp has considerable cash flow
447 needs, and a reduction at this time only increases the need for external financing.
448 Such external financing places an additional cost on customers. For example for
449 each additional billion dollars of investment in plant, customers will pay an
450 additional \$600 million over the life of the new investment. Mr. Bruce N.
451 Williams will further discuss the impact Mr. King's proposed change could have
452 on the financial requirements of PacifiCorp.

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

454 A. My rebuttal testimony addresses five major areas: Power Plant Life Spans;
455 Terminal Net Salvage for Power Plants; Interim Additions Associated with Power
456 Plants; Average Service Lives for Certain Asset Categories; and Net Salvage for
457 Transmission, Distribution and General Plant. I have discussed these issues with
458 respect to the positions advanced by Mr. Pous and Mr. King. I have conducted a
459 comprehensive depreciation study and produced recommendations consistent with
460 depreciation accounting principles. PacifiCorp is entitled to a fair and reasonable
461 level of depreciation expense, not the lowest level. My study produces a fair and
462 reasonable level of depreciation expense, and should be approved by this
463 Commission.

464 **Q. Does this complete your rebuttal testimony?**

465 A. Yes. But, I need to note that I have not addressed every issue raised by Mr. King
466 or Mr. Pous, but rather have focused on the most significant errors in their
467 analyses and recommendations. My failure to address other issues does not

468 signify my agreement with their positions. I continue to stand by the study filed
469 with my direct testimony in every aspect.