

PUBLIC

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

In the Matter of the Application of Rocky Mountain Power for Authority to Increase its Retail Electric Service Rates in Utah and for Approval of Its Proposed Electric Service Schedules and Electric Utility Service Schedules and Electric Service Regulations)	DOCKET NO. 09-035-23
)	Exhibit No. DPU 7.0
)	Direct Testimony and Exhibits
)	Matthew Croft
)	
)	

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

**Testimony of
Matthew Croft**

October 8, 2009

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 Analyst.

4 **Q. What is your business address?**

5 A. Heber M. Wells Office Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84114.

6 **Q. On whose behalf are you testifying?**

7 A. The Division.

8 **Q. Please describe your education and work experience.**

9 A. I graduated in December of 2007 from the University of Utah with a Bachelor of Arts degree
10 in Accounting. I am currently enrolled in the Masters of Accounting program at the
11 University of Utah. I began working for the Division in July of 2007.

12 **Q. Have you previously testified before the Commission?**

13 A. Yes. I testified concerning various revenue requirement adjustments in Dockets 07-035-93
14 and 08-035-38.

15 **Q. What is the purpose of the testimony that you are now filing?**

16 A. The purpose of my testimony is to propose and explain adjustments to Rocky Mountain
17 Power’s (“Company”) filed Utah Revenue Requirement.

18 **Q. Can you please identify your adjustments and the corresponding effect on Utah’s
19 revenue requirement?**

20 A. Yes. My adjustments are summarized in the table below with the approximate revenue
21 requirement impact.

Adjustment	Approximate Utah Revenue Requirement Effect
Remove Washington Public Utility Tax	(3,851,132)
Revise Rate Base Templates with Actual Plant Additions	(35,386)
Trapper and Bridger Mines Rate Base	100,891
Apply Test Year Revenues and Expenses to Lead Lag Study	(95,000)
Reduction to Business Unit Target	(950,197)
Total	(4,830,824)

22

23 **Q. Can you please explain your adjustment concerning the Washington Public Utility tax**
24 **(WPUT)?**

25 A. Yes. In 2008, the Company paid \$9.3 million for the WPUT and has assumed the same
26 amount for the test year. The Company has included this amount in FERC account 408 and
27 applied an SO allocation factor in the Jurisdictional Allocation Model (JAM) which results in
28 Utah being responsible for an allocated cost of \$3.9 million. This tax only relates to
29 Washington and so I propose that the WPUT be assigned 100% to Washington. This change
30 not only reduces Utah’s allocated expenses by \$3.9¹ million, but there is also a secondary
31 effect on the lead lag study which will be discussed later in my testimony.

32 **Q. What is the WPUT?**

33 A. The WPUT is basically a tax on revenue earned from Washington customers. The Revised
34 Code of Washington² states the tax base for the WPUT to be:

35 Gross income³ derived from operation of public and privately owned utilities,
36 including the general categories of transportation, communications, and the
37 supply of energy and water...Unlike the B&O tax which pyramids (i.e. different

¹ See DPU Exhibit 7.2

² RCW 82.16. http://dor.wa.gov/docs/reports/2007/Tax_Reference_2007/27publicutility.pdf

³ “Gross income” is defined in RCW 82.16.010 as the “value proceeding or accruing from the performance of the particular public service or transportation business involved, including operations incidental thereto, but without any deduction on account of the cost of the commodity furnished or sold, the cost of materials used, labor costs, interest, discount, delivery costs, taxes, or any other expense whatsoever paid or accrued and without any deduction on account of losses.”

38 firms may be taxable on income derived from the same product), the public utility
39 tax applies only on sales to consumers.

40
41 This tax base⁴ is multiplied by 3.873% to arrive at the WPUT owed. Backing out the 3.873%
42 from the \$9.3 million tax included in the base and test year yields a tax base amount of
43 \$240.7 million. The general business revenues allocated to Washington⁵ in this case are
44 approximately \$284 million. It is therefore assumed that the \$240 million tax base is solely
45 from Washington customers.

46 **Q. What is the WPUT used for?**

47 **A.** According to the Washington Department of Revenue website,

48 The majority of the funds are distributed into the state general fund. A portion,
49 however, provides financial assistance to local governments for maintenance of
50 public works facilities.⁶

51
52 The WPUT is a tax on Washington related income that goes directly to the benefit of the
53 people of Washington. This is a tax that Utah ratepayers should not have to pay for as it is
54 based on revenue from Washington customers and only benefits the people of Washington.

55 **Q. Why has the Company allocated the WPUT using an SO factor?**

56 **A.** In response to DPU 13.12 the Company stated that:

57 Other taxes are allocated as prescribed under the Revised Protocol methodology. This
58 allocation was properly reflected in the lead lag study and in this general rate case
59 proceeding. Please refer to Docket 02-035-04 for information regarding the Revised
60 Protocol methodology.

61
62 I reviewed Docket No. 02-035-04 for information regarding the allocation of other taxes
63 (which would include the WPUT) but I could only find one instance when other taxes were
64 mentioned. Exhibit B of the stipulation in that docket is a spread sheet that indicates each

⁴ See RCW 82.16. There are certain deductions that can be taken from gross income.

⁵ See the UTCR tab in the Company's JAM model.

⁶ http://dor.wa.gov/content/FindTaxesAndRates/OtherTaxes/tax_pubutil.aspx

65 FERC account and associated allocation factors under revised protocol and rolled-in
66 methodologies. Exhibit B shows FERC 408 (Taxes Other than Income) as including the same
67 five factors under rolled-in and revised protocol. These factors include S (Situs-Direct
68 assigned), GPS (Property), SO (General Payroll Taxes), SE (Misc Energy), and SG (Misc
69 Production). The Company has assigned an SO (General Payroll Taxes) factor to WPUT.
70 The WPUT however is not at all related to general payroll taxes. As explained previously,
71 the WPUT is a tax on the Company's Washington related gross income. Under Exhibit B of
72 the Commission's approved stipulation under Docket No. 02-035-04 the situs factor was one
73 of the factors included under FERC account 408. I have therefore assigned the WPUT on a
74 situs basis to Washington. As mentioned previously, this reduces Utah's revenue requirement
75 by approximately \$3.9 million.

76 **Q. Can you please explain your adjustment concerning plant additions?**

77 A. Yes. My adjustment concerning plant additions and the corresponding effects on
78 depreciation, depreciation reserve and retirements reduce Utah's revenue requirement by
79 only about \$35,000. The specific plant additions adjustment can be divided into four areas.
80 First, I adjusted the January 2009 through August 2009 plant addition forecast with
81 information on the actual plant additions received from the Company. Secondly, I adjusted
82 the September 2009 through June 2010 forecast for plant additions that were partially or fully
83 placed into service early (i.e., during the January 2009 through August 2009 time frame). For
84 example, the "Snyderville Add 2nd Transformer" project was scheduled to go into service in
85 October 2009 at a total project cost of \$6.2 million but \$1.2 million was already placed into
86 service through August 2009. Third, I have also adjusted for projects that were forecasted to

87 be placed in service before September 2009 but are now anticipated to be placed into service
88 later during the test period. For example, the “Hurricane Twin Cities 69kV Ln Purchase”
89 project was expected to be placed in service by July 2009 at a cost of \$3.2 million. According
90 to the Company’s supplemental response to DPU 5.3(c), this project will not be placed into
91 service until September 2009 but will remain at the original forecasted cost. I therefore
92 increased the September 2009 plant addition forecast by \$3.2 million. The fourth part of this
93 adjustment accounts for a few projects with in-service dates and or dollar amounts that have
94 shifted within or after the September 2009 through June 2010 time frame. For example, the
95 High Plains wind plant was forecasted to be placed into service in October 2009 at \$245.5
96 million but was placed into service on September 13th 2009⁷ and the costs are expected to be
97 approximately \$236.4million⁸. The Blundell 3 Project Development and Well Integration
98 project is now scheduled to be placed into service in July 2010 and has therefore been
99 removed from rate base because it falls outside the test period. Since there are more than 40
100 individual adjustments to the Company’s plant additions I will not discuss each one. DPU
101 Exhibit 2.6 shows all of these individual plant addition adjustments in the “Adjustment
102 Breakdown” tab. I also adjusted the retirements’ template for actual retirements incurred by
103 the Company through August 2009. The combination of the change in forecasted plant
104 additions and forecasted retirements has been carried through the depreciation template and
105 so corresponding adjustments to both depreciation expense and the depreciation reserve have
106 been made. These adjustments have the following effect on Utah’s revenue requirement:

⁷ See RMP response to DPU 29.24

⁸ See RMP response to DPU 42.6

	Total Company Adjustment to Rate Base (13 Mo Avg)	Utah Revenue Requirement Effect
Rate Base		
Plant Additions	(40,832,146)	334,501
Retirements	(30,230,997)	(872,401)
Depreciation Reserve	31,714,070	966,205
		428,305
	Total Company Adjustment to Expense	Utah Revenue Requirement Effect
Expense		
Depreciation	(2,414,995)	(463,690)
Total		(35,386)

107

108 **Q. Can you please explain how a \$40 million total Company decrease to plant additions**
109 **results in a slight increase to Utah’s revenue requirement?**

110 A. Yes. The \$40 million decrease is the net result on a total Company basis. Utah’s allocated
111 share of that adjustment is very different. For example, the actual distribution additions for
112 Utah that are situs assigned were approximately \$10.5 million higher (13 month average)
113 then those that were included in the filing. Transmission additions, which are allocated on an
114 SG factor (41%) were approximately \$20 million (13 month average) higher than what was
115 included in the filing. These increases were offset by other items that mostly get allocated on
116 an SG factor. These offsetting items include steam, wind, and hydro additions, which were a
117 combined \$63 million (13 month average) lower than what was included in the filing. These
118 items combined with several others resulted in the slight increase to Utah’s revenue
119 requirement.

120 **Q. Can you please explain what significant and specific plant addition projects contributed**
121 **to this slight increase?**

122 A. Yes. Although there are several adjustments that offset each other, there are a few items that
123 should be mentioned. First, it appears there was a shift in distribution projects from Oregon
124 to Utah. Oregon's actual capital addition projects (through August 2009) related to
125 distribution were approximately \$16.7 million (total, not average) less than the forecast
126 included in the filing. Although I have accepted the Company's actual distribution additions
127 for now, I have issued a data request (DPU 50) concerning this shift in distribution projects.
128 This adjustment may change depending on the response to this data request. A second item is
129 the change of the in-service date for High Plains. High Plains was placed into service on
130 September 13th, approximately one month earlier than expected. In addition, approximately
131 \$15.6 million of the \$236.4 million forecasted cost was placed into service through August
132 2009. Due to the Company's use of a thirteen month average, the dollars placed into service
133 earlier get weighted heavier than projects that go into service later and therefore increase the
134 revenue requirement. Although the full in-service date for the "Oquirrh New 345-138kV
135 Substation" has been pushed back by six months (from June 2009 to December 2009), the
136 cost has increased from \$26.9 million to \$49.8 million. When considering the 13 month
137 averaging method, the change from June 2009 to December 2009, and the increase in total
138 costs related to this project, Electric Plant In Service (EPIS) increases about \$8.7 million.
139 Although I have accepted this increase in cost and change of in-service date for now, I have
140 issued a data request concerning this matter. This adjustment may change depending on the
141 response to this data request.

142 **Q. Where there any assumptions used in making your adjustments to the Company's**
143 **forecasted plant additions?**

144 A. Yes. In making my rate base adjustments there were a few assumptions I had to use. First, if
145 a project was going into service in a particular month, I assumed that the entire associated
146 dollar amount was also placed into service in that month⁹. Based on the Company's response
147 to DPU 6.2 however, it appears that some projects have dollar amounts going into service in
148 other months besides the specific months stated on pages 8.10.5 through 8.10.15 of Company
149 Exhibit SRM-2. I have issued a data request (DPU 50.2) asking the Company to provide the
150 forecasted in-service dollar amounts by month for each project listed on pages 8.10.5 through
151 8.10.15 of SRM-2. Once I receive this response I will revise my adjustment if necessary for
152 these timing issues so that nothing is double counted. Second, I assumed that McFadden
153 Ridge will be placed into service on September 30th as indicated by the Company. This
154 project was originally forecast to be placed into service in October, was later changed to
155 November and now is anticipated to be September 30th. I have issued a data request (DPU
156 49.3) to the Company concerning this matter and reserve the right to change the McFadden
157 Ridge in-service date depending on the Company's response.

158 **Q. Are there any other adjustments related to plant additions that need to be made?**

159 A. Yes. In addition to providing the actual plant additions, the Company also provided updates
160 of Unclassified Plant (FERC 106).

161 **Q. Can you please explain what Unclassified Plant (FERC 106) is and how it relates to**
162 **plant additions?**

163 A. Yes. FERC 106 consists of plant additions that are providing benefit to customers but have
164 not technically been transferred to FERC 101 (EPIS). The dollars associated with capital
165 addition projects move from Construction Work in Progress (CWIP) to FERC 106 and then

⁹ One major exception is the McFadden Ridge project. See DPU Exhibit 2.6.

166 to EPIS. FERC 106 is therefore somewhat of a holding account that goes up and down
167 throughout the year as projects move from CWIP to EPIS. The dollars in FERC 106 are
168 providing service and benefit to rate payers and are therefore recoverable through the
169 Company's return on rate base. Because of the constant fluctuation however, it is nearly
170 impossible to predict what will be in this account and when.

171 **Q. How has the Company chosen to forecast FERC 106?**

172 A. The Company assumed a test year amount equal to the December 2008 level. At the end of
173 December 2008 approximately \$362 million (\$300.4 million related to Chehalis) resided in
174 FERC 106. This amount is then carried through the test year. Each month, that same \$362
175 million gets depreciated. In reality however, FERC 106 would be constantly changing each
176 month as dollars move in from CWIP and out to EPIS.

177 **Q. How have you chosen to adjust FERC 106?**

178 A. The first part of my adjustment assumes the same method as the Company with the exception
179 that June 2009 through August 2009 incorporates the actual movement of FERC 106. This
180 information was provided to the Division in the initial and supplemental responses to DPU
181 5.3(b). My adjustment includes the actuals for those three months. My adjustment will
182 change once I receive the actual FERC 106 balances from January 2009 through May 2009¹⁰.
183 My calculations can be seen in the electronic DPU Exhibit 2.5 under the "Adjustments
184 Breakdown" and "FERC 106 Adj" tab. They are also in DPU Exhibit 7.5. I have included the
185 actual movement for these amounts so as not to double count items that might be in the
186 actual EPIS additions that have also been provided by the Company. In addition, the
187 Company's thirteen month averaging methodology for EPIS includes the months of June

¹⁰ DPU Data Request 54 is still pending.

188 2009 through August 2009. By making this adjustment, the August 2009 amount (\$352
189 million) in FERC 106 is carried through to the end of the test year rather than the Company's
190 December 2008 amount (\$362 million).

191 **Q. Which of these two amounts (\$352 million and \$362 million) is more likely to be**
192 **representative of the September 2009 through June 2010 time frame?**

193 A. We know that the amount related to Chehalis (\$300.4 million) will carry through to the end
194 of the test year whether it's in FERC 106 or EPIS. The variable portion of FERC 106 (\$51
195 million at August 2009, \$61 million at December 2008) is with the other components which
196 consist of steam, transmission, distribution, and general plant. I have looked at past history to
197 see how FERC 106 has fluctuated on a total Company basis. As DPU Exhibit 7.5 shows, the
198 three year average from 2006 to 2008 was approximately \$45 million. If I include 2006 to
199 August 2009 data, the average is about \$47 million. Based on these data I believe the variable
200 portion of FERC 106 for August 2009 (\$51 million) would be a reasonable balance to carry
201 forward through the test year rather than the Company's \$61 million.

202 **Q. What is the net effect of all your adjustments related to plant additions and their**
203 **corresponding effect on depreciation, depreciation reserve and retirements?**

204 A. As explained previously, the net effect on Utah's revenue requirement is a reduction of
205 \$35,386.

206 **Q. Do you have other rate base adjustments concerning the actual information received**
207 **from the Company?**

208 A. The Company also provided actual information through August 2009 for the Bridger and
209 Trapper Mines. By updating the Trapper and Bridger Mines through August 2009 I also had

210 to change the subsequent September 2009 through June 2010 forecast. I assumed the same
211 equipment additions as were originally forecast for those months. This adjustment (Trapper
212 and Bridger combined) increases total Company rate base by \$2,116,661 and increases
213 Utah's revenue requirement by approximately \$100,844.

214 **Q. Can you please explain your adjustment concerning the Lead Lag study?**

215 A. Yes. My adjustment to the lead lag study is composed of two parts. The first is to remove the
216 WPUT component from the Other Taxes lag day calculation. The second part applies the
217 revenue and expense lag day components on page 2.1 of the study to the Commission
218 approved test year revenues and expenses¹¹.

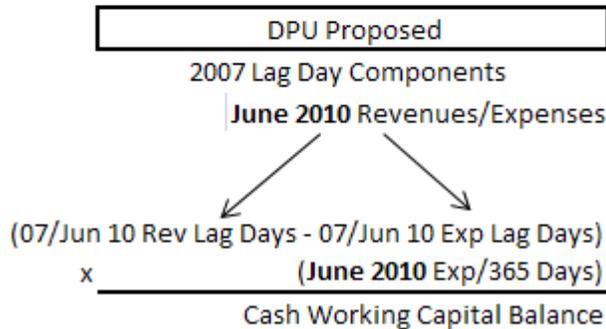
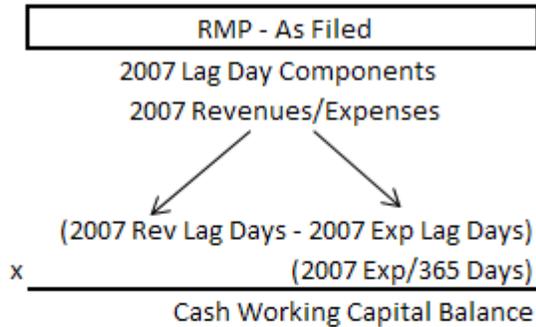
219 **Q. Can you please explain why you have removed the WPUT component from the**
220 **Other Taxes lag day calculation?**

221 A. Yes. As explained earlier in my testimony, the WPUT only pertains to the Company's
222 Washington income and the benefits of the tax go just to the people of Washington.
223 Removing the WPUT increases the expense lag associated with other taxes from 41.07 days
224 to 65.28 days.

225 **Q. Can you please explain why you have applied test year revenues and expenses to**
226 **the lead lag study?**

227 A. Yes. I will first provide an explanation for what I am proposing compared to what was filed
228 by the Company. The schedule below is a very simplified version of page 2.1 of the lead lag
229 study and is used for the purpose of explaining my adjustment.

¹¹ DPU Exhibit 2.5 (JAM) currently includes the Division's revised revenues and expenses.



242 The lead lag study used by the Company in this case applies revenue and expense lag day
 243 components (calculated from calendar year 2007 data) to calendar year 2007 revenues and
 244 expenses. Since the Company has chosen a forecasted test year, I believe the lead lag study
 245 should reflect to the extent possible that forecast year and incorporate the Commission
 246 approved test year revenues and expenses.

247 **Q. Since the revenue and expense lag day components are based off of 2007 data, wouldn't**
 248 **it be more appropriate and consistent to apply them to 2007 revenues and expenses as**
 249 **the Company has done?**

250 **A.** My adjustment using test year revenues and expenses does create an inconsistency in that the
 251 revenue and expense lag day components were based on conditions during 2007, not the 12

252 months ended June 2010. This rate case however is based on a June 2010 test period and so
253 either method has some kind of inconsistency. The essence of the lead lag study is to help
254 calculate the cash working capital needed by the Company. Cash working capital is basically
255 the funds needed from investors to sustain daily operations during the time between when
256 expenses are paid and revenues received. Since the Company has used a June 2010 test year,
257 the funds required by investors during the test year should be based as much as possible on
258 the conditions during the test year. Using test year revenues and expenses brings the lead lag
259 study closer to the conditions during the test year. Page 1.1 of the lead lag study explains
260 guidelines that were used by the Company that are “consistent with Robert Hahne’s text
261 ‘Accounting for Public Utilities.’” “Accounting for Public Utilities” states the following:

262 The lead-lag study requires comprehensive analysis of the test year transactions to
263 determine “net lag days” for:

- 264 1) The time lag between services rendered and the receipt of revenues for
265 such services; and
- 266 2) the time lag between the recording of labor, materials, etc., costs and
267 the payment of such costs.¹²

268
269 The text goes on to say that, “The net lag days are multiplied by the average daily operating
270 expenses for the test year to produce cash working capital used in maintaining daily
271 operations.” Although we can’t determine the revenue and expense lag day components for
272 the Company’s chosen test year without a new lead lag study, the reasonable revenues and
273 expenses for the test year will be determined by the Commission. If the Commission decides
274 that the 2007 revenues and expenses would be more appropriately applied to the 2007
275 revenue and expense lag day components, I would propose that at least the overall net lag

¹² Accounting for Public Utilities. Hahne. Matthew Bender & Company, Inc., member of LexusNexis Group. Publication 16, Release 25, October 2008. Page 5-8. Section 5.04[2].

276 days be multiplied by the “average daily operating expenses for the test year,” as stated in
277 “Accounting for Public Utilities.”¹³”

278 **Q. Will you please summarize why you have included test year revenues and expenses in**
279 **the lead lag study?**

280 **A.** Yes. My adjustment to include test year revenues and expenses essentially takes the
281 Company’s lead lag study one step further to best reflect the test period and to be consistent
282 with Mr. Hahne’s “Accounting for Public Utilities.” In either method there are
283 inconsistencies with using 12 months ending June 2010 and calendar year 2007 data. My
284 adjustment brings as much of the test year into the lead lag study as possible to get a more
285 accurate reflection of the test year period. The inclusion of the DPU revised test year
286 expenses and revenues as well as the exclusion of the WPUT results in a net revenue lag of
287 5.26 days (under Rolled-In) which is .34 days less than that proposed by the Company. This
288 reduction reduces the Company’s cash working capital from \$18,147,356 to \$16,517,320.
289 This adjustment reduces Utah’s revenue requirement by approximately \$95,000.

290 **Q. Will you please explain how you have modeled this adjustment?**

291 **A.** Yes. I have created a new tab in the Company’s JAM model (DPU2.5) that represents Page
292 2.1 of the lead lag study. This new tab pulls in the test year (under Rolled-In) revenues (with
293 the price increase) and expenses from other tabs in the JAM. This does create an additional
294 circularity but the JAM compensates for this circularity. I placed the overall lead lag
295 adjustment in the JAM last.¹⁴

¹³ Ibid., Pp. 5-8. Section 5.04[2].

¹⁴ Subsequent to this adjustment being placed in the JAM, a slight revision was made to the LLS 2.1 Tab in the JAM. This revision was combined with the QF adjustment which was technically the last adjustment run in the JAM.

296 **Q. Will you please explain your other outstanding issues?**

297 **A.** Yes. In response to DPU 5.2 the Company stated:

298 In the relicensing process, PacifiCorp has proposed removing the Keno
299 development from the Klamath Hydroelectric Project since it does not generate
300 power and does not significantly benefit downstream generating facilities.
301

302 It is not entirely clear that the Keno Development is providing benefit to rate payers and
303 should be recovered in rates. I have issued a data request (DPU 47.1) concerning this matter
304 and an adjustment may be warranted once I receive the Company's response. I have also
305 issued a data request (DPU 45) concerning the Cline Falls hydro facility which is no longer
306 being operated by the Company. If there are costs associated with this facility in the test year,
307 there may be an adjustment in this area as well. It was recently reported that the Company is
308 no longer seeking to relicense the Klamath hydroelectric system. The Company's 2008 10K
309 filing states that \$57 million is included in CWIP for this relicensing. I am assuming for the
310 time being that since the \$57 million is in CWIP, it is not included the Company's filing. I
311 have issued a data request (DPU 52) concerning this matter and an adjustment may be
312 warranted, depending on the Company's response.

313 **Q. Will you please explain your adjustment to the Company's Business Unit Target**
314 **(Adjustment 4.19) ?**

315 **A.** Yes. I will first explain adjustment 4.19 in general terms and more specifically how
316 the Company calculated the adjustment. For a "reasonableness check,"¹⁵ the
317 Company decided to compare the "Adjusted 12 Month Ending June 2010 non- net
318 power cost O&M" (JAM O&M) to the "Business Unit Target 12 Months Ending June

¹⁵ DPU Data Request 18.6-1

319 2010” (Budget O&M). In calculating Adjustment 4.19, the Company started out with
320 their total non-net power cost operation and maintenance expense (Total OMAG)
321 from their 2009 and 2010 budgets. To make these budget amounts more comparable
322 to the JAM O&M, the Company made subsequent adjustments to the 2009 and 2010
323 Total OMAG amounts. The Company then took the average of the 2009 and 2010
324 Total OMAG and subsequent adjustments. This average (\$1.014 billion) is the
325 Company’s Budget O&M. Upon comparing the Budget O&M to the JAM O&M, it
326 was found that the Budget O&M was approximately \$8.8 million lower on a total
327 Company basis. The Company then decided to lower the JAM O&M by that same
328 amount. The Company used a proration methodology based on the JAM O&M to
329 spread the \$8.8 million to five specific FERC accounts. After spreading this
330 adjustment to these five FERC accounts Utah’s revenue requirement is reduced by
331 \$3.8 million. By averaging the 2009 and 2010 Budget O&M, the Company’s
332 methodology uses information outside of the test year. In response to DPU 18.8(2)
333 the Company provided their 2009 and 2010 budget by month. [REDACTED]

334 [REDACTED]

335 [REDACTED]

336 **Q. Has the Company provided an explanation for why they took an average of the**
337 **two years as opposed to adding up the months of the test year?**

338 **A. Yes. In response to DPU 20.3 the Company stated:**

339 The Company used total budget numbers to insure no inaccuracy was introduced into the
340 Business Unit Target by budget items that are accurate in total but simply included in the
341 wrong month.
342

343 There are a few issues I have with this statement. First, since the Company budgets by month, I
344 do not see how using the exact months of the test period would include items in the wrong
345 month. Second, by including the two years in total OMAG, the Company is including things
346 that are outside of the test year. For example, there are \$33.4 million of budgeted overhaul
347 costs for the first six months of 2009¹⁶. The last six months which are part of the test year
348 only have \$5.9 million budgeted for overhaul costs. The first six months of 2010 have \$27.5
349 million budgeted while the last six months have \$13 million budgeted. Third, many of the
350 2010 OMAG components have escalation factors built into them. Included in total OMAG
351 for example are 2010 budgeted O&M costs for wind generation that are then applied to an
352 escalation factor of 1.7%.

353 **Q. Page 4.19.3 of SRM-2 contains subsequent adjustments to the total OMAG number to**
354 **arrive at the business unit target. These subsequent adjustments are averages of**
355 **calendar year 2009 and 2010. Have you changed these adjustments to match the exact**
356 **months of the test year?**

357 **A.** To be consistent with my OMAG adjustment above, I wanted to get many of these
358 subsequent adjustments on page 4.19.3 by month but the Company responded in DPU 40.1
359 by saying that, "The amounts are all prepared on an annual basis. The Company uses the
360 average of the budget for 2009 and 2010 to get the budget for the 12 months ended June
361 2010." With the exception of the "Remove Overhaul" adjustment, the Company has not
362 provided month by month numbers. I have therefore used the Company's method of
363 averaging these adjustments to arrive at the Business Unit Target. All these subsequent
364 adjustments to Total OMAG are in DPU Exhibit 7.3.3. I have also issued a data request

¹⁶ See DPU 7.3.3

365 concerning the “Remove Insurance” adjustment on page 4.19.3 that has not yet been
366 answered. If the Company provides the insurance costs by month I will account for them the
367 same way I have accounted for the “Remove Overhaul” adjustment.

368 **Q. What is the overall effect of using the exact test year months as opposed to using an**
369 **average of 2009 and 2010?**

370 **A.** In applying my adjustment to recalculate adjustment 4.19, I also took into consideration the
371 overhaul and payroll tax adjustments by DPU witnesses Salter and Thomson. This
372 combination results in a total Company reduction to the Business Unit Target of \$2,179,258.
373 Once the proration methodology is applied to that amount, Utah’s revenue requirement is
374 reduced by \$950,197.

375 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

376 **A.** Yes.