

1 **Q. Are you the same Dean S. Brockbank who submitted direct testimony in this**
2 **proceeding?**

3 A. Yes.

4 **Purpose and Overview of Rebuttal Testimony**

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

6 A. My rebuttal testimony responds to issues raised regarding the Klamath
7 Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement (“KHSA”) and to the arbitration decision
8 related to the Hunter II environmental control investments.

9 **Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement**

10 **Q. Please provide an overview of the areas covered in your rebuttal related to**
11 **the KHSA.**

12 A. My rebuttal testimony responds to 1) the testimony of Office of Consumer
13 Services (“OCS”) witness Ms. Michele Beck, recommending that the
14 Commission deny Rocky Mountain Power’s request to recover any costs related
15 to the KHSA and, 2) the testimony of UAE witness Mr. Kevin Higgins that
16 customers should be afforded an offset for dam removal costs allocated to Utah
17 and that it is premature to adjust the depreciation lives of the Klamath project
18 assets given that up to \$250 million in funding from the State of California for
19 dam removal has yet to be approved, and 3) the testimony of Division of Public
20 Utilities (“DPU”) witness Dr. Artie Powell recommending that the depreciation
21 lives of the Klamath Hydroelectric Project (“Project”) assets not be adjusted
22 because the passage of federal legislation endorsing the KHSA is uncertain. In
23 addition, my rebuttal testimony specifically explains that:

- 24 • PacifiCorp has not emphasized a dam removal outcome for the Klamath
25 Hydroelectric Project to respond to regional interests;
- 26 • The KHSA benefits customers in all states served by PacifiCorp;
27 PacifiCorp’s customers in Oregon and California are funding costs for
28 dam removal not in furtherance of their respective state policy preferences
29 for dam removal but rather because the KHSA and the associated dam
30 removal surcharges have been determined by the relevant state public
31 utility commissions as being in the best interest of PacifiCorp’s customers
32 in those states; and
- 33 • A delay in an adjustment of the depreciation schedule for the Klamath
34 facilities on the basis that California funding and federal legislation have
35 yet to be enacted is unnecessary and may frustrate the realization of the
36 KHSA and its customer benefits.

37 **Clarification of Relicensing and Settlement Efforts**

38 **Q. Do you agree with OCS witness Ms. Beck’s contention (Beck/175-177) that**
39 **PacifiCorp redirected its Project relicensing efforts toward a focus on dam**
40 **removal shortly after filing its license application in 2004?**

41 A. No. Since the filing of the license application in 2004, PacifiCorp has pursued a
42 joint track of engagement in settlement negotiations to resolve the relicensing
43 process while also fully prosecuting the traditional relicensing application to
44 obtain a new Project license. Had the Company pursued a dam removal focus, it
45 would not have robustly engaged in the licensing process subsequent to filing the
46 license application. PacifiCorp’s pursuit of the licensing process since submittal

47 of the licensing application has been steadfast and will remain so until a new
48 Project license is obtained or the facilities are removed consistent with the KHSA.
49 Strong engagement in the relicensing process subsequent to submittal of the
50 license application in 2004 is well documented in the Klamath Chronology
51 included in my original testimony (Exhibit RMP___DSB-2).

52 **Q. Can you provide some examples of efforts that contradict witness Ms. Beck’s**
53 **contention that the last five to seven years of the 13-year relicensing process**
54 **that the Company has pursued have been devoted to “satisfying the interests**
55 **of Klamath River Basin regional entities whose goal was the removal of the**
56 **dams rather than the relicensing of a generating facility”?** (Beck/222-224)

57 A. Yes. Since the submittal of the license application, PacifiCorp has vigorously
58 pursued the relicensing process for the Project. These efforts have been
59 contentious and strongly opposed by stakeholders interested in a dam removal
60 outcome to the relicensing process. Some examples include the first ever
61 challenge, in 2006, under the provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, by a
62 licensee to preliminary fishway prescriptions and terms and conditions issued by
63 the U.S. Departments of Commerce and the Interior. This challenge resulted in a
64 quasi-judicial hearing on issues of material fact underlying the agency fishway
65 prescriptions and terms and conditions that are mandatory conditions that must be
66 included in a new license issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
67 (“FERC”).

68 Another example is PacifiCorp’s active participation and review of the
69 Klamath River Total Maximum Daily Load (“TMDL”) water quality regulatory

70 process that would inform conditions imposed on the Project through the Clean
71 Water Act 401 certification process. It is fair to say that PacifiCorp's efforts since
72 the license application was filed, to ensure that the Project is fairly and
73 appropriately assigned regulatory responsibilities have not been favorably viewed
74 by stakeholders seeking a dam removal outcome outside of customer protections
75 of the KHSA.

76 **KHSA was Executed as a Prudent Business Decision to Protect and Benefit**
77 **Customers, Not to Advance State Policy Objectives**

78 **Q. Witness Ms. Beck contends that the KHSA resolves basin wide interests**
79 **rather than issues germane to the continued operation of the Project and**
80 **cites your testimony as a reason for this conclusion: "Mr. Brockbank**
81 **describes settlement discussions in October 2004 with 'attention to resolving**
82 **basin-wide issues among the stakeholders.' Brockbank Direct, line 288 –**
83 **292." (Beck/183-185). Is this an accurate reading of your testimony?**

84 A. No. My testimony (Brockbank/288-292) explains that PacifiCorp began
85 settlement discussions in October 2004 to resolve issues related to its relicensing
86 application, and that those discussions continued through 2005 and mid-2006. At
87 that point, in mid-2006, stakeholders participating in the relicensing settlement
88 discussions turned their attention to resolving basin-wide issues among
89 themselves and proceeded with those settlement discussions without PacifiCorp.
90 Because these settlement discussions were of a different nature and not related
91 directly to resolution of PacifiCorp's relicensing application and continued
92 operation of the Project, PacifiCorp did not participate in these negotiations, as is

93 also stated in my direct testimony (Brockbank Direct/294-296). The end result of
94 these stakeholder discussions of basin-wide issues was the Klamath Basin
95 Restoration Agreement (KBRA). PacifiCorp is not a party to the KBRA as it deals
96 with issues that are beyond the scope of PacifiCorp's relicensing application and
97 does not address the continued operation of the Project.

98 **Q. Is there other support for your view that the KHSA is strictly related to**
99 **resolution of the relicensing proceeding and continued operation of the**
100 **Project?**

101 A. Yes. This view is also supported by the statement of purpose included in the
102 KHSA:

103 "1.2 Purpose of Settlement
104 The Parties have entered into this Settlement for the purpose of resolving
105 among them the pending FERC relicensing proceeding by establishing a
106 process for potential Facilities Removal and operation of the Project until
107 that time."¹

108 **Q. Witness Ms. Beck states as OCS's position that Utah customers should not**
109 **bear KHSA-related costs because "the costs relate to resolving Klamath**
110 **basin regional interests and not the continued operation of a generating**
111 **resource". (Beck 205/206). Why do you believe witness Ms. Beck holds this**
112 **view?**

113 A. I believe witness Ms. Beck is confusing the KBRA, which is an attempt to resolve
114 basin-wide issues that are beyond the scope of Project relicensing and continued
115 Project operations, with the KHSA, which does narrowly address the resolution of
116 the relicensing process and the continued operation of the Project.

¹ KHSA §1.2, p. 3.

117 **Q. Even though PacifiCorp may not have signed the KBRA, do the Company's**
118 **KHSA implementation costs included in the case fund or implement activities**
119 **under the KBRA?**

120 A. No. When negotiating the KHSA with many of the same stakeholders that had
121 negotiated the KBRA, one of PacifiCorp's key principles was that implementation
122 activities under the KHSA were to address effects related solely to the Project and
123 its continued operation and that PacifiCorp and its customers were not responsible
124 for implementing KBRA-related basin wide restoration activities.

125 **Q. Is this principle included in the KHSA?**

126 A. Yes, this principle is included as a recital in the KHSA:

127 “WHEREAS, PacifiCorp is a regulated utility and did not participate in
128 the KBRA negotiations and will not have obligations for implementation
129 of the KBRA”.²

130 **Q. Witness Ms. Beck states that under the KHSA the “expenditures and**
131 **financial commitments by PacifiCorp, Oregon and California are intended to**
132 **resolve long-standing and contentious disputes over resources in the Klamath**
133 **River Basin, to the benefit of the interests of Indian tribes, environmental**
134 **organizations, fishermen, water users and local communities.” (Beck/231-**
135 **235). Do you agree that the KHSA is a one-sided agreement that benefits**
136 **these regional interests at the expense of PacifiCorp or its customers?**

137 A. No. I believe the KHSA represents a fair and balanced resolution of the issues
138 related to the relicensing and continued operation of the Project for the parties to
139 the KHSA, including PacifiCorp and its customers in all the six states that
140 comprise its service territory.

² KHSA §1.1, p. 3.

141 **Q. Please explain why you believe the KHSA benefits all of PacifiCorp's**
142 **customers.**

143 A. Under the KHSA, customer costs related to dam removal are capped at \$200
144 million and the Company and its customers are afforded liability protection
145 against potential adverse consequences of dam removal. In addition, customers
146 will continue to benefit from the low-cost power provided by the Project until the
147 facilities are removed. The projected dam removal date of no earlier than 2020
148 ensures that customers will benefit from the low-cost, carbon-free energy
149 produced by the Project for at least ten years and the need to replace the energy
150 from this generating resource is deferred for that 10-year period. The rebuttal
151 testimony of Company witness Mr. Steven R. McDougal contains the details of
152 the cost-benefit analysis conducted by the Company that demonstrates the KHSA
153 is in the interest of the Company's customers.

154 **Q. UAE Witness Mr. Higgins recommends that Klamath dam removal costs**
155 **allocated to Utah customers be offset in recognition that "customer**
156 **contributions are being made in furtherance of Oregon and California state**
157 **policies to remove this RMP system resource." (Higgins/348-349) Do you**
158 **agree that these customer costs have been assessed based upon state policy**
159 **preferences for dam removal in those states?**

160 A. No. It has been the policy preference of the Governors of both the State of
161 California and the State of Oregon, and the resource agencies reporting to the
162 Governors in those states. However, the customer surcharges in both California
163 and Oregon were approved by the independent public utility commissions in those

164 states on the basis that the KHSA, including the imposition of customer
165 surcharges, provides superior cost and risk protections for customers as compared
166 to continuing on the path of relicensing the facilities. The Klamath allocation
167 issues are addressed in the rebuttal testimony of witness Mr. McDougal.

168 **Q. Can you provide evidence that this was the basis of the decisions of the public**
169 **utility commissions in California and Oregon?**

170 A. Yes. The recent order issued by the California Public Utilities Commission
171 affirming dam removal surcharges for California customers supports this view
172 through a finding of fact that “Through the use of the KHSA cost cap, ratepayers
173 are protected from the uncertain costs of relicensing, litigation, and
174 decommissioning that customers may be responsible for sans the KHSA. If the
175 KHSA surcharge is not instituted, ratepayers would be exposed to an uncertain
176 amount of costs.”³ Similarly, the Oregon Public Utility Commission, in its review
177 of surcharges for Oregon customers, found that “Because the KHSA limits costs
178 and manages risk better than relicensing, we find the KHSA to be in the best
179 interest of customers.”⁴

³ CPUC Decision 11-05-002, May 6, 2011. Section 11, Paragraph 8.

⁴ OPUC Order No. 10-364, p. 13.

180 **Appropriateness of Not Deferring Recovery of Relicensing and Settlement Costs**

181 **Q. Witness Ms. Beck apparently holds the view that the 13-year relicensing and**
182 **settlement effort for the Project, and the associated costs, would be**
183 **unnecessary but for the Company’s decision to enter into the KHSA.**
184 **(Beck/218-221) Do you agree?**

185 A. No. The Company was obligated under the Federal Power Act to pursue
186 relicensing of the Project unless it intended to surrender the Project license and
187 decommission the facilities. As described in my direct testimony (Brockbank/346-
188 349), PacifiCorp believes that decommissioning of the facilities is not in the best
189 interests of the Company or its customers without necessary protections such as
190 those afforded to the Company and its customers in the KHSA. Thus, the
191 relicensing and settlement process costs were necessary to incur and are prudent
192 and appropriate to include in rate base regardless of the Company’s decision to
193 execute the KHSA to resolve matters related to the relicensing of the Project.

194 **Q. Do you then agree with the testimony of DPU witness Dr. Powell that “It**
195 **appears that most, if not all, of these costs would be incurred regardless of**
196 **which path the Company follows: relicensing or removal. Since these cost**
197 **would be incurred regardless, and since the Dam is operational, I see no need**
198 **to remove these costs from the case”?** (Powell/382-385)

199 A. Yes. The relicensing and settlement process costs have been prudently incurred
200 consistent with the requirements of the relicensing process as overseen by the
201 FERC and represent costs that will enter rate base regardless of whether Project
202 dams are removed pursuant to the KHSA or the Project is ultimately relicensed.

203 As noted by witness Dr. Powell, removal of these costs from the case would not
204 serve customer interests since this would result in substantial increases to overall
205 project costs as additional AFUDC charges accumulate for the project. These
206 costs would ultimately be borne by customers, thereby ultimately increasing
207 customer costs.

208 **Reasonableness of Adjusting Depreciation Lives Now**

209 **Q. UAE witness Mr. Higgins cites the fact that the State of California has yet to**
210 **enact funding for up to \$250 million in dam removal costs as a reason that it**
211 **is premature to adjust the depreciation lives of the Klamath project assets.**
212 **Do you view the lack of funding from the State of California at this time as**
213 **an impediment to the KHSA moving forward?**

214 A. No. The KHSA identifies the customer contribution as the principal funding
215 source for dam removal by specifying that any California bond funding (or other
216 appropriate State of California funding mechanism) will be used to fund the
217 difference between the customer contribution and the actual cost to complete dam
218 removal.⁵ Thus, the customer contribution through the surcharges on customers is
219 the primary source for dam removal funding, with State of California funding
220 necessary only if the actual cost of dam removal exceeds the customer
221 contribution. The actual cost of dam removal has yet to be determined. The U.S.
222 Department of the Interior, through the Secretarial Determination study process, is
223 developing a detailed plan for removal of the facilities, which will include a
224 detailed statement of the estimated costs of removal.⁶ Until the detailed plan is

⁵ KHSA §4.1.2.A, p. 24.

⁶ KHSA §3.3.2, p. 19.

225 developed, the costs of dam removal remain uncertain and it is unclear if any
226 funding from the State of California will be necessary.

227 **Q. What is the impact of delaying an adjustment to depreciation for the**
228 **Klamath Hydroelectric Project?**

229 A. Delay in adjusting the depreciation schedule would conflict with the intent of the
230 KHSA, which is to adjust the depreciation schedule of the facilities immediately
231 to minimize the customer impact, i.e., to spread the costs out over as long of
232 period as possible to reduce the impact to customers in a given time period.
233 Otherwise, the impact to customers will be greater if full depreciation of the
234 facilities occurs on a shorter timeframe. Therefore, I don't believe it is premature
235 because deferring the depreciation adjustment to a future rate case following
236 passage of legislation may have a greater impact to customers.

237 **Q. As the basis for a recommendation to remove accelerated depreciation of the**
238 **Klamath project, DPU witness Dr. Powell cites uncertainty that**
239 **Congressional approval of the KHSA will ultimately occur. As a rationale for**
240 **this position, Witness Dr. Powell cites “the current economic and political**
241 **climate” (Powell/365-366) given his understanding that “Congress must**
242 **approve funds for removal costs”. (Powell/358) Do you agree with this**
243 **assessment?**

244 A. No. The KHSA does not require that Congress allocate funding for dam removal.
245 In fact, on this very point the KHSA states that “The United States shall not be
246 liable or responsible for costs of Facilities Removal”.⁷ Because the KHSA does
247 not require that Congress authorize funding for dam removal, I believe the current

⁷ KHSA §4.10, p. 31.

248 economic climate and challenging federal budget situation is not an impediment
249 to Congressional authorization of the KHSA. Further, because federal funds for
250 dam removal are not required, I believe this lessens potential political difficulties
251 that could otherwise be present.

252 **Q. Are there other substantive reasons for not delaying the adjustment in the**
253 **depreciation lives of the facilities?**

254 A. Yes, the KHSA was negotiated to protect PacifiCorp's customers in all of its
255 states and adjustment of the depreciation schedule for the Klamath facilities at this
256 time is consistent with the KHSA and the positions of the Oregon Public Utility
257 Commission and the California Public Utilities Commission. Both of those state
258 commissions have found the KHSA to be in the best interests of customers in
259 those states. While the Company is optimistic that legislation endorsing the
260 KHSA will be passed this year, obtaining this endorsement from Congress for the
261 KHSA will, in part, be based upon the ability of the parties to the KHSA to
262 demonstrate successful implementation of portions of the agreement and the
263 support of entities outside the KHSA process that are in a position to determine
264 the merits of the settlement. Because of the substantial customer benefits and
265 protections included in the KHSA, I believe the Commission should adjust the
266 depreciation schedule of the Klamath facilities in a manner consistent with the
267 intent of the KHSA and thereby signal its support of the settlement to interested
268 parties. The Commission's support of the KHSA in this manner would likely
269 advance the process of obtaining federal legislation, thereby furthering the KHSA
270 and the realization of its considerable customer cost and risk protections.

271 **Hunter II Arbitration**

272 **Q. Are you familiar with the arbitration between PacifiCorp and Deseret**
273 **Generation & Transmission Cooperative that took place from January 31**
274 **through February 8, 2011, and that Mr. Howard Gebhart discusses in his**
275 **testimony?**

276 A. Yes.

277 **Q. What is the relationship between PacifiCorp and Deseret Generation &**
278 **Transmission Cooperative, which we may refer to as simply “Deseret”?**

279 A. They are both co-owners of the Hunter Steam Electric Generating Unit No. 2,
280 which is an electric generating facility in Castle Dale, Utah that is referred to as
281 “Hunter II.” PacifiCorp is the majority owner of Hunter II with 60.310%, Deseret
282 owns 25.108% and Utah Associated Power Systems (“UAMPS”) owns the
283 remaining 14.582 %.

284 **Q. Are the rights and responsibilities of PacifiCorp and Deseret with respect to**
285 **Hunter II governed by a contract?**

286 A. Yes, there is an *Ownership and Management Agreement Dated October 24, 1980*
287 *between Utah Power & Light Company and Deseret Generation & Transmission*
288 *Co-Operative* (“O&M Agreement”). The O&M Agreement, including several
289 amendments, spells out management and other contractual responsibilities
290 between the owners of Hunter II.

291 **Q. Are you familiar with the terms of that O&M Agreement and its**
292 **amendments?**

293 A. Yes.

294 **Q. Which entity is responsible for the operation and management of the Hunter**
295 **II facility under the O&M Agreement?**

296 A. Under the O&M Agreement, PacifiCorp is designated as the Operator of
297 Hunter II. As the Operator of Hunter II, PacifiCorp has, subject to certain
298 exceptions, the exclusive responsibility for the operation and management of
299 Hunter 2 in accordance with “Reasonable Utility Practice,” as that term is defined
300 in the O&M Agreement, and the other provisions of the O&M Agreement,
301 including, but not limited to, responsibility for decisions with respect to the
302 timing, extent and nature of any actions with respect to Capital Improvements in
303 the ordinary course of business and the integration of the operation of Hunter II
304 with the remainder of PacifiCorp’s electric utility system.

305 **Q. Have there been any amendments to the O&M Agreement that specifically**
306 **address capital improvements?**

307 A. Yes. Prior to its amendment, Section 4.1(a) of the O&M Agreement required the
308 unanimous consent of the Hunter II Management Council for certain enumerated
309 capital improvements, such as capital improvements that were to be implemented
310 within six months of being reported to the Management Council. In 1999,
311 PacifiCorp and Deseret entered into a settlement that resolved a coal pricing
312 dispute. As part of that settlement they entered into an *Agreement Regarding The*
313 *Coal Supply And Pricing Relationship Between PacifiCorp And Deseret*
314 *Generation & Transmission Co-Operative Under The Ownership And*
315 *Management Agreement*, effective January 1, 1999 (hereafter “1999 Agreement”).
316 Among other things, the 1999 Agreement replaced Section 4.1(a) of the O&M

317 Agreement with new language that provides a mechanism for Deseret to
318 challenge and receive a determination, by binding arbitration and within 120 days,
319 that Capital Improvements proposed by PacifiCorp requiring expenditures in
320 excess of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) (“Major Capital Improvements”) are,
321 or are not, consistent with Reasonable Utility Practice, as that term is defined by
322 the O&M Agreement.

323 **Q. Briefly explain how decisions about Major Capital Improvements are**
324 **handled under the O&M Agreement.**

325 A. Section 4.1(a) of the O&M Agreement, as amended by the 1999 Agreement,
326 requires the unanimous consent of the Hunter II Management Council for all
327 Major Capital Improvements, subject to arbitration procedures set out in Section
328 4.1(a).

329 **Q. How does the arbitration procedure work?**

330 A. According to Section 4.1(a) of the O&M Agreement, as amended, each Major
331 Capital Improvement proposed by PacifiCorp should be presented to the Hunter II
332 Management Council and then voted on not less than 30 days later. If Deseret
333 withholds its consent for a Major Capital Improvement, PacifiCorp and Deseret
334 have 60 days to try and work things out. If they cannot, either may, within the
335 next 60 days, submit the matter to arbitration before the American Arbitration
336 Association.

337 **Q. And is that the provision under which the 2011 arbitration between**
338 **PacifiCorp and Deseret arose?**

339 A. Yes.

340 **Q. Can you explain how the arbitration between PacifiCorp was initiated?**

341 A. Yes. In 2010, Deseret sued PacifiCorp in Utah state court, alleging various claims
342 for breach of the O&M Agreement and other related causes of action. Among
343 other things, Deseret claimed that it should not be required to pay for certain
344 capital improvements including: (1) a “Scrubber Upgrade,” which increased the
345 removal of SO₂ from the flue gas and included subsets of the project scope, which
346 dealt with end-of-life issues for various pieces of equipment; and (2) a “Baghouse
347 Conversion” which replaced a worn out electrostatic precipitator (“ESP”) with a
348 pulse jet fabric filter or baghouse that controls particulate emissions at the plant.
349 PacifiCorp removed the case to federal court and then moved the court for an
350 order compelling arbitration on the issues of whether the Scrubber Upgrade and
351 the Baghouse Conversion were consistent with “Reasonable Utility Practice.”
352 The court granted PacifiCorp’s motion, compelling arbitration on this limited
353 issue.

354 **Q. Did the parties then proceed to arbitrate those two issues?**

355 A. Yes, we went to arbitration for seven days between January 31-February 8, 2011,
356 and a Final Award was issued on February 17, 2011.

357 **Q. What was the arbitrator’s job in the arbitration?**

358 A. By contract, “the sole question to be decided either “yes” or “no” by the arbitrator
359 is whether the [disputed] Major Capital Improvement . . . is consistent with
360 Reasonable Utility Practice, as defined by the O&M Agreement.”

361 **Q. What determination did the arbitrator make?**

362 A. He determined that the Baghouse Conversion is consistent with Reasonable
363 Utility Practice, as defined by the O&M Agreement, but that the Scrubber
364 Upgrade is not consistent with Reasonable Utility Practice.

365 **Q. Did the arbitrator explain his reasoning?**

366 A. Yes. Although by contract the arbitrator was only supposed to answer the sole
367 question about Reasonable Utility Practice either “yes” or “no,” he chose to
368 provide a written explanation along with these determinations. In this light, his
369 written explanation was never intended to be comprehensive “findings of fact” or
370 even a thorough discussion of all of the evidence presented because the
371 arbitrator’s only job was to answer “yes” or “no” to the issue of Reasonable
372 Utility Practice for the disputed projects.

373 **Q. Explain what the term “Reasonable Utility Practice” means.**

374 A. This term is defined in the O&M Agreement. It has a rather lengthy definition, but
375 basically there are three components: First, a “Reasonable Utility Practice” is one
376 that at a particular time is engaged in or approved by a significant portion of the
377 electric utility industry; or, second, it is one that, based on the known facts, could
378 have been expected to accomplish the desired result at the lowest reasonable cost
379 consistent with good business practices, reliability, safety and expedition (while
380 not being limited to the optimum practice, method or act); and third, a
381 “Reasonable Utility Practice” is one that does not discriminate against Hunter II
382 or Deseret’s ownership interest in Hunter II as compared to PacifiCorp’s practices
383 at the other units at the Hunter plant or at its other plants.

384 **Q. Briefly explain what the arbitration award says with respect to the Baghouse**
385 **Conversion.**

386 A. In explanation of his decision that the Baghouse Conversion is consistent with
387 Reasonable Utility Practice, the arbitrator stated that the Baghouse Conversion (i)
388 is a practice that is utilized by a significant portion of the electric utility industry;
389 (ii) is the reliable, low-cost and perhaps only solution to end-of-life issues
390 associated with the existing ESP given the need to also control mercury
391 emissions; and (iii) does not discriminate against Deseret's interests.

392 **Q. Briefly explain what the arbitration award says with respect to the Scrubber**
393 **Upgrade.**

394 A. In explanation of his decision that the Scrubber Upgrade is not consistent with
395 Reasonable Utility Practice, the arbitrator concluded that: (i) no end-of-life issues
396 are presented with regard to the Scrubber Project (page 15 of the award); (ii) the
397 Scrubber at Hunter II is functioning well and meeting all emissions requirements
398 (page 15 of the award); (iii) PacifiCorp made decisions relating to the Scrubber
399 Upgrade without regard for its contractual obligations to Deseret (page 16 of the
400 award); and (iv) PacifiCorp did not meet its burden of proof to show that the
401 Scrubber Upgrade is consistent with Reasonable Utility Practice because (a)
402 reliable evidence did not show that the Scrubber Upgrade was a practice that was
403 approved by or engaged in by a significant portion of the electric utility industry
404 when the existing scrubber was functioning well and meeting emission limits; (b)
405 others in the electric utility industry would have postponed this upgrade as long as
406 possible to see what regulatory limits would be imposed and what technology

407 would become available; (c) PacifiCorp did not consider alternatives to the
408 Scrubber Upgrade; (d) the alleged benefit of the Scrubber Upgrade was minimal,
409 as calculated by Mr. Gebhart, in light of the cost which far exceeded other
410 PacifiCorp units for similar projects; (e) PacifiCorp voluntarily incurred the
411 Scrubber Upgrade costs without arguing to the Utah Division of Air Quality that
412 the costs outweighed any perceived benefits as PacifiCorp did for its Wyoming
413 plants with the Wyoming Division of Air Quality, which demonstrated a lack of
414 concern for PacifiCorp's contractual obligations to Deseret; and (f) PacifiCorp
415 discriminated against Deseret's interest in Hunter II by applying similar scrubber
416 upgrades to all Utah units when the facts did not fit and implementing the
417 Scrubber Upgrade at Hunter II while not performing a similar upgrade at other
418 facilities (pages 16 – 17 of the award).

419 **Q. Does the arbitrator's explanation rely on reasons that are not at issue in this**
420 **rate case?**

421 A. Yes. As explained above, the Deseret arbitration award focuses solely on what the
422 arbitrator considered to be the elements of the contractual obligation between two
423 parties and the evidence that did or did not comply with those elements. Also, as
424 explained below, those contractual obligations are different than the standard this
425 Commission must employ in this rate case. For example, the arbitrator's
426 conclusion that PacifiCorp did not meet its contractual obligation to consult with
427 Deseret on the Scrubber Upgrade has no bearing on the issues before the
428 Commission in this rate case. Likewise, whether PacifiCorp discriminated against
429 Deseret in deciding to install the Scrubber Upgrade has no application to this rate

430 case. Yet, these were reasons that the arbitrator offered to explain why the
431 Scrubber Upgrade is not consistent with Reasonable Utility Practice.

432 **Q. Does the arbitrator’s explanation erroneously rely on misconstrued evidence**
433 **that is contrary to the evidence offered in this rate case?**

434 A. Yes. The arbitrator is simply wrong that the Scrubber Upgrade does not pose any
435 end-of-life issues. The arbitrator focused on the modifications to the scrubber that
436 are intended to meet a more stringent SO₂ emission rate, but are not the result of
437 end-of-life issues, while virtually ignoring the more costly subset of end-of-life
438 projects like the replacement of the dilapidated lime preparation area, which was
439 also part of the Scrubber Upgrade. The testimony of Mr. Chad A. Teply makes
440 clear that the Scrubber Upgrade includes costs for a subset of the project scope
441 related to end-of-life issues for various pieces of equipment, such as reagent
442 preparation equipment and scrubber waste handling equipment that simply does
443 not fit the arbitrator’s rationale for his “No Reasonable Utility Practice”
444 determination for the Scrubber Upgrade. Also, the arbitrator misconstrued the
445 evidence related to the SO₂ reductions associated with the Scrubber Upgrade and
446 improperly relied on Mr. Gebhart’s erroneous arbitration testimony in doing so,
447 all as explained in Mr. Richard W. Sprott’s testimony filed in this rate case. In
448 addition, the arbitrator demonstrated his misunderstanding of the regional haze
449 requirements by asserting that PacifiCorp should have argued that the benefit did
450 not justify the cost of the Scrubber Upgrade, as explained in Mr. Sprott’s
451 testimony.

452 **Q. Did the arbitrator's explanation of his decision indicate the weight he gave to**
453 **those reasons described above for concluding that the Scrubber Upgrade was**
454 **not consistent with Reasonable Utility Practice?**

455 A. No. The arbitrator's explanation simply offered a list of reasons - some of which
456 are contrary to the evidence in this rate case - without indicating which reason
457 was more important or controlling than the others. For example, the arbitrator
458 may very well have relied on his rationale that PacifiCorp discriminated against
459 Deseret or failed in its contractual duties to Deseret more heavily than the other
460 reasons he offered when reaching his ultimate decision that the Scrubber Upgrade
461 was not consistent with Reasonable Utility Practice. Because that rationale has no
462 bearing in this rate case, the ultimate conclusion of the arbitrator should likewise
463 have no bearing.

464 **Q. Did the arbitrator consider the impact of the Scrubber Upgrade or Baghouse**
465 **Conversion on the rates PacifiCorp charges in Utah?**

466 A. No. In the arbitration, the issues were very limited and focused solely on whether
467 PacifiCorp's decision to install the Baghouse Conversion and Scrubber Upgrade
468 at Hunter II is consistent with the contract requirement of Reasonable Utility
469 Practice.

470 **Q. In your understanding, how was the issue presented to the arbitrator in the**
471 **arbitration different from the issue presented to the Commission in this rate**
472 **case?**

473 A. As I understand it, the Commission must examine the prudence of investments
474 made by the Company to ensure that the Company's rates are just and reasonable

475 for the retail customers in Utah and that the Company's investors are fairly
476 compensated. This typically requires the Commission to consider both long-term
477 and short-term consequences to customers as well as the reasonableness of the
478 Company's actions in relation to its entire system. The arbitrator did not examine
479 these issues. He was limited to looking at whether PacifiCorp fulfilled its
480 contractual obligations to a single joint owner, Deseret. He was not authorized to
481 consider impacts upon customers, and did not consider all of the Company's
482 system, just one generating unit in isolation. This latter factor is extremely
483 important. If an owner has to make environmental upgrades at only one
484 generating unit, the owner may be able to delay the upgrade to the last date
485 feasible. That is how the arbitrator appears to have viewed the Company's
486 actions. But, of course, the Company has 26 coal units to manage and, as the
487 testimonies of other Company witnesses in this case have repeatedly emphasized,
488 it is simply not feasible or economic to delay environmental upgrades for all 26
489 units to the last moment. Thus, the Commission's assessment of the Company's
490 action should focus on the system, not an individual unit.

491 **Q. Mr. Gebhart implies that the arbitrator adopted Mr. Gebhart's conclusions**
492 **in the arbitration. Is that accurate?**

493 A. No. As explained above, the arbitrator made no actual factual "findings" at all
494 about Mr. Gebhart's conclusions or otherwise. Rather, he simply was called upon
495 pursuant to the terms of the parties' arbitration agreement to answer a "yes" or
496 "no" question about whether the Company had carried its burden to prove specific
497 investments were "Reasonable Utility Practices" as defined in the parties'

498 commercial contract. In the arbitrator's explanation, he did make reference to
499 some of the arbitration testimony offered by Mr. Gebhart, but as explained above
500 in reference to the testimony of Mr. Teply and Mr. Sprott, the arbitrator did so in
501 error. In any event, because the arbitration decision is limited to a "yes" or "no"
502 award, it is at best misleading to say that the arbitrator adopted any witnesses'
503 conclusions, and it is certainly a misstatement to say the arbitrator considered the
504 same issue that is now before this Commission.

505 **Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?**

506 **A. Yes.**