

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address and present position with**
2 **PacifiCorp, dba Rocky Mountain Power (“Company”).**

3 A. My name is Jeffrey M. Kent. My business address is 825 NE Multnomah Street,
4 Suite 1700, Portland, Oregon 97232. My present position is Director Distribution
5 Support in the Construction and Support Services Department.

6 **Q. Briefly describe your educational and professional background.**

7 A. In March of 1978 I was employed by Pacific Northwest Bell Telephone Company
8 and worked in various positions including as a field technician until 1990. In
9 1988, I graduated from Portland State University with a Bachelor of Science
10 degree in General Studies Science. In 1990 I was promoted and held a number of
11 management positions within the renamed company, U S West Communications
12 and subsequently Qwest Communications, in the Construction and Engineering
13 Department until I retired from Qwest in December 2008. The last five years of
14 my career at Qwest were spent managing Construction Operations and as
15 Program Manager overseeing the Joint Use of poles in Oregon. In December of
16 2008 I was employed by PacifiCorp in my current position. I have been a member
17 of the Oregon Joint Use Association’s Board of Directors since 2004 including
18 President of the Association in 2007. I also serve as a member of Western Energy
19 Institute’s annual Joint Use Conference Program Delivery Team.

20 **Q. Have you appeared as a witness in previous regulatory proceedings?**

21 A. I have appeared before the Oregon Public Utilities Commission.

22 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

23 A. The purpose of my testimony is to provide support and explanation for the
24 changes the Company is seeking to the Commission’s “Safe Harbor Agreement”
25 adopted by the Commission in Docket No. 04-999-03 and the Company’s Electric
26 Service Schedule No. 4.

27 **Q. Please describe the changes the Company is seeking to the Commission’s**
28 **Safe Harbor Agreement.**

29 A. The Company seeks changes to the Safe Harbor in two respects: 1) changes to
30 bring the Safe Harbor into conformity with Commission Rule R746-345 (the
31 “Rule”) and Commission directive; and 2) substantive changes to Sections 3.01,
32 3.02, 3.04 and 5.04 of the Safe Harbor which the Company believes will reduce
33 safety and operational concerns.

34 **Q. Please describe the specific changes the Company is seeking to bring the Safe**
35 **Harbor into conformity with the Rule and Commission directive.**

36 A. First, two changes are proposed to simply make corrections of an incorrect
37 reference to the section of the Rule that defines a “Pole Attachment” and a
38 reference in the second paragraph of Section 5.01. (The change in Section 5.01 is
39 made in recognition that Pole Owners *and* attaching entities, rather than just Pole
40 Owners, may seek rate changes.) Second, definitions of “Attachment Space” and
41 “Pole” are added, with references to the Rule definitions. Consistent with the
42 definition of Pole, by reference to the Rule’s definition of “Distribution Pole”, the
43 Company proposes to clarify in the second paragraph of Section 2.01 that the Safe
44 Harbor applies only to attachments to Distribution Poles. Third, the definition of

45 “Make-ready Work” is revised by inserting a reference to the definition of “Make-
46 ready Work” contained in the Rule. The fourth area of change is in the last
47 paragraph of Section 3.02, which allows applicants who reject Make-ready Work
48 estimates to use approved contractors to self-build the required Make-ready
49 Work, and allowing the Company only 14 days to approve or disapprove that
50 work. The Company proposes to change this section of the Safe Harbor to make it
51 consistent with the specific remedies provided in the Rule – that is, to “exercise
52 any of the self-build options given for the required Make-ready Work subject to
53 the conditions made” (R746-345-3.C.8) or contest the Make-ready Work estimate
54 before the Commission (R746-345-3.C.9). As a matter of clarification, the
55 Company also proposes an addition to the beginning of Section 3.09 to reflect that
56 in the event of conflict between that section and Rule R746-345-3.C, the
57 Commission rule will govern. The last change for conformity with Rule 746-345-
58 3.C.7, and Commission directive, is to the second paragraph of Section 3.09,
59 addressing the time within which a Licensee must reimburse a Pole Owner for
60 Make-ready Work. The proposed change makes that provision of the Safe Harbor
61 consistent with the Rule and Commission directive contained in a letter to the
62 Division of Public Utilities, dated March 27, 2006.

63 **Q. Please describe the first specific changes the Company is seeking in Section**
64 **3.01.**

65 A. The Company first proposes to revise Section 3.01 to provide that Rental Fees
66 will commence upon the approval of an attachment Application, rather than upon
67 the attachment actually being physically in place. In practice, when the Company

68 approves an Application to attach to a Pole, the space is reserved for the use of the
69 applicant. When the Company approves the Application, the Company updates its
70 record of attachment to each Pole in order to ensure any additional requests to
71 attach do not conflict with or take precedence over pre-existing approvals. Under
72 the terms of Section 3.08 of the Safe Harbor Agreement, the Licensee must
73 complete installation of its Attachments within ninety (90) days of an approved
74 Application. As written, the current language in effect requires the Licensee to
75 affirmatively report each and every installation after the fact. Experience has
76 shown Licensees have difficulty meeting that burden and more often than not the
77 Company doesn't get confirmation from Licensees that they've constructed
78 within the ninety (90) days. The language proposed by the Company will allow
79 the Company to invoice for installations without having to rely on notifications
80 from Licensees (which may be untimely or never sent), and at the same time
81 prevents conflicts with other attaching entities who may request the same space.
82 There is little if any financial impact to the Licensee under the Company's
83 proposal. In practice, the Company invoices Rental Fees annually, or in some
84 cases twice yearly. The Company does not invoice or prorate Rental Fees at the
85 time of approval or physical attachment. Instead, either on an annual or twice
86 yearly cycle, the Company takes a snapshot of the quantity of attachments for
87 each Licensee and invoices Rental Fees for the forward looking period. For
88 example, assume that a Licensee's Rental Fee cycle is January to December with
89 invoicing occurring each January for the forward looking twelve (12) months.
90 Throughout the course of any given year leading up to December 31, the Licensee

91 may have attachment activity that results in approved new attachments which
92 increases the quantity and/or reported removal of attachments which reduces the
93 quantity. On or about January 1, of each year the Company takes a snapshot of the
94 quantity of active attachments and invoices that quantity times the Rental Fee.
95 Between invoicing periods, Licensees can add attachments without incurring any
96 Rental Fees. For example, if a Licensee received approval on January 15, from the
97 Company on an Application to attach to 25 Poles, the Licensee would not be
98 invoiced Rental Fees for those 25 Poles until January of the following year,
99 thereby receiving the benefit of no Rental Fee for nearly a full year. Conversely, if
100 the Licensee were to inform the Company on January 15, that the Licensee
101 removed its attachments from 25 Poles, the Rental Fee on those 25 Poles would
102 have already been invoiced for the year. The 25 Pole attachment removals would
103 be reflected in the invoicing cycle for the following year. The language changes
104 proposed by the Company when put into practice have little if any financial
105 impact on the Company or the Licensees, ensures space is reserved for Licensee's
106 on a first come first served basis and relieves the Licensee and the Company of
107 the additional administrative burden of tracking and communicating installation
108 dates.

109 **Q. What are the proposed changes to Sections 3.01 and 3.02 regarding service**
110 **drops?**

111 A. The Company proposes that the first paragraph of Section 3.01 and the second-to-
112 last paragraph of Section 3.02, regarding service drops, be revised. The Company
113 believes the existing language in the Safe Harbor regarding the installation of

114 service drops is unclear. The language changes proposed by the Company clarify
115 safety requirements, enable needed record keeping and allow for proper invoicing
116 of Rental Fees. First and foremost, the Company's proposed language does not
117 change a Licensee's ability to install a service drop to serve their customer prior
118 to submitting an Application or making notification to the Company, or impose an
119 obligation to make any prior payment to the Company with respect to that service
120 drop. Exhibit RMP_(JMK-1) further explains the instances when an after-the fact
121 Application is required versus when an after the fact notification will suffice, and
122 Exhibit RMP_(JMK-2) and Exhibit RMP_(JMK-3) depict the specific safety
123 requirements.

124 **Q. What are the proposed changes that clarify safety requirements for service**
125 **drops?**

126 A. The Company's proposed language specifies when an after-the-fact Application is
127 required for newly installed service drops to poles so the Company can review the
128 installation for compliance with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC).
129 Specifically, the Company is concerned about new service drop installations to
130 Poles which may result in either violations of NESC Rule 235(C)(1)(b), vertical
131 clearance between supply lines and communication lines, commonly known as
132 the "40 inch" violation, and/or violations of NESC Rule 236, climbing space.
133 Exhibit RMP_(JMK-2) depicts a graphical representation of the safety
134 requirements for climbing space and Exhibit RMP_(JMK-3) details the clearance
135 between supply lines and communication lines at the Pole. Exhibits RMP_(JMK-
136 6) provide photographic examples supporting the Company's safety concerns.

137 The Company's proposed change requiring a shortened interval for Licensee
138 communications to the Company related to service drop attachments allows the
139 Company to review the installation of the service drops to ensure compliance with
140 the NESC and address the safety concerns described above in a timely manner.

141 **Q. What are the proposed changes that enable needed record keeping and allow**
142 **for proper invoicing of rent and other fees for service drop attachments?**

143 A. The Company's proposed language provides clarification of when an after-the-
144 fact Application is required versus when a notification will suffice and the
145 timeliness of both. The clarification is needed to enable the Company to update its
146 records to account for additional Attachment Space used by the Licensee, both
147 where the Licensee has pre-existing approved attachments and attaches a new
148 service drop outside of its approved Attachment Space, and where a Licensee
149 installs a service drop on a Pole with no pre-existing approved attachments. In
150 either example, the Licensee, by installation of the new service drop, has occupied
151 usable space on the Pole that was previously not approved and accounted for in
152 the Company's records and is subject to Rental Fees and other fees under the
153 Commission's Rule. The Company believes attaching to a new Attachment Space
154 requires an Application. The Company proposes to change the existing Safe
155 Harbor requirement regarding service drops, to require communication by the
156 Licensee within ten (10) business days after installation, both for service drops
157 requiring Applications as well as those requiring only notifications. The ten (10)
158 business day interval allows the Company to make timely updates to its
159 attachment records to account for the needed Rental Fees, as well as show the

160 space on the Poles occupied, such that additional Applications for the same space
161 on a Pole can be appropriately managed. To further explain what the Company is
162 seeking, I offer the following examples and illustrate the points with Exhibit
163 RMP_(JMK-1), attached hereto. Under the Company's proposed language,
164 Licensee's off-the-Pole service drop installations, also known as mid-span service
165 drop attachments, are allowed without any Application or notification to the
166 Company. Where the Licensee has pre-existing approved attachments on the
167 Company's Pole and attaches a new service drop to the Pole itself within the
168 Licensee's authorized Attachment Space (within six inches above or below the
169 existing attachment), such attachments are allowed without any Application, but
170 do require notification to the Company. Where the Licensee has pre-existing
171 approved attachments on the Company's Pole and attaches a new service drop to
172 the Pole itself *outside* of the Licensee's authorized Attachment Space (more than
173 six inches above or below the existing attachment), and when a Licensee installs a
174 service drop on a Pole for which it has no pre-existing approved attachments, such
175 attachments require the Licensee to submit an after-the-fact Application to the
176 Company. The reason for the Application is so that the Company can review the
177 attachment for compliance with NESC and the Company's construction standards,
178 as well as account for the additional Attachment Space used by the Licensee in its
179 records and invoice Rental Fees and other fees accordingly under the
180 Commission's Rule. As stated above, the Company believes attaching to a new
181 Attachment Space requires an Application.

182

183 **Q. Please explain the proposed changes to Sections 3.01, 3.04 and 5.04 regarding**
184 **overlashings.**

185 A. Revisions to Section 3.01 first reflect the Company's position as to when
186 overlashings by a permitted Licensee should be allowed without prior approval
187 pursuant to an Application. The Company believes the current language in the
188 Safe Harbor is not adequate to mitigate safety concerns involving overhead lines.
189 The current language allows Licensees to overlash any number and size of
190 conductors to existing attachments without first making Application to the
191 Company and receiving approval to do the work. To mitigate safety concerns with
192 overloading Poles and compounding existing clearance problems, the Company
193 proposes language that limits such activity to relatively light weight and small
194 diameter conductors, and requires the Licensee to correct any of Licensee's
195 existing noncompliant facilities at the time of the overlashing work such that the
196 Licensee's facilities are made to comply with the NESC and other applicable
197 standards. Further, for the same safety reasons cited above, the Company
198 prohibits overlashing prior to approving the Applications on existing slack-spans
199 (un-guyed spans) and on existing messengers attached to Poles carrying voltages
200 of 34.5kV or above (i.e. transmission voltage). Under the Company's proposed
201 language, overlashing may be allowed on slack-spans and messengers attached to
202 Poles carrying voltages of 34.5kV or above, only after the Licensee has submitted
203 an Application, and the Company has reviewed and approved the Application,
204 including evaluation of any needed Make-ready Work.

205 **Q. What are the other changes regarding third-party overlashing?**

206 A. Further changes to Sections 3.01 and 3.04, and the deletion of Section 5.04,
207 reflect the Company's position that, as to any rights and obligations vis-à-vis the
208 Company and a third-party, any overlashing by a third-party should be governed
209 under an Agreement between the Company and that third-party. Under the current
210 language in the Safe Harbor, any Licensee is allowed to grant permission to any
211 third-party to overlash its conductors to the Licensee's existing attachments. The
212 Company objects to this language for several reasons. First, the Commission's
213 Rule requires each attaching entity to enter into a Pole attachment Agreement
214 with the Pole Owner. Without such Agreements in place, there are no rates, terms
215 or conditions which govern the attachments. Furthermore, the Company would
216 have exposure to liability without the third-party overlasher meeting insurance,
217 bond and indemnification obligations. The existing language in the Safe Harbor
218 makes no mention of such requirement for third-party overlashing. Second, the
219 Commission's Rule requires allocation of Attachment Space be approved by the
220 Pole Owner for the exclusive use of the Licensee approved for such space. This is
221 the basis by which Pole Rent Fees are invoiced. There is nothing in the Rule that
222 contemplates invoicing more than one party for the same Attachment Space on a
223 Pole. Additionally there is no governance of what dollar amount an existing
224 Licensee could seek from third-parties for overlashing. The Pole Rental Fees the
225 Company charges are based upon the Commission's rate formula and must be
226 approved by the Commission. It is plausible for a third-party to overlash to an
227 existing Licensee's messenger without the third-party ever needing to attach to

228 any other Company owned Poles. I don't believe it is appropriate to require the
229 Company to allow third-parties to install facilities that impose burdens on the
230 Company's poles without requiring those third-parties to have a contractual
231 relationship with the Company. The current language also does not contemplate
232 the safety and operational issues related to third-party overlashing. In addition to
233 the safety concerns cited above of Pole loading and clearances related to
234 overlashing, the 2007 version of the NESC which was published August 6, 2006
235 contains NESC Rule 235H (2) requiring that "clearances between the conductors,
236 cable and equipment of one communications utility to those of another, anywhere
237 in the span, shall be not less than 100mm (4 in.), except by agreement between the
238 parties involved". The 2012 version published August 1, 2011 contains the same
239 Rule and language and adds the words "including the Pole Owner" to the end of
240 the sentence. Thus, the Company interprets "parties involved" to include the Pole
241 Owner even though not explicitly called out in the 2007 version. The Company as
242 Pole Owner does not agree to allow less than 4 inches between the parties'
243 conductors and equipment and therefore does not allow third-party overlashing.
244 Further, NESC Rule 220(D) states that "all conductors of electric supply and
245 communications lines should be arranged to occupy uniform positions throughout,
246 or shall be constructed, located, marked, numbered or attached to distinctive
247 insulators or crossarms, so as to facilitate identification by employees authorized
248 to work thereon". Third-party overlashing causes problems with identification of
249 facilities which further contributes to operational issues related to inspection and
250 maintenance activities by all the attaching entities. Third-party overlashing is

251 simply not an appropriate practice to impose on electric utilities' distribution
252 systems.

253 **Q. Please describe the reason for filing the fee schedule in this Docket.**

254 A. The reason for this part of the filing is primarily to comply with R.746-345-
255 3.A.2.c by incorporating a fee schedule into Schedule 4. The Company has in
256 place a fee schedule which has been in use since 2002 and lists the non-recurring
257 charges not included in the Pole attachment rental rate. The fee schedule is a part
258 of contracts which have been approved by the Commission, but the fee schedule
259 itself has not been filed as part of the Company's Schedule 4.

260 **Q. Is the Company proposing changes to the non-recurring charges in the fee
261 schedule currently made a part of existing contracts?**

262 A. Yes, the Company is proposing changes to its fee schedule in conformance with
263 the Commission's Rule and directive contained in a letter to the Division of
264 Public Utilities, dated September 6, 2005. The Company proposes to eliminate
265 inspection fees, topping fees and return trip fees as discrete fees, replace its
266 application and per pole fee with a per pole application fee that incorporates the
267 recovery of costs allowed by the Commission's directive described above, keep in
268 place the Unauthorized Attachment fee as discussed below and propose a fee
269 category of "Other" to account for its historic practice of invoicing for other costs,
270 for example, actual costs incurred on behalf of the Licensee during emergency
271 restoration work. A copy of proposed Schedule 4 is included with the Company's
272 Amended Application as Exhibit B.

273 **Q. Please explain why the Company proposes incorporating pre-inspection fees**
274 **into a per Pole Application Fee and eliminating post-inspection fees**
275 **altogether.**

276 A. The Company's current fee schedule, which has been in use since 2002 and has
277 been approved by the Commission in numerous Pole attachment contracts,
278 utilizes pre-inspection fees and post-inspection fees associated with Licensee
279 Applications to attach. In section 1. of the Commission's September 6, 2005 letter
280 to the parties in Docket No. 04-999-03, the Commission provided direction on
281 fees Pole Owners may charge. The Commission's direction was for Application
282 fees to cover the expected costs of doing the survey and engineering work
283 required to determine what Make-ready Work must be done to accommodate the
284 Application. The Commission further directed that the fee may be a per Pole fee,
285 or it may be charged in groups of quantities contained in the Application. The
286 Commission did not prescribe an amount for such fees, and it's reasonable to
287 assume such fees are to be based on actual costs. Finally, the Commission
288 believed that post-construction and removal verification inspection fees are to be
289 recovered through the Pole attachment rental charges.

290 **Q. Describe the Company's proposed per Pole Application Fee.**

291 A. The Company's proposed per Pole Application fee of \$58.30 is based upon the
292 most recent full calendar year's actual costs for performing the work to determine
293 what Make-ready Work must be done to accommodate the Application,
294 coordinate such work with the Licensee and other attaching entities, update the
295 Company's records and perform the specific invoicing associated with the

296 Licensee Application. The work described above is performed by a combination
297 of Company employees who charge their time to specific time reporting orders
298 dedicated to capture the costs of such work. A listing of the time reporting orders
299 used to track such costs, their description and the amounts from the most recent
300 full calendar year can be found in Exhibit RMP_(JMK-4). In order to derive the
301 per Pole cost, the Company divided the actual costs it incurs by the number of
302 Poles on Applications which made it all the way through the process to invoicing
303 for the same period. The calculations of the proposed per Pole Application fee can
304 be found in Exhibit RMP_(JMK-5). It should be noted that the costs the Company
305 incurs for its employees to perform this work do not settle to the FERC accounts
306 included in calculations of the Pole Rental Fee.

307 **Q. Describe the Company's proposed Unauthorized Attachment Fee.**

308 A. The Company has set the Unauthorized Attachment Fee at \$100 per Pole, in
309 addition to back rent, as a deterrent against attaching to the Company's Poles
310 without permission. This amount is the same amount the Company charges in
311 contracts it negotiates throughout its six state service territory and the amount
312 approved in numerous contracts approved by the Utah Commission. An
313 Unauthorized Attachment fee of \$250 per Pole was originally codified into
314 Administrative Rules in the state of Oregon in calendar year 2000 and then
315 revised with input from the industry during rulemaking in 2007 to the current
316 amount of \$100. The current amount was recently upheld by the Federal
317 Communications Commission in its Order 11-50, dated April 7, 2011, as
318 presumptively reasonable. The current Safe Harbor language in section 5.02

319 indicates Pole Owners may charge a Licensee the amounts shown in the Pole
320 Owners fee schedule, contemplating the fee would be set by the Pole Owner and
321 approved by the Commission. The Commission direction in September of 2006
322 was that fee be \$25 plus back rent to the last audit. Since then, the FCC and others
323 have provided guidance that the \$25 is not an adequate deterrent, and \$100 is
324 presumptively reasonable, and the Company supports that position. FCC Order
325 11-50 dated April 7, 2011 on page 51 states "...there appears to be a well-founded
326 concern that an unauthorized attachment payment amounting to no more than
327 back rent provides little incentive for attachers to follow authorization
328 processes..." The FCC Order goes on to state on page 52, "Specifically, going
329 forward, we will consider contract-based penalties for unauthorized attachments
330 to be presumptively reasonable if they do not exceed those implemented by the
331 Oregon PUC." Further, if a Licensee were to attach without permission from the
332 Pole Owner, the Licensee circumvents the intent of the Commission Rule with
333 respect to Make-ready Work and approval to attach and undermines the
334 Company's ability to collect rent and other fees as well as the Company's
335 opportunity to ensure the Licensee's installed Attachments are in compliance with
336 safety requirements. An adequate deterrent, such as the amount the Company is
337 proposing, is needed as disincentive for attaching without permission. Finally, the
338 Company expects that Licensees should understand the legal requirement that
339 attaching to Poles is allowed only after receiving permission from the Pole
340 Owner, and as such, would not engage in the behavior of making Unauthorized
341 Attachments, therefore avoiding the Unauthorized Attachment Fee altogether.

342 **Q. Please describe the category of “Other Miscellaneous Fees” in the proposed**
343 **fee schedule.**

344 A. This fee is applicable to recover the cost of work necessitated by Licensee
345 requests not otherwise recovered in the annual Rental Fee or other fee categories,
346 such as actual or estimated costs for Make-ready Work and labor for emergency
347 restoration work performed on behalf of the Licensee.

348 **Q. Why is it important for the Commission to approve the Company’s fee**
349 **schedule?**

350 A. The Company incurs costs caused by Licensees. Recovery of these costs from the
351 Licensees, rather than from the Company’s electric customers, in the form of both
352 recurring and non-recurring charges is appropriately allowed by law. The cost
353 based fees proposed in the Company’s Schedule 4 are consistent with
354 Commission Rule and are based on actual costs the Company incurs for the
355 Licensees. If the proposed fee schedule is approved by the Commission, the
356 Company can properly recover the costs from Pole occupants who are causing the
357 costs.

358 **Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

359 A. Yes.