

—BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH—

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	
ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER FOR AUTHORITY)	
TO INCREASE ITS RETAIL ELECTRIC UTILITY)	DOCKET No. 11-035-200
SERVICE RATES IN UTAH AND FOR)	
APPROVAL OF ITS PROPOSED ELECTRIC)	DPU EXHIBIT 2.0DIRECT-REV REQ
SERVICE SCHEDULES AND ELECTRIC SERVICE)	
REGULATIONS.)	

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY
REVENUE REQUIREMENT
ARTIE POWELL, PHD
ON BEHALF OF
THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

JUNE 11, 2012

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ATTACHED EXHIBITS

- ♦ DPU Exhibit 2.1 DIR-REV REQ, Generation Overhaul Expense Model
- ♦ DPU Exhibit 2.2 DIR-REV REQ, Generation Overhaul Expense Simulation
- ♦ CONFIDENTIAL DPU Exhibit 2.3 DIR-REV REQ, Klamath Relicensing Costs
- ♦ DPU Exhibit 2.4 DIR-REV REQ, Klamath Capital Additions Update
- ♦ DPU Exhibit 2.5 DIR-REV REQ, DPU Adjustments Summary

1 Pre-Filed Direct Testimony
2 Artie Powell, PhD
3 Division of Public Utilities
4 Docket No. 11-035-200

5 INTRODUCTION

6 **Q: PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, EMPLOYER, JOB TITLE, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.**

7 A: My name is Artie Powell; I am employed by the Division of Public Utilities; currently I am
8 the manager of the energy section; my business address is 160 East, 300 South, Salt Lake
9 City, Utah, 84114.

10 **Q: ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING IN THIS CASE?**

11 A: The Division of Public Utilities (Division).

12 **Q: PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR QUALIFICATIONS.**

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

22 SUMMARY OF DIVISION'S CASE

23 **Q: WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

24 A: In addition to my own testimony regarding certain expenses and treatment of a
25 settlement agreement, I will introduce the Division's witnesses and summarize the
26 Division's adjustments and recommendations.

27 **DIVISION WITNESSES AND ADJUSTMENTS**

28 **Q: ON WHAT SPECIFIC TOPICS ARE YOU TESTIFYING?**

29 A: My testimony covers two topics, generation overhaul expense (GOE) and treatment of
30 the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement (KHSA) costs. Specifically, the Division
31 supports and recommends that the Commission adopt the Company's methodology for
32 estimating GOE. This issue has been raised in prior rate cases and in the last rate case,
33 Docket No. 10-035-124, I offered extensive testimony in support of the Company's
34 methodology. The settlement in the prior rate case, however, did not address the GOE
35 issue. Therefore, in this case I again present supporting evidence for the Division's
36 recommendation.

37 Additionally, the Division supports and recommends that the Commission
38 approve the Company's proposed rate treatment of the KHSA costs including,
39 accounting for or including the Relicensing and Settlement Process costs in rate base,
40 accelerating the depreciation on the Klamath assets, and recovery of Utah's share of the
41 capped removal costs. The Division estimates that this treatment has an approximate
42 \$14 million revenue requirement impact on a Utah basis that is included in the
43 Company's case.

44 Typically, the Division updates the Company's filing with actual plant additions
45 and other information. In response to a Division data request the Company provided
46 actual additions and costs for the Klamath relicensing and process settlement through
47 March 2012. I have included these updates in my testimony. On a Utah basis, this
48 adjustment increases the Company's revenue requirement by approximately \$38,000.

49 Finally, I offer some comments and recommendations regarding the Company's
50 proposal in this case to update its net power costs approximately one month before the
51 deadline for intervener testimony. Briefly, the Division recommends that in the future
52 the update be filed six weeks before the intervener deadline for direct testimony.

53 **Q: WOULD YOU PLEASE INTRODUCE THE DIVISION'S OTHER WITNESSES?**

54 **A:** Other witnesses for the Division include:

55 **Mr. Chuck Peterson.** Mr. Peterson filed testimony as part of this case on May
56 31, 2012, supporting the Division's recommendations concerning the Company's cost of
57 capital and capital structure. The Division recommends a cost of equity capital of 9.3%,
58 which yields a decrease to the Company's request in this case of approximately \$45
59 million. The weighted cost of capital is approximately 7.35%.

60 **Mr. Richard Hahn.** Mr. Hahn, a consultant with La Capra Associates, Inc., was
61 retained in this case by the division to review the Company's capital additions. Mr.
62 Hahn evaluated 98 projects contained in the Company's case. Mr. Hahn's adjustments
63 decrease, on a Utah basis, the Company's revenue requirement by approximately \$6.7
64 million.

65 **Mr. George Evans.** Mr. Evans, a consultant with Evans Power Consulting, Inc.,
66 has testified previously on behalf of the Division. In this case Mr. Evans supports several
67 adjustments totaling approximately \$18 million on a Utah basis to the Company's filed
68 NPC.

69 **Mr. Dave Thompson.** Mr. Thompson supports Division adjustments to the
70 Company's distribution, customer account, and property tax expenses, and to the
71 Company's wage and employee benefits proposals.

72 **Mr. Clair Oman.** Testimony of Clair Oman will provide overview and discuss his
73 review of the Company's expenses recorded in FERC accounts 930.1 General Advertising
74 Expenses, account 930.2 Miscellaneous General Expenses, account 924 Property
75 Insurance, and account 925 Injuries and Damages. There are adjustments to the test
76 year balances of these accounts that will be described and explained in testimony and
77 exhibits.

78 **Mr. Mathew Croft.** Mr. Croft testifies on several matters including the Division's
79 update to the Company's adjustments using actual provided by the Company in
80 response to Division data requests. Mr. Croft also addresses several adjustments
81 dealing with the Company's plant additions, excess depreciation expense, and the lead
82 lag study. These adjustments along with all other Division adjustments were entered
83 into the Company's revenue requirement model (JAM). The Division's JAM is included
84 with Mr. Croft's testimony as DPU Exhibit 5.11.

85 In addition to these witnesses, the Division will file testimony on the cost of
86 service, rate spread, and rate design on June 22, 2012, according to the schedule in this
87 case.

88 The Division's adjustments in this phase of the case total approximately \$75
89 million. A summary of the Division's adjustments and overall revenue requirement
90 recommendation can be seen in DPU Exhibit 2.5 DIR-REV REQ. This exhibit includes the
91 Company's adjustment to its filed NPC contained in its updated NPC filings. Given the
92 Division's cost of capital and other adjustments, the Division recommends an overall
93 rate increase of approximately \$88 million.

94 GENERATION OVERHAUL EXPENSE

95 **Q: YOU PREVIOUSLY INDICATED THAT THE DIVISION SUPPORTS THE COMPANY'S METHODOLOGY FOR**
96 **ESTIMATING GENERATION OVERHAUL EXPENSE (GOE). WOULD YOU EXPLAIN WHAT METHODOLOGY THE**
97 **COMPANY IS USING?**

98 A: Yes. In his direct testimony, Company witness Mr. McDougal states,

99 This adjustment normalizes generation overhaul expenses
100 using a four-year historical average for the years ended June 2008
101 through 2011. . . . Prior to averaging, annual expenses are
102 restated to June 2011 dollars.¹

103 In other words, the Company's methodology escalates or restates the four historical
104 amounts in terms of 2011 dollars and then averages these escalated amounts to
105 estimate the GOE for the test period.

106 As Mr. McDougal explains, the use of the average of four historical years was
107 approved by the Commission in Docket No. 07-035-93. Subsequent to that order, the
108 Company utilized the method described above. However, in Docket No. 09-035-23, the
109 Commission did not allow the use of escalation prior to averaging.

110 **Q: IF THE COMMISSION DISALLOWED THE USE OF ESCALATION PRIOR TO AVERAGING, WHY DOES THE**
111 **DIVISION SUPPORT THE COMPANY IN ITS USE OF ESCALATION PRIOR TO AVERAGING IN THIS CASE?**

112 A: As Mr. McDougal points out in his direct testimony, the purpose of averaging is to
113 smooth the volatility in annual GOE; averaging does not account for escalation or
114 inflationary changes from year to year. Failure to account for inflation will

¹ "Direct Testimony of Steven R. McDougal, Revenue Requirement and Test Period," Docket No. 11-035-200, February 2012, p. 22, lines 486-491.

115 systematically underestimate or understate the Company's test period GOE.² The
116 Division agrees with these conclusions.

117 Additionally, in the Company's last general rate case, Docket No. 10-035-124, the
118 Division presented additional or new evidence and information that was not considered
119 in Docket No. 09-035-23. Based on the conclusions presented above and this new
120 information, the Division recommends adoption of the Company's methodology of
121 escalating the four historical values prior to averaging.

122 **Q: WAS THIS NEW INFORMATION FULLY CONSIDERED IN THE PREVIOUS RATE CASE, DOCKET NO. 10-035-**
123 **124?**

124 A: No. The settlement in that docket did not address or resolve the GOE estimation issue.

125 ALTERNATIVE METHODOLOGIES

126 **Q: WOULD YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THE NATURE OF THE INFORMATION YOU PRESENTED IN THE PREVIOUS RATE**
127 **CASE?**

128 A: Yes. In past rate cases, parties have advocated one of two methods to forecast GOE.
129 The first method, Method 1, inflates the average of four historical values. For example,
130 if G_1 , G_2 , G_3 , and G_4 are the historical annual GOE, then the fifth or test period GOE, G_5 ,
131 is estimated as,

$$\hat{G}_5 = \frac{(1 + \pi)}{4} [G_1 + G_2 + G_3 + G_4] = \frac{(1 + \pi)}{4} \sum_{i=1}^4 G_i \quad (1)$$

132 where π is the rate of inflation.³ The alternative method, Method 2, averages the
133 inflated historical values to estimate the test period value. That is,

² Mr. McDougal, p. 23, lines 500-502.

³ In previous cases some parties have advocated using the average of the four historical values without any inflation or escalation factors, which is the method specified by the Commission in Docket No. 09-035-23. That

$$\tilde{G}_5 = \frac{1}{4}[G_1(1 + \pi)^4 + G_2(1 + \pi)^3 + G_3(1 + \pi)^2 + G_4(1 + \pi)^1] \quad (2)$$

134 or simply^{4, 5}

$$\tilde{G}_5 = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^4 G_i (1 + \pi)^{5-i} \quad (3)$$

135 Of these two methods, economic and statistical theory suggests that Method 2 is
136 on average more accurate. That is, on average, the estimator described in Equation 3
137 will produce better estimates of the GOE than the estimator described in Equation 1.

138 ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

139 First, economic theory suggests that in order to compare two values separated
140 by time, the values need to have a common monetary base. That is, the values should
141 be expressed in real terms, where the effects of inflation are taken into account, as
142 opposed to nominal terms. Comparing values expressed in nominal terms—ignoring
143 inflation—can lead to erroneous conclusions. For example, suppose we bought a
144 particular item in the year 2000, for \$30; and another person bought the same item in
145 2010 for \$50. Who paid more for the item? In a nominal sense, the second person paid

method is a special case of Method 1 and amounts to setting the inflation rate, π , in Equation 1 to zero. The more general model as described Equation 1 is used here for completeness. Its use does not change the qualitative results or conclusions described herein.

⁴ One could use different inflation rates in restating or escalating the four historical values. For example, for G_i , an inflation rate of π_i could be used to restate that value to a common base, e.g., $G_i(1 + \pi_i)^{5-i}$. Alternatively, different inflation rates for each period could be applied to bring each value to a common base. Using either method would complicate the presentation but would not change the qualitative results. Therefore, for simplicity, the following presentation assumes a single or common inflation rate. It is important to note that in its filing the Company did use specific annual inflation rates in its formulation.

⁵ Method 2 differs slightly from the Company's proposed method. In the Company's method the historical values are brought to a common base short of the test period or period 5 described in Equation 2: the Company only escalates the historical values to the base year, the 12 months ending June 2012 (i.e., set the power in Equation 3 to $(4 - i)$). As with the differences from past proposals and Method 1 (see discussion in footnotes 3 and 4), for purposes of this presentation the more general specifications in Equations 1 and 2 are inclusive of these other proposals. Again, these differences would not affect the qualitative conclusions or results presented herein.

146 more: \$50 is greater than \$30. However, a nominal comparison such as this ignores the
147 effect of inflation on the purchasing power of the dollar between the two periods and
148 can lead to erroneous conclusions. The proper comparison would take into account the
149 effects of inflation using a price index—such as the Consumer Price Index—to either
150 deflate the 2010 value to 2000 dollars; or, inflate the 2000 value to 2010 dollars.
151 Suppose the price index in 2000 was 1.00 and in 2010 the price index was 1.75. Then,
152 the \$30 price paid in 2000 would be equivalent to \$52.50 (=1.75*\$30) in 2010. Thus, in
153 this example, the person buying the item for \$50 in 2010 actually paid less in real terms
154 than the person paying \$30 in 2000.

155 By inflating each of the historical values to a common base Method 2 properly
156 takes into account the effects of inflation before making a comparison (or forecast) to
157 the test year.

158 STATISTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

159 Statistical theory also supports the use of Method 2 over Method 1. To
160 demonstrate this, consider the following specification of the annual generation overhaul
161 expense. Let the generation overhaul expense, G , for year “ i ” be specified as,

$$G_i = H_i + \varepsilon_i \quad (4)$$

162 where

163 G_i = the actual or observed generation overhaul expense for period “ i ”;

164 H_i = the base or unobserved (unknown) generation overhaul expense for period “ i ”;

165 ε_i = a random error (shock) term with a mean zero and standard deviation σ_ε ; and

166 $H_i = H_{i-1} (1 + \pi)$.⁶

167 On average, under this specification, Method 1, \hat{G}_5 , will underestimate the GOE
168 in the test period, whereas, Method 2, \tilde{G}_5 , the Company's method, will on average
169 equal the test period value. That is,

$$E(\hat{G}_5) = \theta * H_5 \leq H_5 \quad (5)$$

170 where $E(\bullet)$ is the linear expectation operator, and θ is a constant between zero and
171 one⁷:

$$\theta = \frac{1}{4} [1 + (1 + \pi)^{-1} + (1 + \pi)^{-2} + (1 + \pi)^{-3}] \quad (6)$$

172 The Expectation operator, $E(\bullet)$, can be read as "on average." Thus, Equation 5 indicates
173 that Method 1 will on average underestimate the test period value H_5 . Whereas,

$$E(\tilde{G}_5) = H_5 \quad (7)$$

174 That is, Method 2 on average will equal the test period value. DPU Exhibit 2.1 DIR-REV
175 REQ provides a derivation or demonstration of Equations 5 through 7.

176 Therefore, Method 2 will on average yield a more accurate result and, thus, is
177 the preferred method for forecasting the GOE for the test year. Therefore, the Division
178 recommends that the Commission adopt the Company's methodology for forecasting
179 the GOE.

⁶ In this specification the observed GOE, G_i , includes the volatility while the base value, H_i , is a trend variable where the trend is the rate of inflation. The error term, in other words, represents the volatility which averaging smoothes: $E(\varepsilon_i) = 0$, where $E(\bullet)$ is the linear expectation operator; that is, on average, $\varepsilon_i = 0$. In other words, by averaging the historical values, G_1, G_2, G_3 , and G_4 , the volatility is smoothed or removed because $\sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{\varepsilon_i}{4} = 0$ approximately. Averaging, however, does not address the trend or inflation inherent in the problem.

⁷ Assuming that π is greater than or equal to zero.

180 **GOE MODEL SIMULATION**

181 **Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER EVIDENCE THAT METHOD 2 IS LIKELY TO PROVIDE A BETTER ESTIMATE OF THE**
182 **TEST YEAR LEVEL OF GENERATION OVERHAUL EXPENSE?**

183 A: Yes. I have simulated the two estimation methods for the model previously defined in
184 Equation 4. Since the simulation is relatively large—10,000 replications—I provide the
185 full simulation only in electronic form as part of my pre-filed testimony. However, a
186 summary of the simulation is provided in DPU Exhibit 2.2 DIR-REV REQ attached to my
187 testimony.

188 To perform the simulation I chose a value for year 1's base or unobserved value,
189 H_1 , of 1,000 and an inflation rate of three percent. Given the model specified herein,
190 these assumptions yield a fifth year base value, H_5 , of 1,126, which is the value to
191 estimate using the first four values. To generate the observed values, G_i , for the four
192 historic years, I used the RAND() function in EXCEL[®] to generate random deviates, which
193 were added to the four historic values.

194 Under these conditions, Method 1 underestimates the fifth year value 95% of
195 the time; whereas, Method 2 underestimates the fifth year value as expected
196 approximately 50% of the time. The root mean squared error, RMSE,⁸ of the estimates
197 from the two methods also indicate that Method 2 provides a better estimate on
198 average—the RMSE for Method 1 is approximately two times as large as the RMSE for
199 Method 2.

⁸ The RMSE is a common statistical measure of the accuracy or precision of an estimator and is defined as the square root of the average squared deviation of the estimates around the true value being estimated. The RMSE is similar to the sample standard deviation: $RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{\beta}_i - \beta)^2}$, where $\hat{\beta}_i$ is the i th estimate of the true value β . The smaller the RMSE the more accurate the estimate, that is, the smaller is the variation of the estimate around the true value.

200 The simulation confirms the conclusions drawn from the statistical modeling
201 (and economic reasoning), namely, Method 2 provides a better estimate of the test year
202 value. See Table 1 for a summary of the simulation results.

203 **Table 1: GOE Model Simulation (10,000 Replications)**

	AVERAGE ESTIMATE	MINIMUM ESTIMATE	MAXIMUM ESTIMATE	RMSE	NUMBER UNDER ESTIMATED	PERCENT UNDER ESTIMATED
METHOD 1	1,078	987	1,166	56	9,496	94.96%
METHOD 2	1,126	1,031	1,218	31	5,046	50.46%

204 KLAMATH DAM

205 **RECOMMENDATION**

206 **Q: WOULD YOU PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE COMPANY'S PROPOSED TREATMENT OF THE COSTS ASSOCIATED**
207 **WITH THE KLAMATH HYDROELECTRIC SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT OR KHSA?**

208 A: The Company's witness Mr. Steven McDougal provides details on the adjustment in his
209 direct testimony and in attached exhibits. As Mr. McDougal explains, "The KHSA
210 impacts the Test Period in three main areas: depreciation and amortization expense
211 associated with the Klamath-related assets, inclusion of the relicensing and process
212 costs in rate base, and allocation of the KHSA dam removal surcharge."⁹ The Company
213 proposed a similar treatment in the last rate case. That case, however, was settled with
214 the KHSA issues being reserved for a future proceeding. The Company's proposed
215 treatment in this case, therefore, includes the impact of the settlement agreement from
216 that prior case, namely, "the accrual of additional AFUDC on the balance of relicensing
217 and settlement process costs."¹⁰

⁹ See, McDougal Direct, p. 37, lines 830-833.

¹⁰ McDougal Direct, p. 38, lines 851-852.

218 In summary, the Company is asking for three things. First, that the relicensing
219 and process settlement costs be included in rate base in this case. As of December 31,
220 2010, these costs were approximately \$74 million and projected to be approximately
221 \$82 million as of May 30, 2012, on a system basis. The difference, approximately \$8
222 million represents the additional accrued AFUDC. On a Utah basis as of May 2012 the
223 total relicensing costs, including the AFUDC, are approximately \$35 million.

224 Second, the Company is asking that the relicensing costs be amortized on a
225 straight-line basis through December when the Company expects the Klamath facilities
226 to be decommissioned.¹¹ This treatment also includes accelerated depreciation of the
227 remaining Klamath assets at rates sufficient to fully depreciate the assets over the same
228 period.¹²

229 Third, the Company is asking to recover in Utah rates, Utah's allocated share of
230 the capped removal costs. On a system basis the removal costs are \$17.2 million. On a
231 Utah basis, the removal costs are approximately \$7.4 million.

232 **Q: WOULD YOU PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE DIVISION'S RECOMMENDATION REGARDING THE COMPANY'S**
233 **KLAMATH PROPOSAL IN THIS CASE?**

234 **A:** Yes. The Division recommends that the Commission adopt the Company's proposal in
235 this case to include the relicensing costs in rate base and the proposed amortization
236 schedule and the accelerated depreciation of the remaining assets, and the recovery of
237 Utah's share of the removal costs.

238 I think it is important to note that the Company's analysis demonstrates that the
239 Company's decision to enter to the KHSA leaves rate payers slightly better off than if the

¹¹ See, Direct Testimony of Andrea Kelly," Docket No. 11-035-200, p. 4, lines 74-82.

¹² McDougal Direct, p. 38, lines 859-861.

240 Company had pursued successful relicensing of the Klamath facilities.¹³ Additionally,
241 approving rate making treatment in this case as opposed to some future date avoids
242 further accrual of AFUDC.

243 **Q: DO YOU HAVE AN ESTIMATE OF THE REVENUE REQUIREMENT IMPACT FOR THE COMPANY'S PROPOSED**
244 **TREATMENT OF THE KLAMATH COSTS?**

245 A: Yes. I estimated the Klamath impact by turning the Klamath adjustment off in the
246 model provided by the Commission in this docket. The result was to decrease, on a
247 Utah basis, the Company's request by approximately \$14 million.

248 **IN SUPPORT OF THE RATE MAKING TREATMENT OF KLAMATH**

249 **Q: WOULD YOU EXPLAIN THE REASONS WHY THE DIVISION SUPPORTS THE COMPANY'S PROPOSED**
250 **TREATMENT OF THE KLAMATH COSTS?**

251 A: Yes. First, the Division supports the recovery of these costs at this time to terminate the
252 accrual of AFUDC. As I previously indicated, the Company is asking to amortize
253 approximately \$82 million in relicensing and process costs, which includes
254 approximately \$7.8 million in AFUDC that accrued from January 2011 through May
255 2012. If amortization begins June 2012 coinciding with the test year in this case as the
256 Company proposes, the accrual of AFUDC will cease. If the amortization is postponed to
257 a future case, then through the end of the test year, May 2013, another \$5.9 million will
258 potentially accrue in AFUDC. Looking at it in a different light, as of December 2010,
259 AFUDC was approximately 34.5% of the total relicensing and process costs. If AFUDC is
260 allowed to accrue unabated through the end of the test year, AFUDC will be
261 approximately 45% of the total costs; and that percentage will continue to grow,
262 possibly substantially, depending on the timing of the next rate case. (See
263 CONFIDENTIAL DPU Exhibit 2.3 DIR-REV REQ)

¹³ See Confidential Exhibit RMP_(ALK-4), attached to Ms. Kelly's Direct Testimony.

264 Second, the Company's analysis shows that ratepayers are slightly better off
265 under the KHSAs relative to relicensing and continued operation of the Klamath facilities.
266 (See Confidential Exhibit RMP_(ALK-4))

267 Third, it appears that all of the costs included in the relicensing costs are costs
268 that the Company would incur whether Klamath was relicensed or removed. In
269 response to a data request, OCS 21.15, from the Office of Consumer Services in Docket
270 No. 10-035-124, the Company provided confidentially a description and annual breakout
271 of the relicensing costs that the Company proposes to recover. In response to DPU data
272 request 34.1 (in the present case) the Company provided clarification on several cost
273 items. The Company's clarification included an explanation of the relationship between
274 the costs and the relicensing process. The Division concludes that the costs were part of
275 and necessary for the FERC relicensing process.

276 For these reasons, the Division recommends that the Commission approve the
277 Company's proposed rate treatment of the Klamath relicensing costs.

278 **KLAMATH UPDATE AND ADJUSTMENT**

279 **Q: WOULD YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THE DIVISION'S ADJUSTMENT RELATED TO THE KLAMATH FACILITIES?**

280 **A:** The Company's first supplemental response to DPU 2.14 updated the capital additions
281 and the AFUDC calculations through March 2012. I have included these updates in my
282 testimony and they are reflected in the Division's case summarized in DPU Exhibit 2.5
283 DIR-REV REQ. A summary of this adjustment is provided in DPU Exhibit 2.4 DIR-REV
284 REQ.

285 The Company's update indicates an increase in the capital additions of
286 approximately \$366,506 on a system basis. Accrued AFUDC increases by approximately
287 \$93,585 on a system basis. Including the impact on depreciation expense and reserves,

288 this adjustment increases revenue requirement by approximately \$38,000 on a Utah
289 basis.

290 NET POWER COST UPDATE

291 **Q: IN HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY COMPANY WITNESS MR. DUVALL PROPOSES A PROCESS TO UPDATE NPC**
292 **DURING THIS AND FUTURE GENERAL RATE CASE PROCEEDINGS. WOULD YOU EXPLAIN THE COMPANY'S**
293 **PROPOSAL?**

294 A: Yes. As set forth in his testimony, Mr. Duval proposes that "the Commission establish a
295 fixed schedule of when NPC updates will occur over the course of a rate case proceeding
296 and what particular NPC items will be updated."¹⁴ Specifically, Mr. Duval recommends
297 that the Company be allowed to update its NPC one month prior to the deadline for
298 intervenor direct testimony.

299 **Q: DID THE COMPANY FILE AN UPDATE TO ITS NPC IN THIS CASE?**

300 A: Yes, the Company filed updates on April 10, April 30, and May 11, 2012. The May 11th
301 date was approximately one month before the deadline for intervenor direct testimony.

302 According to the cover letters accompanying the two April filings, the updates
303 contained in the April filings were updates the Company intended to include as part of
304 the final May update. The cover letter accompanying the May filing indicates updates in
305 15 areas, including the Company's official forward price curve.

306 **Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS WITH THE COMPANY BEING ALLOWED TO UPDATE ITS NPC ONE MONTH**
307 **PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE FOR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

308 A: Yes. In his direct testimony on behalf of the Division, Mr. Evans points out that the
309 Company's update is complex, extensive, and has an impact on nearly every aspect of

¹⁴ "Direct Testimony of Gregory N. Duval," Docket No. 11-035-200, February 2012, p. 15, lines 287-289.

310 the Company's NPC. Filing such an extensive update one month prior to the deadline
311 for direct testimony does not allow adequate time for intervening parties to analyze the
312 Company's updates and receive responses to data requests.

313 **Q: WHAT IS THE DIVISION'S RECOMMENDATION WITH RESPECT TO THE COMPANY UPDATING ITS NPC?**

314 A: If the Commission allows the Company to update its NPC, the Division recommends that
315 the Company be required to do so six weeks prior to the deadline for intervenor direct
316 testimony.

317 **Q: DOES THE DIVISION BELIEVE THAT IT IS REASONABLE FOR THE COMPANY TO UPDATE ITS NPC PRIOR TO**
318 **INTERVENING PARTIES FILING DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

319 A: Yes. If the intent is to reflect in rates the actual conditions the Company is likely to
320 experience in the rate effective period, the Division believes it is reasonable for the
321 Company to update its NPC, as long as intervening parties are provided adequate time
322 to review any updates. As I indicated previously, the Division typically updates other
323 aspects of the Company's filing using actual data provided by the Company in response
324 to data requests. In this case, however, the Division's consultant, Mr. Evans, has advised
325 the Division four weeks is not sufficient time in all circumstances to review a complex
326 update such as NPC. Therefore, the Division recommends that the Company file its NPC
327 update at least six weeks prior to testimony deadlines.

328 CONCLUSION

329 **Q: WOULD YOU PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

330 A: In addition to summarizing the Division's case, I provide testimony on two issues, and
331 one adjustment. First, I provide testimony in support of the Company's methodology
332 for estimating generation overhaul expense. Second, I provide evidence in support of
333 the Company's proposed ratemaking treatment of the Relicensing and Settlement

334 Process costs associated with the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement or
335 KHSA. Adopting this ratemaking treatment at this time will terminate continued accrual
336 of AFUDC. Third, based on actual capital additions through March 2012, I increased the
337 Klamath costs on a Utah basis by approximately \$38,000.

338 The Division's witnesses support a variety of adjustments to the Company's filed
339 case. The Division's adjustments include a 9.3% return on equity capital with an overall
340 cost of capital of 7.35%. Given the Division's cost of capital and other adjustments, the
341 Division recommends an overall increase in the Company's revenue requirement of
342 approximately \$88 Million.

343 Finally, if the Company is allowed to update its NPC during the course of the
344 case, the Division recommends that the Commission direct the Company to do so at
345 least six weeks prior to the deadline for intervenor direct testimony.

346 **Q: DOES THAT CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT REVENUE REQUIREMENT TESTIMONY?**

347 **A:** Yes.