

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address with Rocky Mountain Power**  
2 **(“the Company” or “RMP”), a division of PacifiCorp.**

3 A. My name is Steven R. McDougal and my business address is 201 South Main,  
4 Suite 2300, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.

5 **Q. Have you previously sponsored testimony in this proceeding?**

6 A. Yes.

7 **Purpose of Testimony**

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

9 A. The purpose of my rebuttal testimony is to respond to and rebut certain issues  
10 raised by Division of Public Utilities (“DPU”) witnesses Mr. Clair Oman, Mr.  
11 David Thomson, Mr. Matthew Croft, Mr. Richard Hahn and Dr. Artie Powell;  
12 Utah Office of Consumer Services (“OCS”) witnesses Ms. Donna Ramas and Ms.  
13 Michele Beck; Utah Association of Energy Users Intervention Group (“UAE”)  
14 witness Mr. Kevin Higgins; and Federal Executive Agencies (“FEA”) witness Mr.  
15 Greg Meyer.

16 First, I present a revised calculation of the Company’s Utah-allocated  
17 revenue requirement and an updated revenue increase requested in this case. The  
18 Company’s revised revenue requirement includes adjustments made to its original  
19 filing that address certain corrections identified by the Company and items raised  
20 in the direct testimony of intervening parties. Next, I discuss the Company’s  
21 opposition to certain adjustments proposed by intervening parties that are not  
22 incorporated into the revised revenue requirement presented herein.

23 **Revised Revenue Requirement**

24 **Q. Have you recalculated a revised revenue requirement for the Test Period?**

25 A. Yes. The Company has adopted a number of adjustments reflecting updates and  
26 corrections to its original filing and issues identified by intervening parties  
27 through their direct testimony in this case, reducing the overall requested revenue  
28 change from \$172,267,339 to \$155,733,571. A summary of the Company's  
29 revised revenue requirement is provided in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-1R) and  
30 details of the revenue requirement calculation, including new adjustments to the  
31 revenue requirement, are included in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R). The revised  
32 results of operations for the twelve months ending May 31, 2013, (the "Test  
33 Period") demonstrate that under current rates, the Company will earn an overall  
34 return on equity ("ROE") of 7.0 percent in Utah.

35 **Q. Please describe how Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R) is organized.**

36 A. Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R) is the Company's revised Utah results of operations  
37 report (the "Report") incorporating all adjustments to the revenue requirement  
38 identified in my rebuttal testimony. The Report is organized into sections marked  
39 with tabs in a similar manner as Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-3). Tabs 1, 2 and 11 of  
40 Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R) replace tabs of the same number in Exhibit  
41 RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-3) previously filed by the Company in this proceeding. Tab 12 of  
42 Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R) is a new section of the Report that identifies all  
43 adjustments made by the Company in its rebuttal case to the original filing and  
44 provides details supporting the calculation of the adjustments. All adjustments in  
45 tab 12 are incremental to the revenue requirement submitted in the Company's

46 original filing.

47 **Q. Please summarize the adjustments the Company is incorporating into its**  
48 **revised revenue requirement calculation.**

49 A. The Company is making the following adjustments to the revenue requirement  
50 originally proposed in this proceeding related to corrections identified by the  
51 Company and issues addressed in the direct testimony of intervening parties:

**Table 1 (\$millions)**

<b>Adj No.</b>	<b>Filed Price Change</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>172.267</b>
12.1	Net Power Cost Update	(8.726)	
12.2	EEOC Penalty	(0.022)	
12.3	Rents	(0.064)	
12.4	Individual Recognition Program	(0.051)	
12.5	Processing Customer Payments	(0.365)	
12.6	Customer Switching to Paperless Billing	(0.343)	
12.7	Community Organization Memberships	(0.014)	
12.8	Seminar Travel Savings	(0.006)	
12.9	Wages and Benefits - Wage Increase Update	(0.055)	
12.10	Wages and Benefits - Post Retirement Benefits (PBOP)	(0.533)	
12.11	Wages and Benefits - Overtime Expense	(0.543)	
12.12	Deseret Power Dispute - Interest Expense	(0.201)	
12.13	Property Tax Expense	(3.438)	
12.14	Plant Held for Future Use	(0.485)	
12.15	Special Contract Revenue	(1.281)	
12.16	Wind Turbine Oil Changes	(0.600)	
12.17	Contingency Adjustment	(0.155)	
12.18	Oregon Rate Dispute Costs	(1.103)	
12.19	Bridger and Trapper Mine Update	0.407	
12.20	Klamath	0.040	
12.21	Plant Addition and Retirement Update	(0.318)	
12.22	Depreciation Expense Update	0.033	
12.23	Depreciation Reserve Update	0.465	
12.24	Tax Update	1.115	
12.25	Pollution Control ADIT	(0.302)	
12.26	Adoption of Safe Harbor Method	0.079	
	Lead / Lag	(0.066)	
	<b>Rebuttal Price Change</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>155.734</b>

52 **Incorporated Adjustments**

53 **Q. Please explain the updates, corrections or other revisions the Company has**  
54 **incorporated into its rebuttal case.**

55 A. Subsequent to filing the original revenue requirement request in this proceeding,  
56 the Company identified certain items to be updated in power costs as well as other  
57 items that merit revision. Additionally, the Company has adopted several  
58 adjustments proposed by parties in this proceeding. The majority of these items  
59 have been communicated to intervening parties through discovery and addressed  
60 in their direct testimony. I address individually the adjustments made by the  
61 Company in developing its rebuttal revenue requirement.

62 **Net Power Cost Update**

63 **Q. Please explain the Net Power Cost update adjustment.**

64 A. Page 12.1 of Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R) updates the net power costs included in  
65 the case consistent with the May 11, 2012, net power cost update filing submitted  
66 by the Company in this proceeding and as addressed by Company witness Mr.  
67 Gregory N. Duvall in his rebuttal testimony. The net power cost update reduces  
68 total Company net power costs by \$20.3 million and Utah allocated net power  
69 costs by \$8.7 million.

70 **EEOC Penalty**

71 **Q. Please explain Mr. Oman's proposed adjustment with respect to an Equal**  
72 **Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") Penalty.**

73 A. Mr. Oman removes from the Company's revenue requirement a \$50,000 penalty  
74 assessed by the EEOC in June 2011, which was inadvertently booked to an above

75 the line account. In response to data request DPU 28.1, the Company agreed to  
76 remove this item from the revenue requirement in its rebuttal filing.

77 **Q. Is Mr. Oman’s adjustment as presented in his direct testimony correct?**

78 A. No. The total Company adjustment amount and allocation factor utilized in Mr.  
79 Oman’s adjustment (DPU Exhibit No. 7.2) are both correct; however, the Utah  
80 allocated adjustment amount does not equal the total Company amount multiplied  
81 by the allocation factor percentage. The Company has corrected this in its  
82 adjustment removing the EEOC penalty from this case, which is detailed on page  
83 12.2 of Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R). Similar to Mr. Oman’s adjustment, the  
84 Company’s adjustment removes from results the escalated amount reflected in the  
85 Test Period for this item. This adjustment reduces the revenue requirement by  
86 \$22,390.

87 **Rents**

88 **Q. Please describe Mr. Oman’s adjustment to rent expense.**

89 A. Mr. Oman proposes to remove the escalation of O&M expense reflected in the  
90 Company’s filing associated with rent expense for space in the One Utah Center  
91 (“OUC”) not used by the Company. Escalation on the OUC rent expense is  
92 reflected in the Company’s revenue requirement through adjustment 4.12 of  
93 Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-3). Mr. Oman proposes this adjustment to align the  
94 ratemaking treatment of OUC rent expense with the rent revenues the Company  
95 receives for subleasing the unused office space within the OUC.

96 **Q. Do you agree with this adjustment?**

97 A. Yes. Mr. Oman’s adjustment as proposed ensures that rent revenues received by

98 the Company for subleasing OUC office space receive similar ratemaking  
99 treatment to rent expense incurred by the Company to lease office in the same  
100 building. I have incorporated this adjustment into the revised results of operations.  
101 This adjustment, which is detailed on page 12.3 of Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R),  
102 reduces the revenue requirement by \$64,337.

103 **Individual Recognition Program**

104 **Q. Do you agree with the adjustment proposed by Mr. Thomson, and Ms.**  
105 **Ramas, to remove expense related to safety recognition gifts for transmission**  
106 **and distribution employees?**

107 A. Yes. In his direct testimony in this proceeding, RMP president and CEO Mr. A.  
108 Richard Walje stated that the Company had eliminated safety recognition gifts for  
109 transmission and distribution function employees effective January 2011. Since  
110 this program will not be offered during the Test Period, costs associated with the  
111 program should be fully removed from Test Period results. This adjustment,  
112 which is detailed on page 12.4 of Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R), reduces the  
113 revenue requirement by \$51,379.

114 **Processing Customer Payments**

115 **Q. Do you agree with the adjustment proposed by Mr. Thomson and Ms. Ramas**  
116 **to reduce Test Period expense to reflect savings resulting from the switch to**  
117 **in-house processing of customer electronic payments?**

118 A. Yes. In Mr. Walje's direct testimony, he stated that the Company began  
119 processing customer electronic payments in-house in January 2012, which  
120 resulted in reduced costs of processing these payments. To reflect these savings in

121 the revised results of operations, the Company has modeled the adjustment as  
122 proposed by Ms. Ramas since the OCS adjustment aligns with how costs  
123 associated with the now terminated customer electronic payment processing  
124 program were reflected in Test Period results. This adjustment reduces the  
125 revenue requirement by \$365,086 and is detailed on page 12.5 of Exhibit  
126 RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

127 **Customer Switching to Paperless Billing**

128 **Q. Please describe the adjustment proposed by Mr. Thomson and Ms. Ramas**  
129 **associated with RMP customers switching to paperless billing.**

130 A. On page 10 of his direct testimony in this proceeding, Mr. Walje identified the  
131 Company's efforts to encourage customers to switch to paperless billing, which  
132 has resulted in cost savings associated with the customer billing process. Mr.  
133 Thomson's and Ms. Ramas' adjustments attempt to identify incremental savings  
134 associated with this effort that are projected to be realized in the Test Period and  
135 to reflect those savings in the Test Period revenue requirement calculation. Mr.  
136 Thomson's and Ms. Ramas' adjustments vary by approximately \$250,000 on a  
137 Utah allocated basis.

138 **Q. What causes the difference between Ms. Ramas' and Mr. Thomson's**  
139 **adjustments?**

140 A. In calculating her adjustment, Ms. Ramas looks at the difference between the  
141 number of paperless billings projected to occur in the Test Period (2,580,000) and  
142 the number of paperless billings that occurred during the Base Period (1,852,176).  
143 She then applies a savings of \$0.47 per billing to the difference between Test

144 Period and Base Period paperless billings. The \$0.47 per billing savings figure  
145 was provided by the Company in data response OCS 8.2. Mr. Thompson  
146 identifies the number of incremental paperless billings expected to occur in the  
147 Test Period alone (192,000) and then applies the \$0.47 per billing savings figure  
148 to the projected incremental Test Period paperless billings.

149 **Q. Have you incorporated either Ms. Ramas' or Mr. Thompson's adjustment**  
150 **for the savings associated with paperless billing into the revised revenue**  
151 **requirement calculation?**

152 A. Yes. I have incorporated Ms. Ramas' adjustment since her methodology more  
153 closely aligns with the incremental savings projected to be realized in the Test  
154 Period in comparison to savings realized in the Base Period. The adjustment  
155 reduces the revenue requirement by \$343,131 and is reflected in Exhibit  
156 RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R) on page 12.6.

### 157 **Community Organization Memberships**

158 **Q. Ms. Ramas proposes to reduce Test Period expense for memberships in**  
159 **community organizations. Do you agree with this adjustment?**

160 A. Yes. On page 10 of his direct testimony in this proceeding, Mr. Walje stated that  
161 RMP had realized savings by reducing its membership in community  
162 organizations. In response to data request OCS 8.3, the Company identified the  
163 planned reductions to memberships and their impact on Test Period expense. This  
164 adjustment reduces the revenue requirement by \$13,887 and is detailed on page  
165 12.7 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R).



166 **Seminar Travel Savings**

167 **Q. Ms. Ramas proposes an adjustment to reduce Test Period O&M expense to**  
168 **reflect savings from converting the annual estimator seminar to an on-line**  
169 **forum. Do you agree with this adjustment?**

170 A. Yes. In his direct testimony in this proceeding, Mr. Walje states that conversion of  
171 the annual estimator seminar to an online forum will result in savings of  
172 approximately \$50,000 through the elimination of travel costs. In response to  
173 OCS data request 8.5, the Company identified annual O&M savings associated  
174 with this measure of approximately \$12,500; expenses associated with the annual  
175 estimator seminar were 75 percent capitalized with the remainder booked to  
176 O&M expense. This adjustment reduces the revenue requirement by \$6,414 and is  
177 detailed on page 12.8 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

178 **Wages and Employee Benefits**

179 **Q. Please summarize the adjustments you have made to wages and employee**  
180 **benefits in developing the revised revenue requirement.**

181 A. The adjustment to wages and employee benefits incorporates the updates  
182 described subsequently to various labor-related costs in order to: (1) update actual  
183 wage increases that are now known but were estimated at the time of filing; (2)  
184 use more recent actuarial reports for postretirement benefits other than pension  
185 (“PBOP”) costs that were not available at the time of filing; and (3) reduce labor  
186 overtime expense to the actual December 2011 level. Details utilized in  
187 developing these adjustments are provided on pages 12.9 through 12.11.5 of  
188 Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R). These updates are incorporated into the Company’s

189 wages and employee benefit model which calculates all of the downstream  
190 impacts related to these changes such as reduced payroll taxes and reduced  
191 escalation rates applied to miscellaneous labor categories.

192 **Q. Please describe the adjustment proposed by the DPU and UAE to wage**  
193 **increases.**

194 A. Mr. Thomson and Mr. Kevin Higgins propose to update the officer/exempt and  
195 non-exempt labor groups for the January 2012 wage increase from the 2.0 percent  
196 projection used in the filing to the 1.93 percent level that actually occurred.

197 **Q. Do you agree with the adjustment proposed by Mr. Thomson and Mr.**  
198 **Higgins to update the January 2012 wage increase?**

199 A. Yes, with the exception of a few calculation errors made by Mr. Thomson and  
200 Mr. Higgins in developing their proposed adjustments. The Company agrees to  
201 update the January 2012 target wage increase of 2.0 percent as shown in Exhibit  
202 RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-3), page 4.2.5, to the actual increase of 1.93 percent extended to  
203 both the officer/exempt and non-exempt labor groups. This update impacts other  
204 labor related items such as other bare labor, annual incentive plan (“AIP”),  
205 associated payroll taxes, and some employee benefit levels. The impact to these  
206 items has been reflected in the Company’s adjustment along with a correction of  
207 the errors included in Mr. Thomson’s and Mr. Higgins’ adjustments. The  
208 Company’s adjustment reduces revenue requirement by \$54,991 on a Utah  
209 allocated basis and is included in adjustment 12.9 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

210 **Q. Please summarize the errors made by Mr. Higgins and Mr. Thomson in**  
211 **calculating their proposed adjustments.**

212 A. There are numerous computations necessitated by adjustments to wage expense to  
213 ensure all impacted items are appropriately addressed. The Company discovered a  
214 few errors in both Mr. Thomson's and Mr. Higgins' adjustments while reviewing  
215 their calculations. The most significant was that neither accounted for the  
216 forecasted benefit levels that are dependent upon the overall wage increase  
217 percentage included in the case. The Company has corrected the identified  
218 calculation errors in its wage and employee benefits adjustment reflected in the  
219 development of its rebuttal revenue requirement position.

220 **Q. Please describe the adjustment proposed by Mr. Thomson, Mr. Higgins and**  
221 **Ms. Ramas to the PBOP actuarial value for calendar year 2012.**

222 A. All three recommend revising the calendar year 2012 actuarial value of \$1.5  
223 million included in the calculation in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-3), page 4.2.7, with  
224 the updated actuarial value of \$400,000.

225 **Q. Please describe the adjustment proposed by Ms. Ramas to the PBOP**  
226 **actuarial value for calendar year 2013.**

227 A. Ms. Ramas recommends also revising the calendar year 2013 actuarial value of  
228 \$3.2 million included in the calculation in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-3), page 4.2.7,  
229 with the updated 2012 actual value of \$400,000.

230 **Q. Do you agree with the PBOP adjustments proposed by Mr. Thomson, Mr.**  
231 **Higgins and Ms. Ramas to update the 2012 actuarial value and also Ms.**  
232 **Ramas' adjustment to update the 2013 PBOP actuarial value?**

233 A. Yes. The Company agrees to update the 2012 PBOP target actuarial value from  
234 \$1.5 million to the actual value of \$400,000, and though the Company has not yet  
235 calculated an updated 2013 PBOP actuarial value at this time, the Company also  
236 agrees to update the 2013 forecast actuarial value from \$3.2 million to \$0.4  
237 million, accepting Ms. Ramas' position. The Company's proposal reduces the  
238 total Company PBOP expense included in the case from \$2.1 million to \$400,000  
239 on a total Company basis, which reduces the Utah revenue requirement by  
240 \$532,931. This adjustment is detailed on page 12.10 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-  
241 2R).

242 **Q. Please describe the adjustment proposed by Mr. Meyer to overtime expense.**

243 A. Mr. Meyer proposes to reduce the Test Period overtime expense (overtime and  
244 premium pay) from \$67.7 million to \$66.1 million, which lowers Test Period  
245 overtime expense to the twelve months ended December 2011 actual level. The  
246 sole argument Mr. Meyer provides for his adjustment is that the actual 12 months  
247 ending December 2011 overtime expense and hours are the highest level recorded  
248 dating back to 2005. Mr. Meyer offers no other evidence or basis for this  
249 adjustment.

250 **Q. Were there any errors in the overtime expense adjustment proposed by Mr.**  
251 **Meyer?**

252 A. Yes. Mr. Meyer did not take into account the labor capitalization rate of 29.254

253 percent and the Utah allocation of 42.825 percent in developing his adjustment. In  
254 response to Company data request RMP 1 to FEA, Mr. Meyer corrected this error  
255 which reduces the adjustment from \$1.5 million to \$467,236 on a Utah allocated  
256 basis.

257 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Meyer's adjustment to overtime expense, reflecting**  
258 **the corrections you have addressed?**

259 A. I do not agree with the simplistic rationale Mr. Meyer presents as support for his  
260 adjustment. Mr. Meyer asserts that the overtime and premium pay expense  
261 incurred during calendar 2011 should be the maximum amount for these items  
262 reflected in the Test Period. Mr. Meyer's adjustment ignores any and all Test  
263 Period specific conditions which may impact Test Period expense for these items,  
264 including overtime hours projected during the Test Period and contracted wage  
265 increases that will become effective during the Test Period.

266 Nevertheless, despite my objections to Mr. Meyer's methodology, the  
267 Company accepts the impact to revenue requirement of this adjustment. The  
268 Company believes that overtime costs during the Test Period will more accurately  
269 align with the level proposed by Mr. Meyer in his adjustment. It is on this basis  
270 that I reflect this adjustment into the revised revenue requirement calculation,  
271 which adjusts total Company overtime and premium pay expense in the Test  
272 Period to \$66.1 million. This adjustment reduces Utah revenue requirement by  
273 \$543,227 and is detailed on page 12.11 of Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

274 **Deseret Power Dispute – Interest Expense**

275 **Q. Please describe the adjustment proposed by Ms. Ramas and Mr. Thomson to**  
276 **remove from results the write-off of interest accrued on the Deseret Power**  
277 **Dispute.**

278 A. Interest expense was accrued on amounts Deseret Power has refused to pay on its  
279 percentage share of the scrubber and turbine upgrade projects at the Hunter Unit 2  
280 generation facility. After an unfavorable arbitration ruling, the accrued interest on  
281 the outstanding receivables was written-off the Company's books. The Company  
282 agreed to remove the impact of this write off from the results in response to data  
283 request OCS 14.3. Mr. Thomson's and Ms. Ramas' proposed adjustments remove  
284 the impact of this write-off from Test Period results.

285 **Q. Do you agree with the adjustments as proposed by Ms. Ramas and Mr.**  
286 **Thompson?**

287 A. Yes, with one small modification. Ms. Ramas labels CN ("Customer Number") as  
288 the allocation factor utilized in her adjustment, but uses 43.155 percent (which is  
289 the Utah SG factor percent in this case) in calculating the Utah allocated impact of  
290 her adjustment. If this percent is corrected to the Utah CN allocation factor rate of  
291 49.8928 percent, Ms. Ramas' adjustment is equal to the adjustment proposed by  
292 Mr. Thomson. With the correction to Ms. Ramas' adjustment, the Company  
293 agrees with both the DPU and OCS proposed adjustments for this matter. This  
294 adjustment reduces the revenue requirement by \$200,918. This adjustment is  
295 detailed on page 12.12 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

296 **Property Tax Expense**

297 **Q. Please describe the adjustments to property tax expense proposed by Mr.**  
298 **Thomson, Ms. Ramas and Mr. Higgins.**

299 A. The adjustments proposed by Mr. Thomson, Ms. Ramas and Mr. Higgins all  
300 adjust Test Period property tax expense for an incorrect Base Period property tax  
301 expense amount utilized in the Company's original filing. The Company  
302 identified this issue through discovery and provided the correct Base Period  
303 property tax expense amount and the revised adjustment to arrive at projected  
304 Test Period property tax expense. Mr. Thompson's adjustment also incorporates a  
305 revision to Test Period property tax expense provided by the Company in  
306 response to data request DPU 44.1. The revised property tax expense for the Test  
307 Period is \$336,939 greater than the Test Period property tax expense reflected in  
308 the Company's original filing.

309 **Q. Do you agree with the proposed adjustments to property tax expense?**

310 A. The Company agrees with the adjustment as proposed by Mr. Thomson. Inclusion  
311 of the revised Test Period property tax expense in this adjustment is consistent  
312 with the treatment of updates to Test Period expense for wages, PBOP and  
313 overtime pay included in the overall revenue requirement positions of the DPU,  
314 OCS, UAE and FEA and as reflected in the Company's revised revenue  
315 requirement calculation. This adjustment reduces the revenue requirement by \$3.4  
316 million and is detailed on page 12.13 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

317 **Plant Held for Future Use**

318 **Q. Please explain the adjustment to Plant Held for Future Use proposed by Mr.**  
319 **Higgins and Mr. Thomson.**

320 A. Mr. Higgins and Mr. Thomson propose to remove the balances included in plant  
321 held for future use (“PHFU”) for individual wind (the Twelve Mile and Wild  
322 Horse wind farms) and transmission (the Aeolus, Anticline and Populus  
323 substations) projects that were included in rate base in the Company’s filing. Mr.  
324 Higgins and Mr. Thomson both discuss that the Company agreed to remove these  
325 properties from rate base in rebuttal testimony filed as part of its Wyoming  
326 general rate case (Docket No. 20000-405-ER-11).

327 **Q. Did the Company discover any errors in the computation of this adjustment**  
328 **by any of the parties?**

329 A. Yes. Mr. Thomson’s proposed adjustment is incorrect because he removed the  
330 year end June 2011 balances in his adjustment instead of the beginning-ending  
331 average June 2010/June 2011 balances, which was the rate base included for these  
332 properties in this filing. As a result, Mr. Thomson’s adjustment to rate base is  
333 overstated by \$1.1 million.

334 **Q. Does the Company accept the adjustment to PHFU as proposed by Mr.**  
335 **Higgins and Mr. Thomson?**

336 A. Yes, conditioned upon the appropriate correction to Mr. Thomson’s adjustment  
337 being made. Similar to the rebuttal adjustment accepted by the Company in its  
338 current Wyoming general rate case, RMP agrees to remove from rate base the  
339 PHFU balances associated with the transmission and wind projects identified



340 previously. This adjustment, which reflects the appropriate correction to Mr.  
341 Thomson's adjustment, reduces the revenue requirement by \$484,524 and is  
342 detailed on page 12.14 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

343 **Special Contract Revenues**

344 **Q. Please explain your understanding of the special contract revenue**  
345 **adjustment proposed by Mr. Higgins.**

346 A. Mr. Higgins proposes to annualize the January 1, 2013, increases related to  
347 special contracts 1 and 2 into the revenues in this case. He also proposes to  
348 establish a rider surcredit to recognize revenues associated with the special  
349 contract increases starting on January 1, 2014.

350 **Q. Does the Company agree that an adjustment should be made to special**  
351 **contract revenues?**

352 A. For the January 1, 2013, increase in this case, the Company accepts Mr. Higgins'  
353 adjustment. However, as noted by Mr. Higgins, his adjustment UAE Exhibit RR  
354 1.2 is:

355 a placeholder value for this revenue based on RMP's requested  
356 revenue requirement. This value should ultimately be adjusted in a  
357 compliance filing based on the final revenue requirement approved  
358 by the Commission in this proceeding, as the benchmark rates used  
359 for adjusting Special Contract 1 and 2 rates are adjusted relative to  
360 the Company's filed case.<sup>1</sup>

361 The Company's adjustment, which reflects the original proposal by Mr.  
362 Higgins without any true-up, is included on page 12.15 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-  
363 2R) and reduces the revenue requirement by \$1.3 million.

---

<sup>1</sup> Direct Testimony of Kevin C. Higgins, page 11, lines 202 – 206.

364 **Q. Does the Company support Mr. Higgins' proposal to establish a rider**  
365 **surcredit for special contract changes effective January 1, 2014, and running**  
366 **through the rate-effective period of the subsequent general rate case?**

367 A. No. This is a one-sided adjustment which singles out one item during the rate  
368 effective period while ignoring all other changes during the period. Clearly, there  
369 will be numerous changes to many revenue and cost components between the Test  
370 Period in this case, ending May 31, 2013, and the subsequent calendar year 2014  
371 levels. The Company does not see any valid reason for carving out this one single  
372 item for a tariff rider, while ignoring all other items such as new plant additions,  
373 changes in O&M, and other items.

374 **Q. What is your response to Mr. Higgins' argument that the structure of these**  
375 **contracts is "gamed" in favor of the Company?**

376 A. This is not true; in fact, the special contract rate changes were delayed at the  
377 request of the special contract customers. One solution to Mr. Higgins' assertion  
378 would be for the Commission to determine that all future special contracts  
379 brought before the Commission include a provision that the special contract rates  
380 will be changed concurrently with the price changes in a general rate case,  
381 eliminating any timing difference in the rate changes for these customers. This  
382 would guarantee all customers neither benefit nor are harmed by any changes to  
383 special contracts rates, and would negate the need for a rider surcredit as proposed  
384 by Mr. Higgins.

385 **Wind Turbine Oil Changes**

386 **Q. Please explain your understanding of the adjustments proposed by Ms.**  
387 **Ramas and Mr. Higgins related to Wind Turbine O&M costs.**

388 A. In the incremental O&M adjustment presented in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-3), page  
389 4.9, the Company included \$3.0 million for wind-generation turbine oil change  
390 expenses that are projected to occur during the Test Period. Ms. Ramas  
391 recommends that the projected Test Period oil change costs be normalized over a  
392 three year period since the average manufacturer recommended time span  
393 between oil changes for Company owned wind turbines is three years. Mr.  
394 Higgins also proposes to include a three-year average level of oil change expense  
395 in the Test Period, inclusive of the oil change costs projected for the Dunlap I  
396 wind project. Ms Ramas' adjustment did not reflect costs for the Dunlap I wind  
397 project.

398 **Q. Does the Company agree that an adjustment should be made to wind turbine**  
399 **oil change costs included in the Test Period?**

400 A. Yes, the Company agrees to reflect Test Period wind turbine oil change costs  
401 using a three year average normalized basis, inclusive of the oil change costs  
402 projected for the Dunlap I wind project. Accordingly, the Company has adopted  
403 the adjustment as proposed by Mr. Higgins into its revised revenue requirement  
404 calculation. A full discussion on the Company's position and the calculation of  
405 the three-year average oil change cost level is included in the rebuttal testimony  
406 of Company witness Mr. Mark R. Tallman. This adjustment reduces the revenue  
407 requirement by \$0.6 million on a Utah allocated basis and is detailed on page

408 12.16 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

409 **Q. Is the three year average methodology proposed for wind turbine oil change**  
410 **costs consistent with Commission approved treatment of similar costs?**

411 A. Yes, the ratemaking treatment of generation overhaul expense is similar to the  
412 three year average methodology proposed for wind turbine oil change costs,  
413 although generation overhaul costs are averaged over a four year period due to  
414 plant overhaul schedules. The intent of both adjustments is to normalize periodic,  
415 lumpy costs over a reasonable time period. The two methodologies are also  
416 similar in that costs extending beyond the test period of a given rate case may be  
417 factored into development of the normalized cost average.

418 In the generation overhaul expense adjustment, overhaul costs of new  
419 generating units that do not have four years of operating history under the  
420 Company at the time the adjustment is prepared for a rate filing are normalized as  
421 part of the adjustment. In those instances, the Company includes a four-year  
422 average comprised of the overhaul expense projected for the first four full years  
423 those plants will be operated under Company management. This treatment has  
424 resulted in costs extending beyond the test period being included in the  
425 normalized four year average cost calculation.

426 An example is Utah Docket No. 09-035-23, where the test period utilized  
427 was the year ending June 2010. When this case was prepared, the Lake Side,  
428 Currant Creek and Chehalis plants had not been operated under Company  
429 management for a period of four years. In calculating the normalized four year  
430 average generation overhaul cost level included in this case, cost projections for

431 the Chehalis plant extended through calendar year 2012, projections for Lake Side  
432 extended through calendar year 2011 and cost projections for the Currant Creek  
433 plant extended through calendar year 2010. This treatment was originally  
434 approved by the Commission in Docket No. 07-035-93 and reaffirmed in Docket  
435 No. 09-035-23.

436 This decision relates to the proposed treatment of wind turbine oil change  
437 costs in that the Company and UAE are proposing to include in the normalized  
438 three year average cost level projected costs for the Dunlap I wind project, a  
439 portion of which are expected to occur beyond the Test Period of this case.  
440 Allowance of the Dunlap I oil change costs in development of the three year  
441 average is consistent with prior Commission decisions on similar costs.

#### 442 **Capital Project Contingencies**

443 **Q. Mr. Higgins proposes an adjustment to remove 67 percent of the contingency**  
444 **amount for 13 plant additions. Do you agree with this adjustment?**

445 A. No. Specifically I disagree with his recommendation to make an across the board  
446 67 percent reduction to the contingency component of each of the projects simply  
447 based on his review of projects included in the last two general rate cases. Mr.  
448 Higgins does not provide any analysis of the individual projects or an assessment  
449 of the projected expenditures for the individual projects as justification for his  
450 adjustment. His simplistic recommendation is flawed and should be rejected  
451 because each project is unique and an extrapolation of the percentage of  
452 contingency utilized historically on a totally different set of projects is not a valid  
453 indicator of amounts that will be utilized on the projects identified in the current

454 case.

455 The current case includes hydro license settlement agreement projects for  
456 fish collection and transport, dam seepage remediation, turbine upgrades, flue gas  
457 desulphurization and other clean air related projects, most of which are extremely  
458 complex projects, with higher exposures to risks than the normal run-rate repair,  
459 maintenance and overhaul projects. The contingency included for each of these  
460 projects is consistent with the Company's Corporate Governance policy which  
461 specifically addresses the usage of contingency on capital projects and states:

462 Contingency: When preparing project cost estimates, the individual  
463 line items comprising the total estimate are required to be  
464 determined as accurately as possible. A contingency estimate is  
465 expected to be an integral part of the total projected cost and is  
466 particularly important where previous experience has demonstrated  
467 that cost increases for unforeseeable events are likely to occur.

468 The policy proceeds to say that "Contingency amounts should be included in the  
469 annual capital expenditure budget process." The across the board removal of two  
470 thirds of the contingencies which have appropriately been included as part of the  
471 cost of these thirteen projects will lead to significant under-recovery of legitimate  
472 costs incurred during the Test Period.

473 Additional discussion on the contingencies included in the hydro and  
474 transmission projects is included in the rebuttal testimony of Company witnesses  
475 Mr. Tallman and Mr. Darrell T. Gerrard.

476 **Q. You stated that Mr. Higgins has not provided an assessment of the projected**  
477 **expenditures for the individual projects identified. Has the Company made**  
478 **such an assessment?**

479 A. Yes. While I disagree with Mr. Higgins' proposed adjustment, it is appropriate to

480 reflect the Company's current projection of the level of contingency costs to be  
481 used for these projects. The table below provides the current estimate of the  
482 amount of the contingency that has been used or is projected to be used for each  
483 of the thirteen projects identified in Mr. Higgins' proposed adjustment. The  
484 current projection of the costs to complete ten of the projects indicates that the full  
485 contingency amount will be used. For two of the projects (Naughton 1 and 2),  
486 current projections indicate that none of the contingency amount will be used. On  
487 the remaining project for Hunter 1, less than the full contingency amount is  
488 expected to be used. The lower projection of costs for the Naughton Unit 2 flue  
489 gas desulfurization system and the Hunter unit 1 SO<sub>2</sub> upgrade have already been  
490 reflected in the plant addition update adjustment addressed subsequently in my  
491 testimony. The Company proposes to remove the remaining \$3.4 million  
492 reduction in contingency expenditures from the case. This adjustment reduces the  
493 revenue requirement by \$154,729 and is detailed on page 12.17 of Exhibit  
494 RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

<b>Contingency Costs:</b>					
<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Contingency Amount Included in Original Filing</b>	<b>Current Estimate of Contingency to be Used</b>	<b>Contingency to be Removed</b>	<b>Contingency Removed through Update*</b>	<b>Amount Removed through Contingency Adjustment</b>
Naughton U2 Flue Gas Desulfurization Sys	3,565,848	-	3,565,848	3,265,848	300,000
Naughton U1 Flue Gas Desulfurization Sys	3,087,357	-	3,087,357	-	3,087,357
DJ U4 SO2 & PM Emission Cntrl Upgrades	2,461,244	2,461,244	-	-	-
Hunter U1 SO2 Upgrades	1,875,000	1,400,000	475,000	475,000	-
JB U2 Turbine Upgrade HP/IP/LP	450,000	450,000	-	-	-
Hunter 303 Turbine Upgrade HP/IP/LP	450,000	450,000	-	-	-
INU 4.1.1/4.1.2 Soda Springs Fish Passag	785,000	785,000	-	-	-
ILR 4.4 Swift Fish Collector	2,400,000	2,400,000	-	-	-
ILR 4.3 Merwin Upstream Collect & Trans	210,000	210,000	-	-	-
Ashton Dam Seepage Control	810,000	810,000	-	-	-
IRO Prospect Instream Flow / Automation	400,000	400,000	-	-	-
Clover Substation	800,000	800,000	-	-	-
Lake Side 2 Interconnect	900,000	900,000	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,194,449</b>	<b>11,066,244</b>	<b>7,128,205</b>	<b>3,740,848</b>	<b>3,387,357</b>
*The update includes actuals for July 2011 through March 2012 and limited changes to the April 2012 through May 2013 forecast as discussed in the testimony of Mr. McDougal.					

495 **Oregon Rate Dispute Costs**

496 **Q. Please describe the adjustment to legal expense proposed by Ms. Ramas**  
497 **associated with the Oregon rate dispute costs.**

498 **A.** Legal costs of litigating a rate dispute with an Oregon customer were system  
499 allocated in the Company's original filing in this proceeding. Ms. Ramas'  
500 proposed adjustment removes these expenses from the Test Period results.

501 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Ramas' adjustment?**

502 **A.** Yes. The legal costs associated with this matter should be situs assigned to  
503 Oregon since they relate to litigation concerning a rate dispute with an Oregon  
504 customer, the revenues from which are situs assigned to the Company's Oregon  
505 jurisdiction. This adjustment reduces the revenue requirement by \$1.1 million and  
506 is detailed on page 12.18 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R).



507 **Bridger and Trapper Mine Updates**

508 **Q. Please explain Mr. Croft's adjustment to the Bridger and Trapper mine rate**  
509 **base balances.**

510 A. Mr. Croft proposes to update the Bridger and Trapper mine rate base balances and  
511 the Trapper mine final reclamation liability balance with actual data through  
512 March 2012, replacing projected data through this period used in the original  
513 filing.

514 **Q. Does the Company accept this adjustment?**

515 A. Yes, the Company has reflected this adjustment in determining the revised results  
516 of operations for the Test Period. This adjustment increases revenue requirement  
517 by \$406,811 and is detailed on page 12.19 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

518 **Klamath**

519 **Q. Please summarize the adjustments proposed by Ms. Beck and Mr. Higgins**  
520 **regarding the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement ("KHSA").**

521 A. Ms. Beck and Mr. Higgins propose various adjustments to items included in the  
522 Test Period results related to the Klamath hydroelectric facility and the KHSA.  
523 The Company has not incorporated any component of either adjustment into the  
524 rebuttal results of operations. A comprehensive discussion addressing the  
525 Company's position on the adjustments proposed by Ms. Beck and Mr. Higgins is  
526 provided in the rebuttal testimony of Company witness Ms. Andrea L. Kelly.

527 **Q. Please describe the adjustment proposed by Dr. Powell regarding the**  
528 **Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement.**

529 A. Dr. Powell proposes an adjustment to update the capital additions and AFUDC

530 calculations included in the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement  
531 Adjustment in the Company's original filing (refer to page 8.11 of Exhibit  
532 RMP\_\_\_(SRM-3)) with actual data through March 2012.

533 **Q. Do you agree with Dr. Powell's adjustment to update the Klamath**  
534 **adjustment with actual data through March 2012?**

535 A. Yes. Updating the Klamath adjustment to include actual data through March 2012  
536 is consistent with the treatment applied to other plant-in-service forecasts where  
537 more current information is now available than was at the time of the Company's  
538 original filing. Other adjustments which are being updated to reflect more current  
539 information in the Company's rebuttal results of operations include updates to  
540 plant additions, depreciation reserve and depreciation expense as proposed by the  
541 DPU; updates to wages and benefit expense as proposed by the DPU, OCS, UAE  
542 and FEA; and updates to the Bridger and Trapper mine rate base balances as  
543 proposed by the DPU. This adjustment increases the revenue requirement by  
544 \$40,053 and is detailed on page 12.20 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

545 **Update to Plant Additions, Retirements and Depreciation Expense and Reserve**

546 **Q. Intervening parties have proposed several adjustments to the rate base**  
547 **reflected in the Company's original revenue requirement calculation. Have**  
548 **you reflected any of these adjustments into the revised results of operations?**

549 A. Yes, in addition to the adjustments addressed previously in my testimony for plant  
550 held for future use, the Bridger and Trapper mines, Klamath and accumulated  
551 deferred income taxes, several additional adjustments proposed by intervening  
552 parties to rate base items have been reflected in the revised Test Period results of

553 operations.

554 **Q. Please summarize the additional adjustments proposed by intervening**  
555 **parties to rate base items you have reflected into the revised results of**  
556 **operations.**

557 A. Below I address individually the additional rate base item adjustments that have  
558 been incorporated into the revised Test Period results of operations. The impacts  
559 of these adjustments are collectively reflected in Company adjustments 12.21 -  
560 Plant Addition and Retirement Update, 12.22 - Depreciation Expense Update,  
561 12.23 - Depreciation Reserve Update and 12.24 - Tax Update in Exhibit  
562 RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

563 **DPU Updates Adjustment**

564 **Q. Please describe the DPU Updates adjustment as proposed by Mr. Croft in his**  
565 **direct testimony.**

566 A. Through the DPU Updates adjustment, Mr. Croft proposes three primary updates  
567 to the electric plant in service (“EPIS”) balances and depreciation expense  
568 included in the Company’s original filing. First, Mr. Croft proposes to update the  
569 following items to actual results occurring through March 2012: plant additions,  
570 plant retirements, removal costs, vehicle depreciation, hydro decommissioning  
571 payments, and depreciation expense. Second, Mr. Croft proposes to revise the  
572 retirement rates utilized by the Company in this proceeding to reflect a 5 year  
573 average of actual retirements occurring through December 2011; the retirement  
574 rates used by the Company in its original filing were developed using actual  
575 retirements from April 2006 through December 2010. Lastly, Mr. Croft proposes

576 to update the capital additions included in the case from April 2012 through May  
577 2013 to reflect current projections.

578 **Q. Do you agree with the DPU Updates adjustment as proposed by Mr. Croft?**

579 A. Yes, with the exception of Mr. Croft's proposal to revise the retirement rates. The  
580 other adjustments as proposed by Mr. Croft in the DPU Updates adjustment have  
581 been reflected in the revised revenue requirement calculation.

582 **Q. Please explain your objections to Mr. Croft's proposal to recalculate the**  
583 **average retirement rates.**

584 A. When the Company was preparing its original filing, retirement data for calendar  
585 year 2011 was not available. Accordingly, the Company used the most current  
586 information it had at the time to calculate the average retirement rates utilized in  
587 the case. The application of retirement rates to EPIS balances impacts both the  
588 plant balance itself and the associated accumulated depreciation balance. The  
589 plant balance is reduced by the amount of the calculated retirement and the same  
590 amount is removed from the associated accumulated depreciation balance. The  
591 impact to net rate base of these entries is zero. Consequently, updating retirement  
592 rates as proposed by Mr. Croft will have an immaterial impact on the Test Period  
593 results. Mr. Croft indicates in his testimony that updating the case for his  
594 proposed rates will reduce the revenue requirement by approximately \$33,000.  
595 However, Mr. Croft has not provided evidence supporting utilization of the  
596 revised rates other than to say they reflect more current information.

597 Although several changes based on newer information updating future  
598 projections have been incorporated by the Company in its rebuttal revenue

599 requirement calculation, RMP is opposed to updating Base Period information  
600 because of the relative impact this would have on the case compared to the effort  
601 required to make the update. The results of operations for this case was created  
602 using a Base Period ending June 30, 2011, and it would make little sense to make  
603 limited updates for December 31, 2011 data to Base Period data. For these  
604 reasons, I believe it is appropriate and reasonable to utilize the Company's  
605 original retirement rates in this case and reject Mr. Croft's adjustment.

606 **Small Hunter Overhaul Projects**

607 **Q. Mr. Croft proposes to remove from the case nine capital projects associated**  
608 **with the Hunter generation facility scheduled to be placed in service from**  
609 **April 2012 to July 2012. Do you agree with this adjustment?**

610 A. Yes. These projects were placed into service ahead of schedule and are included  
611 in actual plant additions through March 2012 which are reflected in the  
612 Company's rebuttal position through inclusion of the DPU Updates adjustment.  
613 These projects should be removed from the April 2012 through July 2012 forecast  
614 as long as the actual additions through March 2012 are reflected in results. The  
615 impact of this adjustment is incorporated into the plant and depreciation  
616 adjustments detailed on pages 12.21, 12.22, 12.23 and 12.24 in Exhibit  
617 RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

618 **Excess Depreciation from Removal Costs**

619 **Q. Please describe Mr. Croft's proposed adjustment addressing excess**  
620 **depreciation from removal costs.**

621 A. Through his adjustment, Mr. Croft is attempting to reflect an appropriate level of

622 removal costs in the Test Period results of operations. Removal costs are incurred  
623 in capital projects where existing infrastructure must be removed prior to  
624 construction of the new asset. Removal costs are booked as a reduction (or debit)  
625 to accumulated depreciation when incurred. If removal costs are incorrectly  
626 included as additions to EPIS rather than a reduction to accumulated depreciation,  
627 depreciation expense calculated in the case will be overstated.

628 In the DPU Updates adjustment, Mr. Croft reflected actual removal costs  
629 incurred through March 2012. In addition to this, Mr. Croft proposes to adjust  
630 projected plant balances from April 2012 through May 2013 for removal costs. To  
631 do this, Mr. Croft proposes to adjust plant additions by \$4.4 million each month,  
632 the average of actual monthly removal costs incurred by the Company from April  
633 2008 through March 2012. In his adjustment, Mr. Croft reduces the monthly  
634 projected EPIS balances by \$4.4 million and places the removal costs in  
635 accumulated depreciation by reducing (or debiting) the projected monthly  
636 accumulated depreciation balances by the \$4.4 million. The net rate base impact  
637 of this adjustment is zero, but depreciation expense is reduced because of the  
638 reduction to the gross EPIS plant balances.

639 **Q. Do you agree with this adjustment as proposed by Mr. Croft?**

640 A. The Company agrees in principle with Mr. Croft's adjustment and has  
641 incorporated it into the revised Test Period results of operations. The impact of  
642 this adjustment is reflected in the plant and depreciation adjustments detailed on  
643 pages 12.21, 12.22, 12.23, and 12.24 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R). The  
644 Company does have some reservations concerning Mr. Croft's methodology to

645 spread the monthly adjustments across the plant functions and the methodology  
646 used to identify the monthly adjustment amount. However, any changes to these  
647 methodologies are likely to be immaterial in terms of revenue requirement impact  
648 to this case. The Company will explore alternative methodologies to reflect this  
649 adjustment into results in advance of filing its next general rate case.

650 **DPU Consultant La Capra Adjustments to Plant Additions**

651 **Q. Please summarize the adjustment to capital additions proposed by Mr. Hahn.**

652 A. Mr. Hahn of La Capra Associates, Inc. was retained by the DPU in this  
653 proceeding to review the capital additions reflected in the Company's Test Period  
654 results of operations. Mr. Hahn conducted a review of the capital additions  
655 included in the case and recommends adjustment to approximately thirty different  
656 projects for a variety of reasons based on his review.

657 **Q. Are you addressing all of the projects Mr. Hahn proposes to adjust in your  
658 testimony?**

659 A. No. I will only address seven specific projects in my testimony. The remaining  
660 projects are addressed in the testimony of Company witnesses Ms. Nancy K.  
661 Kent, Mr. Douglas N. Bennion, Mr. Dana M. Ralston, Mr. Tallman and Mr.  
662 Gerrard.

663 **Q. What are the seven projects you are addressing in your testimony?**

664 A. The seven projects I will address are as follows: 1) the City Creek Center new 40  
665 MW Development for PRI Phase II project; 2) the Cottonwood Prep Plant-System  
666 Improvement project; 3) the Energy West Deer Creek Mine CAP Forecast  
667 project; 4) the Scipio Pass – Mineral Mountain Microwave project; 5) the 2GHz

668 Microwave Replacement Pavant Sub to Delta Service Center project; 6) the  
669 Hermiston U0 Auxiliary Boiler project; and 7) the Naughton U0 D10  
670 Replacement project.

671 **Q. Please describe, individually, the Company's position on each of these**  
672 **projects.**

673 A. As provided below, I describe the Company's position on each of the seven  
674 projects.

675 City Creek Center new 40 MW Development

676 On page 35 of his direct testimony, Mr. Hahn proposes to adjust the City Creek  
677 Center project capital in-service for May 2012 to reflect plant additions for this  
678 project that were placed into service by March 2012. The Company agrees this is  
679 an appropriate adjustment and has reduced the May 2012 forecasted amount for  
680 the City Creek Center project by the \$4.6 million that was placed into service  
681 through March 2012. This has been incorporated into the plant and depreciation  
682 adjustments detailed on pages 12.21, 12.22, 12.23, and 12.24 in Exhibit  
683 RMP\_\_(SRM-2R). The other issues raised by Mr. Hahn concerning the City  
684 Creek Center project are addressed in the testimony of Company witness Mr.  
685 Bennion.

686 Cottonwood Prep Plant-System Improvement

687 The Company opposes Mr. Hahn's adjustment to remove the Cottonwood Prep  
688 Plant-System Improvement project from the case. Mr. Hahn proposes to remove  
689 this project as the internal appropriation request ("APR") document shows an in-  
690 service date of July 2013. However, this project has been accelerated into 2012.



691 As such, this project is expected to be completed and placed into service by  
692 December 2012, consistent with the Company's original filing.

693 Energy West Deer Creek Mine

694 Mr. Hahn proposes to reduce the projection for the Energy West Deer Creek Mine  
695 Capital forecast project from the \$8.7 million included in the case to \$3.3 million  
696 based on documentation supporting this project which he analyzed. The Company  
697 proposes to reflect in the revised results of operations the most current projection  
698 of capital spend for this project, which is \$6.0 million for the period of April 2012  
699 through May 2013.<sup>2</sup> This update has been incorporated into the plant and  
700 depreciation adjustments detailed on pages 12.21, 12.22, 12.23, and 12.24 in  
701 Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

702 Scipio Pass – Mineral Mountain Microwave

703 Mr. Hahn proposes to reduce the projected capital in service amount for this  
704 project from \$2.8 million to \$1.5 million. This adjustment is duplicative to the  
705 DPU Updates adjustment proposed by Mr. Croft, and as accepted by the  
706 Company in its rebuttal revenue requirement calculation, which updates capital  
707 additions to actuals through March 2012. Since this project was placed into  
708 service prior to March 2012, it is reflected in the Company's rebuttal case at the  
709 actual amount placed into service.

710 2GHz Microwave Replacement Pavant Sub to Delta Service Center

711 Mr. Hahn proposes to reduce the forecast for this project from \$350,000 to  
712 \$133,786 based on project documentation received from the Company through

---

<sup>2</sup> An updated capital spend projection for this project was provided in response to data request DPU 42.6.

713 discovery. In response to DPU data request 26.8 (furnished in May 2012)  
714 concerning this project, the Company stated that this project was in the early  
715 evaluation stages. Since that time, an updated projection for this project has been  
716 developed, which calls for the project to be placed into service in December 2012  
717 at a cost of \$275,000. RMP proposes to reflect the revised projection for this  
718 project in the revised results of operations. This adjustment has been incorporated  
719 into the plant and depreciation adjustments detailed on pages 12.21, 12.22, 12.23,  
720 and 12.24 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

721 Hermiston U0 Auxiliary Boiler

722 Mr. Hahn proposes to remove this project from the case based on a review of  
723 documentation available supporting the project provided by the Company through  
724 discovery. The Company accepts Mr. Hahn's adjustment to remove this project  
725 from the case as the in-service date for this project is now expected to fall outside  
726 of the Test Period. This adjustment has been incorporated into the plant and  
727 depreciation adjustments detailed on pages 12.21, 12.22, 12.23, and 12.24 in  
728 Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

729 Naughton U0 D10 Replacement

730 Mr. Hahn proposes to remove this project from the case based on his assertion  
731 that documentation supporting the project provided by the Company through  
732 discovery was inadequate. This project was placed into service in December 2011  
733 at a cost of \$1.2 million, and as such is reflected in the adjustment to update plant  
734 additions included in the case with actual additions through March 2012.  
735 Accordingly, Mr. Hahn's adjustment is duplicative and not necessary. Further, the

736 Company provided additional documentation supporting this project in response  
737 to DPU data request 51.32, which was provided shortly after the DPU filed direct  
738 testimony in this proceeding.

739 **Q. What is your response to the adjustments proposed by Mr. Hahn to the**  
740 **“generic” capital addition projects included in the Company’s case?**

741 A. “Generic” or “blanket” type projects included in the Company’s filing reflect  
742 planned investment levels for various investment categories such as new customer  
743 connections and storm related replacements and repairs. These items encompass  
744 many small projects, which are aggregated to “generic” category levels for  
745 inclusion in the case. Investment associated with these types of projects is a  
746 necessary cost of providing service to customers and therefore should be allowed  
747 timely recovery through rates.

748 Mr. Hahn recommends adjusting downward projected capital expenditures  
749 for nine generic projects included in the Company’s filing on the basis that the  
750 trending analysis he conducted projects that expenditures for these projects will  
751 be less than what is included in the Company’s filing. After examining Mr.  
752 Hahn’s work papers entitled “Hahn Workpapers for Generic Projects.xlsx”, it is  
753 evident that his trending analysis results in some projects showing a higher  
754 projected spend amount for the Test Period than was included in the Company’s  
755 filing. However, Mr. Hahn’s proposed adjustment only reflects projects where his  
756 trending analysis suggests that expenditures will be less than those projected by  
757 the Company in its filing.

758 As an example, the Company included \$6.1 million in the filing for the  
759 July 2011 through May 2013 period for the Utah distribution project “M1-  
760 Mandated – Highway Relocations”. Mr. Hahn’s trending analysis work papers  
761 forecast \$7.9 million in Test Period expenditures alone for this project. It appears  
762 that Mr. Hahn was selective in only proposing adjustments for projects where his  
763 trending analysis indicated forecast expenditures for a project would be less than  
764 what was reflected in the Company’s filing. This is, at a minimum, unbalanced,  
765 and also brings into question the validity of Mr. Hahn’s methodology if it cannot  
766 be relied upon to support adjustments to projects either up or down from the  
767 Company’s filed amounts.

768 **Q. Do you have any concerns with the way Mr. Croft has calculated the revenue**  
769 **requirement impact of Mr. Hahn’s adjustment?**

770 A. Yes, for certain projects. Mr. Croft’s modeling of Mr. Hahn’s adjustments is not  
771 consistent with the DPU Updates adjustment proposed by the DPU, where actual  
772 capital additions occurring through March 2012 are reflected in the case. In  
773 modeling Mr. Hahn’s adjustments, Mr. Croft removes, for many projects, spend  
774 associated with projects projected to be placed in service during the July 2011  
775 through March 2012 period at the amount originally projected by the Company in  
776 this proceeding instead of the actual amount placed in service. To be consistent  
777 with the DPU Updates adjustment, Mr. Croft should have removed actual project  
778 dollars as reflected in the actual capital additions update. For many projects, Mr.  
779 Croft has a footnote that states, “assumes that actuals through March 2012 match  
780 original forecast”, but in most cases this assumption is invalid.

781 **Casper Service Center**

782 **Q. Please describe the Casper Service Center adjustment proposed by Mr.**  
783 **Higgins and Ms. Ramas.**

784 A. The proposed adjustment to the Casper Service Center project is related to an  
785 allocation error that was discovered by the Company while responding to data  
786 request OCS 8.26. The Company discovered that \$2.95 million in costs related to  
787 the Casper Service Center were being allocated in the case on an SO factor; costs  
788 associated with this project should be situs assigned to Wyoming.

789 **Q. Do you accept the adjustment proposed by the Mr. Higgins and Ms. Ramas?**

790 A. Yes, in principle. The proposed adjustments by Mr. Higgins and Ms. Ramas  
791 attempt to remove the costs associated with the Casper Service Center, but each  
792 party uses a different methodology to do so. In his adjustment, Mr. Higgins only  
793 removes the plant in service amount related to the Casper Service Center. This  
794 methodology ignores the associated depreciation expense and depreciation  
795 reserve, thereby understating the correct revenue requirement impact of this  
796 adjustment. Ms. Ramas' adjustment removes the plant in service balance and the  
797 depreciation expense and depreciation reserve associated with the Casper Service  
798 Center project. In principle, this is the correct approach; however, Ms. Ramas  
799 made a slight error in calculating the average accumulated depreciation balance  
800 for the Test Period.

801 **Q. How should the average accumulated depreciation balance related to the**  
802 **Casper Service Center project be calculated?**

803 A. In the first month that a project is placed in service, regardless of the exact day

804 within the month a project is placed in service, the Company books depreciation  
805 expense and the depreciation reserve impact for that project. These amounts are  
806 calculated as one-half of the normal monthly depreciation expense rate for the  
807 project. This initial month balance of accumulated depreciation, which is carried  
808 forward throughout the entire life of the project, was not taken into account by  
809 Ms. Ramas in calculating her adjustment. However, making this correction only  
810 slightly decreases the revenue requirement impact of this adjustment.

811 **Q. Have you made an adjustment to correctly situs assign this project to**  
812 **Wyoming and treat the depreciation expense and reserve as you've**  
813 **described?**

814 A. Yes. This adjustment is incorporated into the plant and depreciation adjustments  
815 detailed on pages 12.21, 12.22, 12.23 and 12.24 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

816 **Impact of Update to Plant Additions, Retirements and Depreciation Expense and**  
817 **Reserve**

818 **Q. Please describe the net impact of the adjustments you've made to update**  
819 **plant additions, retirements and depreciation expense and reserve as you've**  
820 **described previously.**

821 A. The net impact of the following adjustments are reflected in the Company's  
822 adjustment to update plant additions, retirements, depreciation expense and  
823 reserve: 1) DPU Updates (with the exception of Mr. Croft's proposed retirement  
824 rates), 2) Small Hunter Overhaul Projects, 3) Excess Depreciation from Removal  
825 Costs, 4) LaCapra Adjustments to Plant Additions (for projects accepted as  
826 discussed previously) and 5) Casper Service Center. These adjustments are

827 reflected in the Company’s rebuttal revenue requirement through adjustments  
828 12.21 through 12.24 of Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R). Company adjustment 12.21,  
829 Plant Additions and Retirements Update, reduces plant in service balances  
830 included in the case by \$27.0 million, which decreases Utah revenue requirement  
831 by \$317,776.

832 Adjustment 12.22, Depreciation Expense Update, revises Test Period  
833 depreciation expense consistent with the adjustments made to plant in service  
834 amounts. This adjustment increases Utah Test Period depreciation expense by  
835 \$33,024, which increases Utah revenue requirement by \$33,147. Adjustment  
836 12.23, Depreciation Reserve Update, reflects the changes to the depreciation  
837 reserve based on adjustments made to depreciation expense, plant additions, plant  
838 retirements, and removal costs. This adjustment reduces Test Period depreciation  
839 reserve by \$31.7 million, which increases Utah revenue requirement by \$464,925.

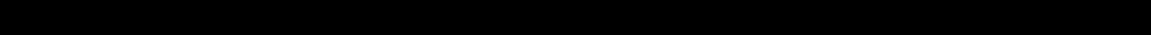
840 **Tax Update on Changes to Plant in Service**

841 **Q. Please describe the adjustment made to deferred income taxes to reflect**  
842 **changes made to plant in service in the Company’s rebuttal filing.**

843 A. Adjustment 12.24 updates deferred income taxes based on changes to rate base in  
844 the Company’s rebuttal filing. This adjustment increases Utah revenue  
845 requirement by \$1.1 million and is detailed on page 12.24 in Exhibit  
846 RMP\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

847 **Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes (“ADIT”)**

848 

849 

850 [REDACTED]  
851 [REDACTED]  
852 [REDACTED]  
853 [REDACTED]  
854 [REDACTED]  
855 [REDACTED]  
856 [REDACTED]  
857 [REDACTED]  
858 [REDACTED]  
859 [REDACTED]  
860 [REDACTED]  
861 [REDACTED]  
862 [REDACTED]  
863 [REDACTED]  
864 [REDACTED]  
865 [REDACTED]  
866 [REDACTED]  
867 [REDACTED]  
868 [REDACTED]  
869 [REDACTED]  
870 [REDACTED]  
871 [REDACTED]  
872 [REDACTED]



873 [REDACTED]  
874 [REDACTED]  
875 [REDACTED]  
876 [REDACTED]  
877 [REDACTED]  
878 [REDACTED]  
879 [REDACTED]  
880 [REDACTED]  
881 [REDACTED]  
882 [REDACTED]  
883 [REDACTED]  
884 [REDACTED]  
885 [REDACTED]  
886 [REDACTED]  
887 [REDACTED]  
888 [REDACTED]  
889 [REDACTED]  
890 [REDACTED]  
891 [REDACTED]  
892 [REDACTED]  
893 [REDACTED]  
894 [REDACTED]  
895 [REDACTED]

896 [REDACTED]  
897 [REDACTED]  
898 [REDACTED]  
899 [REDACTED]  
900 [REDACTED]  
901 [REDACTED]  
902 [REDACTED]  
903 [REDACTED]  
904 [REDACTED]  
905 [REDACTED]  
906 [REDACTED]  
907 [REDACTED]  
908 [REDACTED]  
909 [REDACTED]  
910 [REDACTED]  
911 [REDACTED]  
912 [REDACTED]  
913 [REDACTED]  
914 [REDACTED]  
915 [REDACTED]  
916 [REDACTED]  
917 [REDACTED]  
918 [REDACTED]

919

[REDACTED]

920

[REDACTED]

921

[REDACTED]

922

[REDACTED]

923

[REDACTED]

924

[REDACTED]

925

[REDACTED]

926 **Q. What is the impact of this adjustment?**

927 A. The amortization increases the total Company ADIT liability balance by \$6.3  
928 million. This adjustment reduces revenue requirement by \$301,916 and is detailed  
929 on page 12.25 in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

930 **Q. Have any other tax issues been raised in this case?**

931 A. Yes. Ms. Ramas has raised the issue of IRS Revenue Procedure 2011-43 and  
932 asked the Company to address it in rebuttal. This issue is related to a safe harbor  
933 method that taxpayers, such as the Company, may use to determine whether an  
934 expenditure to maintain, replace or improve electric transmission and distribution  
935 property may be expensed instead of capitalized for income tax purposes. The  
936 expensing of such costs for income tax purposes is commonly referred to as a  
937 repairs deduction.

938 **Q. Does the new Revenue Procedure 2011-43 apply to the Company?**

939 A. Yes. It provides procedures for obtaining automatic consent to change to the safe  
940 harbor method of accounting. Taxpayers that previously changed their tax  
941 accounting for repairs deductions associated with transmission and distribution

942 assets can also now adopt as a new accounting method known as the Safe Harbor  
943 Method under this Revenue Procedure.

944 **Q. Has the Company previously changed its method of tax accounting for**  
945 **repairs deductions?**

946 A. Yes. The Company changed its method of tax accounting for repairs deductions  
947 effective with its 2008 federal income tax return.

948 **Q. Has the Company adopted, or does it plan to adopt, the Safe Harbor Method**  
949 **identified in the IRS Revenue Procedure 2011-43?**

950 A. The Company is planning to formally adopt the safe harbor method identified in  
951 Revenue Procedure 2011-43 through a change in accounting method application,  
952 Form 3115, to be attached to the 2011 federal income tax return which will be  
953 filed by September 17, 2012.

954 **Q. Does the Company plan to make an IRC Section 481(a) adjustment at the**  
955 **time of adoption?**

956 A. Yes. The IRC Section 481(a) adjustment will be included in the 2011 return itself  
957 and separately set forth on Form 3115, which will be attached to the 2011 income  
958 tax return.

959 **Q. Has the Company estimated an amount for the IRC Section 481(a)**  
960 **adjustment to ADIT related to the adoption of the safe harbor method**  
961 **identified in Revenue Procedure 2011-43?**

962 A. Yes. The Company has computed a decrease in total Company ADIT liability  
963 balance using a 13-month average of \$1.6 million for the Test Period. The  
964 adjustment is composed of a decrease of \$12.8 million to adjust the transmission,

965 distribution and generation income tax repair deduction deferred income tax  
966 liability included in the rate case to reflect the "as filed" income tax returns  
967 including the impacts from the 2011 income tax return to be filed by September  
968 17, 2012. This will be offset by an increase of \$11.1 million to adopt the safe  
969 harbor method identified in Revenue Procedure 2011-43. This adjustment  
970 increases revenue requirement by \$78,701 and is detailed on page 12.26 in  
971 Exhibit RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-2R).

972 **Lead Lag Study**

973 **Q. Please describe Mr. Meyer's adjustment to working capital.**

974 A. Mr. Meyer proposes an adjustment to working capital that removes all other  
975 working capital balances on the grounds that their components have already been  
976 reflected in the cash working capital section, and their inclusion in rate base  
977 constitutes double counting.

978 **Q. Does the Company agree with this adjustment?**

979 A. No. Mr. Meyer erroneously asserts that there is a double count between the lead  
980 lag study and the other working capital balance (which is not determined through  
981 the lead lag study) included in the filing. The other working capital balances  
982 included in the Company's rate base (refer to page 2.33 of Exhibit  
983 RMP\_\_\_\_(SRM-3)) are not reflected in the data that is used to calculate the lead  
984 lag study. These balances reflect miscellaneous receivable balances and liabilities  
985 of the Company and have been reflected in rate base consistent with prior RMP  
986 rate cases. Since the other working capital balances are not reflected in the  
987 calculation of the lead lag study, they are not included in the Company's

988 calculation of cash working capital. Other working capital and cash working  
989 capital are distinct and separate balances, both of which are properly includable in  
990 the Company's rate base. Since the other working capital balance is not  
991 duplicative to cash working capital, the Company recommends the Commission  
992 not adopt Mr. Meyer's adjustment.

993 **Q. Please outline Ms. Ramas' adjustment to cash working capital.**

994 A. Ms. Ramas takes issue with three areas of the Company's lead lag study, the  
995 foundation for how the Company calculates cash working capital. First, Ms.  
996 Ramas proposes a one-day reduction to revenue lag as a direct result of the  
997 Company's Automated Meter Reading ("AMR") program and its impact on  
998 billing lag. Second, she takes issue with capital expenditures included in the Other  
999 O&M expense section of the study. Finally, Ms. Ramas proposes adding a seven-  
1000 day service lag to all Other O&M expense invoices. The combined impact of all  
1001 three issues is a \$1.5 million reduction to the revenue requirement in this case.

1002 **Q. Please comment on the Company's position with regard to the first issue**  
1003 **mentioned within the OCS' adjustment to cash working capital.**

1004 A. Ms. Ramas asserts the Utah AMR program was not fully implemented prior to  
1005 2010, the period used for calculating the lead lag study, and suggests a one-day  
1006 reduction to billing lag to remedy this. The Company is opposed to this proposal.  
1007 The implementation period of the AMR program does not affect billing lag as  
1008 meter read dates and the CSS billing batch process have remained unchanged  
1009 throughout the implementation of the program. The efficiencies the Company has  
1010 realized as a result of the AMR program Ms. Ramas points to in her testimony as

1011 support for her adjustment are realized as reductions in labor and O&M costs, not  
1012 through billing lag. Both before and after the implementation of AMR, meter  
1013 reads were uploaded to the customer system the same day.

1014 Approximately 87 percent of customers in Utah had AMR meters installed  
1015 prior to calendar year 2010, the period that was used for the lead lag study utilized  
1016 in this case. Between the 2007 and 2010 lead lag studies, billing lag for general  
1017 business revenues increased slightly in the 2010 study. This directly contradicts  
1018 Ms. Ramas' assertion that the installation of AMR in Utah will reduce billing lag.  
1019 In addition, even if her assertion that the billing lag is reduced were valid, the  
1020 calculation is invalid since she did not take into account that it would only impact  
1021 13 percent of the Utah customers. Accordingly, Ms. Ramas' proposal to reduce  
1022 revenue billing lag by one day to account for the installation of AMR is invalid  
1023 and should not be adopted by the Commission.

1024 **Q. Please comment on the Company's position with regard to the second issue**  
1025 **mentioned within the OCS' adjustment to cash working capital.**

1026 A. Ms. Ramas suggests it is improper to include capital expenditures in the Other  
1027 O&M expense section of the lead lag study and proposes removing all invoices  
1028 over \$2 million. The Company accepts this portion of the OCS' adjustment,  
1029 noting that doing so reduces net lag days to 4.76. This adjustment reduces Utah  
1030 revenue requirement by \$66,439.

1031 **Q. Please comment on the Company's position with regard to the third issue**  
1032 **mentioned within the OCS' adjustment to cash working capital.**

1033 A. Ms. Ramas expresses concern with the Company’s calculation of Other O&M  
1034 expense lag, specifically with regard to the absence of a specified service lag. Ms.  
1035 Ramas correctly notes that there are a variety of costs included in the Other O&M  
1036 category. Ms. Ramas suggests applying a seven day lag to the calculated figure to  
1037 represent a service lag similar to the 15.2 days included in the calculation of  
1038 purchased power lag.<sup>3</sup>

1039 The volume and variety of invoices included in the Other O&M expense  
1040 calculation made it impractical for the Company to review all of the invoices;  
1041 more than 300,000 invoices are captured in the Other O&M expense section. Ms.  
1042 Ramas makes assumptions about the nature of expenses included in the  
1043 calculation, stating, “... many expenses and services are provided over a monthly  
1044 period.”<sup>4</sup>

1045 Expenses that are nonrecurring in nature, such as certain types of  
1046 maintenance, could have no service lag. Additionally, invoices for rent which are  
1047 paid on the first of the month for which the Company receives a benefit  
1048 throughout the entire month would require a negative service lag of 15.2 days if  
1049 the methodology from the purchased power section were applied. Most  
1050 importantly, neither Ms. Ramas nor the Company is able to gauge an accurate  
1051 service lag without manually going through each of the invoices included in the  
1052 Other O&M expense calculation. The Company would also note that no service  
1053 lag was applied in the Other O&M expense section of the 2007 lead lag study. For  
1054 these reasons, the Company recommends the Commission not adopt Ms. Ramas’

---

<sup>3</sup> OCS-3D Ramas, page 18, lines 396 – 399.

<sup>4</sup> OCS-3D Ramas, page 18, lines 407 – 408.



1055 proposal to add seven days of service lag to the Other O&M expense calculation  
1056 of the 2010 lead lag study.

1057 **Adjustments Opposed**

1058 **Q. Are there specific adjustments proposed by intervening parties to which the**  
1059 **Company is opposed?**

1060 A. Yes. Witnesses from intervening parties proposed adjustments which are not  
1061 incorporated into the Company's revised revenue requirement. The adjustments  
1062 that the Company opposes are listed and discussed below, and are set forth in  
1063 more detail in the testimony of other Company witnesses.

1064 **Q. Please identify the revenue requirement issues that are addressed by other**  
1065 **Company witnesses.**

1066 A. The table below lists the revenue requirement issues addressed by other Company  
1067 witnesses:

1068 **Klamath** - addressed in the testimony of Ms. Andrea L. Kelly

1069 **Ben Lomond Transformer In-Service Date** - addressed in the testimony  
1070 of Mr. Darrell T. Gerrard

1071 **U2 Duct Replacements** - addressed in the testimony of Mr. Dana M.  
1072 Ralston

1073 **Lake Side II Interconnection** - addressed in the testimony of Mr. Darrell  
1074 T. Gerrard

1075 **Capital Expenditures** - addressed in the testimony of Ms. Nancy K. Kent,  
1076 Mr. Doug N. Bennion, Mr. Dana M. Ralston, Mr. Mark R. Tallman  
1077 and Mr. Darrell T. Gerrard.

1078 **Contingency Cost** - addressed in the testimony of Mr. Mark R. Tallman  
1079 and Mr. Darrell T. Gerrard.

1080 **Wind Turbine Materials Expense** - addressed in the testimony of Mr.  
1081 Mark R. Tallman

1082 **FERC Land Use Fees** - addressed in the testimony of Mr. Mark R.  
1083 Tallman

1084 **Return on Equity, Cost of Capital and Capital Structure** - addressed in  
1085 the testimony of Mr. Bruce N. Williams and Dr. Samuel C.  
1086 Hadaway

1087 **Net Power Costs** - addressed in the testimony of Mr. Greg N. Duvall

1088 **Gas Swaps** - addressed in the testimony of Stefan A. Bird

1089 **Remaining Revenue Requirement Issues** - addressed below

1090 **Property Insurance and Injuries and Damage Expense**

1091 **Q. Please describe the adjustment proposed by Mr. Oman to property and**  
1092 **liability insurance.**

1093 A. Insurance expense for both property and injuries and damages liability is reflected  
1094 in the Test Period at a three year historical average level of actual loss (refer to  
1095 adjustment 4.7 of Exhibit RMP\_\_(SRM-3)). Mr. Oman proposes to calculate  
1096 Test Period levels of expense for both property and injuries and damages  
1097 insurance using a five year historical average.

1098 **Q. What evidence does Mr. Oman present as support for this adjustment?**

1099 A. Mr. Oman reviewed actual losses for property and injuries and damages events

1100 over a six year period. He observed that the losses realized vary significantly from  
1101 year to year. Mr. Oman concluded that the variations in losses realized from year  
1102 to year are contributing to rate fluctuations from rate case to rate case. Mr. Oman  
1103 asserts that moving to a five year average calculation for insurance expense in rate  
1104 cases would lessen the rate fluctuation caused by loss variation. Mr. Oman  
1105 indicates moving to a five year average calculation in this case reduces Test  
1106 Period insurance expense by approximately \$1.6 million on a total Company  
1107 basis.

1108 **Q. Why did the Company calculate insurance expense in this case using a three**  
1109 **year average methodology?**

1110 A. In Docket No. 07-035-93, the Commission ordered that a three year average  
1111 methodology be utilized to calculate insurance expense for injuries and damages.  
1112 In Docket No. 09-035-23, the Division took a similar position to the one it is  
1113 taking in this proceeding concerning injuries and damages expense. The Division  
1114 argued that injuries and damages expense should be calculated using a five year  
1115 historical average due to the wide variations of loss realized by the Company on a  
1116 year to year basis. The Division's proposal would have reduced total Company  
1117 revenue requirement by \$0.2 million in that proceeding. The Commission  
1118 reaffirmed its position on the three year average methodology by declining to  
1119 adopt the Division's adjustment to a five year average methodology.

1120 **Q. Does the Company agree with Mr. Oman's adjustment?**

1121 A. No. The Company believes a three-year average remains appropriate because it is

1122 a long enough period to capture a range of loss positions in determining a  
1123 normalized result while excluding from the range results from farther back that  
1124 may not be reflective of current and future operating conditions. It is also  
1125 important that the methodology used to calculate the average remain consistent  
1126 between rate cases. The Company supports the continued use of the Commission  
1127 approved three year average methodology.

1128 **Q. Please explain the adjustment proposed by Ms. Ramas to non-T&D**  
1129 **insurance and maintenance expense.**

1130 A. The Company has reflected costs in the Test Period for non-transmission and  
1131 distribution (“T&D”) insurance and maintenance based on a three-year average of  
1132 actual losses. Ms. Ramas proposes removing from the three-year average  
1133 calculation costs associated with damages to the Swift hydro facility caused by  
1134 high flow run-off. Ms. Ramas argues this is an abnormal event and should be  
1135 excluded from the three year average for non-T&D insurance and maintenance  
1136 expense.

1137 **Q. Does the Company agree with Ms. Ramas’ adjustment?**

1138 A. No. By their nature, non-T&D property damages are unusual and any one event is  
1139 non-recurring. However, when they occur, the Company is entitled to recover the  
1140 costs associated with recovering from the event. The purpose of averaging is to  
1141 deal with these types of events.

1142 **Q. If there are no major events in the future, will the Company over-earn its**  
1143 **authorized ROE?**

1144 A. No. The Company is charging property damage expense accruals to a reserve  
1145 account. Using a property insurance reserve allows the Company to provide for  
1146 these major events through level accruals and rates. Property damage expense  
1147 accruals are charged to a liability that is a rate base reduction that allows  
1148 ratepayers to earn a return on any over accrual until the funds are needed. When  
1149 the events actually occur, they can be paid for out of the reserve with no impact to  
1150 the ratepayer. If the events do not occur as expected, the amount in the reserve  
1151 will be returned to ratepayers through reduced accruals in the future. Purposely  
1152 under accruing the reserve because we don't believe a major event will occur does  
1153 not seem financially responsible.

1154 **Legal Consulting Service – Expert Witness Fees**

1155 **Q. Please describe the legal expense adjustment proposed by Mr. Higgins and**  
1156 **Ms. Ramas.**

1157 A. Mr. Higgins proposes removing from the case legal costs related to the USA  
1158 Power, Deseret Power and Wah Chang disputes. Ms. Ramas proposes removing  
1159 legal expenses from the filing related to the dispute with Deseret Power over its  
1160 refusal to pay its percentage share of the scrubber and turbine upgrade projects at  
1161 the Hunter Unit 2 generation facility.

1162 **Q. Do you agree with these adjustments?**

1163 A. The Company agrees with these adjustments in part. The Wah Chang legal costs  
1164 should be allocated situs to Oregon and therefore removed from the filing. This  
1165 adjustment is also proposed by Ms. Ramas, which the Company agreed to earlier  
1166 in my testimony. Ms. Ramas' adjustment is slightly larger than that proposed by

1167 Mr. Higgins because Ms. Ramas escalates the base period cost by the O&M  
1168 escalation as was done in the Company's original filing. Mr. Higgins' adjustment  
1169 for Wah Chang is correct in eliminating this O&M escalation since he  
1170 recommends that all O&M escalation included in the case be disallowed. The  
1171 Company does not agree with the other parts of these adjustments.

1172 **Q. Why does the Company oppose the adjustments to remove legal costs (other**  
1173 **than Wah Chang) proposed by Mr. Higgins and Ms. Ramas?**

1174 A. These adjustments remove legal costs associated with specific cases because of  
1175 the nature of the disputes. Very simply speaking, the intervenors propose removal  
1176 of legal costs incurred in the USA Power dispute and the Deseret arbitration based  
1177 on the initial results of those cases. However, as Mr. Higgins concedes  
1178 "PacifiCorp has indicated it will appeal the verdict, so further, substantial legal  
1179 expenditures are sure to follow" (Higgins p. 33, line 676). This concession by Mr.  
1180 Higgins highlights two important points: first, these disputes have not concluded  
1181 and the intervenors' attempts to have the Commission make cost and rate  
1182 determinations only part-way through these legal proceedings is inappropriate and  
1183 without precedent. Neither Mr. Higgins, nor this Commission, has the prescience  
1184 to determine what will occur with the USA Power case in regard to post-trial  
1185 motions and on appeal. Similarly, the Deseret arbitration matter, including  
1186 arguments questioning the financial implications of the arbitrator's initial ruling,  
1187 is now in litigation pending before the US District Court for Utah and is set for  
1188 trial in 2013.

1189 Moreover, the arbitrator in the Hunter 2 arbitration reached a "split

1190 decision” and sided with the Company that its decision to install a baghouse at  
1191 Hunter 2 was consistent with reasonable utility practice. No explanation is given  
1192 by Mr. Higgins or Ms. Ramas why legal expenses incurred to fend off a challenge  
1193 to a prudent decision to make needed environmental upgrades should not be  
1194 recoverable. Rather, they simply lump all costs of the Deseret Arbitration, or at a  
1195 minimum, the “Hunter 2” arbitration, together without cause.

1196 The second point highlighted by Mr. Higgins’ concession is that both  
1197 cases are ongoing, and are likely to incur significant expenses over the next year  
1198 or more. This point completely undermines the argument of some intervenors that  
1199 these are one-time or unique expenses that should be normalized. Certainly these  
1200 specific cases are calendared for litigation during the Test Period so there should  
1201 be no adjustment to past expense patterns by removing costs incurred to protect  
1202 the Company in these disputes if that is the implication of Mr. Higgins or Ms.  
1203 Ramas.

1204 Finally, Mr. Higgins tries to argue that the litigation only benefits the  
1205 Company, and not customers. This is simply not true. In each instance the  
1206 Company has incurred costs trying to protect its interest from claims by co-  
1207 owners or third-parties. Such costs are ordinary and typical business costs  
1208 necessary for any business to remain healthy. The logical conclusion of Mr.  
1209 Higgins’ and Ms. Ramas’ points is that the Company can only recover legal fees  
1210 if (1) it prevailed, and (2) it made a recovery that resulted in a measurable dollar  
1211 savings or award directly attributable to customers. Essentially, they would have  
1212 the Company become a contingent-fee broker for rate payers. They point to no

1213 other Commission that has ever so ordered. Defending the Company from claims  
1214 or trying to recoup costs expended in on-going business concerns are reasonable  
1215 business practices.

1216 Simply stated, the Company will always have to incur legal expenses to  
1217 deal with a variety of issues. Not one of Mr. Higgins, Ms. Ramas, nor Mr.  
1218 Thompson points to anything that suggests the Company will have fewer legal  
1219 expenses on a going-forward basis, other than adjusting for the Wah Chang  
1220 matter. The table below summarizes legal expenses for the last four years after  
1221 excluding the Wah Chang matter, which will be removed from this filing. The  
1222 result shows the twelve months ended June 2011 amount included in the filing is  
1223 comparable to prior years, and is at a reasonable ongoing level, particularly when  
1224 considering the ongoing litigation noted above.

Period	External Legal Expense <sup>1</sup> (Excluding Wah Chang)
CY 2008	16,442,836
CY 2009	9,729,601
CY 2010	13,167,389
CY 2011	14,880,313
4 Year Average	<u>13,555,035</u>
Base Period	14,796,267

Notes:

1) Stated in 2011 dollars

1225 **Q. Please describe the Legal Consulting Costs adjustment proposed by Mr.**  
1226 **Thomson.**



1227 A. Mr. Thomson’s adjustment attempts to “normalize legal consulting service  
1228 expense due to an abnormal level of one time occurring costs in the general rate  
1229 case base period.”

1230 **Q. Do you agree with the Legal Consulting Costs adjustment proposed by Mr.**  
1231 **Thomson in DPU Exhibit 6.7?**

1232 A. No. Mr. Thomson’s proposed adjustment addresses only two accounts, 530094,  
1233 Legal Consulting Services – Expert Witness Fees and 530096, Legal Consulting  
1234 Services – Legal Costs. He notes that “the major driver of the increase is the Wah  
1235 Chang vs. PacifiCorp matter”<sup>5</sup> Since the Company has agreed to situs assign these  
1236 costs to Oregon, his adjustment seems to be resolved.

1237 **Generation Overhaul**

1238 **Q. Does the Company agree with Ms. Ramas generation overhaul adjustment?**

1239 A. No. Before averaging historical amounts, it is important that the dollars be  
1240 correctly stated using constant dollars. Absent using constant dollars, the  
1241 calculation ignores the impact of inflation and assumes that the buying power of a  
1242 dollar is the same today as it was four years ago. Just like it would be imprudent  
1243 for the Company to ignore inflation in making acquisition decisions and in  
1244 calculating the net present value of investment alternatives, it is equally incorrect  
1245 to assume that no inflation has occurred over the last four years.

1246 **Q. Are other parties providing evidence that historical costs should be restated**  
1247 **in constant dollars in determining normalized cost levels?**

---

<sup>5</sup> Direct testimony of David T. Thomson, page 12, lines 238-239.

1248 A. Yes. Dr. Artie Powell sponsors testimony that shows failure to account for  
1249 inflation will understate the Company's Test Period generation overhaul expense.

1250 **Q. How does Dr. Powell come to this conclusion?**

1251 A. Dr. Powell used statistical modeling and economic reasoning to conclude that the  
1252 best method is to inflate the historical values prior to averaging. To test this  
1253 conclusion, Dr. Powell developed a simulation model. The results of the  
1254 simulation confirm that averaging the inflated historical values provides a better  
1255 estimate of Test Period expense. Based on the evidence presented the  
1256 Commission should reconsider its position on inflation before escalation.

1257 **Wheeling Revenue**

1258 **Q. Please describe the adjustment Mr. Higgins proposes to wheeling revenue.**

1259 A. Mr. Higgins proposes to impute additional wheeling revenue into the Company's  
1260 filing attributable to the Company's outstanding Federal Energy Regulatory  
1261 Commission ("FERC") rate case.

1262 **Q. What is the status of the Company's FERC rate case?**

1263 A. The Company is currently in settlement discussions with parties in the FERC rate  
1264 case. However, no agreement has been reached at this time. The new interim  
1265 FERC rates being collected under the proposed tariff are subject to refund based  
1266 on the final decision by FERC.

1267 **Q. Does the Company believe that additional wheeling revenue, if any, resulting**  
1268 **from the FERC rate case should be passed through to Utah customers?**

1269 A. Yes. Additional wheeling revenue received should be credited to customers.  
1270 However, it is too early to know how much additional revenue, if any, will be  
1271 generated from the FERC rate case.

1272 **Q. Since the Company agrees these revenues should be returned to customers,**  
1273 **why does the Company oppose the adjustment proposed by UAE?**

1274 A. UAE imputes revenues based on the full filed amount of the FERC rate case.  
1275 However, it is uncertain and speculative at this point what the outcome of the  
1276 FERC rate case filing will be. Therefore, the Company proposes to return the  
1277 increase to customers once the amount is known.

1278 **Q. What does the Company believe is an appropriate treatment of revenues that**  
1279 **will be received from the FERC rate case?**

1280 A. As described in my direct testimony, the Company proposes to continue the  
1281 deferral treatment established in the settlement stipulation resolving the 2011  
1282 GRC. That is, beginning with the effective date of new FERC transmission rates,  
1283 additional revenue related to the FERC proceeding will be deferred and credited  
1284 to customers through the energy balancing account (“EBA”) without application  
1285 of the 30 percent sharing mechanism (i.e., 100 percent of the transmission rate  
1286 adjustment will accrue to customers). Such treatment will continue until a new  
1287 base level for wheeling revenue is established in a general rate case that includes  
1288 the final outcome of the current FERC proceeding. The true-up effects resulting  
1289 from this final outcome will also be reflected through the EBA to ensure a dollar-  
1290 for-dollar pass-through of wheeling revenue to customers.

1291 **O&M Escalation**

1292 **Q. Please explain the adjustment to the escalation of non-labor O&M costs**  
1293 **proposed by Mr. Higgins.**

1294 A. Mr. Higgins' proposed adjustment removes the increases in non-labor O&M  
1295 expense as projected by applying IHS Global Insight (USA) Inc. ("IHS")  
1296 escalation factors to the base period. He cites two primary concerns: (1) including  
1297 a provision for escalation in rates makes inflation a "self-fulfilling prophesy"; and  
1298 (2) including escalation in the Company's rates builds a "cost cushion" and  
1299 provides a disincentive for the Company to improve efficiency. His adjustment  
1300 reduces the Company's revenue requirement by \$9.6 million.

1301 **Q. Did Mr. Higgins calculate his proposed adjustment correctly?**

1302 A. No. Mr. Higgins adjustment is overstated by \$5.0 million because he failed to  
1303 remove the impact of the Company's O&M escalation for the thermal,  
1304 wind/hydro and Klamath O&M adjustments. In the Company's filed case, the  
1305 O&M escalation adjustment no. 4.12 is calculated by taking the unadjusted non-  
1306 labor, non-net power costs ("NPC") O&M expense for the twelve months ended  
1307 June 30, 2011, and adjusting that expense to remove out of period adjustments.  
1308 IHS Escalation factors are applied to the adjusted O&M expense to arrive at a  
1309 Test Period level of O&M expense. After that, any O&M adjustments the  
1310 Company made in the case that adjust base period non-labor, non-NPC O&M  
1311 expense were calculated to correctly account for the escalation applied in the  
1312 O&M escalation adjustment. In preparing his adjustment, Mr. Higgins did not  
1313 remove the interplay between the thermal, wind/hydro and Klamath O&M  
1314 escalation adjustment and O&M adjustments included in the case. In doing so,

1315 Mr. Higgins removed some escalated O&M that was already appropriately  
1316 removed or addressed elsewhere in the filing.

1317 **Q. Why did Mr. Higgins remove O&M escalation from certain adjustments**  
1318 **while not from those related to thermal, wind/hydro and Klamath O&M?**

1319 A. Mr. Higgins wasn't clear that the standalone forecast excluded inflation. He asked  
1320 data requests on this subject but didn't submit them in time to be used in his  
1321 testimony. Mr. Higgins said he will supplement his testimony to adjust the O&M  
1322 escalation adjustment based on the information he receives in discovery.

1323 **Q. Why does the Company oppose Mr. Higgins' adjustment?**

1324 A. Mr. Higgins' argument that including a forecast of inflation in the Company's  
1325 case becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy is overreaching. Mr. Higgins' proposed  
1326 adjustment is based solely on his interpretation of high-level economic indicators  
1327 and not empirical evidence of the cost pressures facing the utility industry and  
1328 RMP. The Company is simply reflecting the cost of goods and services that it  
1329 projects to experience during the Test Period. If these cost increases are not  
1330 reflected in the Company's projected revenue requirement, it will impact the  
1331 Company's ability to recover the costs necessary to serve customers during the  
1332 rate-effective period.

1333 **Q. Do you agree that including escalation serves as a "cost cushion" for the**  
1334 **Company?**

1335 A. No. Planning for the costs the Company will incur in providing service to  
1336 customers during the Test Period is not a cost cushion, but rather a prudent and  
1337 accepted practice in setting rates that will allow the Company an opportunity to

1338 recover its prudently incurred costs of providing safe and reliable electrical  
1339 service. Adopting Mr. Higgins' adjustment that holds the Company's non-labor  
1340 O&M flat would only result in chronic under earning. The Company is using base  
1341 costs from the twelve months ended June 30, 2011, and a Test Period ending May  
1342 31, 2013, for this case. To assume that there will be no inflation during the period  
1343 of time between the base period and Test Period is unreasonable and imprudent.

1344 **Q. What additional arguments does Mr. Higgins provide to support his**  
1345 **adjustment?**

1346 A. Mr. Higgins claims that inflationary pressures will not be substantial through the  
1347 Company's Test Period. He lists two sources to support this claim: the Minutes of  
1348 the Federal Reserve Open Market Committee from January 24-25, 2012, and the  
1349 January 2012 forecast of the Congressional Budget Office. Both of these sources  
1350 contain high level discussions of national economic factors, including core  
1351 inflation, which is anticipated to be in the range of 1.2 percent to 1.8 percent in  
1352 2012.

1353 **Q. Why does the Company believe that the IHS Global Insight escalation factors**  
1354 **included in the case are more appropriate than Mr. Higgins' core inflation**  
1355 **argument?**

1356 A. IHS conducts thorough research that is highly specialized to the electric utility  
1357 industry. Based on its research, IHS formulates escalation factors related to  
1358 specific FERC accounts. In contrast, core inflation is a broad predictor of inflation  
1359 that is measured based on aggregate price growth excluding food and energy  
1360 prices. While core inflation can be a valuable tool when examining the economy

1361 as a whole, it is too broad to be an accurate predictor of the specific cost pressures  
1362 the Company will experience during the Test Period.

1363 **Q. Please explain the adjustment to the escalation of non-labor O&M costs**  
1364 **proposed by Mr. Meyer.**

1365 A. Mr. Meyer's proposed adjustment removes the increases in non-labor O&M  
1366 expense as projected by utilization of IHS Global Insight (USA) Inc. ("IHS")  
1367 escalation factors from the base period through the Test Period. He cites two  
1368 primary concerns: His first concern is that he believes the June 2011 O&M  
1369 expense is lower than the June 2010 O&M expense. The second concern is  
1370 because the Company has filed many rate cases, the need for an inflation  
1371 adjustment is diminished. His adjustment reduces the Company's revenue  
1372 requirement by \$10.2 million.

1373 **Q. Did Mr. Meyer calculate his proposed adjustment correctly?**

1374 A. No. Mr. Meyer's adjustment is overstated by \$5.5 million because he failed to  
1375 account for the impact the Company's O&M escalation adjustment has on other  
1376 non-labor O&M related adjustments similar to the miscalculation made by Mr.  
1377 Higgins.

1378 **Q. Please provide some examples to illustrate Mr. Meyer's miscalculation.**

1379 A. In Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-3), page 5.3, the Little Mountain adjustment removes  
1380 O&M expense related to the plant since it no longer produces power and has been  
1381 taken out of service. The amount included in the unadjusted results related to  
1382 Little Mountain non-labor O&M was \$279,370. However, the Company removed  
1383 \$297,920 from results with the difference representing the \$18,550 in escalation

1384 that was applied in the O&M escalation adjustment no. 4.12. Absent the O&M  
1385 escalation adjustment, only \$279,370 should have been removed through the  
1386 Little Mountain adjustment. Since Mr. Meyer removed the O&M escalation  
1387 adjustment in its entirety and failed to revise the Little Mountain adjustment for  
1388 the additional \$18,550, the escalation is being removed from revenue requirement  
1389 twice – once through Mr. Meyer’s adjustment and again through the Little  
1390 Mountain adjustment.

1391 Another example of an impacted adjustment is the incremental O&M  
1392 adjustment no. 4.9, which is the largest adjustment affected by Mr. Meyer’s  
1393 proposed O&M escalation removal adjustment. The incremental O&M  
1394 adjustment ensures that the level of generation plant O&M expense projected to  
1395 be incurred during the Test Period is reflected in the case. Projected plant O&M is  
1396 included in the case through two adjustments - the O&M escalation adjustment  
1397 and the incremental O&M adjustment. Through the O&M escalation adjustment,  
1398 Plant O&M accounts are brought forward to the Test Period using IHS Global  
1399 Insight escalation factors. The escalated plant O&M accounts are then compared  
1400 to the level of plant O&M the Company expects to incur during the Test Period.  
1401 Any variance between the escalated O&M and the Company’s projection is  
1402 reflected in the case through the incremental generation O&M adjustment.

1403 As illustrated on pages 4.9.1 and 4.9.2 of Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-3),  
1404 increases in plant O&M included in the case through the O&M escalation  
1405 adjustment are removed in calculating the amount of O&M to be added through  
1406 the incremental O&M adjustment. As detailed in adjustment 4.9 of Exhibit



1407 RMP\_\_\_(SRM-3), a total of \$18.4 million in plant O&M is added to the case  
1408 beyond base period levels. Of this, \$11.3 million is adjusted through the O&M  
1409 escalation adjustment, while the balance of \$7.1 million is reflected in the case  
1410 through the incremental O&M escalation adjustment. When Mr. Meyer removes  
1411 the O&M escalation adjustment, he is removing from the case \$11.3 million (\$4.9  
1412 million Utah allocated) of plant O&M projected to be incurred during the Test  
1413 Period. Of the \$4.9 million of incremental plant O&M, \$4.0 million relates to the  
1414 Company's thermal units and \$0.9 million is associated with the hydro and wind  
1415 units.

1416 Mr. Meyer's O&M escalation adjustment removes from the case projected  
1417 Test Period plant O&M costs that are necessary and appropriate. The testimony of  
1418 Company witnesses Mr. Ralston and Mr. Tallman provide further support of the  
1419 projected levels of plant O&M included in the Company's revenue requirement.

1420 **Q. Does Mr. Meyer's adjustment to O&M escalation affect other adjustments?**

1421 A. Yes, in addition to the adjustments mentioned above, the following adjustments  
1422 reflected in Exhibit RMP\_\_\_(SRM-3) are impacted by Mr. Meyer's adjustment to  
1423 O&M escalation: Uncollectible Accounts, Utah AMR Savings, Electric Lake  
1424 Settlement, Powerdale Removal, Regulatory Asset Amortization, Klamath Hydro-  
1425 Electric Settlement Agreement, and Miscellaneous Asset and Sales Removals.  
1426 The Company believes that Mr. Meyer's adjustment should be rejected for  
1427 reasons described below. However, should the Commission choose to adopt his  
1428 proposal, the adjustment should be revised from \$10.2 million to \$4.7 million to  
1429 properly account for the issues described above.

1430 **Q. Why does the Company oppose Mr. Meyer's O&M escalation adjustment?**

1431 A. Mr. Meyer's adjustment should be disallowed because the basis for his adjustment  
1432 is that the Utah allocated unadjusted O&M expense in June 2011 is lower than the  
1433 June 2010 O&M by \$29.2 million.

1434 **Q. Is Mr. Meyer's comparison of June 2010 and June 2011 O&M a valid**  
1435 **comparison?**

1436 A. No. Mr. Meyer's analysis has several flaws. The biggest flaw is that he indicates  
1437 in his footnotes that the June 2010 column (labeled June 2012) is calculated using  
1438 Revised Protocol, and that the June 2011 column was calculated using 2010  
1439 Protocol, but he did not consider the differences in allocation in calculating the  
1440 difference. The June 2010 figures included \$29.3 million associated with the  
1441 Revised Protocol embedded cost differential ("ECD") expense, which under 2010  
1442 Protocol is set to zero in Utah. This accounted for his entire decrease. If Mr.  
1443 Meyer had performed his adjustment using total Company costs to remove the  
1444 impact of allocations he would have noticed increasing, not decreasing, costs. In  
1445 addition, Mr. Meyer used unadjusted data without any normalization adjustments  
1446 or correcting adjustments.

1447 **Q. Has the Utah Commission ruled on the use of escalation rates?**

1448 A. Yes. In Docket 07-035-93 the Commission stated "In this case, we find use of  
1449 Global Insight inflation forecasts is appropriate and provide the Company  
1450 adequate incentive to manage their non-labor O&M costs (other than net power  
1451 costs)."

1452 **Uncollectible Expense**

- 1453 **Q. Please describe Mr. Meyer's adjustment to uncollectible expense?**
- 1454 A. Mr. Meyer removes the projected increase in uncollectible expenses in this case  
1455 associated with the requested price increase.
- 1456 **Q. Has the Company changed the way uncollectible expenses for new revenue**  
1457 **associated with price changes are calculated in this rate case?**
- 1458 A. No. The Company has always calculated a change in uncollectible expense  
1459 associated with the price change as is noted on pages 1.0 and 1.1 of Exhibit  
1460 RMP\_\_\_(SRM-3). This change is part of the normal ratemaking process and is  
1461 done in all of the Company's jurisdictions. Uncollectible expense is calculated as  
1462 a percent of revenues. Therefore, if revenues change, so does the uncollectible  
1463 expense.
- 1464 **Q. Does the Company collect 100% of every dollar it bills its customers?**
- 1465 A. No it doesn't. Despite the Company's improved efforts to collect on customer  
1466 balances, there are still some balances that will not be recovered. It is naïve and  
1467 unrealistic to think that the entire price change billed to customers will be  
1468 collected. Uncollectible expense is a necessary business expense that impacts all  
1469 businesses.
- 1470 **Q. Do you have other concerns with Mr. Meyer's adjustment?**
- 1471 A. Yes. Mr. Meyer's adjustment was calculated using a fixed dollar amount based on  
1472 the Company's original request. The amount of his adjustment is overstated based  
1473 on the rebuttal filing, and would need to be further adjusted based on the final  
1474 outcome in this rate case.
- 1475 **Q. Does the rate used by the Company capture the collection improvements**

1476 **made by the Company?**

1477 A. Yes it does. The uncollectible rate is calculated by dividing the base period  
1478 uncollectible expense by the base period revenues for the twelve months ended  
1479 June 2011. This rate is used to calculate an amount of bad debt expense associated  
1480 with the price change.

1481 **CWIP Write-Offs**

1482 **Q. Please explain Ms. Ramas' proposed adjustment to construction work in**  
1483 **progress (CWIP).**

1484 A. Ms. Ramas proposes to remove from results the written-off costs related to two  
1485 cancelled projects: 1) the switchgear replacement project at Huntington Units 1  
1486 and 2; and 2) electronic security projects associated with NERC/Critical  
1487 Infrastructure Protection Standards. Ms. Ramas provides little support for this  
1488 recommendation other than to say the costs for these projects should be removed  
1489 from Test Period expense and not passed on to customers.

1490 **Q. Why did the Company decide to cancel the Huntington switchgear**  
1491 **replacement project?**

1492 A. During the preparation for installation of the switchgear, management raised  
1493 concerns about the risks required to install the equipment. After additional  
1494 engineering reviews, it was determined that the switchgear project could be  
1495 cancelled and the equipment could be bypassed in the event of a failure. Based on  
1496 this review, the decision was made to cancel the project.

1497 **Q. Why did the Company decide to cancel the electronic security projects**  
1498 **associated with the NERC/Critical Infrastructure Protection Standards?**

1499 A. After a 2008 assessment of the extensive nature of the NERC CIPS standards and  
1500 the limited available internal resources, the Company decided to hire an outside  
1501 consultant to design a fully integrated compliance program that would bring the  
1502 critical asset generation facilities and operations into compliance with the new  
1503 NERC CIPS standards. The third party solution that was chosen included a  
1504 complete set of compliant policies, procedures and documentation, as well as a  
1505 network design that allowed each critical asset generation facility to automate  
1506 many of its compliance obligations, while simultaneously meeting the new cyber  
1507 security requirements imposed by the new NERC standards.

1508 In February of 2010, Company management and the IT department  
1509 performed an internal reassessment of the third party solution. The assessment  
1510 concluded that while the solution provided a compliant program, it also presented  
1511 several undesirable drawbacks such as: (1) requiring the Company to rely on a  
1512 third party vendor for its compliance program; (2) requiring that the Company  
1513 either add internal headcount or hire the third party solution provider on a  
1514 continuing basis in order to sustain the compliance program; (3) essentially  
1515 requiring the creation of an IT department within the generation organization; and  
1516 (4) reinforcing the stand-alone operation mode of the critical asset generation  
1517 plants rather than moving closer to a centralized, integrated solution.

1518 The IT department presented Company management with an alternative  
1519 compliance model that was primarily supported by internal resources. The  
1520 alternative compliance model offered the benefit of centralizing many of the  
1521 compliance tasks that, under the third party solution, would have been performed

1522 independently by plant personnel at each of the critical asset facilities.

1523           Upon completion of the assessment, the determination was made to  
1524 terminate the original third party provider scope of work and to pursue  
1525 implementation of the alternative compliance model proposed by the IT  
1526 department. The work is now being done by the in-house IT group with the  
1527 changes in scope reflecting fewer facilities requiring the full-scale  
1528 implementation.

1529 **Q. Did the Company remove from the Base Period any expenses associated with**  
1530 **the write-off of projects that were previously recorded in CWIP?**

1531 A. Yes. As noted by Ms. Ramas in her testimony, the Company removed \$3 million  
1532 from Base Year expenses associated with the establishment of a CWIP reserve for  
1533 the Jim Bridger turbine upgrades. In establishing this CWIP reserve, the Company  
1534 did not actually write-off the underlying asset. Because the Company did not  
1535 actually write-off expenses related to the Jim Bridger turbine upgrade during the  
1536 Test Period, the Company did not find it appropriate to include this impairment  
1537 charge in rates. As a result, the Company made an adjustment, detailed in Exhibit  
1538 RMP\_\_\_(SRM-3) to remove the non-recurring entry associated with the Jim  
1539 Bridger impairment charge. Subsequent to the end of the Base Period, the  
1540 accounting entry to establish the CWIP reserve was reversed and the associated  
1541 expense, which had previously been removed from rates by the Company, was  
1542 nullified.

1543 **Q. Is the Company's treatment of the Jim Bridger turbine upgrade impairment**  
1544 **charge inconsistent with its treatment of the switchgear replacement and**

1545 **electronic security projects in question?**

1546 A. No. The Company's rationale for removing the Jim Bridger impairment charge is  
1547 fundamentally different from the rationale proposed by Ms. Ramas to remove the  
1548 written-off expenses related to the switchgear replacement and electronic security  
1549 projects. As explained above, the decision to remove the Jim Bridger impairment  
1550 charge was made because management did not feel it was appropriate to include  
1551 this one-time charge associated with the establishment of a CWIP reserve for this  
1552 asset, especially when considering the potential for this expense to be reversed at  
1553 a later time. The expenses Ms. Ramas is proposing to remove are not associated  
1554 with the establishment of a CWIP reserve due to concerns about the standing of  
1555 these projects. Rather, these capital projects were written-off as expenses because  
1556 the Company made the decision to cancel them.

1557 **Q. How does the Company propose to treat CWIP write-off costs in response to**  
1558 **Ms. Ramas' adjustment?**

1559 A. The Company disagrees with the notion that costs related to projects that have  
1560 been cancelled should be removed from Test Period expenses. When the  
1561 Company makes the decision to pursue a project it utilizes the best, most  
1562 complete information available at the time. However, as time passes and projects  
1563 progress, new circumstances and information continually arise which have the  
1564 potential to impact the efficacy of any project. In response to these changing  
1565 circumstances, sometimes it is necessary for the Company to cancel projects in  
1566 order to be able to move forward with alternative solutions better suited to fit the  
1567 Company's needs in providing service to customers. These changes and the costs

1568 associated with them are simply part of the normal course of doing business and  
1569 they should be included in ratemaking.

1570 Although the Company believes Ms. Ramas' adjustment is not necessary,  
1571 if an adjustment is made the Company believes reflecting a five year average of  
1572 historical CWIP write-off expense in this case is reasonable. The Company has  
1573 calculated a five year average of historical write-offs using data from 2007  
1574 through 2011. These annual amounts were restated using constant dollars to the  
1575 Test Period, then the average was compared to the level of write-offs reflected in  
1576 the Company's filing; the Bridger write-off of \$3.0 million was removed from  
1577 both figures. Both the five year average and the original Test Period level of  
1578 write-offs (excluding the Bridger item) are \$5.3 million. Based on this, the  
1579 Company recommends that no adjustment to CWIP write-off expense be adopted  
1580 in this proceeding. The Company believes this is a reasonable and balanced  
1581 approach to this issue and allows the Company to recover a normalized level of  
1582 this expense, which is an ongoing and necessary part of providing service to  
1583 customers.

1584 **Edison Electric Institute Dues ("EEI")**

1585 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Oman's adjustment to reduce EEI dues expense in the**  
1586 **Test Period?**

1587 A. No. Mr. Oman proposes to remove \$138,095 from the case associated with EEI  
1588 dues paid by the Company. This is based on Mr. Oman's incorrect assumption  
1589 that the total dues paid by the Company in the Base Period were \$678,271. The  
1590 \$678,271 cited by Mr. Oman is only the above-the-line portion included in FERC



1591 account 930.2. The portion of the dues allocated to lobbying efforts was booked  
1592 below-the-line in FERC account 426. The total amount paid to EEI in the Base  
1593 Period was \$867,149, of which \$188,878 was recorded below-the-line for  
1594 lobbying. Therefore, Mr. Oman proposes, erroneously, to remove the lobbying  
1595 expense a second time.

1596 Information on the total bill, including the break out of below-the-line  
1597 charges, was provided to the DPU in response to DPU data request 49.7, which  
1598 was furnished on June 8, 2012. Based on the date this response was provided, Mr.  
1599 Oman may have been unable to review this information in advance of submitting  
1600 his direct testimony in this proceeding on June 11, 2012. However, since the  
1601 portion of EEI dues allocated to lobbying efforts incurred during the Base Period  
1602 was already booked to a below-the-line account, and was therefore not included in  
1603 the Test Period of this case, it is inappropriate to remove lobbying costs that are  
1604 not included in the rate case.

1605 **Chamber of Commerce**

1606 **Q. Please describe Mr. Oman's proposed adjustment to remove from the case**  
1607 **expenses for chamber of commerce organizations.**

1608 A. Mr. Oman proposes to remove from the Test Period expenses associated with  
1609 dues paid by the Company to chamber of commerce organizations based on his  
1610 assertion that the Company's participation in these organizations does not provide  
1611 a direct quantifiable benefit to customers and is not necessary to the Company's  
1612 efforts of providing safe and reliable electric service to customers.

1613 **Q. Does the Company agree with Mr. Oman's adjustment?**

1614 A. No, the Company is opposed to Mr. Oman's recommendation to remove chamber  
1615 of commerce dues from the Test Period. Contrary to Mr. Oman's arguments to  
1616 remove these costs from the case, Company participation in these organizations  
1617 does, in fact, provide tangible benefits to customers. One of the primary purposes  
1618 of chambers of commerce is to promote local economic development and jobs.  
1619 This purpose is extremely important to customers and communities in the current  
1620 economy. The Company's support of chambers and other activities which help  
1621 improve the local economies directly benefits its customers. Importantly, the  
1622 Company's participation is not for the purpose of increasing load or sales.

1623 In addition, participation in these organizations provides basic information  
1624 which the Company considers in developing its load forecasts and planning to  
1625 meet the utility service needs of the communities we serve. Chamber of  
1626 commerce meetings are often a source for where the Company learns about new  
1627 load planned in a community or other matters which might impact the Company's  
1628 infrastructure or service protocols in the community. Participation in these  
1629 organizations is critical to the Company's efforts to remain informed of these  
1630 issues.

1631 Removing these costs from rates would disallow recovery of costs  
1632 incurred by the Company that result in tangible benefits to our customers. For  
1633 these reasons, the Company recommends that the Commission not adopt Mr.  
1634 Oman's proposed adjustment to chamber of commerce dues.

1635 **Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?**

1636 A. Yes.