

1 **INTRODUCTION**

2 **Q. Please state your name, business address, and present position with**
3 **PacifiCorp d/b/a Rocky Mountain Power (the “Company”).**

4 A. My name is Douglas K. Stuver and my business address is 825 NE Multnomah
5 Street, Suite 1900, Portland, Oregon 97232. My present position is Senior Vice
6 President and Chief Financial Officer.

7 **Q. Briefly describe your education and professional experience.**

8 A. I have a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration from the University of
9 Pittsburgh and am a Certified Public Accountant licensed in Pennsylvania.
10 I worked for Ernst & Young for eight years in auditing and have since worked for
11 Enserch Energy Services, CNG Energy Services, and Duke Energy Corporation in
12 various accounting and risk management capacities. I joined PacifiCorp in 2004
13 as the controller for the commercial and trading division and moved into my
14 current role as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer in March 2008.

15 **Q. What are your responsibilities as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial**
16 **Officer?**

17 A. My primary responsibilities include the accounting, treasury, tax, financial
18 planning and analysis, external financial reporting, commodity risk management,
19 and internal audit functions for PacifiCorp.

20 **PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY**

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

22 A. My testimony addresses the Company’s proposed regulatory and accounting
23 treatment for the closure of the Deer Creek Mine (“Closure”) and related matters.

24 The Closure includes the withdrawal from the United Mine Workers of America
25 (“UMWA”) 1974 Pension Trust (“1974 Pension Trust”), the sale of certain mining
26 assets (“Mining Assets”), and the execution of two coal supply agreements
27 (“CSAs”) with Bowie Resource Partners, LLC (or its designated subsidiary)
28 (“Bowie”). Energy West has also settled its retiree medical obligation (“Retiree
29 Medical Obligation”) related to Energy West union participants. Together, the
30 components of the Closure and settlement of the Retiree Medical Obligation
31 constitute the transaction to close the Deer Creek Mine (“Transaction”).

32 OVERVIEW

33 **Q. Please describe the Transaction.**

34 A. The Company is proposing to close the Deer Creek Mine in Emery County, Utah
35 in 2015. The Closure will include withdrawal from the 1974 Pension Trust and
36 transfer of the Retiree Medical Obligation associated with Energy West union
37 participants to the UMWA. The Company has also entered into asset purchase and
38 sale agreements with Bowie for the Mining Assets, which consist of the coal
39 preparation plant and related assets located in Emery County, Utah (“Preparation
40 Plant”); the central warehouse facility and related assets located in Emery County,
41 Utah (“Central Warehouse”); the Trail Mountain Mine and related assets located
42 in Emery County, Utah (“Trail Mountain Mine”); and the assets of Fossil Rock
43 Fuels, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company (“Fossil Rock”). The
44 Company has also executed two CSAs with Bowie for continued fuel supply to its
45 Huntington and Hunter Power Plants.

46 **Q. Why is the Company proposing to close the Deer Creek Mine in 2015 and sell**
47 **the Mining Assets?**

48 A. Early closure of the Deer Creek Mine, including withdrawal from the 1974
49 Pension Trust, transfer of the Retiree Medical Obligation, sale of the Mining
50 Assets, and execution of the CSAs will provide significant present value benefits
51 to customers as outlined in Ms. Cindy Crane's testimony.

52 **Q. Is the Company able to financially support the Transaction?**

53 A. Yes. The Company has significant financial resources including a strong balance
54 sheet, substantial net cash flows from operations and the ability to borrow any
55 funds necessary to help finance the Transaction.

56 Certain costs associated with the Transaction will be incurred over a
57 period of time (e.g., mine closure costs and CSA costs), while other costs of the
58 Transaction could be incurred as a one-time event (e.g., pension withdrawal
59 liability). In either case, the Company will be able to financially support the
60 Transaction.

61 During the year ended December 31, 2013, the Company generated
62 approximately \$1.5 billion in net cash flows from operating activities. This
63 amount of operating cash flows is well beyond what the Transaction is expected
64 to require over a multi-year period of time. Further, the Company generated
65 approximately the same amount of net cash flows from operating activities during
66 the two prior years as well.

67 In addition to internally-generated funds, the Company has access to the
68 capital markets and expects to be able to borrow any funds necessary for the

69 Transaction. This access was evidenced most recently by the Company's March
70 2014 issuance of \$425 million of first mortgage bonds due 2024. PacifiCorp
71 senior secured debt is currently rated 'A1' and 'A' by Moody's Investors Service
72 and Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, respectively, both of which are
73 investment grade ratings. The Company also has a commercial paper program that
74 allows it to borrow funds on a shorter term basis to help finance shorter term cash
75 needs in anticipation of a long-term financing should the Transaction require
76 short-term financing.

77 **Q. What are the estimated costs associated with the Transaction?**

78 A. Estimated costs associated with the Transaction, including estimated unrecovered
79 investment in the Deer Creek Mine and the Mining Assets (but excluding the
80 Fossil Rock plant held for future use), are as follows (in millions):

81	Unrecovered investment in Deer Creek Mine	\$86
82	Unrecovered investment in Mining Assets	■
83	Closure costs	■
84	Retiree Medical settlement loss	■
85	1974 Pension Trust withdrawal	■
86	Estimated total	■

87 **Q. Please provide an overview of the Company's proposed regulatory and**
88 **accounting treatment for the costs associated with the Transaction.**

89 A. The Company proposes to defer all costs associated with the Transaction as a
90 regulatory asset. The Company proposes a carrying charge on the unamortized
91 regulatory asset equal to its authorized rate of return. For purposes of determining

92 the regulatory asset balance during the deferral period, the Company proposes to
93 reduce the regulatory asset by any unpaid liabilities associated with the
94 Transaction.

95 Until the time when rates next reset, the Company proposes to amortize
96 the regulatory asset associated with its unrecovered investment at the current rate
97 of depreciation for the Deer Creek Mine and the Mining Assets now reflected in
98 base rates. This approach serves to minimize the amount of deferrals and align
99 costs with amounts currently being recovered in rates.

100 As described in the Application, the Company also proposes to defer and
101 amortize the incremental costs or benefits of replacement fuel supply under the
102 CSAs until these costs are reflected in base rates. Because these costs and the
103 unrecovered investment costs both relate to fuel supply, the Company proposes to
104 amortize them through net power costs, subject to the Company's power costs
105 adjustment mechanisms in each state without application of any existing sharing
106 bands.

107 At the time rates are next reset, the Company proposes to add any
108 unamortized investment to rate base, to be recovered over a period to be approved
109 by the Commission. The Company will also reset base rates to reflect the CSAs.

110 The Company proposes to defer the accounting loss associated with the
111 1974 Pension Trust withdrawal on the basis that recovery of payments to the trust
112 will continue for the foreseeable future until the Company's withdrawal liability
113 can be quantified and amortized. The Company proposes rate base treatment of

114 both the unamortized regulatory asset and outstanding liability associated with the
115 withdrawal obligation.

116 The Company requests an accounting order allowing it to record as a
117 regulatory asset the estimated [REDACTED] accounting loss associated with the
118 settlement of its Retiree Medical Obligation. The difference between the funds the
119 Company will transfer to the union and the Company's estimated Retiree Medical
120 Obligation serves to reduce existing regulatory assets and will benefit customers
121 through lower future expense, as described later in my testimony.

122 The Company expects no gain or loss on the sale of the Fossil Rock assets.
123 As these assets are included in rate base as plant held for future use, the Company
124 proposes to defer amounts currently in rates for this return on rate base and to
125 apply those amounts against the regulatory asset arising from the Transaction.

126 **Q. Have you calculated the approximate amount of the requested regulatory**
127 **assets associated with the Transaction?**

128 A. Yes. As presented in Confidential Exhibit RMP___(DKS-1), the Company has
129 projected the impacts of the Closure, Mining Asset sales, 1974 Pension Trust
130 withdrawal and settlement of the Retiree Medical Obligation. The projections are
131 based upon closure activities commencing after the filing of the application and
132 the completion of the Mining Asset sales and 1974 Pension Trust withdrawal by
133 May 2015. These projections also assume Energy West continues longwall mining
134 through early December 2014.

135 The projected regulatory asset associated with the Mining Asset sales and
136 Closure, including unrecovered investment, the settlement loss resulting from the

137 transfer of the Retiree Medical Obligation and closure costs, is approximately
138 [REDACTED] on a total-company basis. Although the Company will recognize
139 most of these costs in 2014, certain costs will be recognized in 2015 and early
140 2016. Separately, a regulatory asset and a withdrawal liability of approximately
141 [REDACTED] are estimated for the 1974 Pension Trust withdrawal, with recovery
142 based on the estimated annual contribution required to the 1974 Pension Trust and
143 continuing until contributions are no longer required.

144 CLOSURE OF THE DEER CREEK MINE

145 **Q. What is the current ratemaking and accounting treatment associated with**
146 **the Deer Creek Mine?**

147 A. Consistent with the Company's 2013 depreciation study, the costs associated with
148 the Deer Creek Mine are based upon mine closure occurring in 2019.
149 Depreciation and operating costs are captured in the Company's base net power
150 costs. The projected net book value of the Deer Creek Mine at December 31, 2014
151 is \$86 million on a total-company basis.

152 **Q. What are the accounting implications and proposed ratemaking treatment of**
153 **the closure of the Deer Creek Mine?**

154 A. The Company will be required to remove the net book value of the Deer Creek
155 Mine from property, plant and equipment under generally accepted accounting
156 principles ("GAAP"). For purposes of accounting under both GAAP and
157 ultimately the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Uniform System of
158 Accounts, the Company proposes to reclassify the net book value of the Deer

159 Creek Mine assets from property, plant and equipment to a regulatory asset with
160 rate base treatment.

161 The Company proposes to commence amortization as soon as depreciation
162 ceases at an amount equal to the Deer Creek Mine depreciation currently reflected
163 in rates. The Company proposes that the amortization of this regulatory asset,
164 amortization of the undepreciated investment in the Mining Assets (discussed
165 below), and the costs or benefits realized for replacement coal supply, all of which
166 are included in net power costs, be subject to the Company's power cost
167 adjustment mechanisms in each state without application of any existing sharing
168 bands. At the time rates are next reset, the Company proposes to include in rate
169 base any remaining investment, to be recovered over a period to be approved by
170 the Commission.

171 Further information regarding the estimated accounting impacts of the
172 Closure of the Deer Creek Mine is provided in Confidential Exhibit
173 RMP___(DKS-1).

174 **DEER CREEK CLOSURE COSTS**

175 **Q. Please describe the nature of the closure costs.**

176 A. In conjunction with cessation of the Deer Creek Mine operations, the Company
177 will incur certain closure costs. These include costs to remove everything from
178 within the mine workings, install bulkheads in the coal seams and seal the mine
179 portals; supplemental unemployment and medical benefits required under the
180 terms of the labor agreement; severance benefits to be provided to nonunion
181 employees; and certain royalties. The royalties include those that could potentially

182 be imposed by the Bureau of Land Management as a result of not mining the
183 previously planned coal reserve areas. PacifiCorp's current estimate for closure
184 costs is [REDACTED], starting at the time Deer Creek Mine begins closure work,
185 with certain costs continuing into early 2016.

186 **Q. What is the Company's proposed regulatory and accounting treatment for**
187 **Deer Creek Mine closure costs?**

188 A. The Company proposes that all closure costs be deferred in a regulatory asset with
189 a carrying charge equal to the Company's authorized rate of return. At the time
190 rates are reset, the Company proposes to include in rate base the unamortized
191 regulatory asset and recover the costs over a period to be approved by the
192 Commission.

193 Further information regarding the estimated accounting impacts of the
194 Closure of Deer Creek is provided in Confidential Exhibit RMP ___(DKS-1).

195 **MINING ASSET SALES**

196 **Q. What is the current ratemaking and accounting treatment associated with**
197 **Mining Assets?**

198 A. The Preparation Plant is utilized to stockpile and blend coal for the Hunter Power
199 Plant. The net-book value of the Preparation Plant is projected to be \$20 million
200 at December 31, 2014. Under the 2014 depreciation study, depreciation and
201 operating costs associated with the Preparation Plant are based on a 2042 terminal
202 life. The depreciation and operating costs for this asset are included in the
203 Company's net power costs.

204 The Central Warehouse stores materials and supplies inventory for the
205 Preparation Plant and the Deer Creek Mine. The net book value of the Central
206 Warehouse is projected to be \$0.3 million as of December 31, 2014. Under the
207 2014 depreciation study, the Central Warehouse is being depreciated based on a
208 2019 terminal life.

209 The Trail Mountain Mine assets to be sold are comprised substantially of a
210 substation. The net book value associated with these assets is projected to be \$0.7
211 million as of December 31, 2014. Recovery of and return on these assets is
212 currently reflected in rates.

213 **Q. What is the Company’s proposed regulatory and accounting treatment**
214 **associated with the sales of the Mining Assets?**

215 A. The Preparation Plant will be sold in exchange for a [REDACTED]
216 [REDACTED]. No monetary consideration will be paid for the
217 Central Warehouse property and the Trail Mountain Mine. As a result, the
218 unrecovered investment after the sale of these assets is projected to be
219 approximately [REDACTED] on a total-company basis.

220 The Company proposes to recover the approximately [REDACTED]
221 unrecovered investment by establishing a regulatory asset, with amortization
222 commencing immediately upon its establishment at the level of depreciation now
223 reflected in rates.

224 The Company proposes that this amortization be combined with
225 amortization of the Deer Creek Mine regulatory assets and costs or benefits
226 realized for the replacement coal supply and be subject to the Company’s power

227 cost adjustment mechanisms in each state without application of any existing
228 sharing bands. At the time rates are next reset, the Company proposes to include
229 in rate base any remaining unrecovered investment in the Mining Assets, to be
230 recovered over a period approved by the Commission.

231 Further information regarding the estimated accounting impacts of the
232 sales of the Mining Assets is provided in Confidential Exhibit RMP____(DKS-1).

233 **Q. What is the current ratemaking and accounting treatment associated with**
234 **Fossil Rock?**

235 A. Fossil Rock was formed in 2011 for purposes of acquiring the rights to Utah state
236 coal leases, ML-51191-OBA and ML-51192-OBA. As of September 30, 2014,
237 plant held for future use included [REDACTED] associated with the coal leases, with
238 rate base treatment in certain jurisdictions.

239 **Q. What is the proposed regulatory and accounting treatment associated with**
240 **the proposed sale of the Fossil Rock assets?**

241 A. The Company expects to sell the Fossil Rock assets at approximately book value
242 at the time of Transaction close. Thus no accounting gain or loss is expected. For
243 the applicable jurisdictions, the Company proposes to defer the revenue
244 associated with the return on rate base until such time that rates are reset. The
245 Company proposes to offset the unrecovered regulatory assets associated with the
246 other components of the Transaction by this revenue deferral when rates are next
247 reset. The accounting impacts of this proposal are provided in Confidential
248 Exhibit RMP____(DKS-1).

249 **1974 PENSION TRUST**

250 **Q. What is the current ratemaking and accounting treatment associated with**
251 **the 1974 Pension?**

252 A. Energy West currently contributes \$5.50 per union hour worked to the 1974
253 Pension Trust. The contributions are included in Energy West's operating costs,
254 which are charged to the Company's fuel expense. Annually, these contributions
255 aggregate to approximately \$3 million and are currently included in the
256 Company's base net power costs.

257 **Q. What is the estimated amount of the 1974 Pension Trust withdrawal**
258 **payment?**

259 A. Energy West has the option to make either a lump-sum payment to satisfy its
260 withdrawal obligation or to make annual installment payments. Energy West
261 intends to negotiate with the 1974 Pension Trust at the time of withdrawal to elect
262 the most economical choice—annual or lump sum. As of July 1, 2014, the
263 withdrawal liability for Energy West (if Energy West withdrew before that date)
264 was estimated to be \$125.6 million. Annual payments are determined based upon
265 the average hours worked and highest contribution rate over the preceding 10 plan
266 years.

267 **Q. What are the accounting implications associated with Energy West's**
268 **anticipated withdrawal from the 1974 Pension?**

269 A. Under the installment method, GAAP requires that these types of losses be
270 recorded at their present value using a risk-free rate. A 30-year treasury rate will
271 be used to discount the future payments. On November 4, 2014, the 30-year

272 treasury rate projected for November 30, 2014 was 3.0848 percent, which results
273 in an approximate [REDACTED] net present value. This liability, which is lower
274 than the \$125.6 million lump-sum payment, is the amount the Company would be
275 required to record on its books.

276 **Q. What is the Company's proposed regulatory treatment associated with**
277 **anticipated withdrawal from the 1974 Pension?**

278 A. To cover the Company's annual withdrawal payments, the Company proposes
279 continuation of the on-going estimated \$3 million annual payment already
280 reflected in rates. The Company would defer the estimated [REDACTED] accounting
281 loss associated with the withdrawal liability. Neither the regulatory asset nor the
282 withdrawal liability would adjust over time since the \$3 million would not
283 contribute towards a reduction in principal. At some future date, when the plan
284 terminates or the accrual of future benefits is frozen, this liability and associated
285 regulatory asset could be finally quantified and amortized.

286 Alternatively, if the Company is successful in negotiating a one-time pre-
287 payment of the annual installments that is more economical to customers, the
288 Company proposes that the amount be deferred until the next rate reset, with rate
289 base treatment of the unrecovered amount.

290 Further information regarding the estimated accounting impacts of the
291 1974 Pension Trust withdrawal is provided in Confidential Exhibit
292 RMP__(DKS-1).

RETIREE MEDICAL OBLIGATION

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Q. What is the current ratemaking and accounting treatment associated with the Retiree Medical Obligation?

A. Energy West employees earn benefits under the Company’s retiree medical plan. The Company accounts for its Retiree Medical Obligation under Accounting Standards Codification Section 715-60, formerly known as FAS 106 (“FAS 106”). The Company recovers its costs associated with the plan through inclusion of FAS 106 expense in its general rate case filings with the portion attributable to Energy West participants included in fuel costs.

Q. What is the proposed regulatory and accounting treatment associated with the proposed settlement of the Retiree Medical Obligation?

A. Energy West successfully settled the Retiree Medical Obligation by transferring assets to the UMWA [REDACTED]. This difference of [REDACTED] serves to reduce existing unrecognized actuarial losses currently reflected in the Company’s regulatory assets that would otherwise have been amortized to FAS 106 expense in the future and thus represents a significant benefit to customers. Settlement accounting under GAAP requires that the Company accelerate recognition of a portion of the remaining unrecognized actuarial losses. The resulting estimated settlement loss of [REDACTED] represents accelerated recognition of actuarial losses that would also have been amortized to FAS 106 expense absent the settlement. For this reason, the Company proposes to defer the settlement loss for future recovery over a period to be determined by the

316 Commission. As the Retiree Medical Obligation for the Energy West union
317 participants is a component of the Company's overall retiree medical plan, the
318 Company proposes that, once reflected in rates, the settlement loss be amortized
319 to operations and maintenance expense.

320 **INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

321 **Q. What are the income tax implications of the Transaction?**

322 A. The Company proposes that the regulatory asset for deferred income taxes related
323 to Deer Creek Mine be recharacterized and included in the regulatory asset for
324 Closure costs. The income tax benefits associated with the Transaction will be
325 passed onto customers through a reduction to rate base by the accumulated
326 deferred income tax liability associated with the regulatory asset and a reduction
327 in cost of service as the regulatory asset is amortized and the associated timing
328 difference reverses.

329 **CONCLUSION**

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

331 A. Yes.