

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

3 A. My name is Brian S. Dickman. My business address is 825 NE Multnomah Street,
4 Suite 600, Portland, Oregon 97232. My title is Director, Net Power Costs.

5 **Qualifications**

6 **Q. Briefly describe your education and business experience.**

7 A. I received a Master of Business Administration from the University of Utah with
8 an emphasis in finance and a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from Utah
9 State University. Prior to joining the Company, I was employed as an analyst for
10 Duke Energy Trading and Marketing. I have been employed by the Company since
11 2003 including positions in revenue requirement and regulatory affairs, and I
12 assumed my current role managing the Company’s net power cost group in March
13 2012.

14 **Q. Have you testified in previous regulatory proceedings?**

15 A. Yes. I have filed testimony in proceedings before the public utility commissions in
16 California, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming.

17 **Purpose of Testimony**

18 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?**

19 A. My testimony presents and supports the Company’s calculation of the Energy
20 Balancing Account (“EBA”) deferral for the 12-month period from January 1,
21 2014, through December 31, 2014 (“Deferral Period”). More specifically, I provide
22 the following:

- 23 • Details supporting the calculation of the Company’s request to recover \$30.5

24 million for excess EBA-related costs, including interest; and,
25 • A discussion of the main differences between adjusted actual net power costs
26 (“Actual NPC”) and net power costs in rates (“Base NPC”).
27 Throughout my testimony I describe how the Company has complied with
28 settlement stipulations and Commission orders from previous cases, including the
29 settlement agreement reached in the Company’s most recent EBA filing in Docket
30 No. 14-035-31 (“2014 EBA”).

31 **EBA Deferral Calculation**

32 **Q. Please describe the Company’s calculation of the EBA deferral for the Deferral**
33 **Period.**

34 A. The Company’s application requests recovery of \$30.5 million, comprised of \$29.0
35 million deferral of excess EBA-related costs, a credit of \$1.2 million to true up
36 incremental wheeling revenue as a result of the Federal Energy Regulatory
37 Commission (“FERC”) rate case (Docket No. ER11-3643-000), and \$2.6 million
38 of interest. The excess EBA-related costs of \$29.0 million are calculated by finding
39 the difference between the Actual NPC and wheeling revenue and the Base NPC
40 and wheeling revenue which were established in Docket No. 11-035-200 (“2012
41 GRC”) and Docket No. 13-035-184 (“2014 GRC”), then applying the 70 percent
42 sharing band to that difference.. The calculation of the monthly amount debited or
43 credited into the EBA Deferral Account is based on the following formula:

$$EBA\ Deferral_{Utah,month} = \left[\left(\frac{Actual\ EBAC_{Utah,month}}{MWh} - \frac{Base\ EBAC_{Utah,month}}{MWh} \right) \times Actual\ MWh_{Utah,month} \right] \times 70\%$$

44 Exhibit RMP____(BSD-1) presents the detailed calculation of the EBA deferral on
 45 a monthly basis during the Deferral Period, and Table 1 below provides a
 46 breakdown of the total EBA recovery.

Table 1

<u>Calendar Year 2014 EBA Deferral</u>		<i>Exhibit RMP____(BSD-1) Reference</i>
Actual EBAC (\$/MWh)	\$ 27.10	<i>Line 11</i>
Base EBAC (\$/MWh)	\$ 25.38	<i>Line 16</i>
\$/MWh Differential	<u>\$ 1.72</u>	
Utah Sales (MWh)	24,089,061	<i>Line 10</i>
Total Deferrable*	\$ 41,477,596	<i>Line 18</i>
EBA Deferral at 70% Sharing	\$ 29,034,318	<i>Line 19</i>
Additional FERC ER11-3643 Revenues	\$ (1,204,554)	<i>Line 20</i>
Interest Accrued through December 31, 2014	\$ 1,159,202	<i>Line 25</i>
Interest Jan. 1, 2015 through Oct. 31, 2015	\$ 1,482,500	<i>Line 27</i>
Requested EBA Recovery	<u><u>\$ 30,471,465</u></u>	<i>Line 28</i>

**Calculated monthly*

47 **Q. What revenue requirement components are included in the EBA deferral**
 48 **calculation?**

49 A. The EBA deferral calculation consists of two revenue requirement components:
 50 NPC and wheeling revenue. NPC are defined as the sum of fuel expenses,
 51 wholesale purchase power expenses and wheeling expenses, less wholesale sales
 52 revenue. Wheeling revenue includes amounts booked to FERC account 456.1,
 53 revenues from transmission of electricity of others. Collectively these two
 54 components are known in the Company’s EBA tariff as Energy Balancing Account
 55 Costs (“EBAC”).

56 During 2014 several new SAP accounts were used in the Company’s
 57 accounting system to track components of net power costs and wheeling revenue.

58 Specifically, new SAP accounts were established to track inter-company
59 transactions with Nevada Power and Sierra Pacific (now affiliates of PacifiCorp),
60 and to track NPC-related accounting entries arising from participation in the energy
61 imbalance market (“EIM”) with the California Independent System Operator
62 (“CAISO”). These accounts fall within the main FERC accounts that make up the
63 EBAC, but the specific SAP accounts are not identified in the current Schedule 94.
64 Exhibit RMP___(BSD-6) identifies the new accounts used in 2014. The new
65 accounts are also included in the revised tariff sheets provided in the testimony of
66 Ms. Joelle R. Steward.

67 **Q. What adjustments are made to Actual NPC and why are these adjustments**
68 **needed?**

69 A. The Company adjusts Actual NPC to reflect the ratemaking treatment of several
70 items, including buy-through of economic curtailment by interruptible industrial
71 customers, situs assignment of the generation from Oregon solar resources
72 procured to satisfy ORS 757.370 solar capacity standard, revenue associated with
73 a unique contract for the Company’s Leaning Juniper facility, coal inventory
74 adjustments to reflect coal cost in the correct period, and legal fees related to fines
75 and citations included in the cost of coal. The Company also adjusts Actual NPC to
76 remove accounting entries booked in the Deferral Period that related to operations
77 prior to implementation of the EBA in October 2011. Additional details regarding
78 each of these adjustments and the impact on NPC is provided in Additional Filing
79 Requirement 15.

80 **Q. Were there any adjustments made to Actual NPC that are new in this filing?**

81 A. Yes. During the Deferral Period the Company returned energy to a third party to
82 compensate for prior excess line losses charged to the third party by the Company.
83 An adjustment was made to Actual NPC to match the expense of returning energy
84 with the period the energy was returned, and to exclude the portion of returned
85 energy associated with periods prior to the start of the EBA in October 2011.
86 Additional details regarding each of these adjustments and the impact on NPC is
87 provided in Additional Filing Requirement 15.

88 **Q. What allocation methodology did the Company use to calculate the EBA**
89 **Deferral Account balance?**

90 A. Consistent with the settlement agreements resolving the Company's past two
91 general rate cases, two allocation methodologies were required to calculate the
92 Actual EBAC, Base EBAC, and the resulting EBA deferral in this application. The
93 stipulated Scalar Method was used to calculate the EBA deferral for the period of
94 January - August 2014, and the Commission Order Method was used to calculate
95 the EBA deferral for the period of September - December 2014. Exhibit
96 RMP__(BSD-1) calculates the EBA for the entire Deferral Period using each
97 method in its respective months.

98 The Scalar Method was originally developed as part of the settlement
99 agreement reached in Docket No. 10-035-124 ("2011 GRC") and the same
100 approach was again adopted in the settlement resolving the 2012 GRC. In the 2012
101 GRC settlement the Scalar Method was detailed in Exhibit A1: "Utah Allocation
102 Based on Scalar Method from Docket 10-035-124".

103 The settlement stipulation in the 2014 GRC no longer utilized the Scalar
104 Method, but set the Base NPC effective September 1, 2014, using the Commission
105 Order Method which was originally approved by the Commission in Docket No.
106 09-035-15. The Base NPC and Commission Order Method were detailed in the
107 Exhibit A of the stipulation in the 2014 GRC. Exhibit RMP___(BSD-2), attached
108 to my testimony, shows the EBA calculation using the Commission Order Method
109 for the entire Deferral Period enabling a comparison to the Scalar Method through
110 August 2014. In its February 19, 2015, order in Docket Nos. 09-35-15/14-035-31
111 the Commission directed the Utah Division of Public Utilities (“the Division”) to
112 include such a comparison of the Scalar Method and Commission Order Method in
113 its final EBA evaluation report in 2016.

114 **Q. Has the Company calculated the EBA deferral using any other allocation**
115 **methods?**

116 A. Yes. For the period January through August 2014, the Company calculated the EBA
117 deferral under the Scalar Method, and the A2 and A3 Methods utilized in the 2012
118 GRC settlement. Exhibit RMP___(BSD-3), Exhibit RMP___(BSD-4), and Exhibit
119 RMP___(BSD-5) separately provide the EBA calculation using the Scalar Method,
120 A2 Method, and A3 Method, respectively. Consistent with the stipulated agreement
121 in the 2014 GRC, beginning in September 2014 only the Commission Order
122 Method is used.

123 **Q. Does the calculation of the EBA deferral include carrying charges?**

124 A. Yes. In accordance with the Commission’s March 2, 2011, order in Docket No. 09-
125 035-15, carrying charges accrue on the monthly EBA deferral at an annual rate of

126 six percent. Carrying charges accrue monthly during the Deferral Period, and will
127 continue to accumulate during the collection period.

128 **Deferral Period Results**

129 **Q. Please describe the Base EBAC the Company used to calculate the amount to**
130 **be deferred during the Deferral Period.**

131 A. The 2014 EBA has a split Base EBAC during the Deferral Period. The period of
132 January 1, 2014, through August 31, 2014, has a Base EBAC set in the 2012 GRC.
133 The period of September 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014, has a Base EBAC
134 set in the 2014 GRC. Throughout my testimony I refer to the two bases together as
135 the Base EBAC. The 2012 GRC used a test period of the 12 months from June 2012
136 through May 2013 and set total Company Base NPC at \$1.479 billion and total
137 Company wheeling revenue at \$74.7 million. The 2014 GRC used a test period of
138 the 12 months from July 2014 through June 2015 and set total Company Base NPC
139 at \$1.496 billion and total Company wheeling revenue at \$96.5 million. The
140 combined Base NPC is \$1.483 billion and total Company wheeling revenue is \$82
141 million.

142 **Q. Please describe Table 2 and the line items making up the difference between**
143 **Actual NPC and Base NPC.**

144 A. Table 2 displays the Base NPC approved by the Commission for the Deferral
145 Period. The remainder of Table 2 is a breakout of the difference between Actual
146 NPC and Base NPC, by cost category, on a total Company basis. The differences
147 by category in Table 2 result from comparing Actual NPC to the Base NPC effective
148 during the Deferral Period.

Table 2
Total Company Net Power Cost Reconciliation (\$millions)

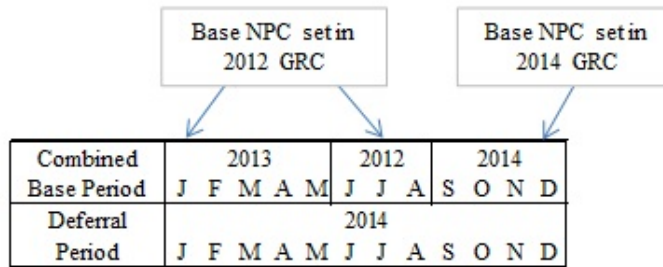
	TOTAL
Combined Base NPC	\$ 1,483
Increase/(Decrease) to NPC:	
Wholesale Sales Revenue	57
Purchased Power Expense	(53)
Coal Fuel Expense	35
Natural Gas Expense	69
Wheeling and Other Expense	8
Total Increase/(Decrease)	\$ 117
Adjusted Actual NPC	\$ 1,600

149 **Q. Is the Deferral Period aligned with the test period used in the 2012 GRC to**
 150 **determine the Base EBAC from January 1, 2014 through August 31, 2014?**

151 A. No. The 2012 GRC test period (June 2012 through May 2013) used to set the Base
 152 EBAC does not align with the Deferral Period because Base EBAC from that case
 153 were in rates from January 1, 2014, through August 31, 2014. To calculate the EBA
 154 deferral, the months in the deferral period are compared to the same months from
 155 Base NPC in effect at the time. As a result, in this EBA filing July 2014 Actual NPC
 156 is compared against July 2012 Base NPC to calculate the deferrable amount. In fact,
 157 prior to re-setting Base NPC effective September 1 2014, Actual NPC is compared
 158 to a forecast that is one or two years out of sync, depending on the month.

159 The mismatch between the Base NPC test period and the Deferral Period
 160 creates a distinct division during 2014: 1) January 2014 through August 2014, when
 161 Base NPC from the 2012 GRC does not align with the corresponding months, and
 162 2) September 2014 through December 2014, when the months from Actual NPC
 163 align to the corresponding months in the 2014 GRC test period. Figure 1 below
 164 illustrates how the months line up between the Base NPC and the Deferral Period.

Figure 1



165 **Q. How do the mismatched periods impact the EBA deferral?**
 166 A. Table 3, below, demonstrates the difference between Actual NPC and Base NPC
 167 for the two distinct periods during the Deferral Period. The table shows that over
 168 95 percent of excess NPC in 2014 occurred between January and August when the
 169 periods were not properly matched.

Table 3
 Total Company Net Power Cost Reconciliation (\$millions)
 Mismatched Test Periods

	Jan- Aug	Sep - Dec	TOTAL
Base NPC	\$ 1,000	\$ 482	\$ 1,483
Increase/(Decrease) to NPC:			
Wholesale Sales Revenue	40	18	57
Purchased Power Expense	(23)	(29)	(53)
Coal Fuel Expense	50	(15)	35
Natural Gas Expense	38	32	69
Wheeling and Other Expense	8	1	8
Total Increase/(Decrease)	\$ 112	\$ 5	\$ 117
Adjusted Actual NPC	\$ 1,112	\$ 488	\$ 1,600

170 **Q. Has the misalignment of Base NPC test periods been an issue in past EBA**
 171 **filings?**
 172 A. Yes. This same issue has been a factor in each of the Company's last two EBA

173 filings. The Division addressed this in its Preliminary Evaluation of PacifiCorp's
174 EBA Pilot Program report filed with the Commission on May 22, 2014.¹ The
175 Division noted that it expected the potential for "more extreme variation to continue
176 from January 2014 through August 2014 due to the fact that base NPC will not be
177 'reset' into rates until the beginning of September 2014" and went on to state that
178 it "considers the mismatch in months to be the greatest concern in the current EBA
179 structure."² The Company looks forward to addressing this issue when changes to
180 the EBA will be considered at the end of the pilot program.

181 **Differences in NPC**

182 **Q. Notwithstanding the issues of test period timing, please describe the primary**
183 **differences between Actual NPC and Base NPC.**

184 A. From an accounting perspective, and as shown in Table 2, actual NPC were higher
185 than Base NPC due to a \$57 million reduction in wholesale sales revenues, a \$35
186 million increase in coal fuel expense and a \$69 million increase in natural gas
187 expense. These increases in NPC were partially offset by a \$53 million reduction
188 in purchase power expenses. Actual NPC were also higher than Base NPC due, in
189 part, to an increase in system load and a reduction in zero-fuel-cost generation from
190 the Company's owned hydro and wind resources.

191 **Q. Please explain the changes in load and resources that caused an increase in**
192 **NPC.**

¹ Preliminary Evaluation of PacifiCorp's EBA Pilot Program, May 22, 2014, Docket No. 09-035-15, pages 31-32.

² Id.

193 A. Net system load was 787 GWh higher than forecasted load used in the Base NPC.
194 Furthermore, actual generation from Company owned hydro and wind resources
195 was 139 GWh and 188 GWh lower than projected in Base NPC, respectively.
196 Higher load increases NPC because the Company must purchase or generate
197 electricity to serve the load, and may be unable to sell economic generation into
198 wholesale markets. Generation from hydro and wind facilities is a zero cost
199 resource and must be replaced with additional generation from the Company's
200 thermal resources or a net increase in power procured from the wholesale market,
201 also increasing NPC. Consequently, variances in load and hydro and wind
202 generation impact several of the cost categories shown in Table 2.

203 **Q. Please explain what contributed to the reduction in wholesale sales revenue.**

204 A. The decline in wholesale sales revenues relative to Base NPC was a combination
205 of a reduction in the wholesale sales volumes of market transactions (represented
206 in the Company's production dispatch model ("GRID") as short-term firm and
207 system balancing sales) and a reduction in realized prices of market transactions.
208 Actual wholesale market sales volumes were 1,464 GWh, or 15 percent, lower than
209 the Base NPC largely driven by the 1,055 GWh shorter position resulting from
210 higher loads and lower output from hydro and wind resources. The average realized
211 price for market sales transactions was \$33.04 per MWh in Actual NPC compared
212 to \$34.14 per MWh in Base NPC.

213 **Q. Please explain the decrease in purchased power expenses.**

214 A. Actual purchased power volumes were lower than the level included in Base NPC,
215 mainly related to wholesale market transaction volumes. In total, actual wholesale
216 market purchase expense was \$49.8 million lower than the amount in Base NPC.
217 Compared to the Base NPC, wholesale market purchase transaction volume
218 decreased by 3,712 GWh, or 60 percent, largely driven by increased generation
219 from the Company's natural gas-fired facilities as described later in my testimony.
220 The impact of lower purchase volumes is partially offset by higher realized prices
221 for market purchases - the average actual purchase price was \$18.68 per MWh
222 higher than in Base NPC.

223 **Q. Were there specific contract changes that impacted purchase power expense?**

224 A. Yes. The Base NPC set in the 2012 GRC contained several long-term power
225 purchase contracts that were not included in the Deferral Period, including a
226 purchase contract with Grant County Public Utility District, a Kennecott generation
227 incentive, and a purchase contract for the output of the West Valley generating
228 station. The expiration of these contracts accounts for a reduction of approximately
229 \$9.9 million in purchased power expense. In addition, expenses were \$4.8 million
230 lower because two customers used their on-site qualifying facility ("QF")
231 generation to serve their own load, and \$5.2 million lower because one QF contract
232 included in the forecast did not reach commercial operation during the Deferral
233 Period.

234 The reduction in purchased power expense due to expired contracts was
235 partially offset by a new seasonal purchase power contract (which was not included
236 in the 2012 GRC but was in the 2014 GRC) entered into with Constellation Energy,

237 increasing expenses \$3.7 million compared to Base NPC, and several new QF
238 contracts, increasing expenses \$3.2 million.

239 **Q. Please discuss the changes in coal fuel expense.**

240 A. Coal fuel expense was \$34.9 million higher than the Base NPC, mainly due to an
241 increase in actual prices for coal compared to prices included in Base NPC. Total
242 coal generation output was within approximately 600 GWh, an increase of 1.4
243 percent. Notably, the higher coal prices occurred during the misaligned months of
244 January through August. These eight months accounted for \$50.2 million of higher
245 coal fuel expenses, which was partially offset by a \$15.3 million reduction in coal
246 fuel expenses from September to December 2014. The average actual cost of coal
247 generation from January to August was \$1.27/MWh higher than in Base NPC,
248 increasing coal costs from \$17.84/MWh in Base NPC set in the 2012 GRC to
249 \$19.10/MWh. Since the 2012 GRC there have been some notable changes that have
250 affected coal fuel costs including contractual coal price increases, new coal
251 contracts, and increased mine operating costs at the Bridger and Deer Creek mines.

252 **Q. Please describe the changes in natural gas fuel expense.**

253 A. The total natural gas fuel expense in Actual NPC increased by \$69.3 million
254 compared to the Base NPC. This difference is a result of an increase in natural gas
255 generation volume of 2,682 GWh, or 33 percent, above Base NPC. The Lake Side
256 2 combined cycle combustion turbine plant reached commercial operation during
257 the Deferral Period, and was not included in the 2012 GRC, increasing gas
258 generation approximately 724 GWh. The remaining increase in natural gas
259 generation volume occurred mainly at the Company's Lake Side 1, Currant Creek,

260 and Chehalis plants. All three plants generated more due to more periods with
261 favorable economics (i.e. lower market prices for natural gas relative to electricity)
262 in the Deferral Period compared to the Base NPC. The actual average cost of natural
263 gas generation was 9 percent lower than in Base NPC, dropping from \$41.61/MWh
264 to \$37.72/MWh. In addition, starting in December 2013, the Chehalis plant was
265 moved into the Company's balancing authority area and was able to provide
266 reserves during the Deferral Period, causing it to be operated more than previously
267 modeled in GRID (in the 2012 GRC) where it was not able to provide reserves.

268 **Q. Are the actual benefits from participating in the EIM included in the EBA**
269 **deferral?**

270 A. Yes. Participation in the EIM provides benefits to customers in the form of reduced
271 Actual NPC. Financially binding EIM operation went live November 1, 2014, and
272 all net benefits arising from EIM operation through December 31, 2014, are
273 included in the EBA deferral.

274 **Q. Has the amount of benefits realized during November and December 2014**
275 **been quantified?**

276 A. On February 11, 2015, the CAISO published the first quarterly report ("CAISO
277 Report") estimating the benefits realized through EIM operation in November and
278 December 2014. The CAISO Report estimated benefits attributable to PacifiCorp
279 of approximately \$4.72 million on a total-company basis for the two-month period.
280 The CAISO Report quantified the estimated gross benefits from the first two
281 months of EIM operation due to more efficient dispatch (both inter- and intra-
282 regional) and reduced renewable energy curtailment (applicable to CAISO).

283 Benefits from reduced flexibility reserves were not yet calculated, but the CAISO
284 indicated it anticipates adding that calculation to future reports.

285 **Compliance with 2014 EBA Settlement Stipulation**

286 **Q. What did the Company agree to do in the 2014 EBA settlement stipulation?**

287 A. In the stipulation agreement approved by the Commission to resolve the 2014 EBA,
288 the Company made thirteen separate commitments intended to improve the EBA
289 process and facilitate the Division's audit of the Company's filings. The Company
290 agreed to do the following:

- 291 • Implement a process to contemporaneously document a trade purpose for all
292 hedging transactions.
- 293 • Provide a narrative documenting the trade purpose for trades that deviate from
294 the strategy and objectives set forth in the Commercial Objectives report.
- 295 • Seek to obtain permission to provide industrial customer billing information
296 related to curtailment buy-through in advance of the EBA.
- 297 • Provide a contact at the Intercontinental Exchange ("ICE") and to coordinate
298 requests for ICE data.
- 299 • Allow the Division to request trade information outside of a formal EBA request
300 and provide the requested information if available.
- 301 • Continue to provide trade data on a quarterly basis and annually in advance of
302 the filing (Filing Requirement 6(b)).
- 303 • Establish a comprehensive list of documents, policies, and reports used or relied
304 on by traders in trading activity, including a description of how the information
305 is generally used.

- 306 • Answer all data requests timely and raise any potential issues with data requests
307 as soon as practicable.
- 308 • Make Company personnel available in person or by phone to review relevant
309 material with the Division as needed.
- 310 • Meet in person with the Division to discuss trades selected by the Division as
311 its sample for review along with any relevant data, documents, policies and
312 reports concerning those trades.
- 313 • File a notice of the impending EBA application annually on January 15.
- 314 • Record the competitive price for non-brokered transactions beginning
315 November 1, 2014.
- 316 • Inform the Division of updates to policies affecting hedging and a detailed
317 explanation of the reason(s) for the update.

318 **Q. Is the Company in compliance with the 2014 EBA settlement stipulation?**

319 A. Yes. The Company has completed all commitments with discrete deliverables, and
320 will continue to meet commitments with ongoing obligations. The Company
321 expects that following through with the 2014 EBA commitments will serve to
322 improve the EBA process and facilitate the Division's review in this filing and in
323 future EBA filings.

324 **Q. Have the Division and the Commission acknowledged the Company's**
325 **completion or ongoing fulfillment of the settlement stipulation in the 2014**
326 **EBA?**

327 A. Yes. The Division filed a memorandum on January 22, 2015, recommending the
328 Commission acknowledge the Company's completion or ongoing fulfillment of

329 these commitments, and the Commission did so in its order issued February 19,
330 2015.

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

332 **A. Yes.**