

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

3 A. My name is Joelle R. Steward. My business address is 1407 West North Temple,  
4 Salt Lake City, Utah 84116. My present position is Director, Rates & Regulatory  
5 Affairs.

6 **Qualifications**

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

8 A. I have a B.A. degree in Political Science from the University of Oregon and an  
9 M.A. in Public Affairs from the Hubert Humphrey Institute of Public Policy at the  
10 University of Minnesota. Between 1999 and March 2007, I was employed as a  
11 Regulatory Analyst with the Washington Utilities and Transportation  
12 Commission. I joined the Company in March 2007 as a Regulatory Manager,  
13 responsible for all regulatory filings and proceedings in Oregon. In February  
14 2012, I assumed responsibilities overseeing cost of service and pricing for  
15 PacifiCorp. In May 2015, I assumed my current position, with broader oversight  
16 over Rocky Mountain Power’s regulatory affairs in addition to the cost of service  
17 and pricing responsibilities.

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

19 A. Yes. I have testified in regulatory proceedings in Idaho, Oregon, Utah,  
20 Washington and Wyoming.

21 **Purpose of Testimony**

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

23 A. The purpose of my testimony is to present and support the Company’s application

24 for approval of its proposed Schedule 34, Renewable Energy Tariff (“RET”).

25 **Q. How is your testimony organized?**

26 A. My testimony is organized as follows:

27 • First, I explain the purpose of the new RET and describe why it is reasonable  
28 and in the public interest.

29 • Second, I describe the process the Company proposes for filing contracts  
30 under the proposed RET.

31 • Third, I discuss the specific features of the proposed RET.

32 **Proposed Schedule 34, Renewable Energy Tariff**

33 **Q. Please generally describe the Company’s proposed Schedule 34, Renewable**  
34 **Energy Tariff.**

35 A. The RET allows qualified customers whose total aggregated electric load is five  
36 megawatts or greater to have renewable energy purchased by the Company on  
37 their behalf.

38 **Q. Why is the Company proposing the RET?**

39 A. The Company is proposing the RET to provide large customers with an option to  
40 have renewable energy purchased on their behalf. This option addresses the  
41 requests of current and prospective customers to have all or a subset of their  
42 energy sourced from renewable generation. Recently enacted U.C.A. § 54-17-806  
43 in the Sustainable Transportation and Energy Plan legislation (RET Law) grants  
44 the Commission the authority to approve this renewable energy tariff if the  
45 Commission determines that it is reasonable and in the public interest.

46 **Q. Why is the Company’s proposed RET reasonable and in the public interest?**

47 A. The RET would provide large customers with the ability to have renewable  
48 energy purchased on their behalf in a way that does not increase costs for other  
49 customers. In addition to paying for their electric service under their otherwise  
50 applicable general service schedule, participating customers would pay an  
51 application fee, an administrative fee, and would be responsible for the  
52 incremental cost of procuring renewable energy on their behalf. The addition of  
53 the RET option may help bring new resources and customer load to Utah.

54 **Q. What are the benefits of the Company's proposed RET?**

55 A. Large energy users are becoming increasingly sophisticated and often have goals  
56 to use energy that is derived from renewable sources. The proposed RET  
57 provides a simple, common-sense approach that will give the Company and large  
58 customers a path forward for procuring energy from specific renewable resources  
59 to meet their needs. Providing customers with this choice may be the deciding  
60 factor for attracting prospective customers to locate in the Company's service  
61 territory or to retain and expand opportunities for current customers. Making this  
62 opportunity available could yield important economic benefits for Utah such as  
63 job creation, higher tax revenue, and greater visibility while mitigating impacts on  
64 other ratepayers.

#### 65 **Proposed RET Filing Requirements**

66 **Q. Please describe the process that would take place for a customer interested in**  
67 **obtaining service under the RET.**

68 A. Once a qualifying customer indicates interest in the RET option, the customer and  
69 Company would work together to identify a renewable resource from which to

70 procure energy and would work to find terms that were mutually agreeable. After  
71 the customer and Company sign a contract, the Company would file the contract  
72 with the Commission for approval. The Commission and interested parties would  
73 have an opportunity to consider the unique circumstances surrounding this  
74 specific customer's participation in the RET. Unless there are extenuating  
75 circumstances, the Company will file for approval of contracts under the RET no  
76 later than 90 days from the proposed effective date. If the Commission finds the  
77 agreement just and reasonable and in the public interest, the customer and  
78 Company would then proceed to implement the terms of the contract.

79 **Q. At a minimum, what information would the Company include in an**  
80 **application for approval of each RET contract?**

81 A. The Company's filing will include a copy of the contract on a confidential basis.  
82 The contract identifies the customer, the renewable resource(s), if known at the  
83 time of filing, the term of the contract, the rates the customer would pay, and any  
84 other conditions of the contract. The filing will also include testimony that  
85 explains the provisions of the contract, description of and current status or  
86 proposal for acquisition of the renewable resource(s), and supporting calculations  
87 for the renewable energy rate included in the contract.

#### 88 **Proposed RET Conditions**

89 **Q. Who qualifies for the RET?**

90 A. Consistent with U.C.A. § 54-17-806(2), customers with total aggregated load of at  
91 least 5 megawatts are eligible for the RET. A single customer (i.e., under a single  
92 corporate entity) may aggregate multiple metered delivery points to satisfy the 5

93 MW threshold, based on the annual peak load at each delivery point. For new  
94 customers, eligibility will be based on a reasonable projection of peak load to be  
95 reached over a period of time to be specified in the contract.

96 **Q. What fees are included in the Company's proposed RET?**

97 A. The Company proposes that enrolled customers pay a nonrefundable \$5,000  
98 application fee and monthly administrative fees of \$110 per generator and \$150  
99 per delivery point.

100 **Q. What is the purpose of the application fee and what does it cover?**

101 A. The proposed RET requires a nonrefundable application from each customer  
102 requesting to enroll in the RET. The application fee is intended to help cover the  
103 costs that the Company will incur to negotiate and prepare the contract, including  
104 a contract for the renewable resource if necessary. If a contract is never  
105 ultimately executed or the Commission does not approve the contract, the  
106 applicant will forfeit this fee. Requiring an application fee will help ensure that  
107 only parties who are serious about participating in the RET will apply.

108 **Q. What is the purpose of the monthly administrative fees and what do they  
109 cover?**

110 A. The administrative fees will cover costs the Company will incur for on-going  
111 administrative costs associated with billing customers for the renewable energy  
112 rate included in their contracts. To ensure that the customer's monthly bill is  
113 accurate and incorporates all of the billing-related conditions from the contract,  
114 monthly bills must be manually generated and reviewed. The administrative fee  
115 will be applied for each generation facility and point of delivery (i.e., metering

116 point) from and for which renewable energy is being procured, so that the total  
117 monthly amount of the fee will be proportional to the bill's complexity.

118 **Q. What is the basis for this administrative fee?**

119 A. The administrative fee is the same as the administrative fee that is included in  
120 Schedule 32, Service From Renewable Energy Facilities. It is estimated that the  
121 amount of time required to bill a customer under the proposed RET will be similar  
122 to the amount of time the Company estimated it would take to bill customers  
123 under Schedule 32.

124 **Q. What is the criteria for a resource to be eligible for the RET?**

125 A. To qualify for the RET, a generating facility must derive its energy from a  
126 renewable energy source defined in U.C.A. § 54-17-601(10)(a). The Company or  
127 the customer may own the resource, or the output of the resource may be  
128 purchased by the Company through a purchase power agreement. Renewable  
129 resources under this tariff must include bundled renewable energy credit (REC)  
130 products. Unbundled RECs may be acquired on behalf of the customer during a  
131 transition period necessary for the customer to ramp up load or for the  
132 development of the resource, if specified in the contract.

133 **Q. What protection will be in place for the Company and other customers if a**  
134 **customer who enrolled in the RET left the Company's service territory prior**  
135 **to the term of the contract?**

136 A. Every contract under the proposed RET will contain service termination  
137 provisions that will obligate the customer to continue to pay the costs of the  
138 contract for their remaining contract term if the customer is no longer taking

139 service from the Company. Participating customers are also subject to adequate  
140 credit assurances.

141 **Q. How will the renewable energy rate be determined?**

142 A. For each contract, a renewable energy rate will be calculated to reflect the specific  
143 circumstances for the resource and customer. The RET Law states that customers  
144 enrolled in a RET will pay “an incremental charge in an amount equal to the  
145 difference between the cost to the qualified utility to supply renewable generation  
146 to the renewable energy tariff customer and the qualified utility's avoided costs as  
147 defined in Subsection 54-2-1(1), or a different methodology recommended by the  
148 qualified utility.”

149 **Q. Why may it be appropriate for the Commission to approve a renewable  
150 energy rate calculated under an alternative methodology?**

151 A. There may be circumstances where the details surrounding a specific applicant  
152 and/or a specific renewable resource may warrant additional consideration than  
153 simply billing the applicant at the tariff rate and charging for the difference  
154 between the cost the renewable resource and the Company’s avoided cost.

155 **Q. Under what circumstances might the Company recommend to the  
156 Commission a different methodology?**

157 A. Participation in the RET may be an effective way to attract prospective new  
158 customers to choose to locate in the Company’s service territory in Utah. This  
159 incremental new load may potentially enhance fixed cost recovery for all  
160 customers. Under this circumstance, an alternate calculation may be appropriate  
161 if it provides benefits to other customers. Providing flexibility for the

162 Commission to approve such contracts may be the deciding factor to attract  
163 prospective new large loads in a now highly competitive landscape where utilities  
164 in other parts of the country have similar offerings. In addition to enhanced fixed  
165 cost recovery from incremental new load, there may be other reasons that an  
166 alternative calculation would be justified such as deferred capital investment for  
167 the Company from a specific renewable resource.

168 **Q. Will adjustment rate schedules such as Schedule 91 for low income funding,**  
169 **Schedule 193 for demand-side management funding, Schedule 94 for the**  
170 **Energy Balancing Account, Schedule 98 for the REC balancing account, and**  
171 **the surcharge to be implemented from the Sustainable Transportation and**  
172 **Energy Plan apply to customers taking service under the RET?**

173 A. Unless specifically identified in the contract or filing, the Company expects that  
174 most of these adjustment rate schedules will be applicable to RET customers.  
175 There could be circumstances, however, where certain adjustment rates are not  
176 appropriate for RET customers. For instance, if a customer's load is being met  
177 with renewable energy that is displacing net power costs, the Company may  
178 propose to exclude customer load served by the renewable energy facility from  
179 the Energy Balancing Account. The Company will evaluate circumstances for  
180 excluding any adjustment rate schedules on a case-by-case basis during the  
181 development of contracts.

## 182 **Conclusion**

183 **Q. In conclusion, why should the Commission approve the Company's**  
184 **proposed RET?**



185 A. The Company's proposed RET is responsive to the needs of large energy users  
186 and provides them with a choice that does not shift costs to other customers. The  
187 proposed RET includes important safeguards that give the Commission ultimate  
188 control over which contracts get approval. Approving the proposed RET has the  
189 potential to yield important benefits for the Company's ratepayers and for the  
190 state of Utah.

191 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

192 A. Yes.