## In the Matter Of:

In RE: RMP - Approval of Resource Decision to Repower Wind Facilities

## HEARING, DOCKET NO. 17-035-39

May 03, 2018

Job Number: 434925

1	BEFORE THE	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH
2	Wolunt order	Poguage of Pocky Mountain Docket No. 17 025 20
3	Power for A	Request of Rocky Mountain Docket No. 17-035-39 Approval of Resource o Repower Wind Facilities
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6		HEARING PROCEEDINGS
7	TAKEN AT:	Utah Public Service Commission
8		4th Floor 160 East 300 South
9		Salt Lake City, Utah
10		
11	DATE:	Thursday, May 3rd, 2018
12	TIME:	9:00 a.m.
13	REPORTER:	Mary R. Honigman, R.P.R.
14		Job No. 434925
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1	Page 7 PROCEEDINGS
2	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Good morning.
3	We're here in Public Service Commission Docket No.
4	17-035-39, Voluntary Request of Rocky Mountain Power
5	for Approval of Resource Decision to Repower Wind
6	Facilities. Before we go to appearances, are there
7	any preliminary matters we need to address? I'm not
8	seeing any indications Ms. Schmid.
9	MS. SCHMID: Only that Division
10	witness, Mr. Thompson, would request to be put on
11	today as he has an obligation out of state tomorrow.
12	And the parties have agreed to that, if that's
13	acceptable to you.
14	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Okay. And maybe
15	early afternoon, we'll see where we are on Rocky
16	Mountain Power's witnesses and see if there's a need
17	to take him before the conclusion, but we might want
18	to address that in the early afternoon.
19	MS. SCHMID: Thank you.
20	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thanks. I'll
21	make a note of that. Any other preliminary matters?
22	I'm not seeing any, so we'll go to appearances.
23	We'll start with the Utility.
24	MS. MCDOWELL: Good morning,
25	Chair Levar and Commissioners White and Clark. So

Page 8 pleased to be here this morning. I'm 1 2 Katherine McDowell, on behalf of Rocky Mountain 3 Power, and with me is my partner, Adam Lowney. COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. 4 To the Division of Public Utilities. 5 6 MS. SCHMID: Good morning. 7 Patricia E. Schmid with the Utah Attorney General's Office for the Division of Public Utilities. Also, 8 9 Justin Jetter is here representing the Division from AG's office as well. 10 11 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. 12 Office of Consumer Services. 13 MR. SNARR: Yes. I'm Steven Snarr with the AG's office, representing the Office of 14 Consumer Services. With me for this case is 15 Mr. Robert Moore, also with the AG's Office and 16 representing the Office of Consumer Services. 17 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Utah Association 18 19 of Energy Users? 2.0 MR. RUSSELL: Good morning. 21 Phillip Russell on behalf of UAE. 2.2 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Any other 23 appearances? 24 MS. HICKEY: Yes, sir. Good morning,

Mr. Chairman and Commissioners.

25

Page 9 1 Lisa Tormoen Hickey. I represent the Interwest 2 Energy Alliance. With me to my right is 3 Mitch Longson, also representing Interwest. 4 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. 5 other appearances or other preliminary issues from 6 anyone? I'm not seeing any indication, so I'll go to Ms. McDowell. 7 8 MS. MCDOWELL: Thank you so much. Before we call our first witness, can I approach and 9 give you our exhibit list? 10 11 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Certainly. It's 12 just a list of exhibits? Do the other parties have 13 that list? Just make sure our court reporter gets a 14 copy of that also. 15 MS. MCDOWELL: I've given it to them. 16 Thank you. We call Mr. Gary Hoogeveen. 17 GARY HOOGEVEEN, 18 having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined and testified as follows: 19 2.0 DIRECT EXAMINATION 21 BY MS. MCDOWELL: 22 Good morning, Mr. Hoogeveen. 23 Α Good morning. Can you state your name and spell it for 24 25 the record?

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Page 10
 1
               Gary Hoogeveen, G-a-r-y, last name,
          Α
 2
     H-o-o-g-e-v-e-e-n.
 3
               Mr. Hoogeveen, how are you employed?
 4
               I am Senior Vice President and Chief
     Commercial Officer with Rocky Mountain Power.
 5
               In that capacity, have you prepared or
 6
          Q
     adopted testimony in this proceeding?
 7
               I have.
 8
          Α
               And is that testimony the direct rebuttal
 9
10
     and supplemental direct testimony of Cindy Crane,
11
     and then the supplemental rebuttal testimony of
12
     Gary Hoogeveen?
13
               That's correct.
14
               Do you have any changes or corrections?
15
               I do not.
          Α
16
               If I asked you the questions that are in
          Q
     that testimony, would your answers here be the same?
17
18
          Α
               Yes, they would.
19
                    MS. MCDOWELL: Commissioners, would
2.0
     you like me to offer these at the time that I'm
21
     presenting the witness, or do we stipulate them all
2.2
     in at one time?
23
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR: There have been
24
     occasions where we've done a stipulation, but I
     think typically parties make motions to present each
25
```

1	Page 11 witness's testimony as we go. Unless there's been
2	an agreement among the parties to do it en masse.
3	MS. MCDOWELL: So we would offer the
4	direct rebuttal, supplemental direct testimony, and
5	supplemental rebuttal testimony as previously
6	identified.
7	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: If anyone
8	objects to this motion, please indicate to me. I'm
9	not seeing any objections, so the motion is granted.
10	MS. MCDOWELL: Thank you.
11	BY MS. MCDOWELL:
12	Q Mr. Hoogeveen, have you prepared a summary
13	of your testimony today?
14	A I have.
15	Q Can you please present your summary to the
16	Commission?
17	A Good morning, Chairman LeVar,
18	Commissioner Clark, Commissioner White. As Senior
19	Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer of Rocky
20	Mountain Power, I'm pleased to serve as the
21	Company's policy witness in this case. I appreciate
22	the opportunity to testify in support of the
23	Company's request for approval of its resource
24	decision to repower 12 wind facilities with install
25	capacity of approximately 1,000 megawatts. I also

Page 12 want to thank the Commission, the staff, and all 1 2 parties in this case for their extensive work 3 leading up to this -- today's hearing. 4 I believe that repowering is a great opportunity for our customers. By using production 5 tax credits -- or PTC -- benefits to upgrade the 6 company's wind fleet, we can reduce production 7 8 costs, increase reliability, and deliver significant 9 savings to customers. 10 We estimate that repowering will cost 11 approximately \$1 billion -- which, by the way, is 12 2.4 percent less than our original filing -- but it 13 will generate \$1.26 billion of production tax 14 credits over ten years. 15 With me today are key team members who 16 have worked very hard over the last year to deliver this opportunity to our customers: Vice president 17 of resource -- excuse me -- Vice President of 18 19 Resource and Commercial Strategy, Mr. Rick Link; 20 Director of Renewable Development, 21 Mr. Tim Hemstreet; Vice President, CFO and 2.2 Treasurer, Ms. Nikki Kobliha; and Vice President of 23 Regulation, Ms. Joelle Steward. 24 So what is repowering? If I may, it's a 25 simple wind turbine upgrade that adds new rotors

Page 13 with longer blades and new nacelles with 1 2 higher-capacity generators to existing towers. 3 may, I'll use a simple analogy, albeit an imperfect 4 analogy, but I think it's helpful. Repowering is like reinvesting in and expanding your home. Let's 5 suppose your current home was aging and experiencing 6 increased maintenance costs. In addition, let's 7 suppose your family would benefit from a larger 8 home. Finally, let's suppose that there were 9 significant federal tax credits available for home 10 11 upgrades. In such a case, you might gut your 12 existing home and replace it with entirely new 13 appliances, and updated, and even upgraded furnishings. You might replace your 10-year-old 14 inefficient furnace with a new high-efficiency 15 16 model. You might even expand your house by adding on a new room. That, simply, is repowering. 17 keep the foundation and the towers -- the shell of 18 19 the old house -- and upgrade the technology in the 20 new nacelles -- the new furnace and appliances --21 and you even do so with larger blades that produce 22 more energy -- the expanded new room. And to top it 23 all off, the entire cost of upgrading your home is more than paid for by federal tax credits. You get 24 a bigger, newer, upgraded home for free. 25

1	Page 14 Repowering will result in energy
2	production at the lowest reasonable costs to our
3	customers and meets the public interest standard
4	under the Commission's resource approval law.
5	Repowering has five main benefits: First,
6	repowering increases the energy production of the
7	Company's wind fleet by an estimated 26 percent. We
8	hired an engineering firm, Black & Veatch, to help
9	us substantiate that estimate. They used
10	millions literally millions of data points from
11	our actual operation of our facilities. This
12	increased energy translates into approximately 750
13	gigawatt hours annually before 2037, and after 2037,
14	3,500 gigawatt hours annually. And that's from 2037
15	to the depreciable life of 2050.
16	Second, repowering reduces ongoing capital
17	costs, for example, by providing a two-year warranty
18	on all the new turbines.
19	Third, it extends the useful life of the
20	wind facilities by up to 13 years.
21	Fourth, it enhances voltage support and
22	power quality.
23	And fifth, it requalifies our wind
24	facilities for 100 percent of PTCs for another ten
25	years.

1	Page 15 Quantifying these benefits shows present
2	value savings between \$1.14 billion and
3	\$1.48 billion over the life of the facilities,
4	again, compared to project costs of \$1.1 billion,
5	this clearly demonstrates that repowering is very
6	much in the best interest of our customers.
7	The Company recognizes that full PTC
8	qualification is critical to delivering the benefits
9	to repowering to our customers. For this reason,
10	the Company has agreed to guarantee PTC benefits,
11	except in extraordinary cases like change in law or
12	force majeure.
13	The Company has also worked hard to ensure
14	it will meet the three factors for PTC
15	qualification. Let me describe them. I think of
16	them as, you have to start by wind, you have to
17	finish by wind, so a little more on that. So you
18	have to start by wind is really the 5 percent "safe
19	harbor," how we qualify. According to the IRS tax
20	laws, you have to purchase at least 5 percent of the
21	cost of the facilities in 2016, which we did in
22	December of 2016. In fact, we purchased enough to
23	cover a little more than 6 percent, so that's
24	clearly covered. For the finish by wind, we are on
25	track to finish these by the end of 2020, which they

Page 16 have to be finished by 2020 in order to qualify. 1 2 fact, we plan to have 11 of the 12 facilities online 3 in 2019, more than a year ahead of time, so it 4 clearly qualities. The 12th one is Dunlap, and we have chosen to do that in 2020 to maximize the 5 current PTC benefits for customers. 6 And then, finally, 80/20 rule. 7 retained Ernst & Young to verify that the value of 8 9 the retained equipment is less than 20 percent of total value of the facility. So in my example, that 10 11 would have been the foundation, the walls, the shell 12 of the house has to be less than 20 percent than the 13 total value of the new facility. 14 Our analysis shows that repowering is likely to lower costs to customers in any reasonable 15 16 forecast. The Company looked at this in two ways: Total project basis and then on a 17 facility-by-facility basis using two different 18 models, nine price scenarios, and multiple 19 2.0 sensitivities. While the various scenarios are used 21 to measure risk, the Company strongly urges the 22 Commission to principally rely on the medium/medium 23 case. And that's the medium natural gas forecast and medium CO2 forecast. This forecast is based on 24 25 the Company's official forward price curve, which is

1	Page 17 currently used for setting Utah rates and avoided
2	costs.
3	Through the life of the repowered
4	facilities, the Company shows net benefits of
5	\$273 million. So that's, again, through the life of
6	the facilities, which we have as 2050. Through
7	2036, the Company shows net benefits of between
8	\$189 million and \$204 million. On a
9	project-by-project review, all facilities show net
10	benefits through 2050. All facilities, except
11	Leaning Juniper, show net benefits through 2036.
12	2036 is the IRP time frame, 2050 being the entire
13	life of the assets. And Leaning Juniper, in 2036,
14	is really a break-even. It's a zero-cost,
15	zero-benefits.
16	The 2036 analysis, I want to point out, is
17	conservative because it does not consider
18	substantial benefits in years after 2036, in which
19	the current turbines would reach their depreciable
20	end of life and be shut down. So the 2036 analysis
21	really doesn't consider or incorporate any of those
22	benefits. Because of that, we believe that the
23	Leaning Juniper decision should be made to go
24	forward with it.
25	While the DPU, OCS, and UAE oppose

Page 18 repowering, their own analyses actually confirm that 1 2 repowering will reduce costs to customers. 3 the medium/medium case, DPU shows net benefits for 4 all facilities except Leaning Juniper. I understand that the Commission also reviews risk in determining 5 whether repowering is in the public interest. 6 7 Company's extensive scenario modeling addresses price and policy risk, and its substantial modeling 8 9 of historical wind operations addresses performance risk. We delayed this case to address tax risk, and 10 11 the results of tax reform are now reflected in our 12 economic models. 13 Thanks to our excellent project team, other risks have steadily decreased as this project 14 15 has taken shape. Virtually all of the turbine 16 equipment and installation costs are now fixed or near final. The turbine contracts provide 17 production and availability guarantees, making 18 production estimates more certain. The GE contract 19 2.0 for the eight Wyoming facilities includes full 21 damages if GE fails to meet the deadline for PTC 22 eligibility; the Vestas agreement for the other four 23 facilities has liquidated damages, or LDs, to deter 24 construction delays. The eight Wyoming facilities are covered by a full-service agreement with GE, 25

	D 10
1	Page 19 meaning that the costs for O&M for the first ten
2	years after repowering are fixed.
3	Permitting risk is largely revolved. The
4	Company has filed for permits for 11 of the 12 wind
5	facilities and expects to complete permitting for
6	the final facility soon.
7	And finally, engineering studies are
8	substantially complete, meaning that this project is
9	now ready to move forward once the Company receives
10	regulatory approval from this Commission and from
11	the Wyoming Commission, where a partial stipulation
12	is now pending. The Idaho Commission approved the
13	Company's stipulation in December 2017.
14	Given the low risk profile of the
15	repowering project and the substantial savings it
16	promises to deliver to customers, there's simply no
17	justification for imposing the onerous conditions
18	proposed by some parties in this case, or for
19	approving only a portion of the project. The
20	analysis shows that not repowering or repowering
21	only some of the facilities, is likely to result in
22	higher energy production costs to our customers,
23	contrary to the public interest considerations in
24	this resource approval statute.
25	As the project moves forward, the Company

Page 20 will prudently respond to new information and 1 2 changed conditions. In the event of a major change 3 in circumstances, including project-specific 4 changes, the Company will return to the Commission for an order to proceed under section 54-17-404. 5 6 The Company has committed to delivering the near-term benefits of repowering to customers 7 without an immediate rate increase. 8 Through the resource tracking mechanism, or RTM, the Company 9 will align the benefits and costs of repowering and 10 11 pass along net benefits to customers, but not net 12 costs. 13 For the future energy needs of our Utah 14 customers, I firmly believe that wind repowering is 15 a prudent and beneficial investment, and its implementation is in the public interest. 16 17 Respectfully, I ask the Commission to approve, 18 1) the resource decision to repower the 12 wind 19 facilities included in the Company's request, and 2.0 (2) the recovery of the remaining costs of the 21 legacy equipment. That concludes my summary. 2.2 MS. MCDOWELL: Thank you, 23 Mr. Hoogeveen. This witness is available for 24 cross-examination. 25 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.

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Page 21
 1
     Ms. Schmid, does the Division have any questions for
 2
     Mr. Hoogeveen?
 3
                    MS. SCHMID: We do.
 4
                    CROSS-EXAMINATION
     BY MS. SCHMID:
 5
 6
          Q
               Good morning.
               Good morning.
 7
          Α
               The application discusses wind projects in
 8
          Q
 9
     various states. Is there an agreement among the
     states and the state commissions as to how expenses
10
11
     and allocation of costs with this requested approval
12
     will be handled?
               The allocation of costs will be handled
13
14
     through the typical allocation process, which is
     agreed through -- currently through the MSP 2017
15
16
     protocol.
               And the 2017 protocol has been extended
17
     through December 31st, 2019; is that correct?
18
               Subject to check, I believe that's
19
          Α
2.0
     correct.
21
          0
               So after December 31st, 2019, we don't
22
     have an agreement; is that correct?
23
               That's correct.
               You mentioned the stipulation in Idaho
24
          0
     that has been approved and the stipulation in
25
```

Page 22 1 Wyoming that is pending. I'm not going to ask you 2 any questions about those because they were settlements, except that I will ask you if you will 3 4 accept DPU Cross-Exhibit 1 and DPU Cross-Exhibit 2 which I will represent to you to be a copy of the 5 Idaho stipulation, and at the back of DPU Exhibit 1, 6 there's a copy of the Idaho order. And I will note 7 that the Idaho order did require a supplemental 8 filing if the tax law changed, and Rocky Mountain 9 Power has made that, but I have not included that in 10 11 this packet. And then, if you will accept, subject 12 to check, that DPU Exhibit No. 2 is the Wyoming 13 stipulation which, as you said, is pending. 14 That appears to be so. 15 MS. SCHMID: I'd like to move for the 16 admission of DPU Cross-Exhibits 1 and 2. COMMISSIONER LEVAR: If any party 17 objects, please indicate to me. 18 19 MS. MCDOWELL: No objection. 2.0 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: I'm not seeing 21 any objection, so the motion is granted. 2.2 (DPU Cross-Exhibits Nos. 1 and 2 admitted.) 23 BY MS. SCHMID: 24 In your summary and in your testimony, you talked about mitigation of risks. You said that the 25

Page 23 Company would guarantee -- and I'll use that term 1 2 qualified -- risks of the PTCs not occurring except for extraordinary circumstances outside the 3 4 Company's control. Is that a fair representation? That's fair. We've carved out change of 5 law and force majeure. 6 If there is a change in law and it is 7 0 8 something that the Company has not agreed to -- a 9 risk the Company has not agreed to assume, who assumes that risk? Is it true that it's the 10 11 ratepayers? 12 It would be the normal course of 13 proceedings between utility customers and the Commission, that's correct. 14 15 Is it likely that the Company would seek 16 to have the ratepayers absorb or pay for any discrepancies or differences? 17 Per the normal course of business, when we 18 should incur a cost that's outside of our control 19 2.0 that hasn't been agreed to in a separate settlement, 21 yes, that would most likely be filed for recovery. 2.2 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Ms. Schmid, I'm 23 sorry. I think we need one more copy of Exhibit 1 24 up here. 25 BY MS. SCHMID:

```
Page 24
 1
          0
               And I have some questions that refer to
 2
     Mr. Peaco's testimony. Do you have his testimony in
     front of you?
 3
 4
               I do not.
 5
               Okay. This is not a cross-exhibit, but it
 6
     is portions of Mr. Peaco's testimony that I've had
 7
     copied for your convenience. And I will represent
 8
     that they are true and accurate copies of his
 9
     testimony. I'll give you just a minute. This is on
10
     white paper and the title does say Confidential, but
11
     there is no confidential information in the portion
12
     that I've copied. So if you would, turn to line 565
13
     of Mr. Peaco's testimony.
14
          Α
               I'm there.
               Have you had a chance to read that?
15
          Q
16
               Yes.
          Α
               So is the Company willing to assume the
17
     risk of federal legislation? And we've already said
18
19
     no, so I don't need to ask that. What about a
     change in the IRS private letter ruling that affects
20
21
     collection of the PTCs? Is the Company willing to
22
     accept that change or that risk?
23
               I believe that would qualify under a
24
     change in law.
25
               If we look at Peaco's 575 and 578, and I'm
          Q
```

Page 25 1 contrasting this against your testimony, lines 31 2 and 32, is the Company willing to assume the risk that market conditions prove to be unfavorable to 3 4 the project economics? 5 MS. MCDOWELL: I'm sorry to 6 interrupt, but you were saying you're contrasting it 7 to Mr. Hoogeveen's testimony? What cite are you --8 MS. SCHMID: His supplemental rebuttal at lines 31 and 32. 9 10 MS. MCDOWELL: Thank you. 11 BY MS. SCHMID: 12 0 And I will read that. You state that the 13 Company has addressed or mitigated the major risks identified by the parties, including cost overruns, 14 facility-specific economics, permitting, tax reform, 15 PTC qualification, and wind performance. And I'm 16 just seeking to explore what that means in a little 17 bit more detail. 18 19 Α Okay. 20 So is the Company willing to assume the 21 risk that market conditions may prove unfavorable to 22 the project economics? 23 The Company, I think -- we've listed 24 there in what you've just read, a rather extensive list of things under our control that we have an 25

Page 26

- 1 ability to make an impact on.
- 2 Q Isn't it true that the project economics
- 3 are based largely on forecasts and assumptions?
- 4 A So the forecasts -- excuse me, the
- 5 analysis -- is based on a considerable amount of
- 6 analysis based on wide-ranging forecasts, precisely
- 7 in order to test the theory of whether this is in
- 8 the customer's benefit or not. And I think you
- 9 would agree that the vast majority, in fact, nearly
- 10 all of the model runs in the different scenarios
- 11 show that there's substantial customer benefits in
- 12 this project.
- 13 Q But if those forecasts are wrong, the
- 14 benefits won't materialize as projected; is that
- 15 correct?
- 16 A So the reasons for a wide range in
- 17 forecast is because you're not going to know what
- 18 the forecast is going to be, so you take a wide
- 19 range from low natural gas costs to high natural gas
- 20 costs, from low CO2 to high CO2, and everything in
- 21 between. And I think the analysis that Rick Link
- 22 has done is fantastic. It's one I would encourage
- 23 you to explore with him. He can explain, certainly,
- the nuances of the modeling better than I can, but
- 25 it is certainly my opinion that the wide range in

Page 27 1 forecasts is exactly meant to answer the question 2 from Counsel about will the forecast be wrong, yes, 3 and it will be higher or lower, and so therefore 4 we've taken a high-end, a very low -- aggressive 5 low, low numbers and aggressive high, high numbers, and everything in between in order to account for 6 7 that. What about the risks that actual costs are 8 0 9 higher than projected? You said that the Company 10 could and would come back again for approval of more 11 capital expenses; is that correct? 12 Α I'm not sure where that was said. 13 I thought that was in your summary. thought you said that under the statute, the 402 14 15 statute, if the Company needed to, it could come in 16 due to the changed circumstance? 17 Due to a changed circumstance, yes, А Yes. 18 that's correct. 19 You said, also, that the Company has -scratch that. Is the Company willing to assume the 20 21 risk that the actual incremental production proves 22 to be less than the Company's estimated production? In other words, the wind doesn't blow or the 23 turbines don't produce as much as forecasted? 24 25 So the contract negotiations that we've Α

Page 28 achieved with GE and Vestas both have some 1 2 performance guarantees, and I would encourage you to 3 ask Mr. Hemstreet the details of that when he's up 4 here, but I think they're rather fantastic contracts for the customer's benefit. There will be some 5 quarantee of availability and perhaps performance, 6 depending on which contract we talk about. So that, 7 we are willing to stand behind as per the contract 8 9 negotiations. The fact of the wind blowing or not, 10 we do not quarantee, of course, but I think we have 11 substantial analysis with millions of data points 12 that we've used. And again, these aren't new sites; 13 these are the sites we've been operating in for 14 years. We have a plethora of data, and we're 15 certainly able to say that this is a very solid 16 forecast of what's going to happen. 17 But you're taking out the existing 18 equipment and putting in new equipment. So that is a change; is that correct? 19 2.0 А So the new equipment we're putting in, again, has the guarantees per the contracts. 21 22 If the Company needs to seek remedies 23 under those contracts, would the Company need to go to litigation, or do you expect the companies just 24

to pay per the contract, in your experience?

25

```
Page 29
 1
          Α
               I can't comment on that.
 2
          Q
               Okay. If we turn to lines 154 to 156 of
     your testimony --
 3
 4
               Which testimony is that?
               Sorry. Your testimony, the supplemental
 5
 6
     rebuttal testimony.
               I'm sorry. Which lines?
 7
          Α
               154 to 156.
 8
          0
 9
               I'm there.
10
               Is a fair characterization you assert that
11
     the Division's analysis of results through 2036
12
     shows all facilities show net benefits in
13
     medium/medium and low/no scenarios?
14
               That's correct.
               Do you know the source of the DPU analysis
15
16
     you referenced, where you're using to base your
     testimony upon?
17
18
               I can't quote you the line number or the
19
     exact spot, no.
20
               If we turn to what you passed out, the
21
     little packet --
2.2
                    MS. SCHMID: Can I have just one
23
     moment, please?
24
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Yes.
25
                    MR. JETTER: What I'm passing out is
```

Page 30 not an exhibit, but it will just be a few pages of 1 2 copies from testimony from our witness that we don't 3 intend to enter into the record, but we'll pass it to the parties for convenience. 4 MS. SCHMID: And what Mr. Jetter is 5 passing out contains confidential information, so it 6 7 is on yellow paper. And I'm not going to refer to 8 numbers, so we don't need to close the hearing. BY MS. SCHMID: 9 10 In the packet that you have just been 11 handed, do you see Table 1? You'll have to flip 12 through a little bit, but Table 1 is in there. 13 I see it. 14 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Ms. Schmid, would you mind letting us know what testimony you're 15 16 referring to. 17 MS. SCHMID: Sorry. Mr. Peaco's 18 response testimony, Table 1. 19 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. 2.0 BY MS. SCHMID: 21 When you look at that, do you agree that 22 the numbers are sourced from Rocky Mountain's 23 testimony, not Mr. Peaco's? I think if we check the footnote, it cites the source. 24

I see that.

25

Α

1	Page 31  Q And do you agree that's what it says?
2	A I have no reason to question that.
3	Q Are all the values presented there
4	positive?
5	A No, they are not.
6	Q Then yesterday, Rocky Mountain Power filed
7	an integrated resource plan update. Are you
8	familiar with that filing?
9	A I'm aware of the filing.
10	Q We'd like to pass out just some points of
11	interest in the filing. We haven't had a chance to
12	analyze the impact of these, but we would like to
13	bring them to the Commission's attention. And we
14	will ask that this be a cross-exhibit.
15	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: You did move for
16	this to be entered as an exhibit?
17	MS. SCHMID: I will. And if we could
18	pre-mark this as DPU Cross-Exhibit No. 3.
19	BY MS. SCHMID:
20	Q Will you accept, subject to check, that
21	what you have been handed and what's been identified
22	as DPU Cross-Exhibit No. 3, consists of page 23 and
23	page 24 from the 2017 IRP update that the Company
24	filed yesterday?
25	A That appears to be correct.

```
Page 32
 1
                    MS. SCHMID:
                                  The Division would like
 2
     to move for the admission of DPU Cross-Exhibit
 3
     No. 3.
 4
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
                                          If anyone
 5
     objects to this motion, please indicate to me.
 6
                    MS. MCDOWELL: No objection.
 7
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR: I'm not seeing
 8
     any, so the motion is granted.
             (DPU Cross-Exhibit No. 3 admitted.)
 9
     BY MS. SCHMID:
10
11
               So looking at this, is it true that the
12
     IRP update, the 2017 IRP update as compared to the
13
     2017 IRP, shows a decrease in annual forecasted
14
     load?
15
               That is what it appears to show.
16
          0
               And then if we turn the page over, we see
     figure 4.2 which is a forecasted annual coincident
17
18
     peak load, and is it true there, that the graph
     shows a decrease in forecasted annual coincident
19
     peak load from the 2017 IRP to the 2017 IRP update?
20
21
          Α
               I agree that's what it appears to show.
22
               And that appears to be roughly -- because
23
     we're just looking at a graph -- that it's an
     approximate 500-megawatt decrease, starting in, say,
24
     2022 and moving through 2027, and that the decrease
25
```

Page 33 in 2018, '19, '20, and '21, appears to be, maybe, 1 2 250 to 400 megawatts, a rough approximation? Rough approximation. I would not dispute 3 Α 4 the rough approximation. 5 MS. SCHMID: And can I have just one 6 more moment? 7 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Yes. MS. SCHMID: Thank you. The Division 8 9 does not have anything else for this witness. 10 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. Mr. Snarr, do you have any questions? 11 12 MR. SNARR: No questions from the 13 Office. 14 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. 15 Mr. Russell. 16 MR. RUSSELL: Thank you. I do have a number of questions for Mr. Hoogeveen. 17 18 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. RUSSELL: 19 20 I'm going to start in -- most of these 21 questions, Mr. Hoogeveen, will relate to your 22 supplemental rebuttal testimony. Do you have that 23 testimony in front of you? I do. 24 Α You indicate a couple of times in that 25

```
Page 34
 1
     testimony that the Company's economic evaluation is
     based on the IRP models. Do you recall that?
 2
               That's correct.
 3
          Α
 4
               When you refer to the IRP models, I assume
     you're referring to the SO, the system optimizer
 5
 6
     model, and the PaR, the planning and risk model; is
     that correct?
 7
 8
               That's correct.
 9
               In your summary and also -- the summary
     you have given today and also in the supplemental
10
     rebuttal testimony, you cite certain numbers for
11
12
     projected benefits for these projects, right?
13
               T do.
14
               And in doing so, you are using numbers
     provided, presumably by Mr. Link, in his most recent
15
     economic analysis; is that correct?
16
17
               That's correct.
          Α
18
               Is it your understanding that Mr. Link, in
19
     his most recent economic analysis of these projects,
     uses nominal values for production tax credits
20
21
     rather than levelized values for production tax
22
     credits?
23
               That's correct. I believe that there was
24
     a change and improvement in methodology that was
25
     introduced in the February 2018 filing.
```

Page 35 1 0 Do you acknowledge that in the IRP 2 planning process, the IRP models you referenced earlier use levelized production tax credits rather 3 4 than nominal production tax credits? 5 That's my understanding, yes. 6 0 I'm going to have you jump to your testimony at lines 150 to 175. It's actually the 7 8 same portion of your testimony in your supplemental rebuttal testimony that Ms. Schmid directed you to 9 earlier. And this is a portion of your testimony 10 where you indicate that while other parties 11 12 recommend against approval of the repowering 13 project, their own analysis shows repowering provides customer benefits. Do you recall that? 14 15 I do. Α 16 I'm going to focus on the portion of your 0 testimony related to the UAE analysis. 17 In that portion, which starts at line 168, you reference 18 three tables, really, of Mr. Higgins' April 2 19 20 response testimony, and those tables are KCH-7-RE, 21 KCH-13-RE, and KCH-14-RE, correct? 2.2 That's correct. 23 And is it your understanding that each of those tables uses nominal values for PTCs rather 24 than levelized values for PTCs? 25

```
Page 36
 1
          Α
               I believe that's correct.
                                           Subject to
 2
     check, yes.
               And do you understand that Mr. Higgins
 3
          Q
 4
     also presented analysis using only levelized values
     for PTCs in his testimony?
 5
 6
          Α
               I agree, he did.
 7
               Okay. And you've reviewed his testimony?
          Q
               I have.
 8
          Α
 9
               Okay. And is it your analysis or your
     testimony that the portion of Mr. Higgins' testimony
10
     using levelized values for production tax credits
11
12
     shows that repowering provides customer benefits
13
     under nearly every scenario studied?
14
               I almost had it. Repeat that question,
15
     please.
16
                      Up above in lines 151 to 153, you
          Q
               Sure.
     indicate that other parties' analysis "Shows that
17
18
     repowering provides customer benefits under nearly
     every scenario studied. And then in referencing
19
     UAE's analysis, you reference three tables from
20
21
     Mr. Higgins's testimony that use nominal values for
22
     PTCs, and I'm asking whether Mr. Higgins' tables
     using levelized values for PTCs shows that
23
     repowering provides customer benefits under nearly
24
     every scenario studied?
25
```

Page 37 1 No, I don't believe they do. Α 2 Q Okay. I'm going to direct you to the 3 question and answer in your testimony, starting at 4 line 128. Rather than read the question and answer, I'll give you a minute to read it if you need it, 5 but you indicate in your response to the question 6 here that you disagree that the Commission should 7 approve the wind repowering project only if it meets 8 a specified threshold for benefits under every 9 scenario studied. You indicated earlier, I think, 10 11 that this project -- sorry. If you need time to 12 read it, I'm happy to give it to you. 13 I've read it. 14 You indicated earlier that this project will cost approximately \$1.1 billion; is that 15 16 correct? 17 That's correct. А Is there a level of benefits that the 18 19 Company would consider to be insufficient to pursue 20 these projects? 21 So the level of benefit really, I think --2.2 the Commission, I would encourage to look at, as 23 I've said before, the medium/medium case, but to really take into account the full breadth of the 24 analysis that we've done. The -- from low/low to 25

Page 38

- 1 high/high and everything in between with the
- 2 different models and so forth. And in particular,
- 3 the different time frames, the 2036 for the IRP
- 4 window, the 2050, the full life. And we really
- 5 think it's most appropriate in order to capture the
- 6 full benefit in this project, which occurs for the
- 7 full life of the project, you should look throughout
- 8 2050.
- 9 Counsel has been asking questions around
- 10 nominal versus levelized. Maybe I'll just share the
- 11 way I'm thinking of this and the way I've digested
- 12 and understood it if it's helpful. If not, I think
- it's certainly germane to the questions that have
- 14 been asked. The testimony that I've provided points
- 15 out that the intervenors -- I'll just call them the
- 16 DPU, OCS, and UAE -- that their testimony shows
- 17 positive numbers, if you will, beneficial numbers in
- 18 nearly every case, that is using what Counsel is
- 19 referring to as nominal values. But I think there's
- 20 an easier way to talk about this. It was
- 21 identified -- and Mr. Link can provide, again, the
- 22 full accounting of how and when this all happened --
- 23 but the valuation of the PTCs was done very
- 24 conservatively, and I might even say inaccurately,
- 25 including the 2017 IRP. It was something that

Page 39 nobody caught for years, and it hasn't been around 1 2 for a long time. However, what the change is, the 3 improvement in the analysis, is that in the levelization calculation, it levelizes over 30 4 5 years. 6 MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Chairman, I 7 apologize. I'm going to interrupt the witness here because I don't think any of what he's said thus far 8 is responsive to the actual question that is before 9 10 him. 11 THE WITNESS: Give me a second, I'll 12 get there. 13 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: To deal with the 14 objection, could you repeat the question that you asked? 15 16 MR. RUSSELL: Sure. The question that I asked Mr. Hoogeveen was, is there a level of 17 benefits that the Company would consider to be 18 19 insufficient to proceed with the project. 2.0 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: I think I'm 21 going to rule that, at least so far, the answer is 2.2 still relevant to that question. If you feel that 23 changes, feel free to object again, but I don't think we've gotten past it. 24 25 I'll remember that. That's what I'm Α

Page 40 1 trying to get to, is there a level. What I'm trying 2 to get to is how to look at it, which numbers to look at and should there be a level given those 3 4 numbers. So to resume, the argument around nominal versus levelized for the PTCs is really around which 5 period to levelize those PTCs. I will explain. 6 7 It's my understanding that if you levelize the PTCs 8 over the appropriate ten-year period -- the ten years in which they exist -- you will get to the 9 10 same answer as nominal using nominal values. 11 levelize over 30 years, which was done previously 12 and to which the intervenors have continued to use, 13 you get an inappropriate answer because you levelize 14 something that has values for 10 years and 0 for 20. 15 That gives you an incorrect value when you do the 16 analysis. 17 So getting to the answer, I expect I would recommend, if you will, that the Commission should 18 look at the 2050 analysis, the full life of the 19 20 project, using the appropriate period for 21 levelization of the PTCs, which is 10 years, which 22 is equivalent to nominalizing them, so look at that 23 analysis and then look at the full breadth. 24 Concentrate on the medium/medium. And to answer the question, if it is a benefit, and in our opinion if 25

Page 41 there's any benefit, if it's a beneficial number, 1 2 that would imply that it will most likely deliver 3 the lowest cost resource portfolio for our 4 customers. And so that's how I would answer the question, if it's beneficial at all looking at those 5 number and for those reasons. 6 Any benefit at all, even if the benefit 7 Q were a dollar? 8 9 Again, looking at -- through the lens of looking at the entire analysis, I would say that if 10 11 all the numbers, except a handful in the low/low 12 case for certain projects only -- if you look at it 13 as a complete project basis, that they're all beneficial. And, yes, if they're just a dollar 14 beneficial, that means that through all the 15 16 analysis, the wide ranging of inputs, this is the lowest cost option and that should be the one that 17 18 is chosen. 19 MR. RUSSELL: I don't have any 2.0 further questions. 21 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you, 2.2 Mr. Russell. Ms. Tormoen Hickey, do you have any 23 questions? 24 MS. HICKEY: No, thank you. 25 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Ms. McDowell, do

```
Page 42
 1
     you have any redirect?
 2
                    MS. MCDOWELL: Yes.
                                          One moment.
 3
                    REDIRECT EXAMINATION
 4
     BY MS. MCDOWELL:
               Mr. Hoogeveen, do you remember when
 5
 6
     Ms. Schmid asked you some questions about your
     statement in the summary regarding changed
 7
     circumstances to what might require the Company to
 8
     come back to the Commission? Do you remember that?
 9
               I do.
10
          Α
11
               And Ms. Schmid asked you whether you were
12
     saying that the Company might come back under that
13
     provision for cost overruns. Was that the intention
14
     of your statement with respect to changed
     circumstances?
15
16
               So the changed circumstances I'm referring
          Α
     to is if, for example, in the event of some major
17
     change, which might include some project-specific
18
     changes that occurred due to various circumstances
19
2.0
     that would change the economics themselves, we would
21
     come back to the Commission.
22
               So if there are costs overruns, do you
23
     understand that the benefit approval -- or excuse
     me -- the resource approval that the Company is
24
     seeking in this case would have a cap that would
25
```

```
Page 43
     require the Company to come back and establish the
 1
 2
     prudence of any cost over that amount that was
     approved in this docket?
 3
 4
               That's correct. A complete cap on the
     entire project, I believe, is the commitment.
 5
               So Ms. Schmid also asked you about whether
 6
          0
     the Company assumes the risk of performance with
 7
 8
     respect to the wind blowing and the energy
 9
     production from the wind facilities. Is it your
10
     understanding that customers currently bear the risk
11
     of energy performance from wind facilities?
12
          Α
               That's correct. In our current wind
13
     facilities, they certainly benefit when the wind
     blows more and do not when it blows less.
14
     that's kind of a characteristic of wind facilities
15
     that is natural to them.
16
               So there's no increase or decrease in that
17
     risk?
18
19
               It's the same.
20
               So Ms. Schmid also asked you about your
          0
21
     statement on page 7 of your supplemental rebuttal,
22
     and specifically with respect to lines 154 though
23
     156?
24
          Α
               Yes.
               Do you have Mr. -- the exhibit in front of
25
          Q
```

	Page 44
1	you that contains Mr. Peaco's Table 4? I think it
2	is the confidential exhibit.
3	MS. SCHMID: That would be DPU
4	Cross-exhibit No. 3. Pardon me. That is not a
5	cross-exhibit.
6	BY MS. MCDOWELL:
7	Q So let me hand you Mr. Peaco's testimony.
8	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: If you would,
9	just indicate to us where you are so we can find it.
10	MS. MCDOWELL: Of course. I'm at
11	Mr. Peaco's confidential response testimony. I'm at
12	Table 4, which begins at line 399.
13	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: And do you
14	anticipate that we'll be discussing confidential
15	numbers in this discussion?
16	MS. MCDOWELL: No. I'll try not to.
17	MS. SCHMID: Objection. This was not
18	part of what I asked on cross, so I would object
19	that it's beyond the scope of cross.
20	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Ms. McDowell,
21	can you identify what part of the cross-examination
22	this is relating back to?
23	MS. MCDOWELL: This is about the
24	cross-examination on lines 154 through 156.
25	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: And you're using

Page 45 1 this table to clarify those statements from 2 Mr. Hoogeveen's testimony. I think we probably have to let the questions go forward before we decide 3 4 whether it's relevant to the cross-examination. But if you feel like it's going beyond the scope, feel 5 6 free to restate your objection. 7 MS. SCHMID: Thank you. BY MS. MCDOWELL: 8 So, Mr. Hoogeveen, your testimony at lines 9 164 through 162 was referring to the Division's 10 11 analysis in Table 4; is that correct? 12 Α That's correct. 13 And in that first bullet from 154 to 156, 14 were you referring to the first two columns where 15 the DPU calculated the cost benefit analysis of the 16 various cases that the Company had provided? 17 Α That's correct. 18 So I'll just represent to you that that 19 chart contains analysis through 2050. So in that case, do we -- is a correction required to your 20 21 testimony at line 154 that should say "through 2050" 22 instead of "through 2036"? 23 Can you point me to where it says 2050? 24 0 The previous page, I think, should say the testimony -- let me find you a reference. 25 Is page

```
Page 46
     23 on the backside of that?
 1
 2
               Correct, yes.
               So do you see at line 389, it refers to
 3
          Q
 4
     the study period through 2050?
               Yes, thank you. I see it. I stand
 5
 6
     corrected.
               So just to clarify, on line 154 it should
 7
     say "through 2050"?
 8
 9
               That's correct.
10
               With respect to the Table 1 that
11
     Ms. Schmid did refer you to, Mr. Peaco's Table 1,
     which is -- that is the cross-exhibit, the
12
     confidential cross-exhibit. Do you have that?
13
               I do.
14
15
               This table refers to levelized PTCs.
                                                      Do
16
     you see that?
17
          Α
               T do.
18
               And do you agree that that method of
19
     calculating PTC benefits is not appropriate in this
20
     case?
21
               I agree that the appropriate way to look
2.2
     at it is the nominal PTC benefit column, not the
23
     levelized PTC for the reasons I explained earlier.
24
                    MS. MCDOWELL: That all I have.
25
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
                                          Thank you. Any
```

```
Page 47
 1
     recross, Ms. Schmid or Mr. Jetter?
 2
                    MR. JETTER:
                                 Thank you.
                                              I'd like to
     ask just a few brief recross-examination questions.
 3
 4
                    RECROSS EXAMINATION
     BY MR. JETTER:
 5
 6
          0
               Mr. Hoogeveen, in your redirect, you
     mentioned that it's your opinion that the risk of
 7
     wind fluctuation or variation in wind outlet would
 8
     be the same with the current wind turbines over the
 9
     next, let's say, 20 years, as compared to the
10
11
     repowered wind turbines. Is that accurate?
12
          Α
               Whether it's exactly the same or not, it's
13
     certainly similar.
14
               Okay. Is it correct to say that with the
     current wind turbines, beyond two years from today,
15
     there are no production tax credits associated with
16
     each kilowatt hour of output?
17
18
               Could you repeat the question?
19
               Let me -- I'll rephrase it a little bit.
     Is it accurate that the production tax credits for
20
21
     the existing turbines you're seeking to repower will
22
     run out in the near future?
23
               That's correct.
               And after that date, is it accurate that
24
     the variation in wind output would affect customers
25
```

Page 48 1 by increasing or decreasing the generation from 2 those turbines? That's correct. 3 4 And the risk that ratepayers would have 5 then, would be solely the cost of replacement energy. Is that accurate? 6 7 А That's correct. 8 0 And with repowered wind turbines, is it 9 accurate to say that the Company's modeling forecasts for the value rely on the production tax 10 credits from each of those kilowatt hours' output to 11 12 pay for both the continued amortization of the costs 13 of the existing wind turbines along with the new 14 ones? The new wind turbines have more 15 А Yes. 16 benefit associated with the production tax credits. Is it fair to say as a result of that, 17 0 that the value of each kilowatt hour of output is 18 19 higher? 2.0 I agree with that. Α 21 And so is it fair to say that the 22 variation in wind output has greater dollars per 23 kilowatt hour variation under the proposal than going forward with the existing turbines? 24 25 Going forward, yes. I believe the Α

Page 49 1 question was -- or my answer was, it's similar to 2 the risk associated with the turbines in the past 3 during PTC years. 4 Okay. But you would agree with me that the value of that risk is significantly higher under 5 6 this proposal? 7 Α Precisely why I think we should be doing 8 it, yes. So yes, it is more risky? 9 0 Okay. 10 There's more value associated with it, I 11 agree with that. 12 Q And you also agree that the risk is 13 higher? I agree that the variability will be 14 higher and if we hadn't done the work that we've 15 16 done, we would be more uncertain. But given where we are, we have a very high certainty that we will 17 18 be capturing the PTC values that we have forecasted 19 going forward. 20 I think we're not quite getting the answer 21 to the question I'm asking, which is, is it accurate 22 that the variability of wind risk holds a higher 23 dollar value under the proposal than it would have continuing with the existing turbines? 24 25 I'm trying to answer in the Α Yes.

```
Page 50
     affirmative there.
 1
 2
                    MR. JETTER: Okay.
                                         Thank you.
                                                      Those
 3
     are my questions.
 4
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.
     Mr. Russell, any recross?
 5
 6
                    RECROSS EXAMINATION
     BY MR. RUSSELL:
 7
               I do have a question that relates to -- I
 8
          0
 9
     think it was Ms. McDowell's last question, which
10
     asked you your view on whether it was more correct
11
     to use nominal or levelized PTCs. Do you recall
12
     that question?
13
               T do.
               And your testimony is you think it's
14
     correct to use nominal values for PTCs and not
15
     levelized values?
16
17
               That's correct. Again, through the
     description I had earlier, the levelizing over ten
18
     years is equivalent to nominal, and that's the basis
19
20
     for my answer.
21
          Q
               You acknowledge, though, that the Company
22
     used levelized values for PTCs in its 2017 IRP
23
     planning process, correct?
24
          Α
               I agree.
               It also used levelized values for PTCs in
25
          Q
```

	Page 51
1	its direct testimony in this case?
2	A It did.
3	Q And in its rebuttal testimony in this
4	case, filed in October?
5	A Yes.
6	Q And its surrebuttal testimony filed in
7	November of 2017?
8	A That's correct. The change in modeling
9	happened between just prior to the February 2018
10	submission.
11	Q And you acknowledge that the Company has
12	used levelized values for PTCs in IRPs prior to the
13	2017 IRP planning process?
14	A Subject to check, that's my understanding,
15	yes.
16	MR. RUSSELL: Thank you.
17	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.
18	Commissioner Clark, do you have any questions for
19	Mr. Hoogeveen?
20	COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes, thank you.
21	BY COMMISSIONER CLARK:
22	Q Good morning, Mr. Hoogeveen. It's my
23	understanding that this matter is before us on the
24	basis of the Company's volunteer request for
25	approval of a resource decision. Has the Company

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- 1 determined whether it would go forward with these
- 2 projects without the approval that you're seeking
- 3 from us?
- 4 A We have thought of it. We have not made a
- 5 decision. It is much riskier for the Company.
- 6 You're talking about a billion-dollar investment
- 7 with, in essence, no expectation or -- that's not
- 8 the right word -- certainly no commitments from the
- 9 Commission for recovery. That makes it very
- 10 difficult to get past. I think it would be very
- 11 difficult to go forward.
- 12 Q Looking at it from, again, from that
- 13 perspective and from the elements of benefit and
- 14 risk that the Company would evaluate in making the
- 15 business decision about these investments, what
- 16 would you or how would you summarize the benefits
- 17 that would potentially exist for the Company in
- 18 making the investments?
- 19 A Just so I can clarify your question, are
- 20 you asking if we go forward with it under this --
- 21 Q No, no. I'm speaking of in the absence of
- 22 Commission approval, you are addressing this as a
- 23 business decision exclusively and without that
- 24 assurance --
- 25 A Yes.

Page 53 -- but assuming that standard ratemaking 1 0 2 remains in force with respect to rate base and investment and prudence and all of those principles. 3 On the benefit side, can you summarize how you would 4 evaluate this set of projects from the Company's 5 6 perspective? Sure. As with anything, it's a playoff 7 А between the risks and the benefits, so you're asking 8 9 about benefits appropriately. We'll get to risks. 10 11 Fair enough. The benefits certainly would 12 be the ability to invest and the opportunity to, you 13 know, achieve our return from the shareholders' 14 perspective. From the customers' perspective, I think I've been clear that there's tremendous 15 benefits as well. 16 And on the risk side, you've mentioned the 17 18 greater assurance of recovery that you would have 19 under the statute. In the absence of that, you would not have the assurance. But to be more 20 21 granular in your assessment of risks, are there 22 risks other than the ones that have been discussed 23 in the prefiled testimony that the Company would consider? 24 25 I think all of the risks have been Α

Page 54 discussed. And related to -- relating to your 1 2 question that if we do not get a pre-approval and 3 just go through the normal process as you describe 4 it, would indicate to us, inevitably, that it would be riskier, recovery would be riskier. 5 The fact that we have the statute and this fits very well 6 within it, we believe indicates that it should be 7 approved and adjudicated in this hearing this 8 morning. And for it not to be, I think would be an 9 10 indication of high-risk for our recovery. 11 So the Company would infer some things Q 12 from the disapproval, I suppose. 13 It would be hard not to, I think. 14 COMMISSIONER CLARK: That includes my 15 questions. 16 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. Commissioner White. 17 18 BY COMMISSIONER WHITE: 19 Just going back to a question from Ms. McDowell about the total cost for approval and 20 21 potentially going back and you know, requesting a 22 change to that. There was some discussion, I believe, in Mr. Hemstreet's testimony about 23 potential change in cost based upon modified 24 25 transmission interconnection agreements. I guess my

Page 55 question is, is there a -- you said a billion, but 1 2 what would be the number that would be on the order if it were to be approved, of the total cost for 3 4 what the Company is asking for? So specifically, the filing that we've 5 made has a commitment that if we come in above 1.1 I 6 believe the number is, whatever the exact number is, 7 8 we would have to show prudence for that. So that is 9 the number that we're talking about, and that's the commitment, that we would come back in. The change 10 11 in conditions -- and I apologize if there's some 12 confusion there -- really is if there's a major 13 change or even on a project-by-project basis, if 14 something should change regarding the cost or performance that we're aware of, then we would come 15 back in and talk to the Commission about that. 16 17 That's the 1.1? 0 18 Yes. The other question I had is, I guess, 19 0 there's been a lot of discussion testimony about 20 21 project-by-project economics, the benefits of it. 22 If we're looking at the total public interest and other standards, is it an all-or-nothing 23 proposition? How are the -- why should we be 24 looking at it on a project-by-project basis for the 25

Page 56 public interest or the, you know, the economics of 1 2 each of these projects. 3 No, I think it is appropriate to look at Α 4 it on a project-by-project. I think it's instructive to know what the total basis is and, 5 again, it's our position that each project stands on 6 its on own and is beneficial to customers. 7 Let me ask about this. Mr. Russell was 8 0 9 asking you about this nominal versus levelized. 10 Help me understand -- again, you mentioned 11 something, it was determined that it was, maybe, a 12 potentially inappropriate -- give me some more color 13 on that, I guess. And then the second part of that 14 question is, now that the Company has discovered 15 that was potentially inappropriate, what is the plan for consistency going forward? 16 17 Whether it's inappropriate or not is not Α the right characterization. I'd say it's an 18 19 improvement in the analysis and as I say, we've 2.0 been -- and as Counsel has said -- this has been 21 going on for years. We realize now that the way 22 that the PTCs were handled should be over ten years, 23 they should be levelized over ten years, or done on 24 a nominal basis. Those are equivalent. So I would 25 defer you to talk to Mr. Link about what he plans

Page 57 1 going forward. I do know that the IRP update that 2 we just filed includes this change in methodology 3 because it is a more accurate way of looking at it. 4 In your mind, is there a distinction between the type of look or methodology as between 5 an IRP picking projects on an optimized basis versus 6 what we should be looking at here, or should those 7 be one and the same? 8 9 I think they're one and the same. really is an effort to establish -- again, per the 10 11 statute -- what is most likely to result in the 12 lowest cost to our customers. That is precisely what is done through an IRP process in a model. 13 I recognize this was inserted late into the 14 process -- the IRP process and through the IRP 15 acknowledgment that the commission -- it was 16 certainly noted it was not given fair time. 17 I think that the expansion of this 10 to 12 months of doing 18 19 this IRP analysis that you talk of is helpful to 2.0 continue to ferret out the right answer, but I think 21 it is exactly the right model. Because what you 22 want to know is, does this set of assets, is it the 23 lowest cost, most reasonable portfolio to serve our needs. And that's precisely what those models show. 24 Is this, in your mind, something different 25 Q

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- 1 than the typical -- I mean, typically in the statute
- 2 we forecast, you know, need for energy capacity,
- 3 whatever, in IRP, and we need, let's just say, a gas
- 4 plant, or et cetera. Is there any distinction --
- 5 this is partially playing off of
- 6 Commissioner Clark's question -- is there any
- 7 distinction in terms of, like, what the drivers
- 8 behind this project are versus, say, just the
- 9 typical, vanilla need for energy and capacity?
- 10 A I think the difference here is the PTC
- 11 capturing and the fact that we've got to act in a
- 12 very time-constrained manner, and we need to
- 13 operate to make the decision quickly. And again, it
- 14 fits very directly, I think, within the statute
- of -- of the pre-approval statute for a resource
- 16 acquisition. I think it's for that reason. That's
- 17 the reason we're here.
- 18 Q And the other benefits, the reliability
- 19 benefits, is that something -- I'm kind of curious
- 20 about that, to understand a bit more. Maybe that's
- 21 a better question for Mr. Link, but do you have any
- 22 thoughts on that? It doesn't seem like that was
- 23 something addressed in great detail, but it was
- 24 something that was, at least, put forward as a
- 25 potential benefit.

1	Page 59 A I agree. And I think Mr. Hemstreet
2	probably answers that better.
3	COMMISSIONER WHITE: That's all the
4	questions I have. Thanks.
5	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: I don't have any
6	additional questions at this time, so thank you for
7	your testimony, Mr. Hoogeveen. And why don't we
8	take a ten-minute break and then we'll come back to
9	your next witness. Thank you.
10	(A recess was taken.)
11	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: We're back on
12	the record. Ms. McDowell.
13	MS. MCDOWELL: We call Mr. Rick Link
14	to the stand.
15	RICK LINK,
16	having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, was
17	examined and testified as follows:
18	DIRECT EXAMINATION
19	BY MS. MCDOWELL:
20	Q Good morning, Mr. Link.
21	A Good morning.
22	Q Could you please state your name and spell
23	it for the record?
24	A Yes. My name is Rick Link, last name is
25	L-i-n-k.

1	Page 60 Q Mr. Link, how are employed?
2	A I am vice president of resource and
3	commercial strategy with PacifiCorp.
4	Q In that capacity, have you prepared
5	testimony and exhibits in this proceeding?
6	A I have.
7	Q So I'll state for the record, the
8	testimony you've sponsored in this proceeding is
9	your direct testimony and exhibits, filed on
10	June 30th, 2017; your rebuttal testimony and
11	exhibits, filed on October 19th; your supplemental
12	direct testimony and exhibits, filed on
13	February 1st, 2018; and your supplemental rebuttal
14	testimony filed on April 23rd, 2018. Have I
15	included all of the testimony and exhibits you've
16	filed in this case?
17	A Yes.
18	Q If I were to ask you the questions that
19	are set forth in your prefiled testimony today,
20	would your answers here be the same?
21	A Yes.
22	Q Do you have any changes or corrections to
23	your prefiled testimony or exhibits?
24	A I do not.
25	MS. MCDOWELL: So we would offer

1	Page 61 Mr. Link's direct, rebuttal, supplemental direct,
2	and supplemental rebuttal testimony and exhibits.
3	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: If anyone
4	objects to this motion, please indicate to me. I'm
5	not seeing any objections, so the motion is granted.
6	And as is the case with Mr. Link and several other
7	witnesses in this proceeding, there's some
8	confidential material we've already discussed
9	this but I'll ask all the attorneys to be mindful
10	if we start to move into that area, there would be a
11	need for a motion and thus to consider whether it's
12	in the public interest to close the hearing if we
13	need to do so.
14	BY MS. MCDOWELL:
15	Q Mr. Link, have you prepared a summary of
16	your testimony?
17	A I have.
18	Q Please proceed.
19	A Good morning, Chairman Levar,
20	Commissioner Clark, and Commissioner White. I am
21	pleased to summarize my testimony supporting the
22	Company's proposal to repower 12 existing wind
23	facilities.
24	By upgrading its wind resources, the
25	Company can lower customer costs by generating wind
ı	

Page 62 production tax credits, or PTCs, producing 1 2 additional zero-fuel cost energy, improving system 3 reliability, and extending the operating life of 4 these assets. It is my understanding that in order to approve the Company's voluntary resource request, 5 the Commission must determine that repowering is in 6 the public interest after considering several 7 factors. My testimony primarily addresses three of 8 these considerations identified in the voluntary 9 approval statute, and these factors generally 10 11 address cost, near-term and long-term impacts, and 12 risks. First, and importantly, the Commission 13 must determine that repowering will likely result in 14 the acquisition, production, and delivery of utility 15 services at the lowest reasonable cost to the retail 16 customers of an energy utility located in this 17 The economic analysis which relies on the 18 state. same models used to develop our IRP has been 19 2.0 This analysis measures customer benefits extensive. 21 under nine different price policy scenarios, each 22 containing their own assumptions for market prices 23 in CO2 price inputs. This analysis also considers 24 how uncertainties in load, market prices,

hydrogeneration, and thermal unit outages affect the

25

Page 63 benefits of repowering. Through a number of 1 2 sensitivities, this analysis further quantifies how 3 customer benefits are affected by other system 4 variables, like the new wind and transmission projects proposed in a different docket. 5 6 The economic analysis was prepared for all 7 12 wind facilities on a project-by-project basis. 8 Study results were also presented over the 20 year 9 time frame that's used in the IRPs through 2036 and through the 30-year life of the repowered 10 11 facilities, or through 2050. The economic analysis 12 shows that repowering all 12 wind facilities will lower customer costs in all nine price policy 13 scenarios studied, and this result holds true 14 whether analyzed through 2036 or 2050. 15 16 When using base case assumptions, the present value net benefits of repowering total 17 \$180 million dollars when assessed through 2036, and 18 when assessed through 2050 using base case 19 20 assumptions, the present value net benefits total 21 \$273 million. The present value of gross benefits 22 range between \$1.4 billion and \$1.48 billion, and 23 the range depends on the price policy scenario, 24 which is well in excess of the present value project 25 cost totaling \$1.02 billion. The project-by-project

1	Page 64 analyses also show that repowering each project is
2	most likely to lower customer costs over the life of
3	the repowered wind facilities.
4	In addition to the Company's economic
5	analysis showing that repowering is most likely to
6	lower customer cost, the record now contains
7	alternative analysis from the Division of Public
8	Utilities, the Office of Consumer Service, and the
9	Utah Association of Energy Users that largely
10	confirm the Company's results. Although these
11	parties emphasize a different approach in its
12	economic modeling and each party chose to interpret
13	those results differently, their analyses show that
14	repowering is expected to lower customer's costs.
15	The comprehensive economic analysis in this case
16	shows that repowering satisfies the lowest
17	reasonable cost standard.
18	Regarding short-term and long-term
19	impacts, in the short-term, repowering will generate
20	\$1.26 billion in PTC benefits over a ten-year
21	period. This is nearly 115 percent of the
22	1.1 billion in service capital costs of repowering
23	12 wind facilities. The economic analysis
24	summarized in my testimony shows that revenue
25	requirement will be lower with repowering than

Page 65 without repowering from 2021 -- which is the first 1 2 year that the projects will be in full operation 3 with new equipment -- straight through to 2029. 4 long-term impacts of repowering are also favorable to customers. Repowering will reset the useful life 5 of these wind facilities, extending the life of the 6 7 assets by 10 to 13 years, which results in a 8 significant increase in energy and capacity over the 2037 to 2050 time frame. 9 10 The Company's economic analysis shows that 11 nominal revenue requirement is projected to be lower 12 than with repowering than without repowering in all 13 years over this period. And these results are 14 conservative, considering that this analysis assigns 15 no incremental capacity benefits to this project. The present value benefits discounted back to 16 17 2030 -- which is the year that the PTCs would expire from repowering -- is over \$210 million. 18 comprehensive economic analysis in this case shows 19 2.0 that the short-term and long-term impacts of 21 repowering are to deliver substantial benefits for 2.2 customers. 23 The statutory factors addressed in my testimony -- or the third statutory factor -- is 24 25 risk. And risks are evaluated in several ways.

1	Page 66 First, the Company tested the benefits of repowering
2	under several different price policy scenarios, and
3	this analysis confirms that repowering provides
4	customer benefits in all of those cases.
5	Second, the Company's economic analysis
6	captures stochastic risk in a way that is identical
7	to how these risks are analyzed in our IRP, which is
8	to factor in volatility, load, hydrogeneration,
9	thermal unit outages, and market prizes.
10	Third, the Company has updated its
11	analysis three times since this case was filed to
12	account for changes in cost, performance, and load.
13	And I'll note that the load assumption update is
14	identical to the load forecast that's in our
15	recently filed IRP update. It was also updated to
16	account for tax reform and price policy inputs.
17	Changing conditions over the last year demonstrate
18	the durability of the net benefits from repowering.
19	Fourth, the Company included several
20	sensitivities to test how customer benefits are
21	affected by other changes in our system, notably,
22	benefits of the repowering project are retained if
23	the new wind and transmission projects proposed in a
24	separate docket move forward.
25	While the Company analyzed various

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- 1 scenarios to measure risk and to ensure customer
- 2 benefits under a range of market conditions, as
- 3 Mr. Hoogeveen noted, I, too, recommend that the
- 4 Commission principally rely on the medium case,
- 5 which is based on our official forward price curve.
- 6 It's the same used to set Utah rates and to
- 7 establish avoided-cost pricing for qualifying
- 8 facility projects. When assessing the risk of
- 9 repowering, it is also important to consider the
- 10 risk of not moving forward with this amazing
- 11 project. Choosing not to repower would leave
- 12 substantial PTC benefits on the table, it would
- increase net power costs and increase customer
- 14 exposure to market volatility. The economic
- 15 analysis in this case overwhelmingly shows that
- 16 without wind repowering, revenue requirements will
- 17 be higher.
- Parties have explicitly or implicitly
- 19 suggested that repowering is higher risk than doing
- 20 nothing, because the Company has no need for the
- 21 resources. But this position is contrary -- is
- 22 contradicted by some facts. First, repowering
- 23 provides incremental, low cost energy that will
- 24 displace higher cost energy resources when balancing
- 25 our system. To argue that wind facilities should

Page 68 not be repowered because they're not needed is the 1 2 same as arguing that the Company should not optimize 3 its system resources in real time to minimize net 4 power costs simply because that activity is not required to serve customers. 5 6 Second, it is my understanding that the 7 voluntary resource decision approval statute does not require a resource need in order to approve a 8 decision like this one, where repowering involves 9 upgrading and optimizing an existing resource to 10 11 reduce customer costs. 12 In conclusion, taken together, the 13 economic analysis provided by the Company, the Division of Public Utilities, the Office of Consumer 14 15 Services, and the Utah Association of Energy Users demonstrates that the wind repowering project is in 16 17 the public interest. Repowering is most likely to lower customer costs, has beneficial near-term and 18 long-term customer impacts, and the robust customer 19 2.0 net benefits of repowering have withstood 21 significant stress testing, demonstrating that 22 repowering is not only lower costs, it is lower 23 costs across a broad range of potential future 24 market and system conditions. And that concludes my 25 summary.

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 1
                    MS. MCDOWELL:
                                    Thank you, Mr. Link.
 2
     This witness is available for cross-examination.
 3
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
                                          Thank you.
 4
     Ms. Tormoen Hickey, do you have any questions for
     Mr. Link?
 5
                    MS. HICKEY: No thank you, sir.
 6
 7
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR: We'll go to
 8
     Mr. Snarr next. Do you have any questions?
 9
                    MR. SNARR: Yes, I do. Thank you.
10
                    CROSS-EXAMINATION
11
     BY MR. SNARR:
12
          Q
               Good morning, Mr. Link.
13
               Good morning.
14
               I have just a few questions, and they
     focus on some of the issues that I'm sure you're
15
     familiar with.
16
17
               Isn't it true that the Company changed its
     2036 study analytical approach in showing how the
18
19
     recovery of production tax credits would impact the
     Company's cost and benefits in its February 2018
20
21
     filing?
2.2
               Yes.
                     The Company improved its approach to
23
     account for the PTC benefits from the project.
               Is it fair to say that -- we talked about
24
          0
     it here -- that involves a changing from showing the
25
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Page 70 production tax credits on a levelized basis to a 1 2 nominal basis that would coincide with the anticipated taking of the tax credits? 3 4 The change is as you described it. And this is a change from what the Company 5 6 used in prior IRP filings? 7 Yes, that's correct. Α 8 0 And as was pointed out, also a change from the two initial filings in this docket; is that 9 10 right? 11 Α Correct. 12 Q Isn't it true that using the levelized 13 approach as you have done in the past at looking at PTCs provides a consistency with the way that the 14 capital revenue requirements are modeled? 15 16 I disagree. Α But the capital revenue requirements are 17 modeled over the life of the assets; is that 18 19 correct? 2.0 The capital revenue requirement when we're Α 21 running our models through the IRP window, so 22 through 2036, are levelized through the full life of 23 the asset, and then only accounted for through the 24 2036 period. 25 And so that is a method that is used for 0

1	the capital requirements, which is inconsistent with
2	what you're currently planning to use for the PTCs;
3	is that correct?
4	A It's not correct. I disagree with the
5	fact that you're characterizing it as inconsistent.
6	Q Isn't it true the new tax law does not
7	require any different approaches as to how you would
8	look at or take the PTCs?
9	A I'm not aware of if I understand the
10	question correctly of how any tax law would
11	suggest analyzing the potential tax benefits of
12	PTCs.
13	Q And was is it true to say that the
14	coming forth of the new tax law didn't have any
15	relationship to the impact or to the decision that
16	you made to change the approach you're taking to
17	PTCs?
18	A Correct. The changing tax law had no
19	bearing on our decision to improve the
20	representation of PTCs in our IRP modeling.
21	Q When did you make that decision to change
22	the modeling?
23	A So we really, it dates back to the
24	separate docket I mentioned in my opening comments
25	in speaking to the new wind and transmission

Page 72 1 projects that we're proposing there. In that 2 forum -- and I have to kind of explain that to 3 address the question -- it's the first time that we 4 have ever used our IRP models to optimize or select from specific commercial structures, actual bids 5 submitted through a competitive solicitation, where 6 7 we had PPA, power purchase agreement proposals, and 8 bill transfer agreement or owned asset where PTCs 9 are taken upfront. It's the first time that I'm 10 aware of in my role in running the IRP models and 11 implementing RFPs where that model, that tool, was 12 used in that type of situation. So as we were progressing to evaluating 13 bids through that competitive solicitation process, 14 15 we made this improvement to the modeling methodology 16 to accurately account for the very fact that under one commercial structure where it's an owned asset, 17 that those PTCs are taken in the front ten years, 18 they're front-end loaded, and that the present value 19 20 calculations should appropriately account for the 21 timing of that benefit occurring -- relative to an 22 alternative structure, say a power purchase 23 agreement -- where those circumstances don't apply and you're faced with a power purchase agreement 24 25 cost that's consistent or increasing that inflation

Page 73 1 or some other rate, or the term of that proposed 2 agreement. So in that setting, that is what 3 triggered our review of making this modeling 4 improvement for that intended purpose. Considering the concurrent timing of that 5 process with this docket in this proceeding, we made 6 7 that same adjustment there -- here, in this proceeding -- because it is more accurate and more 8 9 correct. The old approach was essentially 10 understating quite significantly the value of PTCs 11 in that IRP viewpoint. Traditionally, in the IRP 12 itself outside of an RFP solicitation, that 13 differentiation is not an issue. We don't model in an IRP framework, owned assets, power purchase 14 15 agreement assets, different commercial structures. 16 From a planning perspective, we assumed one structure and then the RFP dictates, ultimately 17 through market bids, which one to pursue. And so it 18 was in that process -- again, to restate that that 19 2.0 was the first time we needed to account for this --21 and then applied it for consistency in this 22 proceeding because it is more accurate. And then in 23 addition, as Mr. Hoogeveen mentioned, we've adopted 24 that path forward for the IRP update which was just 25 filed this week, and intend to continue down that

- 1 path in future IRP filings.
- 2 Q Now, in your summary today, you pointed
- 3 out, I believe, that the range of benefits that you
- 4 had determined were in the range of \$180 million to
- 5 \$273 million, depending on the length of the term of
- 6 what you're looking at in 2036 to 2050?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q And so isn't it true that the change in
- 9 PTC's methodology makes a difference of
- 10 approximately \$200 million that, in effect, if we
- 11 had maintained the levelized approach in taking
- 12 PTCs, that the benefits might be -- that you have
- 13 referenced here -- might be less by about
- 14 \$200 million?
- 15 A I'm familiar with that number. It's a bit
- 16 less than \$200 million, but for the sake of
- 17 discussion, I'm fine with that characterization.
- 18 But I would highlight that it's not that the
- 19 benefits would be less, it's that the prior
- 20 benefits -- given my comments on why we changed the
- 21 approach to begin with -- were overly conservative
- 22 by about that same amount, so roughly \$200 million.
- 23 Q Isn't it true that levelizing the capital
- 24 revenue requirements over the life of the asset is
- 25 inconsistent with the way that capital costs are

Page 75 recovered in rates? 1 2 Capital costs are not recovered on a levelized basis, yes. 3 4 MR. SNARR: Thank you. I have no 5 other questions. 6 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. Ms. Schmid or Mr. Jetter? 7 MR. JETTER: I have a few questions. 8 9 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. JETTER: 10 11 Good morning. I'll start out with just a Q 12 few questions about the PAR and the SO models. Are 13 you the lead individual at the Company or the head of the team that develops, maintains, and runs those 14 15 models? 16 I'm responsible for the team that Α Yes. runs and maintains the models. 17 18 And how confident are you on the accuracy of the outcome of those models? 19 2.0 I'm confident. Α 21 And is that confidence both in the 22 calculation accuracy as well as the accuracy of the 23 forecast's information that you put in? 24 Α Yes. And so if, let's say, the CEO comes to you 25

Page 76 1 and says, We didn't get pre-approval for this 2 project, but we recognize that if it turns out to be 3 in the black throughout its life -- meaning it 4 actually does lower revenue requirement throughout its life -- we want to go forward with the project. 5 Would you tell her or him -- I believe it's a her in 6 7 this case -- would you tell her, yes, go ahead and do the project? 8 Under such a hypothetical, I don't know 9 all the other conditions and parameters around 10 11 which that hypothetical discussion might occur. 12 would say that this -- consistent with my testimony 13 in this case -- that this is an amazing project, it is expected to deliver benefits over the life of the 14 project, both near-term and long-term, under the 15 16 broadest range of scenarios we've analyzed. 17 Okay. And so you would -- is it fair to 0 say that you would recommend, if the Commission were 18 to deny pre-approval but in its order make it clear 19 that you may come in for prudency review -- you 20 21 would be confident that this would be found as a 22 prudent project? 23 I'm not a regulatory specialist in that 24 Again, I would provide my input to those

who would have more experience and direct knowledge

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Page 77 1 of the regulatory processes, the risks associated 2 with it, the accounting under such a circumstance, 3 but my role in that hypothetical scenario would be 4 to advise that team that this is an amazing project, it will deliver near and long-term benefits, and it 5 6 is a project worth pursuing. Thank you. With respect to the 7 0 Okay. inputs to those models, are you familiar with the 8 9 IRP update that the Company has recently filed in its Henry Hub gas forecast pricing? 10 11 Α Yes. 12 0 And are you familiar with the 2013 IRP 13 that the Company filed? I'm familiar with it, I haven't memorized 14 that one as well as the more recent. 15 16 Would you accept, subject to check, that Q in the 2013 IRP model, that the gas forecast prices 17 18 through the current period and now through years, let's say, 2023, were over a dollar higher than they 19 are in the current IRP forecast? 20 21 Α Without checking, but subject to check, 2.2 they are what they are in the IRP. 23 Okay. And would you also accept, subject to check, that the low gas scenario that you have 24

used in this case was approximately 30 to 75 cents

25

Page 78 1 lower over that same time period? 2 Again, subject to check, the numbers are what they are. 3 4 Okay. And so, subject to check, if those numbers are accurate, would it be fair to say that 5 the current IRP forecast would be outside of the 6 same range that you've used in this IRP forecast and 7 model as the lowest reasonably likely gas price? 8 9 MS. MCDOWELL: Objection. I don't think that question is clear for the record. 10 11 would restate which forecast you're talking about. 12 BY MR. JETTER: 13 So I'll restate for the record that I 14 believe the witness has agreed, subject to check, that the 2013 IRP forecast is more than a dollar 15 16 higher, which is about 35 percent higher than the 17 current IRP forecast for gas prices. And what I'm asking -- the question is, is it accurate that the 18 19 use of the low gas forecast in your modeling in this

- 21 to 75 cents, depending on year, lower than the
- 22 middle case forecast that you view as the most
- 23 likely?

20

- Again, subject to check, if I understood 24 Α
- the question, was what do the numbers in the 25

instance is somewhere in the range of, let's say, 30

Page 79 1 document say? 2 Q Yes. 3 They speak for themselves. 4 Okay. Does that represent to you that 5 your -- had you done this model in 2013, the Company's current middle case gas forecast would 6 have been outside the range of what you consider 7 8 reasonable, given the reasonable range you're using in this forecast? 9 I don't know that I understand the 10 question. What I believe you've stated to me, 11 12 again, subject to check on whatever the numbers say, 13 is that in 2013 -- which, presumably is probably a 14 2012 price curve, something six years ago, I'm guessing -- was about a dollar higher than our 15 16 current base case projection, and that our low case is 30 cents-ish, if I recall your statement, again, 17 whatever the numbers say, lower than our current 18 19 medium case. And I'm not quite sure if you're saying if our current medium is outside the balance 20 21 of what? 22 So what I'm trying to get to here is that, 23 if you used a low gas price case scenario in the 2013 numbers, it would have resulted in the low gas 24 price being projected through years 2023 somewhere 25

1 in the range -- if you were dropping those by, let's 2 say, 50 cents -- you would have projected the low gas scenario today being around \$3.75, subject to 3 4 check. MS. MCDOWELL: I just object to this. 5 6 I don't think there's any foundation for these questions. I know there's a fair amount of subject 7 8 to check, but now we're asking questions that are, I 9 think, pretty vague in terms of the range and the comparison. So without more foundation, I don't 10 11 think this question is proper. 12 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: In context of 13 that objection, if you'd like to clarify where this 14 is going, maybe, that might help. 15 MR. JETTER: I think where this is 16 going is pointing out that the low gas case is not even as low as changes in IRP change in the gas 17 18 price. That the Company's projected, kind of, outer 19 bound low gas price is so close to the middle gas price that it's outside the range of what we would 20 21 have been using -- what we would have projected 22 today -- using the 2013 IRP. And so the core of the 23 question is, is the range broad enough in the model to be confident in the results? Is the range, away 24 from the projected gas price, broad enough, is the 25

Page 81 1 low gas price low enough to be a reasonable 2 representation of the future range of what we would 3 expect to see? 4 MS. MCDOWELL: I just want to restate 5 my objection. I don't think that helps at all. think it's still vague in terms of what's being 6 7 compared, the time frame in which it's being 8 compared, and what the ratios are that he's trying 9 to compare. I don't object generally to some 10 subject to check questions and some questions around 11 comparisons, but they need to be clear on the record 12 and I don't think these are at all. 13 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Based on the 14 explanation, I don't think I'm prepared to rule that that issue is not relevant or has some value. 15 16 think I'll let you continue on, but I note the 17 concern, and I was having some challenge following 18 where we were going. BY MR. JETTER: 19 20 Maybe I'll ask a few questions to 0 Okay. 21 kind of let them speak for themselves, let's say 22 that, which I think we've sort of covered but we'll 23 reiterate. Would you accept, subject to check, that the 2013 Rocky Mountain Power filed business plan 24 25 would have shown 2018 natural gas prices at just

Page 82 1 over \$5? 2 I do not know. 3 Okay. Would it surprise you if it was 0 4 just over \$5 in that model and just a few years later, we're at a point where, in the same year of 5 forecasts, the Company's high gas price range is 6 about \$4.25? 7 8 Again, I'm not sure what number was used 9 in a business plan from five years ago and how to compare that to where current markets are. 10 11 Would you accept, subject to check, that Q 12 your projections in the 2013 IRP weren't very 13 accurate? 14 I disagree. 15 Would you say that gas prices today are in Q 16 the range of \$4 to \$5? 17 I'm not sure over what time frame. Let's say, the prices between 2017 and 18 Q 19 2018, average? 2.0 So I'm going to check my testimony. I Α 21 believe I've got a graph that tells us what the 22 market prices are. If we want to go down that path, 23 I can point you to the exact figure if you give me a 24 moment. 25 Q Okay.

Page 83 So for the record, I'm looking in my 1 Α 2 supplemental direct testimony, line 97, which shows 3 our figure 1-SD --4 MS. MCDOWELL: Mr. Link, I don't want 5 to interrupt you -- but I just did, so sorry. 6 just saying I need to because I know you're looking at a yellow piece of paper, so I just want to 7 caution you if you do get into confidential 8 information, give me the signal so I can then make 9 10 the appropriate motion. 11 Α Thank you for the reminder. Nothing that 12 I say will, I think, be confidential. That graph 13 speaks for itself, in terms of what the current base assumptions are for Henry Hub natural gas prices 14 included in the economic analysis for this case, the 15 16 most recent. BY MR. JETTER: 17 And so why should we be more confident? 18 19 We know that the next most recent ones were off by significant margins. Why should we be confident 20 21 this one is more accurate? 2.2 Given the back and forth that we've had, 23 I'm not sure that I can say with certainty -because I'm a little confused around which 24 25 references we were pointing to up to this point --

Page 84 1 that these are any less accurate than anything from 2 prior forecasts. But I will say that these are 3 nothing more than projections of forward market 4 prices. In fact, through the front end of our forecast period, we don't really do a forecast. 5 rely on observed market quotes at a given point in 6 time, which is applicable through about a six-year 7 window. They have an influence through the first 8 9 seven years of our forward price curve, so this is through approximately, I think, the 2024 time frame 10 11 if I did my math correct there, and then beyond that 12 period, we go through a pretty extensive review of 13 the most current baseline forecast. Our methodology is not to do a regression 14 off of, let's say, past history, and that history is 15 16 an indicator of where prices will go moving forward. We rely on these third-party experts over the long 17 term and fundamental assessments of what it costs to 18 produce gas, what is -- where pipelines are likely 19 20 to be constructed, what policies might influence 21 those prices, and factor those variables into our 22 long-term projections. And so from that standpoint, 23 I believe they are the most accurate and representative projection that we have available to 24 25 us at this time.

Page 85 1 0 Would you agree that the forecasts have 2 substantial risk in fluctuation up or down? 3 А There is no question that any forecast is 4 uncertain, that they can go up and that they can go down from current expectations. And I'll mimic some 5 6 comments that Mr. Hoogeveen mentioned in his remarks 7 this morning, which is that this is precisely why we look at a range of scenarios and sensitivities also 8 9 informed by the most recent review of fundamental 10 factors that could cause gas prices and therefore, 11 power prices to go lower or higher over time. And 12 I'll also say the further out you go, the less 13 certain, I think, those things get over time. If your gas forecast price were a dollar 14 15 high throughout the range, would that substantially change the economics of this project? 16 17 I don't know that I have the ability to 18 tie it to a specific gas price assumption. 19 the high gas and the low gas case, and so I think 20 there's probably some inferences that could be made 21 from that. I just don't have it at my fingertips 2.2 right now. 23 Thank you. I'm going to change direction just a little bit here. You mention in your opening 24 25 statement that there would be a reliability benefit

- 1 from these turbines. Could you explain what
- 2 reliability benefit, as compared to the existing
- 3 fleet of utility generation assets, would be the
- 4 result?
- 5 A I can generally respond to this question,
- 6 which is, the new equipment has better controls and
- 7 ability to improve power quality on the system, they
- 8 provide additional voltage support. Beyond that, I
- 9 think Mr. Hemstreet is best if we want to dive into
- 10 the specifics of that information, but generally,
- 11 that's the intent. And I would note that there's no
- 12 specific value attributed to that dollar value in
- 13 the economic analysis, it's simply a recognition
- 14 that this more modern equipment provides those
- 15 additional reliability services that are not
- 16 available with the current equipment.
- 17 MR. JETTER: Thank you. I have no
- 18 further questions.
- 19 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you,
- 20 Mr. Jetter. Mr. Russell.
- 21 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 22 BY MR. RUSSELL:
- 23 Q Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a few
- 24 questions, and I want to focus our discussion on the
- 25 use of nominal PTC values while using levelized

- 1 capital costs. You mentioned in response to a
- 2 question -- and I apologize, I don't remember
- 3 whether it was a question from Mr. Snarr or
- 4 Mr. Jetter -- but you indicated that capital costs
- 5 are not recovered on a levelized basis; is that
- 6 right?
- 7 A That's correct.
- 8 Q Okay. The justification for using nominal
- 9 values for PTCs is that that's a more accurate
- 10 reflection of how PTCs will flow through in rates;
- 11 is that right?
- 12 A It's a -- that's correct. It is a more
- 13 accurate representation of how they flow through in
- 14 rates. And it's also a more accurate and consistent
- 15 treatment with how we handle costs, levelizing of
- 16 costs, over different time periods within our IRP or
- 17 IRP models in this instance. As Mr. Hoogeveen noted
- 18 this morning, essentially -- and I complete agree
- 19 with his testimony -- using a nominal stream of PTC
- 20 benefits over 10 years would, by definition,
- 21 generate the precise same present value stream of
- 22 benefits of those PTC benefits over that same
- 23 10-year window. The issue here is that PTCs have a
- 24 10-year life, not a 30-year life. If they had a
- 25 30-year life, then our approach of levelizing them

- 1 all the way out for the 30 years would have been
- 2 more appropriate.
- 3 Q If at least part of the justification for
- 4 using nominal values for PTCs is that it more
- 5 accurately reflects how PTCs flow through to rates,
- 6 why is it appropriate to use levelized capital costs
- 7 because you've acknowledged are not recovered on a
- 8 levelized basis?
- 9 A The easy and quick answer is that the
- 10 capital costs are spread over the full life of the
- 11 asset, so through 2050, let's say, in this instance,
- 12 which goes beyond the forecast period that we're
- 13 using when running our IRP models, which terminates
- in 2036. For PTCs, they fall within, wholly within,
- 15 the 20-year forecast period within the 2036 time
- 16 frame. That's the quick and easy explanation for
- 17 why there's a differentiation. The logical
- 18 rationale as to why that makes sense is because with
- 19 the capital costs, not only are we not -- we're not
- 20 capturing the way it's capturing rates when we
- 21 levelize those, but we're also not accounting for
- 22 any benefits that that capital cost provides -- that
- 23 opportunities provides for the last, in this
- 24 instance, 13 years of the asset life. And so that's
- 25 the primary justification.

Page 89 I will highlight, though, that the 1 2 analysis performed by parties in the most recent 3 round of testimony that attempts to provide nominal 4 capital costs and nominal PTCs through 2036 without going all the way to 2050, shows that these projects 5 provide economic benefits in all cases. 6 So while I 7 do not agree with that approach, that's where my statement in my opening comments of my summary comes 8 9 I don't agree with the approach, but it still shows that our conclusions are valid. 10 11 I will also say that if one has concerns 12 with this whole levelization issue, it's a complete 13 nonissue when looking at the results through 2050. 14 Which, again, as Mr. Hoogeveen stated and I support, 15 is the appropriate time frame to analyze for the 16 unique opportunities here in these specific 17 projects, because right after the IRP models stop forecasting, right after 2036, that is the timing 18 when these assets, without repowering, would 19 2.0 otherwise hit the end of their lives, essentially 21 retire, and so the incremental energy that they 22 produce goes from roughly 750 gigawatt hours a year 23 up to 3,500. They also, at that time, begin contributing system capacity. So that's the 24 25 appropriate time frame for those specific reasons

Page 90 on this project to look at, and in that instance, 1 2 all costs are nominal. And the reason we're able to do all costs nominal -- tying back to my earlier 3 4 comments in response to the question from Counsel -is that we're covering the full life of the asset. 5 So in that instance, using nominal capital revenue 6 requirement, nominal PTCs together, makes sense. 7 8 0 Doesn't pushing the analysis to 2050 get 9 us away from the 20-year planning process that's used in the IRP, though? 10 11 I will say that going out to 2050 is 12 longer than the 20-year IRP planning window. 13 MR. RUSSELL: Okay. I don't have any 14 further questions. 15 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. Any redirect? 16 17 MS. MCDOWELL: Yes, thank you. 18 REDIRECT EXAMINATION 19 BY MS. MCDOWELL: 20 Mr. Link, you had some questions from 21 Division's counsel around the forward price curves 22 used in this case. Can you clarify, has the Company 23 updated the forward price curve throughout this 24 case? 25 Yes. Α

1	Page 91  Q And in which analysis did the Company
2	update its forward price curve?
3	A Well, we had our original filing, and I
4	believe we made an update you're challenging my
5	memory on this I believe we made an update in our
6	rebuttal and again, we made our final update with
7	our supplemental direct filing.
8	Q In all of the analysis that incorporated
9	those forward price curve updates, did the Company
10	continue to show net benefits associated with the
11	repowering project?
12	A Yes. Throughout the entire analytical
13	time frame of this docket, every time that we made
14	an update, the projects continued to show net
15	economic benefits for customers across all the
16	cases, supporting my comments in my opening summary
17	that the fact that we're updating to account for the
18	most current information and circumstances related
19	to this project demonstrates the durability of the
20	benefits that we're projecting for this investment
21	opportunity.
22	Q And with respect to issues around the low
23	natural gas price curve, does the project continue
24	to show benefits in that low price curve scenario
25	also?

	Page 92
1	A Yes. There's three low gas curve
2	scenarios with varying CO2 assumptions. All three
3	of them, even the one with no CO2 price assumptions,
4	shows benefits for these projects.
5	MS. MCDOWELL: That's all the
6	questions I have. Thank you.
7	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Any recross,
8	Mr. Snarr?
9	MR. SNARR: No.
10	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.
11	Mr. Jetter?
12	MR. JETTER: No, I don't have any
13	recross. Thank you.
14	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Mr. Russell?
15	MR. RUSSELL: I do have one question,
16	just on that last one.
17	RECROSS EXAMINATION
18	BY MR. RUSSELL:
19	Q Not all of the individual repowering
20	projects show benefits in the low gas scenario,
21	correct?
22	A I believe that's a fair statement. I will
23	clarify that when we go out through the 2050 time
24	horizon, the Leaning Juniper project in the worst,
25	worst, worst case outcome with low gas, zero CO2, is
1	

Page 93 1 essentially, I believe, break-even economics. 2 In the 20-year look -- and I'll just refer you to your Table 2-SD in your supplemental direct 3 4 testimony --5 I'm sorry. Could you repeat the table 6 number? 7 0 Yes. Table 2-SD. It's on page 14. 8 I'm there. Thank you. 9 In that table -- correct me if I'm 10 wrong -- this is through 2036, correct? 11 Α Yes. 12 0 And in that table which shows each 13 individual project in the low natural gas, zero CO2 price policy assumption, the Leaning Juniper project 14 shows greater costs than benefits in all three of 15 16 the model runs that were used in that scenario, 17 correct? Yes, it does. I think in my response to 18 the previous question, I noted it was through the 19 20 2050 year results, which consist of with my prior 21 comments, as what I see is the best way to look at 22 these projects. And so, yes, in that one scenario under the 2036 analysis, Leaning Juniper shows costs 23 slightly higher -- or shows a roughly slight net 24 cost for that for this particular project. 25

Page 94 1 0 Okay. Let's turn back one page to Table 2 1-SD, which is a similar table except this is each project in the medium natural gas, medium CO2 price 3 4 policy assumption. And in that price policy assumption, the Leaning Juniper shows zero benefits 5 in each of the model runs. And again, this is 6 through 2036, correct? 7 Yes, that is what the table shows. 8 9 maybe I'll take this moment to highlight that I'm also framing up my comments from a perspective of 10 11 the conservatism built into our analysis, 12 recognizing there's no capacity value captured in these analyses, that the 2036 does not account for 13 14 the significant energy increase that occurs right after this time horizon in the capacity value. 15 16 MR. RUSSELL: Nothing further. 17 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. 18 Commissioner White, do you have any questions for Mr. Link? 19 2.0 BY COMMISSIONER WHITE: 21 Q There's a wide range of different 22 scenarios based upon gas prices, carbon outlook, et Is it -- I understand that some of the 23 cetera. projects maybe have potentially higher risk or 24 potentially less benefits. Is the total value 25

1 proposition dependent on the entire package, I 2 guess, or is it something from the Company's 3 perspective where it's like, well, yes, we could 4 drop this or not this, you're not -- even the customers are not going to get as many benefits? 5 Again, I'll try to -- I'm willing to make 6 Α Mr. Hoogeveen's comments on this, that it is fair to 7 look at each project on a project-by-project basis 8 9 to ensure that we're making the right decisions on a project-by-project basis. And I think we view the 10 11 Leaning Juniper project as an example as one that 12 shows under -- out of nine price policy scenarios, 13 there is one, potentially, out of nine, that shows it to be unfavorable under one look, under a look 14 that does not account for any of the long-term 15 benefits that I've mentioned. And that when you 16 look at the longer term analysis -- which I believe 17 18 is the most appropriate in this particular instance -- that does show benefits and accounting 19 20 for the conservatism. And so, again, taken on a 21 whole, most likely deliver these benefits, one out 22 of, say, nine price policy scenarios under one view 23 is not sufficient to say that that project is not most likely and why we're still supporting the fact 24 25 that that is a worthwhile and valuable project that

- 1 we should proceed.
- Q I understand that wind is -- you know,
- 3 it's an intermittent source of energy and there's a
- 4 lot of wind on the system -- and I apologize if this
- 5 is in your testimony -- but was the potential effect
- on how other of the Company's resources are utilized
- 7 in this new world of, you know, increased wind, was
- 8 that ever modeled as a cost -- in other words, I'm
- 9 talking specifically about heat rates of plants.
- 10 A Yes, and that's partly why this
- 11 modeling -- these modeling tools are the appropriate
- 12 tool to analyze these sort of investments where this
- incremental energy from these projects will be about
- 14 26 percent higher than their current level of
- 15 production once repowered. That added energy on the
- 16 system was modeled with an hourly shape and profile
- 17 that mimics the type of volatility that we have seen
- in operating these facilities since they've been
- 19 brought online, roughly ten or more years ago, such
- 20 that when the output actually increases over time,
- 21 our system has to redispatch and in fact, when -- in
- 22 my testimony, I make reference to net power cost
- 23 benefits and those sorts of things, it's really that
- 24 dynamic where in hours where the wind is up, it may
- 25 back down, let's say, an existing generating unit or

Page 97 redispatch a coal or gas plant, avoid the fuel costs 1 2 there, that is the net power cost benefit accounting 3 for redispatching our system and why it makes sense, 4 again, to analyze these projects in that type of 5 model. So even though it may affect efficiency of 6 certain plants, the overall net power cost benefit 7 is a plus, is what you're saying? 8 9 Absolutely accounts for -- our models account for heat rate curves and the fact 10 11 that if they're running at lower levels, that the 12 heat rate goes up, essentially. 13 I just have one other question. I think I 14 heard you correctly -- in your summary, you mentioned something about it's your understanding 15 that the statute by which we're looking at the facts 16 and applying it to the law would not necessarily 17 18 require need. Can you expand on that? sure if that's what you said, and I apologize if 19 20 I --21 Α That's my read of the language, you know, 22 that lays out the various factors when determining a 23 request is in the public interest, in this case, and I don't recall seeing the term "resource need." 24 25 that instance, it talks about those considerations I

Page 98 mentioned that I cover, I think in my testimony, 1 2 most likely to deliver the lowest reasonable cost, 3 risk, near-term and long-term impacts, and those 4 elements. So my basis for that statement is on my interpretation of those factors in the statute. 5 6 COMMISSIONER WHITE: That's all I 7 have. Thank you. COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Commissioner 8 9 Clark? 10 BY COMMISSIONER CLARK: 11 Thank you. Just a few questions. Q 12 morning. First, can we assume that the cost 13 information on a per unit basis that's in the 14 Company's presentation would apply were the Company to only build one of the projects? Another way to 15 ask that, I suppose, is, is there some element of 16 synergy that's operating in this portfolio of 17 projects and bringing them to fruition that we 18 19 haven't yet been told about? 2.0 My understanding is that the pricing that we have modeled is a direct reflection of the 21 22 progress we've made in negotiating agreements with 23 GE and Vestas. And I believe Mr. Hemstreet is 24 certainly better equipped to directly hit on that 25 question.

Page 99 Okay. We'll come back to that, then. 1 0 2 Thank you. I thought that might be the case. on the subject of looking at the PTCs from a nominal 3 4 perspective and the cost -- well, I'll call it the cost stream -- from a levelized perspective, in the 5 case of the 30-year study horizon, did I understand 6 you to say that as you've evaluated that 30 years of 7 costs, that you looked at that on a nominal basis, 8 or was it only nominal from 2036 to 2050? 9 The entire time period uses nominal 10 revenue requirement for capital and for the PTCs. 11 12 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Thank you. That 13 concludes my questions. 14 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: I don't have any additional questions, Mr. Link. Thank you for your 15 16 testimony today. Ms. McDowell. 17 MS. MCDOWELL: Mr. Lowney is going to handle our next witness, so I'll turn it over to 18 him. 19 2.0 MR. LOWNEY: Rocky Mountain Power's 21 next witness is Tim Hemstreet. 2.2 TIM HEMSTREET, 23 having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined and testified as follows: 24 25 DIRECT EXAMINATION

Page 100 BY MR. LOWNEY: 1 2 Q Mr. Hemstreet, could you please state and spell your name for the record? 3 Tim Hemstreet, last name is Hemstreet, 4 H-e-m -- street, like a road -- s-t-r-e-e-t. 5 6 And how are you employed, Mr. Hemstreet? I'm the director of renewable development 7 А for PacifiCorp. 8 And in that capacity, did you file 9 10 testimony in this case? 11 Yes, I have. Α 12 Q And I will represent to you that the 13 testimony you've filed is your direct testimony and accompanying exhibits, your rebuttal testimony, your 14 surrebuttal testimony, your supplemental direct 15 16 testimony, and your supplemental rebuttal testimony. Does that sound correct? 17 18 Yes. Α 19 And, Mr. Hemstreet, do you have any 20 corrections to that testimony today? 21 Α I have two corrections to typographical 2.2 errors in my testimony. The first is on line 350 in my direct testimony. On that line, I said 10 of 32 23 wind turbines that would not need to be repowered; 24 25 that number should actually be 12. And that's the

1	number that's correctly reflected in our economic
2	analysis. And my second correction is in my
3	rebuttal testimony filed in October 2017, at line
4	503. I stated that 160 million data points were
5	used to assess the energy production estimates, and
6	that number should be corrected to 130 million
7	points.
8	Q Thank you, Mr. Hemstreet. And with those
9	two corrections, if I were to ask you the same
10	questions today, would your answers be the same?
11	A Yes, they would.
12	MR. LOWNEY: The Company moves to
13	admit Mr. Hemstreet's testimony into the record as
14	just described.
15	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. If
16	anyone has any objection to that, please indicate to
17	me. I'm not seeing any objections, so the motion is
18	granted.
19	BY MR. LOWNEY:
20	Q Mr. Hemstreet, have you prepared a summary
21	of your testimony for the Commission today?
22	A Yes, I have.
23	Q Please proceed with that summary.
24	A Commissioners, thank you for the
25	opportunity to testify today on an amazing project

- 1 that's available to our customers.
- 2 I have worked as an engineer and project
- 3 manager for the Company since 2004. In 2016, I
- 4 assumed the role of Director of Renewable Energy
- 5 Development. In this role, I oversee the
- 6 development of the Company's renewable energy
- 7 resources. I feel very fortunate to have a role in
- 8 this project, which is going to deliver
- 9 extraordinary benefits to our customers. My job in
- 10 delivering this project is to help expand the
- 11 Company's supply of zero-fuel cost energy resources
- 12 and to achieve the lowest cost of energy for our
- 13 customers. I look forward to a couple of busy years
- 14 ahead as they have been in the past, as we work to
- 15 make this opportunity a reality.
- Today's hearing is an important step in
- 17 this project and in this process. I appreciate the
- 18 opportunity to testify on the technical aspects of
- 19 the repowering project, our due diligence in the
- 20 development of the project, and the favorable
- 21 commercial arrangements the Company has negotiated
- 22 with it's suppliers.
- 23 At the outset, I want to be clear that the
- 24 repowering project is on schedule and on budget.
- 25 Assuming the Commission approves the project by

1	Page 103 early June, we'll begin work this summer improving
2	foundations and engaging in other construction
3	activities necessary to bring most of the facilities
4	to commercial operation in 2019. This will ensure
5	qualification for PTCs with ample time for
6	unanticipated project issues.
7	First, I will provide some engineering
8	and commercial background on the repowering project.
9	Wind technology has advanced substantially since the
10	facilities were first constructed between 2006 and
11	2010. Improvements in materials and design have
12	allowed blades to become longer, and have allowed
13	new control and sensor technologies to mitigate the
14	loads on existing wind turbines. This now allows
15	for our existing towers and foundations to be fitted
16	with more efficient, larger, more reliable
17	equipment. The improved sensor and condition
18	monitoring systems in these new turbines will also
19	allow us to more accurately diagnose and predict
20	maintenance failures so that we can address those
21	before they become issues.
22	The turbines with which the Company
23	proposes to repower will also include enhanced
24	voltage power quality and inertial support to the
25	transmission system. This will make it easier to

Page 104 1 integrate wind energy into our system while 2 enhancing grid reliability. The repowering project 3 will also allow the Company and its customers to 4 realize these technological advancements while qualifying the repowered facilities for a hundred 5 percent of the value of production tax credits, 6 7 resulting in the lowest cost alternative through the continued operation of these facilities. 8 In November 2016, the Company determined 9 that repowering can be implemented at a subset of 10 11 our facilities. Our group then moved quickly to 12 secure safe harbor equipment before the end of 2016. 13 This enabled subsequent repowering projects to qualify for that 100 percent of the production tax 14 15 credit. We then negotiated commercial arrangements with General Electric and Vestas to implement the 16 repowering project, bringing these turbines online 17 in 2019 and 2020. Subsequent refinement of the 18 19 equipment specifications has materially increased 20 the value of the repowering project and materially 21 decreased uncertainty and risk. 2.2 Our eight Wyoming facilities employ GE turbines. For these facilities, the Company has 23 24 negotiated a turnkey master retrofit contract that 25 provides for repowering at a fixed price with

Page 105 significant risk mitigation provisions that ensure 1 2 that the repowering can be delivered consistent with 3 the Company's economic analysis. Significantly, the 4 GE master retrofit contract mitigates risk related to achieving commercial operation of the repowered 5 turbines by the end of 2020. This certainty on 6 operations costs provided by a service agreement 7 with the GE turbines also significantly reduces 8 9 customer risk related to the ongoing operations costs of our wind fleet. 10 11 The Company's negotiated contract with 12 Vestas, for the facilities in Oregon and Washington 13 provides similar attractive pricing at fixed cost. We are now finalizing negotiations with wind energy 14 construction companies for the installation of these 15 16 turbines, and we expect to conclude that process shortly. 17 Over the last year, we have completed 18 19 significant due diligence on the repowering project. 2.0 This increases the certainty that we can deliver all 21 of the benefits described in the Company's 2.2 testimony. 23 First, the Company retained Ernst & Young to conduct an independent evaluation analysis of the 24 25 retained components of the wind facilities to ensure

Page 106 that the retained value of the components does not 1 2 exceed 20 percent of the final value of the repowered turbines. This is necessary for these 3 4 turbines to be eligible for the PTCs. Second, the Company's engineering 5 consultant, Black & Veatch, verified that all the 6 7 foundations of the facilities are suitable to accept the new equipment with modifications to two of the 8 facilities. Additionally, Black & Veatch has 9 verified that the foundations can withstand 10 11 additional loading for the longer service lives 12 anticipated through 2050 for these repowered 13 facilities. Third, we also worked with Black & Veatch 14 15 to develop estimates of the increase in generation 16 that will result from repowering. We developed the production estimates using the extensive generation 17 data history available for these facilities, 18 incorporating millions upon millions of data points 19 2.0 reflecting actual operating conditions to assess the 21 expected generation increases. These estimates also 22 incorporated additional modeled wake losses that 23 will result from the installation of larger rotors to more accurately reflect expected generation. 24 25 energy production estimates we have developed are

1	Page 107 conservative, because they do not take into account
2	additional generation that we expect as a result of
3	increased turbine availability that will be
4	delivered pursuant to the Company's negotiated
5	contracts for service and maintenance.
6	Fourth, we diligently pursued the
7	permitting necessary to implement the repowering
8	project and now have the major permit approvals
9	required for 11 of the 12 facilities.
10	What are the benefits of repowering from
11	an operations perspective? As mentioned before,
12	repowering is estimated to increase energy
13	production by approximately 26 percent, with
14	production increases ranging from 17 to 39 percent,
15	depending on the facility.
16	Repowering will also avoid capital
17	expenditures to address certain major components in
18	the wind fleet that are experiencing significantly
19	higher failure rates than similar equipment. Given
20	the two-year warranty periods for the Wyoming
21	facilities and for the Vestas facilities, repowering
22	also provides a greater certainty related to ongoing
23	operations cost.
24	Being designed to the same standards as
25	new wind projects, repowering will also extend the

Page 108 asset lives of the repowered facilities by up to 13 1 2 years, creating significant additional energy and 3 capacity after the existing facilities would have 4 otherwise retired. The repowered turbines, being of more modern design, will also provide enhanced 5 voltage, power quality, and inertial support, and 6 7 make it easier to integrate this energy into our portfolio. 8 9 As Mr. Link has explained, our economic 10 analysis demonstrates that repowering is the least 11 cost alternative available for the continued 12 operation of these 12 wind facilities. There has 13 been much testimony regarding which projects provide the greatest benefits to customers on an absolute 14 15 basis, relative to their costs, or relative to other 16 projects. But it is important to remember that the 17 Company's analysis, as well as that performed by others, demonstrates that repowering all these 18 facilities is the least-cost alternative. 19 2.0 Our goal is to operate the Company's wind 21 generation assets in an efficient, cost-effective 2.2 manner that reduces risk for the long-term benefit 23 of our customers. Repowering offers us the 24 opportunity to do just that and provides us that least-cost, least-risk alternative for the 25

	Page 109
1	continued operation of these facilities.
2	Repowering makes sense for customers, and
3	everyone in my group is fully committed to bring
4	this project to reality. I respectfully request
5	that the Commission approve the Company's resource
6	decision and allow the repowering project to proceed
7	so that these substantial benefits can be delivered
8	to our customers.
9	This concludes my summary. Thank you.
10	MR. LOWNEY: Mr. Hemstreet is
11	available for cross-examination.
12	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.
13	Ms. Tormoen Hickey, do you have any questions for
14	Mr. Hemstreet?
15	MS. HICKEY: No, thank you.
16	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Ms. Schmid or
17	Mr. Jetter?
18	MS. SCHMID: My turn.
19	CROSS-EXAMINATION
20	BY MS. SCHMID:
21	Q Good morning.
22	A Good morning.
23	Q At lines 396 through 434 of your
24	supplemental rebuttal testimony, you address
25	concerns

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Page 110
 1
               I'm sorry. Can I catch up with you?
          Α
                                                      This
 2
     is my February testimony?
               No. Your supplemental rebuttal. That
 3
          Q
 4
     would be April.
               And line 396?
 5
          Α
 6
               396 to 434. Here you respond to concerns
     that Dr. Zenger and Mr. Peaco raised on the
 7
     estimates of the wind resources, and I have some
 8
 9
     questions pertaining to your responses.
10
          Α
               Okay.
11
               Is it true that you consider the long-term
12
     average value to be the appropriate estimate of the
13
     energy value to use in the Company's economic
14
     analysis?
15
                     We have used the full output history
          Α
               Yes.
     of these facilities as our baseline assumption for
16
     generation.
17
               Have you done other estimates regarding
18
     uncertainty? So apparently, a P-10 value means that
19
     the value will be met or exceeded 10 percent of the
20
21
     time. Have you done any analysis of the range of
22
     uncertainty on the annual production, such as
     estimating the P10, the P50, and the P90 values?
23
24
          Α
               No, we have not. That's an analysis you
25
     do for wind modeling for resources that you're
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Page 111 1 planning to construct, not resources that you have 2 actually operational data from. 3 Q But despite the fact you have some 4 operational data, you're putting new equipment in; is that right? 5 6 Α Correct. 7 0 If we turn now to your chart, your Table 2, which is at line 421 at the bottom of that 8 9 page. 10 Okay. 11 Do you agree that the chart shows an 12 asymmetry of outcomes, some are higher, some are 13 lower? 14 I agree that it shows variability in wind production and estimates. 15 Given that for 2015, the value is 16 0 12.6 percent lower, do you have an estimate of what 17 the lower bound value might be? 18 No, I do not. I believe that was provided 19 in discovery for each year of that four-year period, 20 21 but I don't have it in front of me. 22 Do you agree that the economics of the 23 project are particularly sensitive to production levels in the first ten years, which is the PTC 24 period? 25

	Daga 110
1	Page 112 A I actually don't, because the PTC is
2	earned on the entire output of the facility, you
3	know, the actual energy production increase. You're
4	earning the full PTC on the entire output, and so
5	the production increase is actually a relatively
6	small increment of the economic return of the entire
7	project.
8	Q What happens, however, if the PTC output
9	for the whole project is lower than or the
10	production of the project is lower than anticipated?
11	Won't the PTC values be less?
12	A Yes. The benefits from the PTC will be
13	less.
14	Q For my hypothetical, do you know how much
15	less the PTC benefits would be reduced if there were
16	a 10 percent drop?
17	A I do not.
18	Q And I don't know if this number is
19	confidential or not. Can you give me just one
20	second?
21	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Yes.
22	BY MS. SCHMID:
23	Q Since the number I want to use is
24	confidential, can I just say that would you accept,
25	subject to check, it could be a significant drop?

Page 113 1 Α No. 2 Q Okay. We'll leave that. You offer reasons why the Company didn't offer an analysis, 3 4 prepare an analysis, of a plan to do repowering only on -- I'm going to call them the problematic 5 turbines -- the turbines that are likely to have 6 failed components. And I'm referring to your 7 testimony at lines 435 through 467, and this is also 8 9 your supplemental rebuttal testimony. I'll give you 10 a chance to get there. 11 Α Okay. 12 0 Some of this is confidential, so I will 13 steer away from that. For example, one of the issues is confidential. And so it's number three, 14 15 which is not a confidential thing, so I'm going to refer to it as the third issue. So is it true 16 that -- are the Glenrock I and III and the Rolling 17 Hills facilities each going to be completely 18 19 repowered? 2.0 There are 32 turbines that will not Α No. 21 be repowered at those facilities. 22 In your testimony at lines -- around 435 to 467, you say that -- and if I read this 23 correctly, it's on line 439 -- "The analysis that 24 25 Mr. Peaco suggests presents many challenges as it

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Page 114
 1
     would be inconsistent with negotiated contracts with
 2
     turbine suppliers to repower all turbines at its
     facilities that can be repowered and qualify for
 3
 4
     PTCs."
 5
               Yes, I see that.
 6
          0
               Then you say that repowering certain
     turbines but not others would implicate the service
 7
 8
     and maintenance agreements. Is that a fair
 9
     representation of your testimony on 442 to 444?
10
          Α
               Yes.
11
               So how -- with regard to the Glenrock I
12
     and III and Rolling Hills facilities, how did you
13
     address the issues that you state here? And in your
     testimony, you list five, the third of which is
14
     confidential.
15
16
               So you want me to go through each of those
          Α
     five?
17
               If you could.
18
          Q
               Sure. So the first issue relates to
19
2.0
     pricing, essentially, for the amount of turbines
21
     that we have proposed to repower and so that -- from
2.2
     the get-go, once we had identified through our
23
     evaluation analysis that we wouldn't be repowering
     those 32 turbines, that's a negotiated element of
24
25
     part of our GE master retrofit contract, so they're
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1 aware of that. That's also included into our

- 2 service and maintenance agreement with them, that
- 3 they will maintain as well, the existing turbines
- 4 that won't be repowered, and they will provide the
- 5 same exact availability guarantees for those
- 6 turbines as the remainder of the new turbines. So
- 7 that's the first two.
- 8 The third, I'll just say that that issue
- 9 can be resolved -- given that General Electric would
- 10 be working on all those turbines -- that that's not
- 11 an issue for them since it's a GE turbine facility
- 12 that we repower with GE turbines.
- 13 Fourth, regarding the land rights issue,
- 14 the Company owns the Glenrock/Rolling Hills project
- 15 sites, so land rights are not an issue for that
- 16 facility.
- 17 And then, fifth, that's not really an
- 18 issue that's resolved in terms of -- that would
- 19 still be an issue in this case because if we were
- 20 to -- our economic analysis just assumes that those
- 21 32 turbines that won't be repowered falls away and
- 22 so we don't have any -- because we own the land
- 23 there, we don't have any land lease issues and we
- 24 also don't really have any issues in terms of
- 25 needing to use that site later on and finding a new

Page 116 way to repower those 32 turbines in the year 2038. 1 2 Since you were able to resolve these 3 issues for this subset of projects, why couldn't you 4 have resolved these issues with regard to the other Why did you have to do -- let me 5 projects? rephrase. Why couldn't you have resolved these 6 issues the same in the other contracts? 7 Well, I guess I would explain it that my 8 Α 9 testimony doesn't say that they are unresolved. 10 simply saying that they have been resolved, where 11 this is an issue at the one project site where we 12 are not repowering all turbines. For others project 13 sites, we are not repowering turbines with the same manufacturer, and so that creates an issue in terms 14 of control of that project. And we also have not 15 entered into discussions with landowners about 16 potentially retiring turbines. We're not impacting 17 the land leases in a way that would substantially 18 drop off production from their land as we retire 19 2.0 turbines earlier than others. 21 MS. SCHMID: Thank you. Those are 2.2 all my questions. 23 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. 24 Mr. Snarr or Mr. Moore? 25 We have just a few MR. SNARR: Yes.

Page 117 1 questions. 2 CROSS-EXAMINATION 3 BY MR. SNARR: 4 Mr. Hemstreet, in your April 2018 testimony, back to line 14, you indicate the 5 6 Company's cost and performance estimates have become more certain, resulting in decreasing risk; is that 7 8 correct? 9 Correct. And in the following line, you also state 10 11 that the cost estimates are largely fixed. What do 12 you mean by largely fixed? 13 I mean that for the GE -- for the turbines 14 that will be repowered by GE, we have a turnkey contract that essentially sets the price, and we 15 16 don't have any uncertainty about construction delays or other -- I guess to say, if they're doing the 17 18 whole project at a fixed price, and so we have very 19 known costs, and because these projects -- as well 20 as the Vestas projects because, say, 80, 21 86 percent -- some range of 80 percent or higher --2.2 of these project costs really relate to the turbine 23 supply, bringing the turbines to the site, and that's the bulk of the cost. The installation cost 24 is much less in the project than just the actual 25

Page 118 1 Those equipment prices are now fixed, equipment. 2 and so we have great certainty about the majority of 3 the costs of these projects. 4 You talked about the mitigation of risks related to construction delays and any concerns 5 that might compromise the production tax credits 6 eligibility. I believe that's referenced in lines 7 15 and 16. Do you have any provisions in your 8 9 contract that provide some recompense for the 10 failure to get the project completed timely, and the 11 failure being, the inability of the Company to take 12 any of the production tax credits? 13 In our GE contract, we have -- we have a guarantee that these projects will be brought online 14 by the end of December 2020, or any turbine not 15 brought online by that deadline will essentially be 16 repowered for free. 17 18 Do you view that as an appropriate offset -- or is it a comparable offset to what the 19 costs would be and the production tax credits might 20 21 be if it were brought online timely? 2.2 I think that's -- it may even be -- well, 23 I don't want to overstate. I don't want to -- this is not a confidential discussion, so I would just 24 say, I think that very fairly reflects the loss of 25

1	production tax credits because in that instance, the
2	Company, its customers, would have received a
3	repowered turbine that will last ten years longer
4	and produce, say, 22 percent more energy, and all
5	that will be offered, essentially, for free. From
6	General Electric, there would still be costs on the
7	Company's side of implementing the cost of that
8	turbine retrofit.
9	Q Do you have similar and are there
10	similar guarantees or protections with the Vestas
11	contracts?
12	A No, there are not.
13	Q And isn't it true that both for the GE
14	activities that are required, as well as the Vestas
15	activities that are required to accomplish the
16	repowering, that there may be a whole host of other
17	contracts dealing with other contractors to
18	accomplish the task?
19	A Well, there's really just for each project
20	one other for the Vestas projects, there will be
21	Vestas and then there will be for turbine supply,
22	and then there will be, essentially, one major
23	contractor for installation. There will be other
24	project management personnel that the Company will
25	hire, engineering oversight, but the major for

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Page 120
 1
     GE, really, one contractor, GE for Vestas as well as
 2
     an installation contractor.
               So with respect to the GE contract, if the
 3
          Q
 4
     repowering wasn't accomplished timely, basically it
     would be zero cost to you and then that would be
 5
     zero cost flowing through to the customers; is that
 6
 7
     right?
               I believe so. Still, I would say we will
 8
 9
     have management costs, project management costs,
     related to oversight of getting a turbine repowered.
10
11
     So that would -- those costs, I'm sure we would seek
12
     to bring into rates, but also remember in addition
13
     to that contractual provision from GE, the Company
     has also guaranteed PTC qualification for all of
14
     these turbines. And so whether it be contractual
15
16
     mitigation through the GE contract or just the
17
     Company's assumption of that risk, the customers
18
     would be held harmless for that failure to qualify
19
     for PTCs.
20
               But the way in which that would be
21
     implemented would be to -- basically, you're selling
22
     this project based upon the idea that we have
     certain costs and we have a certain number of PTCs
23
     to offset that cost. So if there's a failure of
24
     meeting a deadline to acquire the PTCs, then are you
25
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- 1 suggesting, basically, the guarantee that the
- 2 Company is providing that no cost associated with
- 3 any of those repowered facilities might come on too
- 4 late to acquire PTCs, that basically there will be
- 5 no cost flow through to the customers with respect
- 6 to those specific facilities; is that right?
- 7 A I don't think that's the nature of the
- 8 guarantee. I think the guarantee of the Company is
- 9 guaranteed PTC qualification so you know, there
- 10 would be project management costs of bringing that
- 11 turbine online. So let's say, as a hypothetical, a
- 12 turbine was brought online on January 2nd and didn't
- 13 qualify for PTCs. I think we would treat that
- 14 turbine -- there would be costs of that
- 15 installation. The Company would assign its normal
- 16 project management cost allocation to bringing that
- 17 turbine online, but you know, presumably, the PTC
- 18 value would be imputed in our rates because the
- 19 Company would have assumed that risk and of course,
- 20 the GE contract provides for that to be reimbursed
- 21 to the Company, or the value of that to be -- that
- 22 turbine would be repowered for free. So exactly how
- 23 that would show up in rates, I would refer to
- 24 Ms. Steward. But essentially, it would be -- it's a
- 25 zero-risk proposition for the Company and the

- 1 customers.
- 2 Q And because you said zero risk, I'm going
- 3 to pursue this a little bit further. You could
- 4 accomplish that zero risk for the ratepayers by not
- 5 charging anything for the repowered facility that
- 6 might not acquire the PTCs. Or alternatively,
- 7 couldn't you accomplish that by charging for the
- 8 costs that you've incurred, but then imputing the
- 9 full value of PTCs, which basically the Company
- 10 would eat if they weren't actually being able to
- 11 take that under the IRS code?
- MR. LOWNEY: Objection. I believe
- 13 Mr. Hemstreet indicated that the ratemaking
- 14 consequence of the Company's quarantee is better
- 15 addressed by Ms. Steward, who is our witness on
- 16 regulatory policy issues and ratemaking issues. So
- 17 I believe these question would be better directed to
- 18 Ms. Steward who is available and will testify
- 19 shortly.
- 20 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Mr. Snarr, do
- 21 you want to respond to the objection?
- MR. SNARR: I'll wait and we'll
- 23 consider pursuing the issue with Ms. Steward.
- 24 BY MR. SNARR:
- 25 O You do talk about risks associated with

Page 123 the repowering projects, do you not? 1 2. Α I do. I want to focus just a minute about the 3 0 4 risks of cost overruns. Do such risks exist? I think such risks always exist in any 5 type of project. I think we've really mitigated the 6 risks of that with our fixed price contracts that 7 8 we've negotiated. 9 Now, you've mitigated them, but to the 10 extent that construction costs still could rise, 11 that risk is an element in connection with pursuing 12 this project; is that right? 13 Yes, it is. And aren't there also risks associated 14 with this project, associated to the ultimate 15 performance, even if that's dependent somewhat on 16 wind on a given day? 17 18 I'm sorry. I want to correct my last 19 response. I would say the construction costs 2.0 related to the Vestas turbines, those are still 21 subject to change as we complete the negotiations 2.2 for the GE projects, which are two thirds of these 23 projects. Those costs are fixed. I appreciate that clarification. With 24 respect to the risk of whether these completed 25

Page 124 projects will actually perform to bring on the 1 2 energy that has been projected, how have you 3 addressed that in any of the contracts? 4 The contracts have standard performance 5 quarantees in terms of the power curve that's represented, so the manufacturers essentially 6 guarantee that -- have a warranty provided for the 7 8 power curve, meaning that the amount of energy that you expect to get -- you know, that they're not 9 10 misrepresenting the amount of energy that you would 11 anticipate getting from the installation of these 12 turbines. So a standard provision of every turbine 13 supply contract I've ever seen is a power curve 14 quarantee. So that's -- we have the ability to hold them to that guarantee contractually. And so if we 15 see production being less than we think it ought to 16 be, or if we have a suspicion that they've 17 18 overrepresented what these turbines can do, we can 19 initiate a test that would allow us to verify that the production from a nominated turbine is --20 21 matches their power curve. 22 Hypothetically, if you did one of those 23 tests and you were able to verify that the energy being produced from a particular turbine after 24

25

repowering is coming in at, let's say, 93 percent of

- 1 what the guarantee was or the production curve was,
- 2 what would the remedy be and how will that be
- 3 provided to the Company?
- 4 A There are liquidated damage provisions in
- 5 the turbine supply contract that say, you know, for
- 6 each incremental percent off that they are, they
- 7 will pay liquidated damages for that amount and
- 8 that's supposed to represent, essentially, the lost
- 9 energy that you're not achieving by having a
- 10 deviation from that power curve.
- 11 Q And I'm curious, then, as to how those
- 12 liquidated damages -- in the event that something
- 13 happened that would require the payment of
- 14 liquidated damages -- how that would provide any
- 15 kind of compensation or benefit to the ratepayers
- 16 who would be otherwise sitting there without the
- 17 promise to energy that has been projected in this
- 18 docket.
- 19 A Well, again, those liquidated damages are
- 20 intended to reflect, you know, the economic harm
- 21 that that would cause and so again, how that would
- 22 be passed to customers, I would refer to Ms. Steward
- 23 about that.
- Q With respect to the possibility of cost
- 25 overruns, or even the possibility of lack of full

1	production of the energy that is projected two
2	risks that we've just talked about isn't it true
3	that this Commission could require the Company to
4	meet certain conditions or provide certain
5	recompense in order to ensure that the customer
6	might be protected, based upon the suggested
7	guarantees the Company is making?
8	A I would really have to defer that also to
9	Ms. Steward in terms of the regulatory authority of
10	the Commission to impose certain conditions on the
11	performance of a project.
12	MR. SNARR: I have no further
13	questions.
14	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Why don't we go
15	ahead and take a break, and we'll continue at
16	1:00 with Mr. Russell's examination of
17	Mr. Hemstreet. Thank you. We're in recess.
18	(A recess was taken.)
19	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: We will continue
20	with Mr. Hemstreet's testimony. You're still under
21	oath from this morning, and we'll go next to
22	Mr. Russell, if you have any cross-examination.
23	MR. RUSSELL: Thank you,
24	Mr. Chairman.
25	CROSS-EXAMINATION

Page 127 BY MR. RUSSELL: 1 2 Q Mr. Hemstreet, I wanted to follow up on some questions that you had discussed with Mr. Snarr 3 4 related to the fixed price contracts, the GE contracts. You indicated that they are fixed price 5 contracts, and I'm curious whether there is any 6 opportunity for that fixed price to change as a 7 result of a work order, or a change order, or some 8 other similar mechanism? 9 10 I think the opportunity for change orders is very limited. I'd have to go back and review all 11 12 the contract provisions about change orders, but 13 they have assessed the sites, they've visited these 14 sites, and they've maintained these sites, and so they really know what they're getting into. 15 16 really did our best to eliminate any opportunity for changes. There are, of course, force majeure 17 18 provisions and standard contractual provisions 19 around changing law and other things like that that 20 could impact the overall price of the contract, but 21 it's really pretty locked down in terms of its 22 price. 23 In your summary, you indicated that -- and if I'm wrong about this, please correct me -- I 24

believe you indicated that 11 of the 12 facilities,

25

Page 128 you've received full permitting for. 1 Is that 2 consistent with what you said this morning? 3 А Yes. 4 Tell me about the 12th one. facility do you not have full permits for? 5 6 Α That's the Leaning Juniper facility, and I think we'll receive that approval in the next week 7 8 or so. 9 What permits are you waiting on? 10 That is a conditional use permit from the county, and in the state of the Oregon, that's what 11 12 governs our facilities. 13 Thank you. When the Company filed its direct testimony, it provided its economic case for 14 this project based on certain rotors or blades. 15 And I gather that over the course of this case, the 16 rotors or blades that you intend to use has changed; 17 18 is that right? 19 That's consistent with my testimony. 20 Can you explain what that change has been 0 21 and what the intention is now with respect to which 22 rotors and blades you intend to use? 23 Over the course of the case, we did make a change in October in rebuttal testimony. 24 25 able to prove out a new rotor diameter, a 91-meter

1	Page 129 rotor instead of an 87-meter rotor, that that would
2	technically work for our facilities. And so that
3	was the change that was reflected in our cost and
4	performance update back in October.
5	Q And will all of the repowered wind
6	facilities receive that new I think you said
7	91-meter blade?
8	A In Wyoming, yes.
9	Q But not in Washington and Oregon?
10	A No. Those are Vestas projects with
11	different equipment supply.
12	Q Okay. Thanks for that clarification. You
13	also indicated, I think, in your testimony and in
14	your summary, that certain of the facilities
15	required some work to be done, I think, on the
16	foundations, but it may have been something else.
17	Can you expound on that a little bit?
18	A Yes. So the foundations for the Leaning
19	Juniper and the Goodnoe Hills facility, those needed
20	standard retrofits, essentially, to strengthen the
21	foundations so that they will meet current code
22	related to the loads that they're subjected to.
23	Q And with those changes in foundation, will
24	the Leaning Juniper and Goodnoe Hills be able to
25	utilize the new blade technology? I understand that

1	those are in Oregon, I think, and so they're not the
2	GE blades, but will they be able to utilize new or
3	more economical blades?
4	A Those foundation retrofits are consistent
5	with the blade specification that we have for those
6	projects as reflected in the Company's economic
7	analysis.
8	Q There was also some discussion in your
9	testimony about new interconnection agreements for
10	the Marengo I and II facilities. Do you recall
11	that?
12	A I do.
13	Q Okay. And can you tell me what the status
14	of that is?
15	A We have been issued a new, large
16	generation interconnection agreement for the
17	Marengo I and II facility that allows us to add that
18	additional capacity to the transmission system.
19	MR. RUSSELL: Okay. That was all I
20	had.
21	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Mr. Lowney, do
22	you have any redirect?
23	MR. LOWNEY: Yes, I do. Just a few
24	questions.
25	REDIRECT EXAMINATION

- 1 BY MR. LOWNEY:
- 2 Q Mr. Hemstreet, do you recall when you were
- 3 being asked by Ms. Schmid some questions about how
- 4 the Company has used its historical data to forecast
- 5 the energy production you expect to experience once
- 6 these projects are repowered? Do you recall those
- 7 questions?
- 8 A I recall general questions, but not
- 9 specific ones.
- 10 Q I'll ask you a more specific one.
- 11 Ms. Schmid asked you a question about whether or not
- 12 the historical data that was used can be applied to
- 13 the new technology and the new turbines that are
- 14 being applied. And I'd like to clarify for the
- 15 record, is it your testimony that that historical
- 16 data is valid on a reasonable basis to forecast --
- 17 A I do recall. I think the question was
- 18 about whether or not -- because the new turbines are
- 19 a different equipment type, whether using historical
- 20 generation data from our old equipment was relevant
- 21 to assessing the generation from the new equipment.
- 22 And so to clarify what was done, essentially, that
- 23 generation history tells us that, given the turbine
- 24 specifications and the power curve for the old
- 25 equipment and knowing that, at a moment in time,

1 that equipment was able to generate this amount of 2 energy, that equates, essentially, to a wind speed. 3 And so we can use that wind speed that we infer from 4 the generation output to use to apply to the new power curve. And so it's really just a change in 5 6 the equipment specifications that allows us to use that history to tell us what the winds were, and 7 8 then apply the new power curve to those winds to 9 generate our generation estimates. Mr. Hemstreet, you were also asked a 10 11 question about, sort of, the consequence of a 12 10 percent decrease in the forecasted energy 13 production that's assumed as a result of repowering. 14 Do you recall that question? I do. 15 Α 16 And in your professional judgment, do you believe there's a material risk in this case that 17 18 your energy productions are going to be off by 19 10 percent? 2.0 No, I don't. For our energy production to 21 be that low, that would essentially assume that our 22 energy production increases are overstated by about 23 125 percent. And so nobody, I think, has alleged 24 that there's any errors in what we've done in terms 25 of assessing the energy production. So for us to be

Page 133 that far off of our estimates, we'd really have to 1 2 be -- I can't possibly imagine how that would come 3 into place. 4 Mr. Hemstreet, you were also asked some questions about the feasibility of doing a more 5 detailed turbine-by-turbine economic analysis, as 6 was discussed in Mr. Peaco's testimony. Do you 7 recall some of those questions? 8 T do. 9 Now, when you responded to Mr. Peaco's 10 11 analysis on these issues, did he demonstrate that even the lower economic -- even the turbines that 12 13 have a lower economic value would be uneconomic to 14 repower? 15 His analysis simply showed that it Α 16 would be more economic to repower turbines that you knew you already had to spend capital to address 17 18 impacted equipment. And so his analysis didn't show 19 that it was not economic to repower all of the 20 turbines, just that it's relatively more economic to 21 repower those that you know you're going to have to 22 spend additional money on to keep running. 23 I think I have one more question. were asked, I believe by Counsel for the Office, 24 25 about the differences between the Vestas and GE

Page 134 contracts in terms of the schedule quarantee 1 2 provision. Do you recall those questions? 3 А I do. 4 And I believe you testified that the Vestas contracts do not have the same schedule 5 guarantees that exist in the GE contracts; is that 6 7 correct? 8 Α Correct. 9 And despite the fact that they don't have 10 the same guarantees, has the Company taken other 11 steps to ensure, to the best of its ability, that 12 those projects will be online by the end of 2020? 13 Yes. Although our installation contracts 14 will have liquidated damages for scheduled delays, but also all of the Vestas turbines are planned to 15 be installed in 2019, so a full year ahead of the 16 deadline for achieving PTC qualification. 17 18 MR. LOWNEY: Thank you. I have no 19 further questions. 2.0 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. 21 Ms. Schmid, do you have any recross? 2.2 MS. SCHMID: Can I have just one 23 moment? 24 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Certainly. Ιf you'd like, I can go to Mr. Snarr first and see if 25

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 1
     he has any recross.
 2
                    MS. SCHMID: That would be
 3
     delightful. Thank you.
 4
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
                                          Okav.
 5
     Mr. Snarr?
 6
                    MR. SNARR: We have nothing further.
 7
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
                                          Okay.
                                                 Then you
 8
     can have a moment.
 9
                    MS. SCHMID: I do have just a bit of
     recross if now is appropriate.
10
11
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Yes.
12
                    RECROSS EXAMINATION
13
     BY MS. SCHMID:
               In your redirect, you talked about using
14
     performance of -- I'm going to call it the initial
15
16
     equipment -- and taking that sort of data and using
     it to help project output and other things
17
     associated with the replaced equipment; is that
18
19
     correct?
2.0
          Α
               Correct.
21
               When you did that, did you also take into
22
     effect the rate of outages and other things that
23
     caused the old equipment to produce less than
     anticipated and apply that sort of analogy or data
24
25
     to the new turbines?
```

Page 136 So essentially, we took our 1 We did. Α 2 entire data history that had outages for 3 curtailments, any offline turbines for maintenance, 4 and just essentially ran that new power curve through all of that data, you know, at the wind 5 speed. So if the turbine wasn't operating because 6 it was down, then we did not assess a performance 7 increase at that moment in time. So essentially, 8 all of that downtime was baked into that four years 9 of data, so the estimates really reflect the 10 existing outage history that happened in those 11 12 years. Those performance estimate increases were 13 then applied to our entire generation baseline history from these projects, which includes all of 14 15 that outage time, all of those curtailments or transmission outages as well. So does that answer 16 your question? 17 18 0 That does. And I have just one, perhaps 19 two more. 2.0 I guess I would clarify also, we did 21 not -- our performance -- our service and 22 maintenance agreements have higher availability 23 quarantees than that historic generation baseline, and so because of that, the estimate is essentially 24 25 conservative because we anticipate that we will get

Page 137 more generation than our historic baseline under 1 2 which we operated in our service agreements that had 3 lower availability quarantees, but we did not take 4 that into account. MS. SCHMID: And I don't have 5 6 anything else. Thank you. 7 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you, 8 Ms. Schmid. Mr. Russell, do you have any recross for Mr. Hemstreet? 9 10 MR. RUSSELL: I do not. 11 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. 12 Commissioner Clark, do you have any questions? 13 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Thank you, yes. 14 BY COMMISSIONER CLARK: 15 Good afternoon, Mr. Hemstreet. Regarding 0 recent FERC orders on -- or requiring certain 16 inertial capabilities, or that new wind turbines 17 have certain inertial-providing capabilities, you're 18 aware of those? I think it's FERC order 842. 19 2.0 Generally, I'm aware of them, yes. 21 And the equipment that we're addressing, 22 would it meet those capabilities or any issue about 23 additional costs that would be necessary to meet those new requirements? 24 25 My understanding is that those Α

Page 138 1 requirements apply to new installations and 2 essentially, old projects are grandfathered so those 3 inertial requirements aren't applicable to existing 4 facilities. But the turbines we're installing will meet those new standards and provide that additional 5 support. And I should clarify, I'm certain of that 6 in Wyoming; I'm less certain about the turbines that 7 we'll install in Washington because I haven't looked 8 9 at that issue specifically. But I would imagine that because this is a new FERC requirement, that 10 11 all turbines manufactured and installed by the 12 manufacturers will be meeting these new 13 requirements. Your direct testimony addressed wind 14 inertia control, I think was one of the -- and wind 15 16 free reactive power control features. Those are the kinds of things that -- at least relative to the GE 17 turbines -- would satisfy these new requirements. 18 19 Am I right about that? 2.0 А Correct. 21 Okay. As you I'm sure are aware, if we 22 approve some or all of the application, we have to 23 make findings as to approve project costs. And I'm interested in your view as to whether or not we have 24 25 in the record, the cost information that we would

Page 139 1 need if we were going to choose among the projects 2 that have been proposed and not select all of them, 3 or not approve all of them. And I have particularly 4 in mind, the master agreement that -- there are umbrella agreements that address the turbines in 5 So do we have those numbers? Do they 6 question. change if some are -- if some projects are selected 7 and not others? 8 I think we would have to pursue into the 9 GE master retrofit contract, which kind of 10 11 anticipates repowering all of those projects. 12 would want to go back and confirm with GE that that 13 price was still valid. So I quess there would be an 14 opportunity there to see if that changed their 15 efficiencies. It's a large contract, obviously, in terms of the number of turbines that are being 16 repowered, so if there were fewer, then I'd have to 17 go back and check to see whether that would allow 18 19 them to reopen that. 20 But as you understand the contract terms 21 as they currently exist, at least, don't accommodate 22 that kind of adjustment? 23 No, they don't. I think the contract was 24 essentially also built to allow -- essentially, if 25 regulatory approval didn't happen for a certain

Page 140 1 project, then there's no automatic adjustment to the 2 contract price. 3 0 And what would be the best information in 4 the Company's presentation that we would look to to identify the unit-by-unit cost? 5 I think in our February 1st filing that 6 Α had a unit-by-unit project cost estimate, that all 7 added up to our 1.1 billion estimate. 8 9 Now is your chance to point to any specific exhibits so we don't get confused. And 10 11 maybe you should do that. 12 Α Yes. So in the supplemental filing, this 13 is my Exhibit TJH-1SD, page 1 of 3. And it's the end of the base case repowering scenario. There's a 14 capital cost column --15 16 Q Right. 17 -- that adds up to our \$1.1 billion estimate. 18 19 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Thanks very 2.0 much. That concludes my questions. 21 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. 2.2 Commissioner White? 23 BY COMMISSIONER WHITE: 24 I'd like to follow up on that question of 0 the wind inertia. In your direct testimony, you 25

- 1 mention that the benefits of having not been
- 2 quantified in terms of the current economics of the
- 3 project, but they are an ongoing study; is that
- 4 correct?
- 5 A We had hoped that during the pendency of
- 6 this case, that we could get an analysis from our
- 7 transmission provider, PacifiCorp Transmission,
- 8 about the benefits and how those features offset
- 9 other reliability needs that would happen in
- 10 Wyoming. Unfortunately, we were unable to get that
- 11 study completed. I understand that study may be
- 12 part of a larger study that's kind of outside of
- 13 the -- essentially not a request a transmission
- 14 customer can simply make. So we took that,
- 15 essentially, out of the case, and the benefits
- 16 aren't reflected for that equipment, but the -- it
- 17 will be provided as far as this project, but we
- 18 haven't been able to assess what those benefits are.
- 19 Q But at some point, we may be able to see
- 20 the potential --
- 21 A I would hope that at some point, we can
- 22 get a transmission study that would reflect, you
- 23 know, here's what the cost would be if we didn't
- 24 have these features, and here's what the cost would
- 25 be if we can't. But I'm not a transmission planner,

Page 142 1 I don't run that part of our business, so I don't 2 know if that will be able to be provided. And then, just -- I was a bit intrigued by 3 Q 4 that contract provision that essentially, you know -- if construction schedules are not met by the 5 GE contract, that they will essentially do the 6 repower for free. Without disclosing any 7 confidential provisions in the contract, what is 8 9 that -- can you give me a ballpark number of what that amount per turbine is, or is that confidential? 10 11 I'm trying to understand what the magnitude of what 12 the potential hit would be if that date was not met. 13 I'm afraid that's confidential, the 14 turbine price. 15 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Okay. That's 16 all the questions I have. BY COMMISSIONER LEVAR: 17 18 Thank you. I just have one question. 19 your supplemental direct, you make a reference to the current timeline for completing everything 20 21 except Dunlap in 2019, you make a reference to, 22 "based on the anticipated timing of the Commission's 23 order in this docket." What anticipated timing were you using? Is there some point at which -- if we 24

25

haven't issued an order by some point -- that starts

Page 143 to affect the completion dates? 1 2 We really are planning on a June 1st 3 decision, and we're lining up all of our contracts 4 to be able to be executed immediately upon the Commission's order in this case so that we can get 5 those contracts going and get the work done this 6 year that we need to do, and get turbine suppliers, 7 manufacturing equipment, for these projects. 8 9 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. 10 appreciate that. Thank you for your testimony 11 today. And I'll go to Ms. Schmid. I don't think 12 we're at the point where we need to change the order 13 of the witnesses to accommodate Mr. Thompson. get into another hour or two and it looks like we 14 might need to, we'll reassess, but I think at this 15 point we should continue with the Utility's 16 17 witnesses. So either Ms. McDowell or Mr. Lowney? Thank you. Rocky 18 MR. LOWNEY: Mountain Power's next witness is Ms. Joelle Steward. 19 2.0 I'm sorry, Nikki Kobliha. NIKKI L. KOBLIHA, 21

- 2.2 having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, was
- examined and testified as follows: 23
- 24 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 25 BY MR. LOWNEY:

Page 144  Q Good afternoon, Ms. Kobliha. Could you  please state and spell your name for the record?  A Nikki, N-i-k-k-i, K-o-b-l-i-h-a.  Q And how are you employed?  A I am the vice president, chief financial officer and treasurer of PacifiCorp.  Q In that capacity, did you file testimony in this case, and that testimony would be your rebuttal testimony, surrebuttal testimony, and supplemental direct testimony?  A Yes, I did.  Q And do you have any corrections to that testimony today?  A No, I do not.  Q So if I asked you the same questions, your answers would be the same?  A Yes, they would.  MR. LOWNEY: I'd like to move for the admission of Ms. Kobliha's rebuttal, surrebuttal, and direct testimony into the record.  COMMISSIONER LEVAR: If any party
A Nikki, N-i-k-k-i, K-o-b-l-i-h-a.  Q And how are you employed?  A I am the vice president, chief financial officer and treasurer of Pacificorp.  Q In that capacity, did you file testimony in this case, and that testimony would be your rebuttal testimony, surrebuttal testimony, and supplemental direct testimony?  A Yes, I did.  Q And do you have any corrections to that testimony today?  A No, I do not.  Q So if I asked you the same questions, your answers would be the same?  A Yes, they would.  MR. LOWNEY: I'd like to move for the admission of Ms. Kobliha's rebuttal, surrebuttal, and direct testimony into the record.
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20 and direct testimony into the record.
-
21 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: If any party
22 objects to that, please indicate to me. I'm not
23 seeing any objections, so the motion is granted.
24 BY MR. LOWNEY:

Page 145 your testimony for the Commission today? 1 2 Yes, I did. Please go ahead and provide that 3 0 4 testimony. Good afternoon, Commissioners. 5 6 appreciate the opportunity to be here today to discuss my testimony with you. 7 In my testimony, I discuss the relevant 8 9 provisions of the federal tax code that Company relies on to obtain benefits of the federal wind 10 11 production credits, or PTCs, which provide 12 significant value to the repowering project. 13 outline relevant provisions of the federal income 14 tax reform enacted in December of 2017, and confirm that there are no changes to federal income tax law 15 16 on PTCs. 17 The Internal Revenue Code provides that a 18 wind facility can generate a PTC equal to an inflation adjusted 1.5 cents per kilowatt hour of 19 2.0 electricity that is produced and sold to a 21 third-party for a period of ten years, beginning on 22 the date the facility is placed in service. 23 however, are being phased out. A wind facility is eligible for 100 percent of the PTC only if it began 24 construction before January 1, 2017. A taxpayer can 25

Page 146 1 demonstrate that construction began by incurring 2 five percent or more of the eventual total cost of 3 the wind facility. The Company relies on this 4 5 percent safe harbor method to demonstrate that construction of the repowering project began before 5 January 1st, 2017, and are therefore eligible for 6 100 percent of the PTC. 7 In addition to the 5 percent safe harbor 8 9 requirement, the wind facility must satisfy the 10 continuity of construction requirements. 11 Company intends to meet this requirement through the 12 four-year calendar safe harbor, which in our case 13 means that all facilities must be placed in service no later than December 31st, 2020, in order to 14 15 qualify for 100 percent of the PTCs. Repowered wind facilities also must meet 16 17 the IRS 80/20 test to qualify for the PTCs. The IRS 80/20 test says a repowered facility may qualify as 18 a new asset and originally placed in service for 19 20 purposes of starting a new 10-year PTC production 21 period, even if it contains some used property, 22 provided that the fair market value of the used 23 property is no more than 20 percent of the 24 facility's total value, which is defined as the cost 25 of the new property plus the value of the used

Page 147 1 property. 2 To minimize the risks associated with the 3 80/20 test, the Company engaged a third-party expert 4 firm to value the retained equipment. In December of 2017, Congress passed and the president signed 5 H.R.1, more commonly referred to as the Tax Act. 6 7 The passage of the Tax Act resulted in several 8 changes that impact the Company. Most notably, the 9 Tax Act lowered the federal statutory rate from 35 percent to 21 percent, and it modified the bonus 10 11 depreciation rules as it relates to regulated 12 utilities. The Tax Act, however, does not make any modifications to the federal income tax code or any 13 Internal Revenue Service quidance related to the 14 15 values of the PTCs, or the methods by which the 16 Company intends for repowering the projects to 17 qualify for 100 percent of the PTCs. The enactment of the Tax Act, therefore, 18 19 resolves the uncertainty that existed in late 2017, 2.0 because the impacts are now known and incorporated 21 into the Company's economic analysis. 2.2 concludes my summary. 23 MR. LOWNEY: Thank you. Ms. Kobliha is now available for cross-examination. 24 25 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.

1	Page 148 Ms. Tormoen Hickey, do you have any questions for
2	Ms. Kobliah?
3	MS. HICKEY: No, thank you, sir.
4	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: I'll go to
5	Ms. Schmid or Mr. Jetter.
6	MS. SCHMID: No questions from the
7	Division.
8	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Mr. Snarr or
9	Mr. Moore?
10	MR. SNARR: No questions from the
11	Office.
12	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Mr. Russell?
13	MR. RUSSELL: I have no questions
14	either, Mr. Chairman.
15	COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
16	Commissioner White?
17	COMMISSIONER WHITE: No questions.
18	COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
19	Commissioner Clark?
20	COMMISSIONER CLARK: No questions.
21	Thank you.
22	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: I don't have any
23	questions either, so thank you for your testimony.
24	Mr. Lowney.
25	MR. LOWNEY: Yes, thank you. I now
1	

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Page 149
     call Ms. Joelle Steward to the stand.
 1
                      JOELLE R. STEWARD,
 2
 3
     having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, was
 4
              examined and testified as follows:
                    DIRECT EXAMINATION
 5
     BY MR. LOWNEY:
 6
               Ms. Steward, can you please state and
 7
          0
     spell your name for the record?
 8
               My name is Joelle Steward, it's
 9
     J-o-e-l-l-e S-t-e-w-a-r-d.
10
11
               How are you employed?
          Q
12
          Α
               I am vice president of regulation for
13
     Rocky Mountain Power.
               In that capacity, have you adopted or
14
     filed prefiled testimony in this case?
15
16
               Yes, I have.
          Α
17
               And that testimony was the direct
     testimony, at the time, of Mr. Larsen. It was filed
18
     in June, the rebuttal testimony of Mr. Larsen you
19
     adopted filed in October, the supplemental direct
20
21
     testimony filed in February of this year, and the
22
     supplemental rebuttal testimony filed in April of
23
     this year; is that correct?
24
          Α
               Yes.
25
               And if I were to ask you the same
```

Page 150 questions that are included in this prefiled 1 2 testimony today, would your answers be the same? 3 Yes, they would be. Α 4 MR. LOWNEY: The Company would move 5 to admit Ms. Steward's testimony into the record. 6 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: If anyone objects to this motion, please indicate to me. 7 I'm 8 not seeing any objections, so the motion is granted. BY MR. LOWNEY: 9 And Ms. Steward, have you prepared a 10 Q 11 summary of your testimony for the Commission today? 12 Α Yes, I have. 13 Please proceed. 14 Good afternoon. My testimony explains the 15 Company's proposed ratemaking treatment for the costs and benefits of the repowering project, as 16 well as the proposed recovery for the original plant 17 that is being taken out of service. 18 For the new cost and benefits, the Company 19 20 proposes an interim mechanism, the Resource Tracking 21 Mechanism or RTM, to recover the costs and pass back 2.2 the full benefits of the project until the full costs and benefits are included in base rates. 23 RTM would work in conjunction with the Energy 24 25 Balancing Account, or EBA, to match recovery of

1	Page 151 costs for repowering with the benefits. The RTM
2	would include the capital costs of the projects and
3	the production tax credits. The EBA would include
4	100 percent of the incremental zero-cost energy from
5	the incremental generation from the projects.
6	Approval of the RTM is beneficial for a
7	couple of reasons. First, it matches costs with
8	benefits. Without the RTM or some other ratemaking
9	treatment, customers would begin receiving the
10	benefits from the incremental amount of generation
11	through the EBA without paying any of the costs
12	necessary to obtain those benefits.
13	Second, the RTM will allow the Company to
14	align several rate pressures into one general rate
15	case. Because the repowering projects go into
16	service across multiple years, the RTM will enable
17	the Company to bring all of the repowering
18	facilities as well as the new wind and transmission
19	resources in the 40 docket into base rates in one
20	rate case. This will help avoid the costs and
21	complexity of back-to-back rate cases. In addition
22	to aligning cost pressures into one rate case, the
23	RTM would provide a more timely pass-through of
24	benefits.
25	The Company has also proposed a cap on the

- 1 RTM so that it will not act as a customer surcharge,
- 2 thereby providing an asymmetrical customer benefit.
- 3 Following tax reform, however, the Company proposed
- 4 having the opportunity to defer costs over the cap
- 5 that are attributable to tax reform, with recovery
- 6 through an offset from the deferral of the tax
- 7 benefits. The parties criticized the Company for
- 8 what they consider a change in the Company's
- 9 proposal to remove the RTM's asymmetrical benefits.
- 10 However, we believe this characterization is
- 11 incorrect. First, the Company never committed to
- 12 absorb risk beyond its control, such as changes in
- 13 the tax law and instead, proposed to bring such
- 14 changes for review and consideration by the
- 15 Commission and parties, which is what we did in the
- 16 February filing following tax reform.
- 17 Second, the deferral would be related to
- 18 the change in the tax rate only. The Commission
- 19 would still absorb costs over the cap for any other
- 20 changes, and so it remains asymmetrical in the
- 21 customer's favor. The RTM would remain in effect
- 22 until the full, annualized cost and benefits of the
- 23 repowering project are included in base rates.
- 24 After that, the RTM would remain in effect simply as
- 25 a PTC tracking mechanism to ensure that customers

Page 153 receive a hundred percent of the PTC benefits 1 2 resulting from repowering. The RTM will not diminish the Company's 3 4 incentive to prudently manage the cost of repowering because all costs and our management of the projects 5 will always be subject to a prudence review before 6 7 inclusion in rates. Although the Company believes the RTM is 8 9 the best proposal to match costs and benefits, the Company is open to alternatives, such as the 10 11 deferral proposal raised by the DPU, provided that 12 the ratemaking appropriately matches costs and 13 benefits. 14 In addition to the RTM, the Company is 15 requesting ongoing recovery of the original plant in The economic analysis included recovery of 16 rates. this legacy plant in determining that repowering is 17 lower cost than other alternatives. As such, the 18 19 Company recommends these assets continue to be 20 recovered in rates, and further recommends that the 21 amortization period for these assets be addressed as 22 part of the next depreciation study, which we are 23 preparing for filing in September. 24 Several parties propose conditions that 25 they argue the Commission should apply if repowering

Page 154 1 is approved. These proposed conditions are 2 unprecedented and entirely unnecessary because they 3 are premised on two misconceptions. First, parties 4 claim that repowering is not a traditional utility investment because it is not tied to a need for 5 incremental energy. This premise is incorrect. 6 Repowering provides incremental energy that would 7 otherwise be purchased or generated and does so at a 8 9 Imposing onerous conditions on repowering would provide a powerful disincentive for 10 11 the Company to pursue economic opportunities for 12 customers in the future. 13 Second, parties claim that there is an uneven sharing of benefits between the Company and 14 This claim is also incorrect. The only 15 customers. 16 Company benefit is the recovery of its costs, 17 including its cost of capital. Customers benefit through the \$1.2 billion in PTCs generated by the 18 repowered facilities, as well as through lower net 19 20 Importantly, the fact that customers power costs. will receive net benefits indicates that the total 21 22 benefits received by customers is greater than the 23 costs recovered by the Company. There is no 24 inequity in this case. It's a balanced outcome for

both the Company and customers.

25

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Page 155
               In closing, we requested the Commission
 1
 2
     approve the RTM as an interim mechanism to provide a
 3
     matching of costs and benefits and recovery of the
 4
     replaced equipment through depreciation rates. That
     concludes my summary.
 5
                    MR. LOWNEY: Ms. Steward is available
 6
 7
     for cross-examination.
 8
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.
 9
     Ms. Tormoen Hickey, do you have any questions for
     Ms. Steward?
10
11
                    MS. HICKEY: No, thank you.
12
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR: We'll go to
13
     Mr. Snarr or Mr. Moore.
14
                    CROSS-EXAMINATION
     BY MR. MOORE:
15
16
               Ms. Steward, were you here in the room
          0
     when Mr. Hemstreet testified?
17
18
          Α
               Yes.
19
               Are you familiar with his testimony, his
     prefiled testimony?
20
21
          Α
               Yes.
22
               There were two questions that he sort of
23
     shifted to you. Why don't we go through those
     questions?
24
25
               Okay.
          Α
```

1	Page 156 Q In the event of a delay that would trigger
2	the mitigation measures the Company has received
3	from its contractors, how would such mitigation
4	measures provide rate relief to Utah ratepayers?
5	A I believe you're talking about the
6	liquidated damages?
7	Q That's one of them, yes. Why didn't we
8	address that one first?
9	A We would, based on what the what it was
10	that required the liquidated damages to be incurred
11	to the extent where we received the liquidated
12	damages, we would look at the appropriate accounting
13	treatment for those. And there are various ways
14	that those would flow back to customers. They could
15	probably flow back through the EBA I don't know
16	that we've done that in this state, we have done
17	that in other states where we've used the EBA it
18	could be a regulatory asset or a liability we get
19	those two mixed up, which way they go but they
20	would go back to customers to the extent that those
21	investments were in rates.
22	Q Would such mitigation measures provide the
23	same extent of ratepayer benefits the Company is
24	claiming in its filing if the project had been if
25	there were no violation of the contract and, for

Page 157 1 instance, if a contract was violated and you didn't 2 receive the PTCs, would the ratepayers receive the same benefits that they would if the contract was 3 4 actually completed on time and the PTC benefits were realized? 5 6 Α In terms of the liquidated damages in the contracts, I am not familiar with the specific terms 7 of those contracts, so I could not answer if there 8 9 is, like, a dollar-for-dollar treatment. 10 That question would have to go back to 11 Mr. Hemstreet. 12 0 He tossed it over to you. 13 The ratemaking treatment, but not the actual value of how those would be calculated 14 15 through the contract. 16 Has the Company not provided a witness Q that can answer the question about how liquidated 17 18 damages compare to the PTC benefits? 19 MR. LOWNEY: Objection. Ms. Steward 2.0 just indicated if the question is about the terms of 21 contract, Mr. Hemstreet is available to answer. 2.2 the question is about how the consequences of that 23 contract will flow through to customer rates, 24 Ms. Steward is the correct witness to answer that

question. We're happy to bring Mr. Hemstreet back

25

```
Page 158
 1
     up if the question is more properly directed toward
 2
     the terms of the contract.
 3
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR: I think I'm
 4
     going to sustain that objection. The question to
     Ms. Steward whether the Utility has provided a
 5
     witness to answer the question, I don't think is the
 6
     right question. To me, it's clear on which two
 7
     issues they can address. If there needs to be
 8
 9
     supplemental responses on the contract damages, I
10
     think we got some answers from Mr. Hemstreet
11
     earlier. But it seems to me Ms. Steward has been
12
     willing to answer the ratemaking result of those
13
     contractual provisions.
     BY MR. MOORE:
14
15
               Can we turn to your testimony now?
16
               Okay.
          Α
               Could you please turn to lines 125 through
17
     128 of your April 23rd, 2018, supplemental rebuttal
18
19
     testimony?
2.0
               Which lines again?
          Α
21
          0
               Lines 125 to 128.
2.2
          Α
               Okay.
23
          Q
               It provides Ms. Ramas requested that if
     approved, the Commission lock in Utah customers'
24
     allocation share of repowering investment, based on
25
```

Page 159 1 the Company's current interstate allocation method. 2 Then it cites Ms. Ramas at lines 303 to 337. the question was asked if this was reasonable, and 3 4 you responded no. Did I correctly state your 5 testimony? 6 Α Yes. 7 0 Also, at lines 132 and 134 of the same testimony, you stated, "In effect, Ms. Ramas is 8 9 recommending that the Commission predetermine the outcome of the current multi-state process." 10 11 this correct? 12 Α Yes. 13 Are you aware that after you filed your April 23rd testimony, the Office filed an errata 14 concerning portions of Ms. Ramas' testimony that you 15 reference in your April 23rd testimony?

17 Α Yes.

16

- In the context of the errata filing which 18 19 is consistent with the Office's position throughout this docket, is it clear to you that the Office is 20 21 proposing a cap only on the amount of costs that the 22 Commission pre-approves?
- 23 And I remember seeing Ms. Ramas' errata.
- 24 I cannot remember exactly which line it was that she
- 25 deleted.

```
Page 160
 1
          0
               Regardless of whether you're clear on the
 2
     Office's position, would you agree with me that
     capping the pre-approved costs does not limit the
 3
 4
     amount of costs the Company could request to recover
 5
     from customers?
 6
          Α
               Yes.
 7
               Isn't it true that capping the amount on
          Q
 8
     the pre-approval costs does not violate the 2017
 9
     protocol?
10
          Α
               I believe that's correct, yes.
11
               Now, let's turn back to lines 81 to 89 of
          Q
12
     your June 30, 2017, direct testimony that you
13
     adopted.
14
          Α
               I'm sorry. Which line again?
               81 to 89.
15
          Q
16
          Α
               Okay.
17
               The question was asked, "Under what
          Q
18
     authority is the Company proposing approval of
19
     ratemaking treatment for the wind powering
     projects?" The question was answered by referring
20
21
     to three statutes: Utah Code section 54-4-23,
22
     54-17-402, and 54-17-403; isn't that correct?
23
          Α
               Yes.
               Isn't it true that none of these statutes
24
          0
     have a provision like Section 54-7-13(4)(C) of the
25
```

```
Page 161
 1
     EBA statute which provides an energy balancing
 2
     account that is formed and maintained in accordance
     with this section, does not constitute impermissible
 3
 4
     retroactive ratemaking or single-issue ratemaking?
               I think we're going to have to piece
 5
 6
     through that one. I don't have that statute you
     just referenced in front of me.
 7
               May I give you my code book?
 8
 9
               It's okay with me.
10
                    MR. MOORE: May I approach?
11
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
                                         Yes.
12
                    THE WITNESS: Okay. If you could
13
     repeat --
     BY MR. MOORE:
14
               I direct you to 54-7-13.5.
15
          Q
16
               Okay.
          Α
17
               And subsection 4, subsection C.
     provides, "An energy balancing account that is
18
     formed and maintained in accordance with this
19
     section does not constitute retroactive ratemaking
20
21
     or single-issue ratemaking." Do you see that?
2.2
          Α
               Yes.
23
               Isn't it true that the statutes I
     referenced earlier do not provide a similar
24
     provision?
25
```

```
Page 162
 1
               They do not, but that doesn't mean that
          Α
 2
     it's not feasible.
               In fact, none of these statutes mention
 3
          Q
 4
     the RTM, do they?
 5
          Α
               No.
 6
          0
               Isn't it true that nowhere in your
     testimony do you make the contention that the RTM is
 7
     needed because of the occurrence of an unforeseen
 8
 9
     event that is both beyond the Company's control and
     has extraordinary impact on the Company's finances?
10
11
                    We proposed the RTM for a matching of
          Α
               No.
12
     costs and benefits.
13
               Similar question: Isn't it true that
     nowhere in your testimony do you make the contention
14
     that the RTM taken as a whole is needed because of
15
     increases and decreases in recurring costs that are
16
     both unexpected and beyond the Company's control?
17
18
                    Again, we proposed the RTM in order
     to match costs and benefits that will -- since many
19
2.0
     benefits will flow through the EBA without recovery
21
     of the costs. We've also proposed the RTM in order
2.2
     to align several cost pressures into one rate case
23
     so we don't end up with back-to-back rate cases.
               Now, turning to the cap on the RTM -- do
24
          0
     you know which cap I'm referring to?
25
```

```
Page 163
               I believe so.
 1
          Α
 2
          Q
               In lines 225 to 227, of your final
     April 23, 2018, supplemental rebuttal testimony, you
 3
 4
     stated, "The Company, by committing to repowering
     the" -- let me wait until you get there.
 5
               My supplemental rebuttal on line 225?
 6
               You stated the Company committed that
 7
          0
 8
     repowering the RTM would not impose a surcharge on
 9
     customers.
                 The Company stands by this comment; is
10
     that correct?
11
               By that commitment, yes.
12
          0
               I'm sorry. Now, let's turn to June 30,
13
     2017, direct testimony that you adopted.
                      Is there a line reference?
14
               Okay.
               40 to 43.
                          The RTM as initially -- this is
15
          0
16
     not a direct quote, I'm just referencing the portion
     of your testimony. The RTM, as initially proposed,
17
     capped costs flowing through the RTM so that after
18
     zero-fuel cost benefits are accounted for through
19
20
     the EBA, the Company would not charge ratepayers any
21
     additional costs; is that correct?
2.2
               It will not operate to surcharge
23
     customers, correct.
               Wouldn't charge them any additional costs?
24
25
               Correct. At that time, yes.
          Α
```

```
Page 164
 1
          0
               I'd like to direct you to lines 188 and
 2
     191 of the October 19, 2017, rebuttal testimony that
     you adopted.
 3
 4
               Did you say line 188?
                     Doesn't it provide, "To the extent
 5
     the cost exceeds the benefits" -- and we're talking
 6
     about the initial cap -- "To the extent the cost
 7
     exceeds benefits in any given year until the project
 8
     is fully reflected in rates, the Company bears the
 9
            In other words, the RTM is asymmetrical in
10
11
     the customer's favor." Did I read that correctly?
12
          Α
               Yes.
13
               Will you look at your February 1, 2018,
14
     supplemental direct testimony at lines 105 through
     109?
15
16
          Α
               Okay.
               You stated that because of change in
17
18
     federal corporate income tax rate, the Company
19
     proposes to alter the RTM cap so the costs in excess
     of the RTM cap will be deferred and used to offset
20
21
     the money owed to ratepayers as a result of income
22
     tax deferring, addressed in docket 17-035-69.
23
     that summarize your testimony?
24
          Α
               Yes.
               Isn't it true that the change in the RTM
25
```

- 1 cap essentially reversed the position of the
- 2 ratepayers in the Company, such that the RTM cap is
- 3 no longer as asymmetrical to the same extent in the
- 4 customer's favor, and the ratepayers, not the
- 5 Company, bear the risk of costs in excess of the
- 6 cap?
- 7 A I would agree it's not as asymmetrical;
- 8 it is still asymmetrical. We would still absorb
- 9 costs in excess of the changes from the impact of
- 10 tax reform, but since tax reform benefits are being
- 11 deferred for customers, it's only fair that any
- 12 additional costs out of tax reform also be deferred
- 13 and recovered through customers. And that's what
- 14 our proposal is. Tax reform was clearly not
- 15 anticipated of this magnitude when we made that
- 16 filing in June.
- 17 Q Isn't it true that by initially proposing
- 18 that ratepayers are not responsible for costs in
- 19 excess of the RTM cap, didn't the Company commit to
- 20 bear the risk of absorbing excess costs? And the
- 21 Company is not standing by this commitment, is it?
- 22 A Again, absorbing costs that are outside of
- 23 our control and that were not anticipated of that
- 24 magnitude, no. We always said we would bring back
- 25 changes to the Commission for the parties to review,

- 1 and that's what we did in the February filing.
- 2 Q But the change does shift the position of
- 3 the ratepayer from one where the ratepayer was not
- 4 responsible for costs above the cap to a situation
- 5 where the ratepayer is responsible to costs above
- 6 the cap, although through a different docket?
- 7 A Correct. We're seeking recovery of those
- 8 tax impacts, yes.
- 9 MR. MOORE: That's all I have. Thank
- 10 you, Ms. Steward.
- 11 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Ms. Schmid or
- 12 Mr. Jetter?
- 13 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 14 BY MS. SCHMID:
- 15 Q In your summary, you talked about
- 16 traditional functions of a utility and -- were you
- 17 here when Mr. Hoogeveen talked about typical
- 18 ratemaking activities of a utility seeking cost
- 19 recovery as appropriate, et cetera?
- 20 A Yes. I was here when Mr. Hoogeveen
- 21 testified.
- 22 Q Is it traditional for a utility to replace
- 23 plant assets that have only gone through a third or
- 24 less than their full useful life for economic
- 25 reasons?

```
Page 167
               I don't know that it's traditional, but
 1
 2
     it's certainly not unprecedented. We have replaced,
 3
     for economic reasons, other assets that are in rates
 4
     early, or retired them early.
               And were some of those a result of
 5
     settlements?
 6
               Not the reasons for doing it.
 7
          Α
     ultimate outcome -- there were settlements around
 8
     that ratemaking treatment, but not that decision.
 9
               You talked a lot in your summary about
10
11
     matching, matching costs and benefits. You said
12
     that matching was one of the reasons why the Company
13
     urges the Commission to adopt the RTM; is that
14
     correct?
15
          Α
               Yes.
16
               Have you read Mr. Peterson's testimony on
          0
     intergenerational inequality?
17
18
          Α
               Yes.
19
          Q
               And you understand that that's also a
     matching sort of issue?
20
21
          Α
               Yes.
22
               With the way the Company has set up its
23
     economics and set up its rate recovery mechanism as
     explained here, isn't it true that some ratepayers
24
25
     would not benefit from PTCs because the PTC period
```

Page 168 ends before the life of the asset? 1 2 Α Yes. And that's the case now, if we don't 3 repower. 4 Is the \$1 billion investment greater than the investment that is currently on the books for 5 the existing wind facilities that are going to be 6 7 repowered? Do you know? You mean the remaining plans? 8 9 Yes. 10 It is greater, yes. Α 11 Also, coming back to the intergenerational Q 12 inequality argument, is it true that, depending on 13 how the PTC and the RTM works, that some ratepayers will not recover as much of the PTC benefit as 14 expected? 15 16 I guess I'm not sure exactly what you're Α referring to. 17 Let me see if I can rephrase. 18 Just one 19 second. I'm going to leave that and see if I can 20 come back to it. Were you here when Mr. Hoogeveen 21 talked about benefits and he and I believe, 22 Mr. Russell, discussed a dollar benefit, being a 23 dollar in the black after costs were counted for, still being a benefit? 24 25 Α Yes.

Page 169 In your testimony, I believe it's line 15 1 Q 2 of your surrebuttal, you talk about the fact that the repowering projects --3 I don't have surrebuttal. 4 Your supplemental rebuttal. I believe 5 it's at line 15 of the April filing. You talk about 6 substantial benefits. Don't you say that the 7 repowering project provides substantial benefits to 8 9 the customers? 10 Α Yes. 11 Is a dollar benefit, a dollar in the Q 12 black, a substantial benefit to customers? 13 No. And the overall projects don't show it's a dollar in the black. It's hundreds of 14 millions of dollars. 15 But that is based on if all the 16 Q projections and forecasts occur as anticipated; is 17 18 that correct? In our medium/medium and in most of the 19 scenarios, yes, it's well over a dollar. It's only 20 21 in the worst-case scenario that it would be, for one 22 project, less of a benefit. 23 And if the gas prices are lower, as were shown in the 2017 IRP update just filed, isn't it 24 possible that benefits could be even smaller? 25

1	Page 170
1	A I can't speak to the gas forecasts in the
2	IRP update and how those compare to the filing.
3	That would need to be addressed by Mr. Link.
4	Q If actual gas prices were lower than
5	forecasted, would the benefits be smaller?
6	A All else being equal, I believe that would
7	be true.
8	Q If all else were equal and Utah didn't
9	have a pre-approval process, and the Company had to
10	bear the risk of those projects, and the risks of
11	getting approval after the projects were built,
12	would you recommend that the Company proceed with
13	the project?
14	A What we're looking at right now in the
15	economic analysis, is our prudence determination,
16	and this is what we would ultimately end up filing.
17	We are at the decision point of going forward. So
18	based on this economic analysis, in my personal
19	judgment, yes, I think there are benefits here for
20	the customers to go forward. But I'm not the
21	ultimate decision maker for the Company.
22	Q Would you go forward with all the wind
23	segments or with sorry. Would you propose going
24	forward with all the winds segments, or with just
25	some of them?

1	Page 171 A I think overall this is a great
2	opportunity to update our wind fleet and extend the
3	lives and have long-term benefits and near-term
4	benefits to customers. So in my personal opinion,
5	yes.
6	Q And the contracts that are for some of the
7	equipment are for the projects as a whole; is that
8	correct? Is that what I heard Mr. Hemstreet saying?
9	A That's my understanding of what
10	Mr. Hemstreet but again, he's the expert on what
11	those contracts look like.
12	Q Would the Company unconditionally go ahead
13	with these projects?
14	A No, I am not probably the person who could
15	answer that. I mean, I'm not sure what
16	unconditionally refers to. I mean, as we testified,
17	we think this is a great opportunity.
18	Q But isn't it true that the projects still
19	place some risks on the ratepayers, risks that the
20	Company was not willing to assume?
21	A There are risks on the ratepayers and
22	there are risks on the Company still. We have
23	assumed the risk of qualifying for the PTCs under
24	the pre-approval, we assume the risk that if there's
25	a change, we need to bring it back before the

Page 172 Commission under the law. There are still risks to 1 2 the Company at this point, even with the pre-approval. 3 4 MS. SCHMID: Those are all my 5 questions. Thank you. 6 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. Mr. Russell. 7 8 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. RUSSELL: 9 10 I have a few questions about a fairly narrow issue, and it relates to the period of 11 12 amortization on the retired plant, which you brought 13 up in your summary and is also in your supplement rebuttal testimony. As I understand it, the 14 Company's position is in -- your testimony was 15 responding to the period of time that that 16 amortization should take place, and the Company's 17 position as I understand it is, we should deal with 18 19 that in this separate docket on the depreciation study that the Company intends to file, correct? 20 21 Α Correct. 22 If the Commission were to decide to deal 23 with it in this docket, what is the Company's position as to the period of time for that 24 25 amortization?

Page 173 1 Well, I think in our initial filing, we Α 2 did in Mr. Larsen's testimony, refer to it 3 amortizing that over essentially -- including in the 4 depreciation rates for the new resources, which would be over 30 years. The economic analysis 5 includes them essentially over the current lives as 6 7 20 years. I don't have a strong position one way or 8 another, 20 or 30 years at this point. So it could go either way. 9 10 I was confused about that, so that's why I 11 wanted to clarify. Thank you. That's all I have. 12 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. Any 13 redirect? 14 MR. LOWNEY: I do have one question 15 for Ms. Steward. 16 REDIRECT EXAMINATION 17 BY MR. LOWNEY: Following up on Ms. Schmid's questions 18 19 about the gas price forecast that was used in the 20 Company's analysis, Ms. Steward, isn't it true that 21 the 2017 IRP update that was filed earlier this week 22 used the same gas price forecast that was used in 23 the Company's supplemental filing in February of this year? 24 25 That's what I believe to be true, yes. Α

```
Page 174
 1
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Any recross
 2
     based on that question?
 3
                    MR. SNARR: Excuse me.
 4
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Would you like
 5
     to do a recross?
 6
                    MR. SNARR: I have one element of
 7
     recross based on a response provided to the
     Division's counsel.
 8
                                          I'm sorry.
 9
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
10
     didn't ask because it was in response to her
11
     question, but feel free.
12
                    RECROSS EXAMINATION
13
     BY MR. SNARR:
14
               In response to a question posed by the
     Division, you stated the Company has assumed the
15
16
     risk of qualifying for the PTCs as opposed to
     laying that risk off on the ratepayers; is that
17
18
     correct?
               We've assumed the risk that we will meet
19
          А
20
     that qualification, yes.
21
               And Mr. Hemstreet did address, in large
22
     measure, how the company has taken action through
23
     the GE contract to assume that risk and has
     described how that might play out in the event that
24
     some particular project was not qualified. With
25
```

Page 175 respect to the remaining projects not covered by the 1 2 GE contract, how is it -- how would you propose that the Company cover any risk to the ratepayers for the 3 4 failure to qualify for the PTCs? So even with the GE contract and the 5 6 Vestas contract, our assumption -- what we've assumed is that we will qualify for the PTCs to the 7 extent there are circumstances within our control. 8 9 Obviously, often -- or not often -- there are 10 circumstances where it's a force majeure or 11 something outside of our control. To the extent we 12 can control it under either contract, we're assuming 13 those risks. The GE contract has some additional features built into it from the contractor to the 14 15 Company that we would pass back to customers. 16 0 Typically though, the word guarantee is to infer that if something goes wrong, you've got me 17 covered for the downside risk. And I'm really 18 posing the question, what if something goes wrong, 19 that there is a timing problem and a project fails 20 21 to qualify for the PTCs? Your witness earlier has 22 said that the Company is going to guarantee the 23 risk, you said the Company would guarantee that risk, and we're understanding the context is a 24 25 guarantee to the ratepayers for that eventuality.

- 1 I'm just asking, how would you manage to provide
- 2 that guarantee to the ratepayers as a matter of
- 3 ratemaking, which is within your stewardship?
- 4 A I see your question. There are a couple
- of ways that could be done. We could either impute
- 6 the PTCs for any turbines that failed to qualify if
- 7 we put those turbines into rate base. We could also
- 8 not include those turbines in rate base and not have
- 9 customers pay for them. We probably wouldn't put
- 10 the energy in rates, either, but then customers
- 11 would not be harmed. And again, our qualification
- 12 is for circumstances within our control that we can
- 13 control.
- 14 MR. SNARR: Thank you. I have no
- 15 other questions.
- 16 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.
- 17 Commissioner White, do you have any questions for
- 18 Ms. Steward?
- 19 BY COMMISSIONER WHITE:
- 20 Q Just a couple. I understand -- from what
- 21 I understand, there's a pretty illiquid REC market
- 22 right now. Is there any thought or discussion as to
- 23 how the potential REC revenues would be -- would
- 24 this be included in the new RTM, or would that still
- 25 be dealt with in the RBA?

```
Page 177
 1
          Α
               I think REC revenues would flow through
 2
     the RBA.
 3
          0
               There's been a lot of talk about risk and
 4
     what the Company is -- I know that the testimony has
     evolved during the course of the proceeding over
 5
     acceptance of risk, et cetera. I notice in Wyoming,
 6
     someone did -- I don't know which party -- file the
 7
     Wyoming stipulation or submitted a -- I'm just
 8
     wondering, are you in a position to maybe direct us
 9
     to potentially the differences in, kind of, risk
10
11
     sharing as between what was currently reached in
12
     Wyoming -- I know that's still pending -- as opposed
13
     to what the Company's current agreement to take on
     risk is in this docket?
14
15
                      I happen to, I believe, have that
          Α
               Yeah.
16
     stipulation. So the risk is actually very similar.
     In the Utah stipulation, it's spelled out in a
17
     little more detail from our discussions with
18
19
     parties, and that would be in paragraph 32-C.
20
     you can see that explanation of the risk and how it
21
     would be treated, as well as a dispute process is
22
     spelled out in that section. And it's essentially
23
     the same risk, it just adds a little bit more
24
     process to it in the event there isn't an agreement
25
     on what that circumstance was if we claim force
```

Page 178 1 majeure and parties disagree, there's a dispute 2 process there to debate that. But it's the same 3 qualification of risk that we assume for the PTCs. 4 So it's fair to say it's essentially the same proposal without the additional legal 5 mechanisms to deal with disagreements, et cetera? 6 7 Α Yes. 8 COMMISSIONER WHITE: That's all the 9 questions I have. 10 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: 11 Commissioner Clark? 12 BY COMMISSIONER CLARK: 13 I just want to test my understanding of 14 what you're saying on page 7 of your supplemental 15 Under the question, why is the RTM still direct. necessary? 16 17 I'm there. Α Okay. 18 So under the assumption that the 19 application is approved and the Company goes forward with the repower projects, then until the Company 20 21 files a rate case, the conditions that you're 22 describing here under lines 127 to 131 would exist. 23 Basically, that customers would receive the benefit in net power costs of the zero-fuel cost energy, and 24 the Company would receive the benefits of the PTCs 25

Page 179 and would also have the burden of the capital 1 2 investment without a return? Is that -- would there been some ratemaking device that would operate to 3 4 cover the Company's capital costs there? So you're referring to without the RTM? 5 6 0 Right. So without the RTM or other treatment --7 А like, if there was an adjustment to the EBA to 8 9 remove that incremental generation -- absent that, customers would have that zero-fuel cost energy 10 11 going through the EBA with no cost recovery, the 12 Company -- for the Company -- of capital costs, and 13 customers would not get the PTCs either. And a rate case, then, would be the 14 opportunity to put all that back into ratemaking 15 16 balance, so to speak, right? 17 Α Yes. So the -- am I right that the need for the 18 19 RTM basically assumes no rate case -- general rate 20 case-type proceeding until sometime after the end of 21 2020? 2.2 And I believe I said somewhere in 23 testimony that we currently anticipate the next rate case to be in 2020, with rates effective 2021. 24 will allow us to align both the repowering projects 25

Page 180 1 that start going into service in 2019 and continue 2 into 2020, as well as the new wind and transmission in the 40 docket. We also have new depreciation 3 4 rates from the depreciation study, which we anticipate will have pressure on rates. 5 proceeding should be completed by the end of 2019, 6 7 which will be put into that rate case. We also 8 hopefully will have resolution of a new, revised protocol or a multi-state jurisdictional allocation 9 10 at that time. So we were trying to align all of 11 these cost pressures into one rate case, and that is 12 what the RTM allows us to do. Would the RTM then be -- would have 13 14 exhausted its purpose with the filing of the rate 15 case, or the adjudication of the rate case? 16 Α For repowering in particular, I only Yes. see the RTM really, in effect for a year and a half, 17 that we would defer costs within the RTM. 18 Although 19 we do propose to continue the RTM just for PTC 2.0 tracking after a rate case. 21 So is it really the 2019 -- the completion 22 of many of the project elements in 2019 that's sort 23 of driving the Company's interest in the RTM or

It's all those things that I

advocacy of the RTM?

Yes.

Α

24

25

- 1 mentioned. I mean, we've been making a very
- 2 concerted effort to stay out of multiple rate cases.
- 3 We went through quite a period of back-to-back rate
- 4 cases, and so we are trying to push that as far as
- 5 we can. These are the first -- these align also
- 6 with the drop-off of the PTCs currently in base
- 7 rates that add additional pressure that would drive
- 8 us into a rate case, but this is the first cost
- 9 pressure that comes up that's pushing us into a rate
- 10 case, the repowering projects.
- 11 Q So again, in the absence of an RTM, then
- 12 would we anticipate a 2019 rate case to address the
- 13 projects?
- 14 A We would have to take that into
- 15 consideration. I couldn't affirmatively say yes or
- 16 no at this point, but in that period, we see the
- 17 drop-off, the pressures of the -- eliminating the
- 18 current PTCs in base as well as the new investments
- 19 coming on.
- 20 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Those are all my
- 21 questions. Thanks very much.
- 22 BY COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
- 23 Q Just a couple more follows-ups. You had
- 24 indicated the Utility's openness to the Division's
- 25 proposed deferral method as long as costs and

- 1 benefits are matched somehow. Do you have any
- 2 elaboration on how would you view some kind of
- 3 alternative deferral working?
- 4 A There's a couple ways that it could work.
- 5 Our primary principle here is the matching of the
- 6 costs and benefits, so either, if we don't have an
- 7 RTM where we try and pass back the cost and benefits
- 8 on a more concurrent basis -- which I think helps
- 9 address some of the intergenerational issues that
- 10 DPU raised -- but in lieu of that, we would defer
- 11 all the costs and benefits. I would propose even
- 12 deferring that incremental generation that would
- otherwise flow through the EBA to help offset that.
- 14 So then, as you go to recover that in a future rate
- 15 case, that helps bring down some of those costs as
- 16 well. That's the primary alternative to the RTM.
- 17 Q Thank you. On a separate topic,
- 18 Commissioner White was asking you about the
- 19 provisions in Wyoming related to the regulatory
- 20 processes that are built into the stipulation --
- 21 that's, of course, still pending -- on change in law
- 22 or force majeure event. That Wyoming stipulation
- 23 lays out that the Company would file with the
- 24 Commission and parties would have an opportunity to
- 25 dispute it. In the absence of any, you know,

- 1 stipulated language like that in Utah, if this
- 2 project moves forward and there were some
- 3 significant change in law or force majeure event,
- 4 what would you anticipate the regulatory process to
- 5 be in Utah? What would be the typical utility
- 6 response to a situation like that?
- 7 A Well, in Utah, under the voluntarily
- 8 request for resource law that we filed under, there
- 9 is that provision that exists if there's a change in
- 10 circumstance or projected costs, we need to bring
- 11 that back to the Commission, and then there's a
- 12 process for a 60-day review. I think a force
- 13 majeure event like that would qualify under that
- 14 process that we would need to bring that back under
- 15 that statute.
- 16 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. I
- 17 appreciate that clarification. I don't have any
- 18 further questions, so thank you for your testimony.
- 19 Ms. McDowell or Mr. Lowney, anything further from
- 20 the Utility?
- 21 MS. MCDOWELL: No. That concludes
- 22 the Company's presentation. Thank you.
- 23 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Okay. Why don't
- 24 we take a 10 or 12-minute break. We'll come back at
- 25 2:30 and go to Ms. Schmid or Mr. Jetter.

1	Page 184 (A recess was taken.)
2	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: We're back on
3	the record, and we will go now to the Division of
4	Public Utilities.
5	MS. SCHMID: Good afternoon. The
6	Division would like to call as it witness,
7	Mr. Dave Thomson. May he please approach the
8	witness stand?
9	DAVID THOMSON,
10	having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, was
11	examined and testified as follows:
12	DIRECT EXAMINATION
13	BY MS. SCHMID:
14	Q Could you please state your full name,
15	employer, and your business address for the record?
16	A My name is David Thomson, that's
17	T-h-o-m-s-o-n, without a "P." I'm a utility
18	technical consultant for the Division of Public
19	Utilities and have participated in this docket on
20	behalf of the Division. My business address is
21	160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.
22	Q In connection with your employment at the
23	Division and your participation on behalf of the
24	Division in this docket, did you prepare and cause
25	to be filed what's been identified as DPU Exhibit

- 1 No. 3.0, your direct, which was filed on
- 2 September 20th of 2017, your surrebuttal with an
- 3 exhibit, surrebuttal identified as DPU Exhibit No.
- 4 3.0-SR, and the exhibit number DPU No. 3.1-SR, both
- of those filed on November 15th, and then finally,
- 6 your response testimony marked as DPU Exhibit
- 7 3.0-RESP, filed on April 2, 2018?
- 8 A That's correct.
- 9 Q Do you have any changes or corrections to
- 10 that prefiled testimony?
- 11 A I do not.
- 12 Q If I were to ask you today the same
- 13 questions that are contained in your prefiled
- 14 testimony, would your answers be the same today as
- 15 they are in the prefiled testimony?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 MS. SCHMID: With that, the Division
- 18 would like to move for the admission of DPU Exhibit
- 19 No. 3.0 Direct, 3.0-SR, 3.1-SR, and 3.0-RESP of
- 20 Mr. Thomson.
- 21 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: If any party
- 22 objects to that motion, please let me know. I'm not
- 23 seeing any, so the motion is granted.
- 24 (DPU Exhibit Nos. 3.0 Direct, 3.0-SR, 3.1-SR and
- 25 3.0-RESP admitted.)

Page 186 BY MS. SCHMID: 1 2 Q Mr. Thomson, do you have a summary to 3 present today? 4 I do. Please proceed. 5 Thank you. The Division believes the 6 Α Revenue Tracking Mechanism or RTM, is unnecessary 7 because existing methods are adequate for rate 8 9 recovery if the proposed repowering projects are Therefore, we recommend that the 10 approved. 11 Commission deny the request for an RTM. 12 If the Commission approves the repowering 13 projects proposed by the Company, the Division recommends that the Company should use a general 14 15 rate case for ratemaking associated with the 16 repowering. The Company is proposing to add approximately over \$1 billion to the rate base. 17 general rate case is a better mechanism to address 18 19 the Company's cost recovery concerns where 2.0 systemwide changes in costs and other issues can be 21 synchronized. The impact of rates and revenue 2.2 requirement of the above investments with their 23 associated costs and benefits should be synchronized 24 and in balance with other entity-wide changes. 25 Changes in class cost of service, revenue and

1	Page 187 expense components, and many other factors would be
2	impacted by the addition of so much capital to rate
3	base. Having a general rate case to align rates to
4	match then-existing conditions, would be wise and
5	likely in the public interest, particularly given
6	that the last general rate case concluded in 2014,
7	employed 2013 data, and a 2015 test year.
8	The Utility suggests that the proposed RTM
9	is one way to avoid more laborious general rate
10	cases. This is not a valid argument in support of
11	the RTM. The general rate case is designed to
12	establish just and reasonable rates based on current
13	actual or close-in-time projected costs. Especially
14	given the costs of the proposed additions and the
15	time since the last general rate case, Rocky
16	Mountain Power's desire to avoid a new general rate
17	case, or the frequency of rate cases may not be in
18	the best overall interest of ratepayers or meet
19	public interest concerns.
20	And that concludes my summary.
21	MS. SCHMID: Thank you. Mr. Thomson
22	is now available for questions.
23	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. I'll
24	go to Mr. Moore or Mr. Snarr next.
25	MR. MOORE: No questions from the

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1	Office.
2	COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
3	Ms. Tormoen Hickey, do you have any questions for
4	Mr. Thomson?
5	MS. HICKEY: No, thank you.
6	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Mr. Russell?
7	MR. RUSSELL: No questions.
8	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Ms. McDowell or
9	Mr. Lowney?
10	MS. MCDOWELL: No questions. Thank
11	you.
12	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.
13	Commissioner Clark?
14	COMMISSIONER CLARK: No questions.
15	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.
16	Commissioner White?
17	BY COMMISSIONER WHITE:
18	Q Does the Division have a proposal if
19	the Commission were not to adopt the proposed RTM,
20	how would the Division propose tracking the costs
21	and benefits, or is there a proposal?
22	A If you adopted these repowering projects,
23	we would propose that you use the means already at
24	your that's already at your that you can
25	utilize, such as a general rate case. Deferred

1	Page 189 accounting is something that's already available to
2	the Commission, and depending on the timing of the
3	rate case, the Company could file a major asset
4	addition filing to try to recover these costs.
5	COMMISSIONER WHITE: Thank you.
6	That's all questions I have.
7	BY COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
8	Q If this request, in whole or part, were
9	approved by the Commission, you said one option
10	would be deferred accounting. Do you have any other
11	thoughts to elaborate on how that might work, how
12	that might be structured?
13	A It would be structured very similar to how
14	the accounting is done in the RTM. It would have
15	benefits, it would have costs, and they would come
16	together every month for a balance. And that
17	balance, whether the costs were more or the benefits
18	were more, would be a liability of a deferral
19	liability. And they would stay in there, those
20	accounts, until a general rate case happened, and
21	then those deferral amounts would be part of the
22	filing and go into the whole synchronized, holistic,
23	generalized rate case. So it would be just a piece
24	out here, and then it would get plugged in with all
25	the other pieces into the big hole where everything

Page 190 would be synchronized. 1 2 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you. 3 appreciate that. Thank you for your testimony. COMMISSIONER CLARK: Chair LeVar, can 4 I just follow up on that? 5 6 BY COMMISSIONER CLARK: So Mr. Thomson, what would be deferred? 7 Q The PTCs would be deferred? 8 9 They would. 10 What else would be deferred? Anything 0 11 else? 12 А Let's see. The cost of the investment would be deferred; the actual rate base -- what they 13 14 pay every month -- that would be deferred; the costs associated with those -- depreciation, those things 15 would be deferred; the PTCs would be deferred; and 16 then the energy component would be deferred. Well, 17 18 the energy component -- the incremental energy costs would flow through the EPA, so there would have to 19 2.0 be some sort of adjustment for that. 21 0 Thanks. That's the piece I was wanting to 22 understand a little better. 23 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you, 24 Mr. Thomson. We appreciate you testimony. 25 Ms. Schmid?

1	Page 191 MS. SCHMID: The Division would like
2	to request if Mr. Thomson could be excused for the
3	rest of the hearing if he needs to leave early
4	today, and he will not be able to attend tomorrow.
5	May we have your permission to bless his absence?
6	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Let me as if any
7	party or Commissioner feels any need to recall
8	Mr. Thomson for any questions. I'm not seeing any
9	indication, so that sounds fine.
10	MS. SCHMID: Thank you very much.
11	THE WITNESS: I appreciate that.
12	Thank you.
13	MS. SCHMID: The Division would like
14	to call its next witness, Dr. Joni Zenger.
15	DR. JONI S. ZENGER,
16	having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, was
17	examined and testified as follows:
18	DIRECT EXAMINATION
19	BY MS. SCHMID:
20	Q Good afternoon. Could you please state
21	your full name, title, and employer, as well as
22	business address for the record?
23	A Dr. Joni S., like Sam, Zenger, with a "Z",
24	Z-e-n-g-e-r, technical consultant with the Division
25	of Public Utilities. My address is 160 East 300

- 1 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.
- 2 Q In connection with your employment by the
- 3 Division and with your participation in this docket,
- 4 did you prepare or cause to be filed, your response
- 5 testimony called DPU Exhibit No. 1.0 -- sorry. DPU
- 6 Exhibit Number 1.0 Direct, in both confidential and
- 7 redacted form, and that was on the 20th of
- 8 September; your surrebuttal, marked as DPU Exhibit
- 9 No. 1.0-SR, filed on November 15th of 2017; your
- 10 response testimony, entitled DPU Exhibit No.
- 11 1.0-RESP, along with DPU Exhibit No. 1.1-RESP, and
- 12 DPU Exhibit No. 1.2-RESP, all filed on April 2nd of
- 13 this year?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q Did you also cause to be filed yesterday,
- 16 an errata correcting two footnotes and one number in
- 17 your testimony?
- 18 A Yes, I did. I also brought copies in case
- 19 anyone didn't receive the errata exhibit.
- 20 Q Could you please just briefly describe
- 21 what was corrected in the filing made yesterday?
- 22 A Sure. In my response testimony, the one
- 23 that's dated April, there's a typo on line 143. The
- 24 number I have is \$1,337,000, and the number should
- 25 be \$1,137,000. Billion, actually, billion. It's

Page 193 \$1,137,000,000. 1 2 And then with regard to the footnotes? 3 А So that was the first one. Then the 4 footnote on page 10, footnote no. 16, it should have read, Supplemental Direct Testimony of 5 Mr. Timothy Hemstreet, February 1st, 2018, page 4, 6 7 lines 74 to 76. I had written ID at the same page 4 and line 74 to 76 when it was, in fact, his 8 supplemental direct testimony. Those two changes. 9 10 Just those two changes. Only one change 11 to a footnote? 12 Α Yes. MS. SCHMID: With that, the Division 13 would like to move for the admission of the 14 15 testimonies of Dr. Zenger as previously identified, 16 as well as the errata that was filed yesterday. do have copies showing clean and redacted portions 17 of the testimony that was corrected. 18 19 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Okay. 2.0 you. If anyone objects to this motion, please 21 indicate to me. I'm not seeing any objections, so 2.2 the motion is granted. 23 (DPU Exhibit Nos. 1.0 Direct, 1.0-SR, 1.0-RESP, 24 1.1-RESP, and 1.2-RESP marked.) 25 BY MS. SCHMID:

1	Page 194  Q Dr. Zenger, do you have a summary to
2	present today?
3	A Yes, I do.
4	Q Please proceed.
5	A Good afternoon, Commissioners. I'm
6	grateful to be here today. It's getting close to
7	years since we started working on this case at the
8	Division.
9	The Division's opinion is the Commission
10	should reject Rocky Mountain Power's application
11	because the projects are not in the public interest.
12	The projects are not needed to provide reliable
13	service, and the risks surrounding the projects
14	outweigh even the latest iteration of the
15	speculative projected benefits. Additionally, even
16	if the benefits materialized over the life of the
17	projects, they would be unevenly distributed among
18	various generations of customers.
19	The new collection mechanism Rocky
20	Mountain Power proposes, the RTM, should be
21	rejected, too. The Division's witnesses will
22	address these and other points in their respective
23	testimonies.
24	Rocky Mountain Power's requested approval
25	of the projects in this case which include

Page 195 repowering of 999 megawatts of its current wind 1 2 generating equipment -- the latest estimate puts the 3 project's capital costs at approximately 4 \$1.101 billion. This is a massive undertaking and a magnitude that we have never seen before in one 5 filing before this Commission. Rocky Mountain Power 6 7 stopped pre-approval of this proposal, even though most of the costs were not known and the forecast's 8 alternative costs that the projects are benchmarked 9 against are subject to significant variability. 10 Other technical uncertainties also remain, including 11 12 engineering and design studies that are still 13 incomplete. In addition to these uncertainties, the fundamental risks of relying on projections built on 14 15 assumptions remains. 16 The Company presented this case involving 12 different wind repowering projects. They are 17 located in three different states and as one large 18 billion dollar project, when, in fact, there are 19 2.0 hundreds of wind turbine generators at 12 different 21 wind farms in Wyoming, Oregon, and Washington that 22 the Company is proposing to dismantle and repower. Each repowered facility will be tested and 23 24 commissioned in order to individually qualify for the production tax credits. The Company requests 25

Page 196 approval to dismantle the existing equipment, bring 1 2 in new nacelles and towers and rotors -- not the 3 towers, they will remain, the rotors and the 4 blades -- earning a return on the new resources, as well as continuing to earn on the old, retired 5 The currently functioning equipment that 6 resources. 7 the Company wants to remove is less than 10 years 8 old, and it was installed and approved with a 9 30-year operating life. This idling of functioning equipment is to 10 11 be undertaken on the hope that an assumed projected 12 future materializes, but further, Rocky Mountain 13 Power claims that its request is supported by an 14 analysis that aggregates purported benefits over the 15 project's lives, up to 30 years. This aggregation 16 of benefits over long time periods hides the fact that even under Rocky Mountain Power's projections, 17 some customers will be worse off. Although the 18 projects could prove beneficial, even then, the 19 2.0 benefits would be relatively small compared to the 21 level of investment. 2.2 Nevertheless, there are too many unknowns that could harm ratepayers. Even under those net 23 cost scenarios, Rocky Mountain Power would still be 24 25 granted an opportunity to earn a significant return.

Page 197 1 And in short, ratepayers might see a modest net 2 benefit over the project's lives, but the Utility 3 will see a significant return if these projects are 4 approved. This disparity of risks and rewards for unneeded projects is not in the public interest. 5 The Company has not reasonably 6 demonstrated or adequately proven that its decision 7 to repower most of its wind facilities will result 8 in the acquisition, production, and delivery of 9 utility services at the lowest reasonable cost to 10 11 customers -- to Utah customers, in fact. 12 projects are not in the public interest and should 13 be rejected. The remaining portion of my opening 14 15 statements contains my surrebuttal testimony 16 responding to the Company's April 23rd rebuttal testimony. Rather than go through point by point 17 statements where my testimony was mischaracterized 18 or misconstrued, I'd like to address a couple of 19 20 points. And the first one I'd like to address is 21 the issue of uncertainties and risks. 2.2 Now, Mr. Hemstreet claims in his supplemental direct testimony, lines 182 to 209, 23 that the Company has successfully mitigated much of 24 25 the risk associated with the repowering project.

Page 198 While DPU acknowledges the efforts the Company has 1 2 made to mitigate the unknowns on line 182 to 209, significant risk still exists for the ratepayers. 3 4 DPU is concerned with wind turbine performance, reliabilities risks, ongoing maintenance costs and 5 The construction costs overrun risks. 6 risks. 7 witness Mr. Peaco will discuss the additional risks 8 and the potential concerns in great detail in his 9 testimony. 10 And second, I'd like to reemphasize that a 11 repowering project is not needed. Mr. Link states 12 in his supplemental and rebuttal testimony, lines 13 561 to 575, that the proposed repowering wind facilities are needed. Contrary to Mr. Link's 14 15 statement, the Company has not proven that the 16 proposed repowering project is needed. From the 17 very beginning, the impetus of the project has been the availability of production tax credits or PTCs. 18 This understanding was acknowledged by the Company 19 2.0 in data request 16.6, in which the Company stated, 21 "The Company's repowering project was developed as 2.2 an opportunity to capitalize on the continuing 23 availability of the production tax credits. 24 Company would not move forward without the -- excuse 25 The Company would not move forward with the me.

1	Page 199 repowering projects if there were no benefits from
2	the production tax credits, as those are required to
3	produce economic benefits for customers, which was
4	the Company's goal in pursuing this particular
5	project." That was directly quoted from DPU 16.6.
6	It wasn't until later, the Company changed
7	its position from pursuing an economic opportunity
8	to a need-based resource acquisition. This
9	sentiment is shared by many parties across multiple
10	jurisdictions. And in the IRP docket, we just went
11	through that same change of position. That was
12	Docket 17-035-16. And in fact, the Oregon
13	Commission staff in its recommendation in their IRP
14	Docket LC 67, on page 18, stated, "The understanding
15	that PacifiCorp did not need new resources in 2020
16	for capacity was not unique to Oregon staff. Many,
17	if not all parties in this matter, were also
18	similarly confused. Additionally, the Company still
19	has not explicitly identified the need for these
20	resources, especially considering the significant
21	risks that ratepayers are being asked to burden."
22	And then finally, in my response
23	testimony I know you guys have read all my
24	testimony but I did point out, "The ratepayer's
25	uncertain benefits could materialize or disappear,

	7 000
1	Page 200 depending on a suite of unknowns and risks that can
2	happen."
3	That concludes my summary. And Mr. Peaco
4	will go into detail on these risks, and
5	Mr. Chuck Peterson will talk about intergenerational
6	inequities as well. Thank you.
7	Q Dr. Zenger, you mentioned the public
8	interest. Utah Statute 54-17-402 states that when
9	the Commission is making a resource decision and
10	determining if it is in the public interest, the
11	Commission I'll just read it. "is in the
12	public interest, taking into consideration:
13	(1) whether it will most likely result in the
14	acquisition, production, and delivery of utility
15	services at the lowest reasonable cost to the retail
16	customers of an energy utility located in this
17	state; (2) long-term and short-term impacts;
18	(3) risk; (4) reliability; (5) financial impacts on
19	the energy utility; and (6) other factors determined
20	by the Commission to be relevant." Is it your
21	testimony and the Division's position that in
22	determining whether or not approving the application
23	is in the public interest, the Commission should
24	consider that there is no need for these projects?
25	A Most definitely, yes.

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1	MS. SCHMID: Dr. Zenger is now
2	available for questions.
3	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.
4	Mr. Snarr or Mr. Moore, do you have any questions?
5	MR. SNARR: No questions.
6	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.
7	Mr. Russell?
8	MR. RUSSELL: No questions. Thank
9	you.
10	COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
11	Ms. Tormoen Hickey, do you have any questions for
12	Dr. Zenger?
13	MS. HICKEY: No, thank you.
14	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.
15	Ms. McDowell or Mr. Lowney?
16	MS. MCDOWELL: The Company does have
17	some questions for Dr. Zenger.
18	MS. SCHMID: May I have an additional
19	copy? Thank you.
20	BY MS. MCDOWELL:
21	CROSS-EXAMINATION
22	Q Good afternoon, Dr. Zenger.
23	A Good afternoon.
24	Q So I wanted to ask you a question about
25	your direct testimony if you can turn to that, and
1	

- 1 specifically, the line reference is lines 241 to
- 2 243. It's the last page of your testimony. Do you
- 3 have that? So there, you ask the Commission to
- 4 reject repowering because there is not, using your
- 5 words, "A high probability of significant savings
- 6 when compared to the no-action option." Do you see
- 7 that testimony?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q So now, Ms. Schmid just read a portion of
- 10 the voluntary resource decision statute to you, and
- 11 I specifically wanted to ask you a question about
- 12 the provision of the statute that requires the
- 13 Commission to consider as a part of its public
- 14 interest determination, whether repowering will most
- 15 likely result in the acquisition, production, and
- 16 delivery of utility services at the lowest
- 17 reasonable cost. Are you familiar with that
- 18 provision of statute?
- 19 A Yes, I am.
- 20 Q So I want to represent to you that in the
- 21 course of preparing for this hearing, I looked up
- 22 the term, "most likely" in merriamwebster.com, and
- 23 it says, "Most likely means either more likely than
- 24 not or probably." Does that seem like a reasonable
- 25 definition to you?

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Page 203
 1
               It seems like I went to look up one, too,
          Α
 2
     and it was like, is it 50 percent or 60 percent?
     What's more likely?
 3
 4
               So their definition, "More likely than not
     or probably." So applying that definition, the
 5
     issue here is whether repowering will probably
 6
     result in the production of the lowest reasonable
 7
     cost utility services here, correct?
 8
 9
               Yes.
               So instead of reviewing the Company's
10
11
     request under that standard, the Division is
12
     applying a high-probability standard; isn't that
13
     correct, based on your testimony?
14
          Α
               Yes.
               So to your knowledge, has the Commission
15
16
     ever applied that higher standard previously in a
     voluntary resource case?
17
18
               They may have or may not. But I believe
19
     the reason is so appropriate here because this is --
20
     the magnitude and scope of this repowering
21
     billion-dollar project is -- it demands a high
2.2
     standard.
23
               So the Division is asking the Commission
     to reject the Company's filing under a
24
     high-probability standard when that's not the
25
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Page 204 1 standard imposed by the statute, correct? 2 My understanding of the statute is that, 3 besides the short-term and the long-term rate 4 impacts and things like that, there's other factors that should be taken into consideration. 5 think the size and magnitude of this project 6 warrants that. And that being said, I don't have 7 the copy of the full statute in front of me. Maybe 8 9 my attorney can give it to me. 10 I can represent to you that you've quoted 11 it at line 130 of your direct testimony, also. So I 12 also wanted to ask you about a Commission decision 13 under the voluntary resource statute. It's from my 14 knowledge, the only litigated decision under that 15 statute involving the Bridger SCR determination. 16 Are you aware of that case? 17 I'm aware of the case. А So I've handed you -- or I've had 18 19 distributed to you an excerpt from the Commission 20 order in that case, which has been marked RMP 21 Cross-Exhibit No. 1. Do you see that? 2.2 Α Yes. 23 So the Company did cite this decision in its testimony. Do you recall that? 24 25 I do recall that. In fact, I think Α

Page 205 1 Mr. Peterson addresses that in his testimony. 2 I'd like to just quickly go through the order with you and talk about its application to 3 4 this case. Can you first refer to page 27 of that 5 order? Are you with me there on page 27 of the 6 order, Ms. Zenger? 7 А Yes. So to be clear, the statute cited here 8 0 that the Commission was proceeding under was the 9 10 voluntary resource statute that we're talking about, 11 cited here on page 27. Does that seem right? 12 Α Uh-huh (affirmative). 13 And then if you refer to page 12, going 14 back to page 12, there's a discussion of the 15 Company's proposal in that case and its analysis. 16 So I just wanted to quickly review that with you and refresh your recollection about this case. 17 page 12 in the second full sentence from the top, it 18 19 says, "Second, the Company compared the difference 20 in the present value revenue requirement of the two 21 system optimizer SO model simulations to evaluate 22 costs with and without the project." Do you see 23 that? 24 I see that. Α So in that case, the Company used the same 25 Q

- 1 SO model that it's using here to evaluate
- 2 repowering?
- 3 A Yes. You know, I really didn't work on
- 4 this case, so I don't know if they also used the PaR
- 5 model, and if they did the 20-year and the 30-year
- 6 model as well. So I'm probably going to defer any
- 7 questions on this case to Mr. Peterson.
- 8 Q Let me just ask you a few more. So that
- 9 analysis was, with and without the project, similar
- 10 to how the Company has analyzed, with and without
- 11 repowering in its economic analysis here, correct?
- 12 A The SO part is similar --
- MR. JETTER: I object to that
- 14 question because it's misrepresenting the facts of
- 15 that case. In that case, I was a part of that case,
- 16 and the comparison was not with and without the SCRs
- 17 only. That case involved with and without --
- 18 without the SCR scenario, involved a natural gas
- 19 power plant as an alternative. So I believe that
- 20 question misrepresents --
- 21 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Do you want to
- 22 respond to the objection, or would you like try to
- 23 say the question differently? Do you want me to
- 24 rule on it?
- MS. MCDOWELL: I'm happy to restate

- 1 the question and just move on to the next question.
- 2 BY MS. MCDOWELL:
- 3 Q On page 13, if you could turn to that.
- 4 And according to the language of this order, it
- 5 says, beginning in the second paragraph, "According
- 6 to the Company, six of the nine cases modeled in its
- 7 updated analysis produced a PVRRD favorable to the
- 8 SCR investment." Do you see that?
- 9 A I see that.
- 10 Q And the Company further argued that the
- 11 PVRRD results are unfavorable to the SCR investment
- 12 only in cases that assume low natural gas prices.
- 13 Do you see that?
- 14 A Yes. And I see this case is totally
- 15 different. The first line includes the coal costs,
- 16 the load forecast, the mine capital. So without
- 17 knowing the case, to me it appears like they're not
- 18 analogous.
- 19 Q So let me ask you, you're aware, aren't
- 20 you, that the Commission approved the SCR voluntary
- 21 resource decision? And that's at page 32 if you
- 22 want that reference.
- 23 A Uh-huh (affirmative).
- Q And are you aware also that the DPU in
- 25 that case supported the SCR?

```
Page 208
 1
               I believe they did. It was when the clean
          Α
 2
     power plan was issued.
               Now, I just wanted to ask you very briefly
 3
          Q
 4
     about a couple of other exhibits related to this
            That would be Cross-Exhibit 2 and 3, if you
 5
     can pull those out. In Cross-Exhibit 2 -- that's
 6
 7
     the testimony of George Evans, the Division's
 8
     witness in that case. Do you see that?
 9
          А
               Yes.
10
               And on page 4 of that testimony -- if you
11
     could turn to that -- there is a statement on line
12
     52 where Mr. Evans is asked what he would recommend,
13
     and he states on line 54 -- basically on line 53 --
     that he recommends a redacted number as the
14
     risk-weighted benefit of the Bridger SCRs. And then
15
     explains that the value is the simple average of the
16
     nine SO model results, including base, high and low
17
     natural gas prices, and base, high and low carbon
18
     dioxide prices discussed by Mr. Link. And then he
19
     says using a simple average is equivalent to
20
21
     assuming that each of the nine results is equally
22
     likely. Do you see that?
23
               I don't see the last sentence you just
24
     read, but I'm looking at page 4.
25
               And that's on lines 57 through 58.
          Q
```

```
Page 209
 1
               I'm looking at that and it looks like they
 2
     had to correct errors concerning the mine capital
 3
     costs and make modified assumptions.
 4
               So I'm on line 57 where it says, "Using a
 5
     simple average is equivalent to assuming that each
     of the nine results is equally likely." Do you see
 6
     that?
 7
               I see that.
 8
               And then further on, Exhibit 3 -- that is
 9
     a copy of the transcript from that case -- where
10
11
     Mr. Evans further explained this risk-weighted
12
     average approach that the Division previously
13
     proposed. And on page 164 of that transcript, he
     says, basically, I feel the way to do it is to
14
     combine the results of the nine different modeling
15
16
     simulations that were performed. Do you see that
     language?
17
18
               What lines are you on?
19
          0
               I'm on lines 23 through 25 at the bottom
     of the page. That's an explanation of his
20
21
     risk-weighted average.
2.2
               I see he has a disagreement with the way
23
     the Company is doing it. Which way is the Company
     doing it in this case?
24
               And then he says, on basically line 24 and
25
          Q
```

Page 210 beginning on line 23, he says, "I feel the way to do 1 2 that is to combine the results of the nine different modeling simulations that were performed." Do you 3 4 see that? 5 Yes, I see that. But in reading that same 6 page, it looks like Mr. Evans has a dispute over the 7 way the Company has done it, so I quess he's trying to come to a resolution. 8 9 I think in that case the Company didn't agree with the risk-weighted average. So just 10 11 quickly to finish up in terms of this review, on 12 page 165 where he's explaining to the hearing officer about how his risk-weighted average -- on 13 14 lines 6 through 8, he says, "I think that's one way to approach it, and a pretty good way, and one 15 that's neutral. It doesn't attempt to say that 16

- 10 chac b heactar. It doesn't accempe to bay that
- 17 lower gas prices are more likely or less likely in
- 18 the future, just that they are equally likely with
- 19 the base and high gas price forecasts." Do you see
- 20 that explanation of the risk-weighted average?
- 21 A I see that.
- 22 Q So what I want to ask you is, related to
- 23 your testimony and your summary where you say that
- 24 the Division can't say that repowering is the
- 25 least-cost resource based on the scenarios. Do you

	Dago 211
1	Page 211 have Mr. Link's testimony with you?
2	A Yes.
3	Q What I specifically wanted to ask you
4	about is his supplemental direct testimony.
5	A I have that.
6	Q Turn to his tables, which are those are
7	really the most up-to-date scenario tables on the
8	repowering project as a whole. Page 20 is the first
9	one I'm going to ask you about, Table 5-SD. And do
10	you recognize this as Mr. Link's scenario analysis
11	for the entire project for the 20-year period?
12	A Yes.
13	Q So I'll ask you to accept, subject to
14	check, that averaging the SO results on this chart
15	produces a net benefit of 212 million. Will you
16	accept that number, subject to check?
17	A Subject to check.
18	Q And also, subject to check, that would
19	create a benefit cost ratio equal to 1.21. Will you
20	accept that number, subject to check?
21	A I'm not sure how you're calculating the
22	benefit-to-cost.
23	Q I calculated the benefit-to-cost ratio
24	based on the 1.01 billion NPV cost, compared to
25	the

1	Page 212 A To the average of the SOs?
2	Q Yes.
3	A I don't agree with the predicate of this
4	exercise.
5	Q I understand, but I'm asking you accept
6	those numbers, subject to check.
7	A I accept the numbers.
8	Q Basically, that you have a 212 average
9	benefit, your risk-weighted average, using the
10	Division's approach from that SCR case, and that
11	would equal a benefit-to-cost ratio equal to 1.21.
12	A Excuse me, but the Division's approach was
13	not to average them.
14	Q The Division's approach in the SCR case
15	used a risk-weighted average of the nine scenarios.
16	A Okay. I can't comment on that because I
17	wasn't involved in the I believe Mr. Peterson can
18	comment on the Bridger case.
19	Q And I'm not asking you to comment on that.
20	I'm asking you
21	A I know it was in this case.
22	Q I understand. But if you apply that
23	methodology to this case, I'm asking you to accept,
24	subject to check, that the average of the benefits
25	would be 212 million, and the average of that

Page 213 benefit cost ratio would be 1.21. Will you accept 1 2 those numbers, subject to check? 3 Subject to check. Α 4 So then, if you turn to page 22, which is the same table -- this time for the 2050 benefits --5 and doing the same analysis for the 2050 benefits, 6 an average of the scenario results here, would you 7 8 accept, subject to check, that that average is 281 million? 9 So this is a different table. So are you 10 А averaging the annual revenue requirement? Is that 11 12 what you're doing? 13 That's correct. I'm averaging the updated 14 annual revenue requirement. 15 And what's the average? Α 16 That average is -- I'll represent to you Q 17 is 281 million. 18 Okay. I don't think it's representative 19 of anything but an average. 20 Right. And the benefit-to-cost ratio that Q 21 you would derive would be 1.28. Would you accept 22 that, subject to check, as well? 23 Α Yes. So let me ask you a hypothetical that uses 24 25 those cost benefit ratios. If we were analyzing a

Page 214 1 proposed DSM investment which requires a cost 2 benefit ratio of 1.0 or greater to demonstrate cost 3 effectiveness. With benefit-to-cost ratios of 1.21 4 or 1.28, that investment would clearly be cost-effective, wouldn't it? 5 I'm -- again, I don't do the DSM so I'm 6 Α not familiar with those calculations. 7 So if you assume for purposes of my 8 0 9 hypothetical that cost effectiveness requires 1.0 or greater, cost benefit ratios of 1.21 or 1.28 would 10 11 demonstrate a cost-effective investment, correct? 12 Α Yes, assuming both of those. 13 MS. SCHMID: Pardon me. With this line of questions, the Division does have another 14 15 witness that is prepared to answer with more 16 familiarity considering these topics. And the Division would like to note that Dr. William Powell 17 is available to testify and answer these questions. 18 19 MS. MCDOWELL: You know, I've just 2.0 concluded that line of questioning, so I'm ready to 21 move on. 2.2 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: I think that 23 addresses the objection at this point. 24 THE WITNESS: I don't see any 25 relevance to this case.

- 1 BY MS. MCDOWELL:
- 2 Q Now I'm going to shift and ask you some
- 3 questions about need. And first, before I ask you
- 4 about your testimony, I just wanted to ask about
- 5 your summary. You cited some comments from the
- 6 Oregon staff in the Oregon IRP process. Do you
- 7 recall that?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q Isn't it true that the Oregon Commission
- 10 has acknowledged the IRP?
- 11 A I have not seen an acknowledgment order.
- 12 I know the Oregon staff recommended they not
- 13 acknowledge it and I heard that they were going to,
- 14 but I have not seen an order yet as of this time.
- 15 Have you?
- 16 Q I can represent to you that there was an
- 17 acknowledgment order issued last week.
- 18 A There was. So I have not seen that.
- 19 Q And the Commission actually acknowledged
- 20 it in a public meeting in December of 2017.
- 21 A I understand that they acknowledged it in
- 22 a meeting, but I haven't seen a written order.
- 23 Q I was going to ask you about your
- 24 testimony, but you also indicated in your summary
- 25 that your position is that need should be a

Page 216 1 prerequisite for repowering. Is that your position 2 in this case? 3 I think the need should be established 4 through an IRP stakeholder process, determined there, and then from there, whatever reliability or 5 6 capacity resources come from that would be what the need is. 7 So I wanted to ask you about your 8 0 definition of need in this context. So I think your 9 direct testimony has some insight into that. Can 10 you turn to that, please? Just let me know when 11 12 you're there. 13 What page are you on? 14 It's your direct testimony at lines 207-209, which is page 11. So when you're talking 15 16 about the IRP and need, you say -- you refer to operational need and indicate that there is -- on 17 line 207 -- a lack of operational need for the wind 18 19 repowering resources. Do you see that? 2.0 Α Yes. 21 So when you talk about a resource need as 22 traditionally understood, you're referring to the 23 need for a new capacity resource; is that correct? 24 Α It wouldn't have to be new capacity resource. It could be, for instance, like the 25

Page 217 scrubbers on the plants, you know, something that 1 2 goes through the IRP process where you have a CPCN proceeding to determine if it's needed. So most 3 4 times, it could be a new resource. 5 Well, don't you agree that a resource 6 could be needed, as in the case of DSM, to more cost effectively service current load? 7 8 Α Yes, I do. 9 So I wanted to explore a little bit further this question of need in your testimony. 10 11 Can you turn to page -- well, it's your surrebuttal 12 testimony at lines 193 to 195. Are you with me 13 there? 14 Yes. So there, you say, "The Division can say 15 Q 16 that the wind repowered resources, if they were actually needed, would displace resources such as 17 short-term market purchases." Do you see that? 18 19 Α Yes. 20 So what we're talking about here in terms 21 of whether there's a need or not, is really around 22 whether there's a need for the 750 gigawatts of new 23 zero-cost, or zero-fuel-cost energy that repowering would result in between now and 2037; is that 24 25 correct?

1	Page 218 A That's what we're talking about in this
2	proceeding, yes.
3	Q And then, just to make sure we're all on
4	the same page, basically, the new energy that
5	repowering brings the incremental energy is
6	approximately 750 gigawatt hours through 2037, and
7	then thereafter would be 3,500 gigawatt hours. Will
8	you accept those numbers, subject to check?
9	A Subject to check. It's around 17 to
10	30 percent average capacity, I believe.
11	Q And so those that zero-fuel-cost
12	energy, just operationally, would displace market
13	purchases for the Company if they were lower cost,
14	correct?
15	A Yes. It could displace coal plants, it
16	could displace lots of resources.
17	Q And it would only displace those resources
18	if it were lower cost, correct?
19	A It depends if there's too much wind in the
20	system and they're experiencing the duck curve, they
21	might have to curtail wind, too, but that's not
22	necessarily the least cost.
23	Q In the normal order, that zero-fuel-cost
24	wind would displace other resources if it were
25	the only if it were the lowest cost resource,

Page 219 1 correct? 2 Α Right. You want to start with energy 3 efficiency and DSM and the low -- to displace 4 things. So just focusing in on those market 5 6 purchases, the Company currently uses market purchases to balance its system and serve load, 7 correct? 8 9 А Correct. 10 And in the current case, the status quo 11 case, customers bear all the risks associated with 12 those market purchases, correct? 13 Well, I'm assuming as long as the Company is following its hedging practices, it should. 14 15 And in fact, the Division has previously Q 16 expressed some concern about the Company relying on 17 market purchases to serve its need, correct? 18 Α Yes. 19 And I wanted to give you -- an example of 20 that is in our Cross-Exhibit 5. Do you have that? 21 Α Yes. 22 So I'll just represent to you, these are 23 the Division's comments on PacifiCorp's 2015 IRP. 24 Do you see that? 25 Α Yes.

```
Page 220
 1
          0
               And you're listed as one of the authors of
 2
     these comments, so I take it you're familiar with
     these comments?
 3
 4
               Yes, I am.
 5
               So if you turn to what's marked as page 16
 6
     of this exhibit, following up on my question to you
     about the Division expressing concern about market
 7
     reliance, there in the -- basically the first
 8
 9
     paragraph under the graph, and I want to just read a
10
     sentence to you to direct your attention to it.
     It's the last full sentence of that paragraph where
11
12
     you say, "The reliance on FOT," and that would be
13
     front office transaction. Is that the definition of
14
     FOT? Can you help with that for a moment?
15
          Α
               Yes.
                     That's the terminology we use.
               And that refers to market purchases,
16
          0
17
     correct?
18
          Α
                     Short-term. It could be hourly,
               Yes.
     sub-hourly, a two-year --
19
20
               Just a range of market purchases, correct?
          0
21
     So you could say, "The reliance on market purchases
22
     continues to be a concern to the Division and to
23
     other Utah parties. This reliance on the wholesale
24
     electric market could result in ratepayers facing
     greater price volatility and potentially loss of
25
```

Page 221 1 power, except at very high prices, in the event that 2 the wholesale markets dry up due to environmental concerns and the possible closure of existing 3 4 coal-fired generation facilities, among other 5 reasons." Do you recall those comments from the Division? 6 7 Yes, I do. Α 8 So I take it that by -- if the Company Q 9 takes steps to reduce its reliance on the market to meet load, that would be consistent with the 10 11 Division's position that that would be risk reducing 12 to customers? 13 You're making an extra assumption there. I'm sure we filed those comments -- the Commission 14 issued an order requiring the Company to demonstrate 15 16 that it had the market depth and liquidity to sustain that level of market purchases. And so ever 17 18 since the Company has included in Appendix J -- and 19 it's Volume 2 of its IRP, Western Resource Adequacy 2.0 study -- so these fears that we had back in 2011, 21 '15, the Commission ruled and those have been 22 somewhat gone, pretty much. We don't have to worry 23 much about that anymore. Well, by -- repowering would basically 24 reduce the Company's reliance on market purchases by 25

Page 222 750 gigawatt hours of new energy in the next 20 1 2 years or so. Do you accept that? 3 Over 20 years or 30 years? 4 Well, through 2037. Would you accept that? 5 I don't know. I'd have to check that one. 6 Α I'm thinking more of the first 10 years while we 7 have the PTCs. And it seems like they would only 8 9 displace maybe 174 megawatts, and that's not very 10 much. 11 Well, if it's zero-fuel cost and 750 12 gigawatt hours, wouldn't the Company be using 13 that -- those gigawatt hours instead of market purchases to serve and balance its load? 14 I would think so. 15 Α And isn't that consistent with the 16 0 17 concerns the Division expressed, as recently as 2015, about the risk of the Company's reliance on 18 the market? 19 2.0 Α Yes. It's consistent with that, but 21 again, that concern has been assuaged. 22 Can you turn to your direct testimony --23 actually, excuse me -- your surrebuttal testimony at lines 2014 -- surrebuttal, lines 214 to 216. 24 25 Sure. What is the correct line? Α

```
Page 223
               214.
 1
          Q
                     So let me ask you more generally,
 2
     your position is that repowering should be in the
     IRP, correct?
 3
               I'm sorry. Excuse me. I've got the wrong
 5
     testimony.
 6
          Q
               That's all right. I can just ask you more
 7
     generally.
               I have it right here. Okay.
 8
               So generally, this Q and A beginning on
 9
10
     line 207 indicates that your position is that the
11
     repowering should be in the IRP. Is that a fair
12
     summary of that Q and A?
13
               My position is that IRP stakeholders
14
     should have been introduced so that IRP stakeholders
15
     could have discussed it and expressed concerns over
16
     it earlier in the process.
               So can I turn your attention to the final
17
     cross-exhibit in that stack, RMP Cross-Exhibit 6?
18
19
     Do you have that? These are the comments,
20
     PacifiCorp's comments -- or excuse me, the
     Division's comments on PacifiCorp's 2017 IRP.
21
22
     you have that?
23
          Α
               Yes.
24
               So do you recognize these comments?
     just an excerpt from the comments, from PacifiCorp's
25
```

```
Page 224
     2017 IRP.
 1
 2
          Α
               Yes.
               So you assisted on these comments; is that
 3
          0
 4
     correct?
 5
          Α
               Yes.
 6
          0
               What I wanted to ask you about is on page
 7
     34 of this exhibit. And at the top of the page --
     do you have that?
 8
               Uh-huh (affirmative).
 9
10
               You talk about wind repowering, basically
11
     beginning with "however." You say, "However, the
12
     2017 IRP and its Action Plan include wind repowering
13
     and new wind and transmission resources that are
14
     based on an economic opportunity." Do you see that
15
     sentence?
16
               Yes.
          Α
               And then, I wanted to ask you about the
17
     next sentence where you say, "Economic opportunities
18
     are best evaluated in the context of a rate-based
19
     setting, not an IRP setting." Do you see that?
20
21
          Α
               Yes.
22
               So didn't the Division actually recommend
23
     even considering repowering in the IRP?
24
               Did the Division recommend repowering?
          Α
               Against considering repowering in the IRP?
25
          Q
```

Page 225 Yes, against. Yes. 1 Α 2 So you indicated that the Commission Q should not consider repowering in the IRP; it should 3 4 have instead considered it in a rate case? 5 No, not instead. It should have gone through an IRP stakeholder planning process and then 6 7 through a rate case. That's curious, because your comments here 8 0 9 say, "Economic opportunities are best evaluated in 10 the context of a rate-based setting, not an IRP 11 setting." So I read those comments as indicating 12 that the Division did not believe that repowering 13 belonged in the IRP. 14 Then if you want to read the very next sentence, it says, "The Division recommends the 15 Commission direct the Company toward Utah's IRP 16 objectives, need-based resource planning, and 17 least-cost, least-risk objective, according to the 18 Commission's IRP Standards and Guidelines." 19 20 So I wanted to ask you about a statement, 0 21 and indicate whether you agree with it in the 22 context of repowering. And that is that regulators 23 should not discourage the Company from looking for potential economic benefits for ratepayers, even if 24 the proposals seem unusual within a regulatory 25

Page 226 1 framework. Do you agree with that statement? 2 Α No. I think that companies should still 3 look for good opportunities. I don't want to 4 discourage the Company from looking for good 5 opportunities. 6 Q So you do agree with that statement? Uh-huh (affirmative). 7 А MS. MCDOWELL: That's all I have. 8 would like to offer our cross-exhibits, which are 1 9 through 3, and 5 and 6. 10 11 DR. ZENGER: We don't have the full 12 comments, we just have certain pages here. 13 MS. MCDOWELL: And they are just excerpts. We did that in the interest of not 14 15 wasting a bunch of paper. I certainly would not 16 object to complete versions of any of these documents being submitted into the record in lieu of 17 these cross-exhibits. 18 19 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Do any parties 2.0 object to the admission of any of these 21 cross-exhibits? I'm not seeing any, so the motion 2.2 is granted. Ms. Schmid, any redirect? 23 MS. SCHMID: Yes. 24 REDIRECT EXAMINATION 25 BY MS. SCHMID:

Page 227 You were asked a series of questions about 1 0 2 whether a project would most likely result in the acquisition, production, and delivery of utility 3 4 services in the least reasonable cost to the retail consumers of an energy utility located in this 5 Is that the only thing that the Public 6 state. Service Commission is required to take into 7 consideration when it is determining whether or not 8 9 to give pre-approval to a project like that 10 presented in the application before it? 11 I closed my statute, but no. Definitely 12 There's the long-term impacts and short-term 13 factors, long-term factors, the financial impact on the Utility, if there's any other factors that might 14 15 be deemed relevant at the time. Like, for instance, 16 when we were going through the '80s recession, that was obviously a factor. So I think the magnitude 17 18 and scope of this project is a factor because this is unprecedented. So no, it's not the only factor. 19 2.0 There are many factors. 21 So even if there were NPVs that were 22 positive, it's possible that customers might not see the lowest reasonable cost because of other factors: 23 is that correct? 24 25 That's true. Α

1	Page 228  Q And I want to focus on this. The standard
2	is, isn't it, whether or not the Commission
3	determines that the decision is in the public
4	interest. The Division is really evaluating whether
5	or not it's worth taking a risk; is that correct?
6	A Yes.
7	Q You were asked about front office
8	transactions. Isn't it true that the Division has
9	expressed concern about reliance upon front office
10	transactions?
11	A Yes, yes.
12	Q But isn't it true that the Division thinks
13	that this application requesting a billion dollars
14	of pre-approval isn't the resource to eliminate all
15	reliance on front office transactions?
16	A Correct. This the small amount of
17	energy that comes from the repower of wind projects
18	wouldn't displace all the front office transactions.
19	And the Company needs to have a certain level of
20	transactions for balancing intra-hour and intra-day
21	hour balancing, so it's not like you want to get rid
22	of all of your front office transactions.
23	Q So is it true that front office
24	transactions replace capacity that the Company
25	doesn't have for, like, meeting its summer peak; is

Page 229 that true? 1 2 It could. They're basically considered a proxy resource in the IRP. And then when we get to 3 4 all the tangible resources and what we need in considering the 13 percent planning reserve margin, 5 then they usually fill in the numbers. But we've 6 always had them in the IRP. 7 And so with these front office 8 0 transactions, the Division is concerned but they may 9 be needed. Is that a fair statement? 10 11 Α Yes. 12 0 And is it also a fair statement that when 13 the Company builds a resource, like a billion-dollar 14 resource, the ratepayers are locked in? And I'll use that -- I'm trying to not use it as a pejorative 15 16 term -- but the ratepayers are committed to paying not only for the cost of the project, its capital 17 costs, its expenses, but also a return on rate base 18 19 to the Company?

- 20 A That's right. And the rate base on the
- 21 unused equipment, too, that's being taken out.
- 22 O So isn't it true that the Division is
- 23 really evaluating and saying it's not worth taking a
- 24 risk on this \$1 billion investment?
- 25 A Yes. The Division is not saying the

Page 230 1 Company should not ever look for opportunities, new 2 battery technology and new advances that can cut 3 costs and improve system reliability, but this 4 particular acquisition presents too much risk. And the Division isn't trying to 5 discourage the Company from looking -- is it true 6 that the Division just wants to make sure that if a 7 project is approved, it's in the public interest? 8 9 Exactly. Yes. In the public interest. MS. SCHMID: Now, it's Mr. Jetter's 10 11 turn to ask questions on a different topic. 12 REDIRECT EXAMINATION 13 BY MR. JETTER: 14 Thank you. I apologize for any disruption this will cause, but because of my involvement in 15 16 the Jim Bridger SCR approval docket, I think it would be reasonable for me to follow up with some 17 redirect questions regarding that topic and 18 distinctions between that and this case. 19 20 With respect to the Jim Bridger SCR 21 process -- I'm just going to ask a hypothetical, so 22 we don't even need to go into facts. 23 hypothetically, would you view a resource decision to add a pair of selected catalytic reaction 24 reduction systems to a coal power plant that would 25

Page 231 1 allow it to stay in service and generate something 2 in the range of 500 megawatts of capacity -- in that analysis where the alternative comparison, the need 3 4 to construct a very similar cost combined cycle natural gas power plant in a different location, if 5 the scenario arose where those were two options --6 neither existed in the current state -- and the 7 8 decision between the two was necessary to have one 9 or the other to keep the lights on, would you view 10 that as a different analysis as compared to an 11 analysis of whether we should spend a billion 12 dollars to try to make some extra money? 13 Yes, definitely. And probably in the case 14 you described, it wouldn't have happened after the fact. So here, the IRP is all done, we've done this 15 16 so we've got sensitivities. Is it better with, is it better without? I think if you're doing two 17 18 complete alternate possibilities, you could do a 19 full analysis for alternatives. 20 Thank you. And if you were forced to 21 choose one of two alternatives, neither of which 22 were available as a no-action alternative, would it 23 be more reasonable to choose the one that was maybe one dollar better than the other? 24 25 Not if there is too much risk. Α

```
Page 232
 1
                    MR. JETTER: Okay. I'd like to
 2
     approach the witness and hand her -- what I'm going
     to hand her is a copy -- and I don't intend to enter
 3
 4
     this as an exhibit -- but it's Rocky Mountain
 5
     Power's 2017 integrated resource plan update,
     May 1st, which was, I believe, yesterday or two days
 6
 7
     ago, 2018?
 8
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
                                          Yes.
     BY MR. JETTER:
 9
10
               And you were asked some questions about
11
     the Division's concern in the 2015 IRP. Do you have
12
     Rocky Mountain Power Cross-Exhibit 5?
13
     specifically, I'm looking at page 16. That includes
     a chart titled, The 2015 IRP Load and Resource
14
15
     Balance?
16
               Yes.
          Α
17
               Is it accurate to say that in 2015,
     looking at that chart, if you go out to 2024, that
18
     chart shows that 2015 IRP total resource in
19
     megawatts is 10,424, and the projected obligation in
20
21
     reserve is 12,259?
2.2
          Α
               Yes.
23
               And would you also accept, subject to
     check, that the Company has represented that the
24
     depth of front office transactions is
25
```

```
Page 233
 1
     1,575 megawatts?
 2
               Is that per year?
               That's on an instantaneous basis, I
 3
          0
 4
     believe.
 5
          Α
               Okay.
 6
          Q
               Would you accept that, subject to check,
     that that is also in that IRP?
 7
 8
          Α
               Yes.
 9
               Now, would you turn to page 24 of the
10
     Company's 2017 updated IRP. Do you see a chart at
11
     the top, which is figure 4.2? And that shows the
12
     forecasted annual coincident peak load. Are you
     looking at that?
13
14
          Α
               Yes.
               And is it accurate that, if you go out to
15
          Q
16
     2024, which matches the end year of the 2015 IRP you
     had commented about, in the gap between the
17
18
     available resources and the projected load, is it
19
     accurate to say that the current Company forecast
     for 2024 for forecasted coincident peak load is
20
21
     around 10,300 megawatts?
2.2
          Α
               Yes, yes.
23
               And in fact, 10,300 megawatts, the Company
     forecasted coincident peak load in its current
24
     projections is less than the Company's 2015 IRP
25
```

Page 234 1 projected total resources. Is that accurate? 2 Yes, it is. Does that cause a substantial change in 3 0 4 your concern about the number of front office transactions available to meet that peak load? 5 6 Α Well, yeah. I mean, with load changing, if load is increasing, then of course, you have to 7 8 worry about when you're going to build the next 9 major plant. But with load being steady or decreasing, you're in a no-build option and you 10 11 don't have the same concern over front office 12 transactions. 13 And so, in fact, if you have enough 14 generating capacity within the Company to exceed the 15 projected load, you may not need any front office 16 transactions. Is that accurate? You may end up selling primarily through those transactions? 17 18 Right, right. Short-term sales. 19 0 Thank you. With respect to the ability to meet load, there was some discussion sort of mixing 20 21 in --2.2 MS. MCDOWELL: I hate to interrupt, 23 but this is really extensive redirect. I really can't remember any redirect I've ever seen that's 24 gone on this long. I understand and I hate to 25

1	Page 235 interrupt anybody, but it does seem like we're well
2	beyond the scope of my cross-examination at this
3	point.
4	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: So that's your
5	objection, is that it's beyond the scope of cross?
6	MS. MCDOWELL: It seems like a lot of
7	this could have been covered in their testimony and
8	or in their direct filing. We don't have a chance
9	to cross-examine on all of this new information
10	that's coming out, so I guess I'm just objecting
11	because it seems like that is going beyond the scope
12	of normal redirect.
13	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Well, I think
14	I'm going to rule that I don't think we're outside
15	of the topic of what the cross-examination was on.
16	So I don't see a basis for shutting this down based
17	on length, because I think we're within the topics
18	that you covered on cross. So I don't see an
19	evidentiary basis based on length of redirect, so I
20	will continue.
21	However, this is a good time to give
22	everyone and our court reporter a brief break. So
23	why don't we take a ten-minute break, come back, and
24	we'll continue with the redirect. If we're going to
25	be back tomorrow no matter what, there's probably no

Page 236 reason to continue going. So it looks like we'll be 1 2 here tomorrow, so we'll probably come back and try to wrap up around 5:00 or so. We can continue and 3 4 get as far as we can. Why don't we take about a ten-minute recess. 5 6 (A brief recess was taken.) COMMISSIONER LEVAR: We're back on 7 8 the record. Dr. Zenger, you're still under oath. 9 And we'll continue with redirect by Mr. Jetter. 10 MR. JETTER: Thank you. I am 11 finished with redirect, so we can move on to 12 recross. 13 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Ms. McDowell, 14 do you have any recross? 15 RECROSS EXAMINATION 16 BY MS. MCDOWELL: 17 I wanted to ask a clarifying question 0 about the 2017 IRP update. Do you still have that? 18 19 Α Yes. 20 Were you present when Mr. Link testified 21 that the load forecast used in the IRP update is the 22 same that was used in the supplemental direct 23 economic analysis presented by the Company? 24 Yes, I heard that. That was the first Α 25 time I'd heard it.

```
Page 237
               So basically, whatever load forecast is
 1
          0
 2
     represented in the update is also already
     incorporated in the Company's economic analysis?
 3
 4
          Α
               Yes.
               And that's also true with the forward
 5
     price curve? I don't know how familiar -- since
 6
     you're testifying on it, I don't know how familiar
 7
 8
     you are on it, but I'll represent to you that the
 9
     forward price curve used in the update is the
     December 2017 forward price curve. Will you accept
10
11
     that?
12
               Subject to check. And could I ask, also,
     are the PTCs being modeled as nominal in the update,
13
14
     or levelized?
15
               I can represent to you that they are
     modeled on a nominal basis in the IRP. Mr. Link
16
     also testified to that earlier today.
17
                                             But back to
     my question, is it your understanding that
18
19
     Mr. Link's supplemental testimony providing the new
     economic analysis is also used in the December 2017
20
21
     forward price curve?
2.2
          А
               Yes.
23
          0
               Which is the same forward price curve?
24
          Α
               Yes.
25
                    MS. MCDOWELL:
                                    Thank you.
                                                That's all
```

1	Page 238 I have.
2	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Thank you.
3	Commissioner White, do you have any questions for
4	Dr. Zenger?
5	COMMISSIONER WHITE: No questions.
6	Thank you.
7	COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
8	Commissioner Clark?
9	COMMISSIONER CLARK: No questions.
10	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: I don't have any
11	either. Thank you for your testimony today.
12	Ms. Schmid.
13	MS. SCHMID: As its next witness, the
14	Division would like to call Mr. Peaco.
15	DANIEL PEACO,
16	having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, was
17	examined and testified as follows:
18	DIRECT EXAMINATION
19	BY MS. SCHMID:
20	Q Good morning. Could you please state your
21	full name, business address, and employer for the
22	record?
23	A Yes. My name is Daniel Peaco. I'm
24	principle consultant for Daymark Energy Advisers,
25	consultant to the Division, and my business address

Page 239 is 48 Free Street, Portland, Maine 04101. 1 2 In connection with your employment by the Division and your participation in this docket, have 3 you prepared and caused to be filed what's been 4 marked as DPU Exhibit No. 2.0-DIR in confidential 5 and redacted form, along with Exhibit No. 2.1 and 6 along with Exhibit No. 2.2-DIR in confidential and 7 redacted form. And those were filed on September 8 20th of 2017? 9 10 Α Yes. 11 Did you also prepare and cause to be filed Q 12 what's been marked as DPU Exhibit No. 2.0-SR in confidential and redated form, along with other 13 Exhibits 2.1 and 2.2-DIR, both in confidential and 14 redacted form? That was filed on November 15th, 15 16 2017? 17 Α Yes. And finally, did you prepare and cause to 18 be filed what's been marked as DPU Exhibit No. 19 20 2.0-RESP, your prefiled response testimony in 21 confidential and redacted form, filed on April 2nd, 22 2018? 23 Α Yes. 24 Do you have any changes or corrections to those prefiled exhibits? 25

```
Page 240
               I do not.
 1
          Α
 2
          Q
               If I were to ask you the same questions
 3
     today as are presented in your prefiled testimony,
 4
     would your answers be the same?
 5
               They would.
                    MS. SCHMID: With that, the Division
 6
     moves for the admission of Mr. Peaco's direct,
 7
     surrebuttal, and response as previously identified.
 8
                                          If anyone
 9
                    COMMISSIONER LEVAR:
10
     objects to that motion, please indicate to me. I'm
11
     not seeing any objections, so the motion is granted.
12
       (DPU Exhibit Nos. 2.0-DIR Confidential, 2.0-DIR
13
      Redacted, 2.1-DIR, 2.2-DIR Confidential, 2.2-DIR
                     Redacted admitted.)
14
     BY MS. SCHMID:
15
16
               Do you have a summary to present today?
          Q
17
          Α
               T do.
               Please proceed?
18
          Q
19
               Commissioners, good afternoon.
2.0
     Company has proposed a collection of 12 wind
21
     repowering projects for approval by this Commission
22
     that the Company claims represents a unique economic
23
     opportunity to provide benefits to customers,
     deriving from the limited time nature of the federal
24
     production tax credit, or PTC policy.
25
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	Page 241
1	On behalf of the Division, I've offered
2	three pieces of testimony in this proceeding, which
3	we have just described. The Company has offered the
4	projects as a unique opportunity for the Company to
5	repower these projects and receive renewed
6	qualification for PTC benefits, resulting in lower
7	costs to customers. The repowering projects are
8	different than a typical resource decision. In this
9	case, the Company has failed to show that there is a
10	resource need for these projects. They do not serve
11	to address any identified need from a reliability or
12	public policy requirement. The sole justification
13	of these projects provided by the Company is to
14	lower costs to customers.
15	The Company's initial application offered
16	the 12 projects as a single project, with an
17	economic analysis of these projects as one. In
18	response to concerns expressed by me and others, the
19	Company acknowledged that other than the common
20	timing objective for the purposes of the PTC
21	qualification, the 12 repowering projects are
22	independent investment decisions. My testimony
23	examines the Company's economic case for each of
24	the 12 projects. The Company has asserted that
25	these projects officer a high likelihood of

Page 242 significant benefits to ratepayers. 1 In the context 2 of this case and in the context of that 3 representation of the benefits to customers, a 50/50 4 proposition is not acceptable. I've examined the potential for adverse 5 outcomes to seek an assurance of a much higher 6 7 probability of significant benefits to customers; I've examined the project economics to determine 8 9 whether the results are sufficiently robust to be 10 beneficial to ratepayers across the full range of 11 possible market and policy outcomes, and they are 12 I observed that the Company's current estimate 13 of economic benefits of the entire package of the repowering projects has declined from the analysis 14 it presented in its rebuttal testimony last fall. 15 The Company's current analysis estimates that the 16 17 net ratepayer benefits across all jurisdictions of the combined projects for the nine price policy 18 scenarios ranging from \$127 million to \$446 million. 19 2.0 These values are lower than the \$360 million to 21 \$635 million range offered in the Company's rebuttal 22 testimony. My testimony shows that the benefit cost 23 margins in those results are not sufficient to 24 assure a high likelihood of significant benefits to 25 ratepayers, even if you assume the Company's

Page 243 1 estimates are reasonable. 2 In the low gas, zero CO2 scenario, the Company's analysis shows the \$1.1 billion investment 3 4 offers ratepayers across all jurisdictions a \$127 million in net benefits. This value is much 5 less than the return on investment that the Company 6 is seeking, with ratepayers receiving lower 7 estimated benefits while continuing to bear many 8 important risks. 9 10 The economics vary considerably between 11 the 12 sites and by subsets of wind turbine 12 generation within each site. My testimony provides 13 benefit cost ratios for each of the 12 projects, 14 showing the range of value between the projects in 15 the Company's analysis and in alternative market 16 price sensitivity I've prepared. Note that the 17 ratios I've used to determine this variation among 18 the sites do not represent my view of the economics, but the Company's. In addition, I provide an 19 2.0 analysis that illustrates that there are different 21 values for those wind turbine generators that the 22 Company has identified as needing repairs and those 23 that have already been repaired. I have identified 24 a number of problems with the Company's economic 25 modeling methodology and analysis that cause me to

1	conclude that the savings analysis is not a sound or
2	reasonable basis for supporting the Company's
3	recommendation.
4	The Company's primary analysis employs its
5	IRP models to evaluate the economics of the first 17
6	years of the project life, and an extrapolation
7	method to develop values for the remaining 13 years
8	of the project life. In each of my three filed
9	testimonies, I describe anomalous results that I
10	have observed that leave me concerned that the
11	modeling methodology is not providing reliable
12	results. In response to these concerns, the Company
13	has offered an alternative extrapolation
14	methodology, but I have found that that method has
15	flaws as well.
16	The Company's primary and alternative
17	methodologies are each challenged to provide
18	reasonable economic analysis of the unique
19	characteristics of the incremental production
20	offered by the repowered projects. Neither method
21	provides a sufficiently sound and transparent
22	evaluation of the projects to give confidence in the
23	results. As a result, I cannot conclude that either
24	method is a proper basis to make judgments as to
25	whether any or all of the projects have a high

Page 245 likelihood of customer benefits. 1 2 There remains significant risk that the 3 actual economic value to ratepayers will be 4 significantly different than the results in the Company's analysis. The Company's proposal requires 5 that ratepayers bear a number of significant 6 7 economic risks and uncertainties. I believe it is particularly important for the Company to explore 8 9 the magnitude of any potential downside risks that the customers are being asked to assume if these 10 11 projects are to proceed. These risks include 12 project cost uncertainty, project energy production 13 estimate uncertainty, and assumptions regarding project life. While the Company asserts that it has 14 demonstrated the net benefits to customers over a 15 wide range of scenarios, the analysis the Company 16 presented does not include any analysis for these 17 factors for those price policy scenarios that 18 produced the least attractive benefit outcomes for 19 2.0 customers. 21 I recommend that the Company's application 2.2 for the 12 repowering projects be denied. 23 there is potential for a downsized repowering 24 program to be considered by the Company. 25 recommend that the Company consider a revised

Page 246 program proposal that eliminates at least six of the 1 2 least attractive sites. In addition, I recommend 3 that the repowering be limited to those turbines 4 that have problematic gear box equipment that is slated for replacement. As shown in my testimony, 5 based on the Company's analysis, removing at least 6 7 six of the 12 sites and eliminating the repowering of towers that have already had new gear box 8 equipment replaced, would deliver a higher 9 10 probability of benefits and substantially reduce 11 costs to ratepayers. The Seven Mile Hill I and II, 12 Glenrock I and III, Dunlap Ranch, and Marengo I 13 appear to demonstrate better economics and may merit further consideration. Goodnoe Hills, Marengo II, 14 15 Rolling Hills, McFadden Ridge, High Plains, and Leaning Juniper are the most economically challenged 16 sites and should be removed from further 17 consideration. 18 19 The Company could consider revising its 2.0 repowering program to focus on the best six sites, and within those sites, the turbines that have the 21 22 problematic gear box equipment. Even if the 23 repowering program is reduced in size to target the 24 best investment opportunities, the ratepayer risk 25 issues would not be eliminated, only mitigated. Ιf

Page 247 1 any of these projects are to be approved, the 2 Company should be held accountable for meeting the 3 PTC requirements and effectively managing the other risks that I have identified. 4 I recommend that the Commission not 5 approve any alternative configuration based on the 6 record before it. The Company could decide to 7 proceed with a modified proposal in another 8 9 pre-approval application. 10 Have you prepared a hearing exhibit to 11 help explain your summary and live testimony today? 12 Α Yes. I have prepared a number of comments 13 and surrebuttal to the Company's latest filed rebuttal testimony, and I would explain that exhibit 14 in that context. 15 16 Thank you. Please proceed. Q 17 Α Okay. There are a number of points in the 18 Company's most recent filed testimony that I would 19 like to respond to. 2.0 First, I would state that Mr. Hoogeveen 21 has indicated at lines 31 and 32, that the Company 22 has addressed or mitigated the major risks 23 identified by the parties. And as I've just 24 explained in my summary, there are a number of risks that we have identified as major that the Company 25

Page 248 1 has not addressed. The Company even today, this 2 morning, he acknowledged in testimony that the 3 Company is not assuming risks that I've identified, 4 including change in federal law, change in the IRS letter rulings on the implementation of the PTC 5 program, they're taking none of the production 6 risk -- downside production risks associated with 7 the projects -- and they're not assuming any of the 8 market risks, among some others. But those are the 9 10 major ones that I wanted to clarify, that there are 11 major risks that we have identified that the Company 12 has not addressed or mitigated. 13 The second point goes to the representation of the relationship between the value 14 15 of the PTC benefit and the cost of the project. Mr. Hoogeveen in testimony, and I think again today, 16 indicated that the investment at 1.1 billion would 17 pass 1.26 billion in PTC benefits, a number in 18 19 excess of the cost that he's quoted. That number --20 I will go to the exhibit that been circulated to 21 explain what those numbers are and why I disagree 22 with his representation of those. 23 MS. SCHMID: And if we may break for 24 just a moment, I have not provided the exhibit to

the Commissioners, however, it has been previously

25

Page 249 provided to Counsel. So if I may distribute this 1 2 now. 3 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Is that a confidential exhibit? 4 MS. SCHMID: Thank you. Yes, it is a 5 confidential exhibit. 6 7 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: So I'll ask to 8 get a copy to the court reporter, but keep it out of 9 the public transcripts if it's admitted. 10 THE WITNESS: My intention is to 11 not -- I'll refer to numbers on this page that are 12 confidential, but I don't intend to discuss them. 13 But I first will point you to two numbers on this page that are not confidential, the numbers that are 14 in Mr. Hoogeveen's testimony --15 16 MS. SCHMID: And if I could stop for just one second, could we have this identified as 17 DPU Hearing Exhibit 1? 18 19 (DPU Confidential Hearing Exhibit No. 1 marked.) 2.0 BY MS. SCHMID: 21 0 Please proceed. 2.2 Okay. So there's Mr. Hoogeveen's 23 testimony that indicates that the proposed investment is in the amount of \$1.101 billion. 24 number shows in the highlighted box at the very top 25

Page 250 And I've included the source for that 1 of the page. 2 information. All of these numbers are sourced from 3 a work paper attached to Mr. Link's testimony. The 4 second number from Mr. Hoogeveen's testimony, which is in the public domain, is a number that's 5 corresponding to -- under the production tax credit 6 7 collection of numbers, the sum of nominal, there's a number, a billion two-sixty-two. That's the second 8 9 number in his testimony and he talked today and he characterized that as demonstrating that the PTC 10 11 benefits exceed the cost of the project. 12 What I want to do first is to explain to 13 you what those numbers are. The capital cost number and the production tax credit are what I would call 14 15 nominal numbers. They're basically the sum of nominal values. The capital costs that occur in 16 17 2018 and 2019 summed together bring you to the 1.01. That's only the investment cost, it's not all of the 18 19 costs that go into the revenue requirements that are 2.0 in the analysis. It's the initial investment in a 21 nominal basis expressed in the years that they're 2.2 incurred. The production tax credit number, a billion two-sixty-two, is also a nominal number. 23 It's the sum of the nominal values for the 24 25 production tax credit benefit from the year 2019

Page 251 1 through 2030 in the analysis. It is not a present 2 value number, it's expressed and inflated into the 3 year dollars where the benefits occur. And so it's 4 therefore not on the same year-dollar basis or the same present-value basis as the cost. 5 What I also show here on this sheet, the 6 row immediately below the billion two-sixty-two 7 number, is the present value version of that number 8 9 for the production tax credits. What I show in the middle section, the section that is Project Cost, 10 11 (NPV), which is net present value of project costs, 12 and this would include the capital recovery O&M and 13 wind tax, all of the costs built into the revenue requirements for a total. And the total is shown 14 15 there. And as you can see from comparing that total 16 to the net present value of the production tax credits, the production tax credits clearly are 17 still a major component of offsetting cost, but they 18 do not exceed the cost of the project. And I think 19 20 it's important to put in apples to apples, the 21 magnitude of the production tax credit benefit 2.2 relative to the cost on a consistent basis. 23 The next point that I would like to 24 discuss is that -- and this was partly addressed in 25 oral this morning -- Mr. Hoogeveen has asserted in

Page 252 his testimony at lines 154 to 156 that my analysis 1 2 shows all facilities showing net benefits in the 3 medium/medium case in the low gas, no carbon 4 scenarios. And that representation is not a correct representation of my testimony. 5 pointing to -- I did not include any analysis in my 6 7 testimony that showed numbers through 2036 as he stated. He subsequently this morning corrected 8 that his intent was to refer to 2050 numbers, but 9 the values that he was directing to were values 10 11 where I was restating the Company's numbers and not 12 my own. I would also note that in the discussion 13 about the analysis -- the 20-year and the 30-year 14 analysis that both Mr. Hoogeveen and Mr. Link talked 15 about today -- while they stressed many of the 16 benefits in the 20-year analysis and the 30-year 17 analysis, I had argued in my filed testimony and continue to believe that there are real problems, 18 19 particularly with the 20-year analysis, and that the 2.0 focus should be on the 30-year results. And they 21 now have both agreed with that concept. And we're 22 now in agreement with that, but I think it's 23 important to stress that that should be the proper 24 focus of looking at the economics, and that those 25 20-year value numbers have significant problems and

Page 253 they're not effective metrics to use for 1 2 determining -- making decisions on the projects. 3 My next point -- there was a 4 misrepresentation by Mr. Hoogeveen in his filed testimony regarding my Table 4 on line 39 of my 5 testimony. He indicates that my analysis shows 43 6 of 48 scenarios showing net benefits. 7 misrepresents that table in a couple of ways. 8 First, the table was not offered to show scenarios 9 or my net benefits, it was to show how the economic 10 11 value of the projects, the 12 projects, varies 12 amongst the projects. He also misses the point 13 that, instead of 48 scenarios, there's only two scenarios represented in the sets of numbers in that 14 table. And from that -- I used that table, in part, 15 16 to form my recommendation that the Company should do an analysis of a downsized program, and the Company 17 so far has refused to do that. 18 19 My next point goes to testimony 2.0 offered by Mr. Hemstreet. He has indicated in his 21 filed testimony that the Company has agreed to fully 2.2 assume all PTC risks associated with factors within 23 its control, and that my testimony does not explain what risks remain. He misses the point that I have 24 25 an extensive section in my testimony where I talk

1	Page 254 about a number of risks that remain, including those
2	risks that implicate the ultimate value of the PTC
3	benefit to customers. That's presented in section 4
4	of my testimony.
5	He also further indicated that, in
6	oral testimony today, that he did not believe a
7	10 percent reduction in production would be
8	significant on the value of PTC. And I would like
9	to refer you back to my the exhibit that we
10	talked about with the numbers, and I would like to
11	return your attention to the net present value of
12	production tax credit. And if I can indulge to ask
13	you to do a little math and look at what 10 percent
14	of that number is, I consider that a significant
15	value. And that would be the loss if production
16	was in the first ten years of the project were
17	10 percent less than is in the Company's analysis.
18	I also want, at this point, make the
19	point that I was concerned to hear that
20	Mr. Hemstreet has not even considered what the
21	uncertainty around his estimate is. He's
22	represented it as a long-term average. I think in
23	the interest of understanding the downside risk,
24	they have some data, they could have done a better
25	representation of what the variance is and what

1	would happen what adverse outcome over the first
2	ten years of the projects might look like, so that
3	we can understand exactly how much exposure,
4	downside exposure, there is in realizing those PTC
5	benefits.
6	I have just a few more. I'm sorry to
7	move on here. I wanted to speak briefly to the five
8	reasons why Mr. Hemstreet says the Company would not
9	consider repowering only some of the turbines on
10	each of the sites, and that was discussed in cross
11	earlier today. And I guess my point here is that he
12	offered a number of points, five points in his
13	testimony as to why it was not reasonable to
14	consider. But then yet today, he says those issues
15	are not unresolvable. Yet despite the fact that we
16	called in our prior testimony for him to address
17	that, he argued that it shouldn't be done and now he
18	says there's ways we can resolve that, and we have
19	not heard evidence on that to date.
20	My next point is, Mr. Hemstreet
21	obviously disagrees with my recommendation to
22	eliminate at least six sites and to limit the
23	proposal to only certain turbines. And I guess I
24	would say at this point, the fact that they didn't
25	respond with an alternative to show the Commission

Page 256 in their filed testimony is a concern to me. 1 I'm at 2 least pleased to hear today that the Company witness 3 acknowledged that this is a project-by-project 4 evaluation and we should look on a project basis. 5 But they have yet to respond and to provide an alternative configuration that I would contend would 6 provide higher benefits at lower costs than what 7 we're considering today. 8 9 Responding to a point in Mr. Link's testimony, he indicates -- I have offered a number 10 11 of critiques of his economic modeling. And to be 12 clear, the modeling that he's offered on the 30-year 13 analysis we're talking about, there really is two components to the modeling. There's the detailed 14 15 system modeling that he describes that is conducted 16 for 17 years of the projects. And then there's this 17 extrapolation of those results to get the balance of the economics. I and others in this case have 18 offered a number of critiques of both components of 19 2.0 that analysis. And I think together, there are some 21 real problematic issues that we've identified that 22 the Company has yet to really acknowledge or respond 23 The primary response that Mr. Link offers is 24 that I'm discarding his robust system modeling, and I take issue with that. I've done planning in this 25

Page 257 1 kind of environment for a long time. I do a lot of 2 system modeling. I also do a lot of work testing 3 those model results because they have a lot of data, 4 they're complicated models, and you have to be comfortable that what you're getting out is 5 reasonable results. What I've offered in my 6 testimony are the kinds of things that I typically 7 do to test our own models to see whether they're 8 9 producing reasonable results. I have not conducted 10 an independent analysis of system modeling, but I 11 have done enough testing to be able to demonstrate 12 that the results from his models, both the 17-year 13 models and the extrapolation methods, are not 14 producing reasonable results. 15 And I would hope and presume that his organization is also doing the same kind of 16 17 diagnostic test of their results to test reasonableness. That's what I've offered in my 18 19 testimony, and he claims that I'm dismissing his 2.0 model rather than pointing out the fact that our 21 diagnostic checks are pointing out the fact that he 2.2 has real problems. And so I take issue with his, 23 sort of, bold assertion that we should believe in 24 the model, regardless of whether the results look 25 reasonable or not.

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Page 258
 1
                    Just a couple more points.
                                                 Mr. Link
 2
     addresses my alternative method for reviewing
 3
     project-by-project benefits and the use of his price
 4
     script from Palo Verde. Again, I did two tests on
            I tested his Palo Verde price script by
 5
     comparing it to his own natural gas price forecast
 6
 7
     and what I considered to a reasonable system average
     heat rate. Again, that's a simple method to check
 8
     to see whether the result is reasonable. And what I
 9
     found is, his Palo Verde price scripts are much more
10
11
     expensive than what any combination of natural
12
     gas-fired plants on their own system would produce.
13
     So what I did in my analysis is, I tested the
     economics of the project using his gas price and a
14
15
     reasonable system average heat rate, which is about
16
     30 percent below his Palo Verde price.
                                              So he
17
     rejects my result on that because he disagrees with
     the fact that my reasonable check shows that the
18
19
     numbers he's asking us to look at are quite higher
20
     than the value of energy based upon natural gas in
21
     their system.
2.2
                    The last point I'd like to make -- it
23
     goes to a point that was in my prior testimony. We
     started our analysis at the beginning of the case
24
25
     based upon a representation that the Company made
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1	that there is a high likelihood of customer benefits
2	and that there will be significant benefits to
3	customers, and this was a unique economic
4	opportunity, and we should look at it that way.
5	This case has evolved and particularly Mr. Link
6	and Ms. Steward's testimonies they now would like
7	us to review this from this is like any other
8	choice between two resource alternatives, and a
9	dollar benefit to the good is reason to go forward
10	with these projects. That's a substantial shift in
11	the Company's own articulation of how they believe
12	we should view the benefits of these projects. And
13	I think that's a major issue in how the Commission
14	will look at what value proposition these projects
15	actually offer customers.
16	And with that, I conclude my
17	surrebuttal.
18	MS. SCHMID: Thank you. The Division
19	would like to move for the admission of what's been
20	marked as DPU Exhibit 1, which is a confidential
21	exhibit.
22	(DPU Confidential Hearing Exhibit No. 1 admitted.)
23	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: If any party
24	objects to that motion, please indicate to me.
25	MS. MCDOWELL: No objection.

Page 260 BY MS. SCHMID: 1 2 Q Just one question. You were engaged to 3 evaluate the risks and benefits, not to make the 4 policy decision on public interest; is that correct? That's correct. 5 And so your testimony has focused on 6 0 evaluating those risks and benefits and found the 7 projects lacking? 8 9 Α Yes. 10 MS. SCHMID: Mr. Peaco is now 11 available for questioning. 12 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: And your motion to enter into the record DPU Hearing Exhibit 1 is 13 14 granted. 15 MS. SCHMID: Thank you. 16 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Mr. Moore or Mr. Snarr, do you have any questions for Mr. Peaco? 17 18 MR. SNARR: No questions. 19 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Mr. Russell, do 20 you have any questions? 21 MR. RUSSELL: No questions, Chair. 2.2 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: 23 Ms. Tormoen Hickey? 24 CROSS-EXAMINATION 25 BY MS. HICKEY:

Page 261 1 Mr. Peaco, thank you. Lisa Hickey Q 2 representing the Interwest Energy Alliance. really just had one question. You indicate that six 3 4 of the projects should be approved, it sounds like? I've indicated that six projects 5 should be eliminated, six others should be 6 considered -- subject to further review because they 7 have more potential to be beneficial. 8 9 And the further review would require 10 another application? 11 Α That's currently what -- because the 12 Company did not respond to providing a more focused 13 analysis of those projects, we don't have the information in front of us to make that decision. 14 15 MS. HICKEY: Thank you. 16 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Ms. McDowell or Mr. Lowney? 17 18 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. MCDOWELL: 19 20 Yes, I definitely have some questions for 21 Mr. Peaco and just as a time --2.2 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Does it make 23 sense to start and stop and finish in the morning, 24 or would it be better just to start in the morning? 25 MS. MCDOWELL: Because this is

Page 262 1 financial analysis cross-examination, I hate to 2 start it and stop and then have to resume in the 3 morning. If we could just restart in the morning, I 4 think it would make a more cogent presentation of my 5 cross-examination and these responses. 6 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Any objection 7 from anybody to that? MS. SCHMID: No objection. 8 MR. RUSSELL: Chair, I don't really 9 10 have an objection. I am a little concerned about 11 whether we're going to make it all the way through 12 tomorrow. That concern really is related to the 13 fact that we're going to have some very severe scheduling difficulties if we don't make it through 14 tomorrow. It's not really an objection to 15 16 Ms. McDowell's -- I'm sympathetic to the point that she's making, I do want to raise the concern about 17 18 whether we're going to make it through tomorrow. 19 COMMISSIONER LEVAR: And you know, 2.0 we've been through six witnesses today and we have 21 Mr. Peaco, plus five others tomorrow so you're 22 right, we could be pushing things tomorrow. 23 sure the next 20 minutes of starting and stopping is going to make much difference on that, but that's an 24 25 issue that we, as we get to the afternoon, we can

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1	start thinking about tomorrow.
2	MS. MCDOWELL: And can I respond by
3	saying that we're also highly incented to complete
4	this case by tomorrow, so we'll certainly tailor our
5	cross-examination to work toward that end, and we
6	think it's certainly doable.
7	COMMISSIONER LEVAR: Okay. Anything
8	else that needs to be addressed before we recess
9	until tomorrow morning? We will be recessed and
10	we'll reconvene at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.
11	(The hearing was recessed at 4:55 p.m.)
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1	Page 264 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
2	STATE OF UTAH )
3	COUNTY OF SUMMIT )
4	
5	I, Mary R. Honigman, a Registered Professional
6	Reporter, hereby certify:
7	THAT the foregoing proceedings were taken before
8	me at the time and place set forth in the caption hereof;
9	that the witness was placed under oath to tell the truth,
10	the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; that the
11	proceedings were taken down by me in shorthand and
12	thereafter my notes were transcribed through computer-aided
13	transcription; and the foregoing transcript constitutes a
14	full, true, and accurate record of such testimony adduced
15	and oral proceedings had, and of the whole thereof.
16	I have subscribed my name on this 14th day of May,
17	2018.
18	Mary of the
19	Mary R. Honigman
20	Registered Professional Reporter #972887
21	
22	
23	
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25	
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