

REDACTED

Rocky Mountain Power

Docket No. 21-035-42

Witness: Robert Van Engelenhoven

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF UTAH

ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER

REDACTED

Direct Testimony of Robert Van Engelenhoven

August 2021

1 **I. INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

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

4 A. My name is Robert Van Engelenhoven and my business address is 1407 West North
5 Temple, Suite 310, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116. I am currently employed as Resource
6 Development Director. I am testifying on behalf of the Company.

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

8 A. I have a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Iowa State University and am
9 a licensed structural engineer in Utah and a licensed professional engineer in Wyoming.
10 I have managed major capital projects for the Company for over 25 years.

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

12 A. Yes. I have previously sponsored testimony in Idaho, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and
13 Wyoming.

14 **II. PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY**

15 **Q. What is the purpose of your direct testimony in this case?**

16 A. The purpose of my testimony is to provide an overview of the Pryor Mountain Wind
17 Project and provide an update on the status of the project.

18 **III. PRYOR MOUNTAIN WIND PROJECT**

19 **Q. Please provide an overview of the Pryor Mountain Wind Project.**

20 A. The Pryor Mountain Wind Project consists of 114 wind turbines with a nameplate
21 capacity of 240 megawatts (“MW”) and is located in Carbon County, Montana,
22 approximately 60 miles south of Billings, Montana.

23 **Q. What are the details of the technologies that are used in this project?**

24 A. The project consists of 57 Vestas Model V110-2.0 MW, 16 Vestas Model V110-2.2
25 MW, four General Electric Model 116-2.3 MW, and 37 Vestas model V110-2.2 MW
26 follow-on wind turbine generators (“WTGs”). In addition to the wind turbines, there is
27 a 34.5 kilovolt (“kV”) collector system, a collector substation with two 34.5 kV to 230
28 kV step-up transformers, an operations and maintenance (“O&M”) building, and site
29 access roads. A new point of interconnection substation located on the project site in
30 Montana was also constructed. Based on current regulatory practice, the project has
31 been assessed using a depreciable life of 30 years.

32 **Q. Please describe any changes to the Company’s existing utility plant/system that
33 may be necessary to integrate the Pryor Mountain project with the Company’s
34 system.**

35 A. The existing utility system changes are identified in the Q0542 Pryor Mountain Large
36 Generator Interconnect Agreement (“LGIA”) which is included as part of the filing
37 requirements in as the Confidential Attachment to MPA FR R746-700-30-A.11.

38 **Q. What is the status of the Pryor Mountain Wind Project?**

39 A. The Pryor Mountain Wind Project was primarily constructed in 2020, although site
40 activities began in 2019 with completion of geotechnical borings and surveys, other
41 site surveys and detailed engineering, construction of a material laydown area, and
42 installation of approximately five percent of the site access roads before winter weather
43 halted construction. The construction contractor re-mobilized in March 2020 and
44 completed construction in December 2020. The wind turbines were placed in service
45 circuit by circuit with the first electrical circuit (ten wind turbines) placed in service on

46 December 31, 2020. Commissioning was completed and all remaining circuits were
47 placed in service by March 31, 2021. The completed project was placed in commercial
48 operation on April 1, 2021.

49 **Q. Did the Company perform preliminary evaluations of the wind potential at the**
50 **Pryor Mountain Wind Project site?**

51 A. Yes. A wind potential study for the Pryor Mountain Wind Project was completed by a
52 third-party wind resource evaluation firm. The wind potential assessments for Pryor
53 Mountain indicate that the site has a favorable wind regime suitable for high
54 performance wind energy generation. The expected capacity factor for the project is
55 [REDACTED] percent and aligns with the assumptions made in support of the economic
56 evaluation of the project.

57 **Q. Did the Company include the Pryor Mountain Wind Project in its recent general**
58 **rate case in Docket No. 20-035-04 (“2020 GRC”)?**

59 A. Yes. The Pryor Mountain Wind Project was included in the Company’s revenue
60 requirement. In its December 30, 2020. Confidential Order, the Public Service
61 Commission of Utah (“Commission”) approved the Company’s decision to acquire the
62 project to serve customers, stating:

63 We find ample and substantial evidence supports our finding that
64 RMP acted reasonably at the time it made the decision to acquire Pryor
65 Mountain, which offered a time-sensitive opportunity to obtain a
66 resource that would help to alleviate an identified need for capacity
67 and energy while capitalizing on opportunities to qualify the
68 generation for an amount of PTCs phased out after 2016 and to
69 generate revenue through a contract to sell all associated RECs to a
70 third party.¹

¹ *Application of Rocky Mountain Power for Authority to Increase its Retail Electric Utility Service Rates in Utah and for Approval of its Proposed Electric Service Schedules and Electric Service Regulations, Docket No. 20-035-04, Confidential Order at p. 50 (December 30, 2020).*

71 Although the project was approved, delays associated with the COVID-19 pandemic
72 resulted in the project to only be partially included in the test period.

73 **Q. What are the updated projected costs associated with the Pryor Mountain Wind**
74 **Project?**

75 A. The total projected cost for the project reflected in this filing is \$ [REDACTED] million. This is
76 slightly higher than the projected cost of \$ [REDACTED] million reflected in the 2020 GRC. The
77 increase in forecasted costs is due to construction delays attributed to disruption in the
78 worldwide supply chain caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Steven R. McDougal
79 explains the revenue requirement treatment in 2020 GRC and the Company's request
80 in this application.

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

82 A. Yes.