



A DIVISION OF PACIFICORP

July 25, 2007

825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000  
Portland, Oregon 97232

***VIA ELECTRIC FILING  
AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY***

Oregon Public Utility Commission  
550 Capitol Street NE, Suite 215  
Salem, OR 97310-2551

Attn: Vikie Bailey Goggins

**Re: Docket No. UE-191, 2008 Transition Adjustment Mechanism (TAM)  
Rebuttal Testimony and Exhibits**

Enclosed for filing is PacifiCorp's Rebuttal Testimony and Exhibits in Docket No. UE-191, 2008 Transition Adjustment Mechanism. A signed original letter and five (5) copies will be provided. A copy of this filing has been served on the parties on the service list in this proceeding.

PacifiCorp respectfully requests that all data requests regarding this matter be addressed to:

By email (preferred)

[datarequest@pacificorp.com](mailto:datarequest@pacificorp.com)

By regular mail

Data Requests Response Center  
PacifiCorp  
825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000  
Portland, OR 97232  
(503) 813-6060

By facsimile

Informal inquiries may be directed to Joelle Steward, Regulatory Manager, at (503) 813-5542.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea L. Kelly" followed by a small mark.

Andrea L. Kelly  
Vice President, Regulation

Enclosures

cc: UE-191 Service List

I hereby certify that on this 25th day of July, 2007, I caused to be served, via E-Mail and Overnight Delivery (to those parties who have not waived paper service), a true and correct copy of PacifiCorp's Rebuttal Testimony and Exhibits in Docket No. UE-191-2008 Transition Adjustment Mechanism to the following:

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 Peggy Ryan  
 Supervisor, Regulatory Administration

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF OREGON**

**Docket No. UE-191**

**PACIFICORP**

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**2008 TRANSITION ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM (TAM)**

**Rebuttal Testimony and Exhibits**

**July 25, 2007**



Case UE-191  
Exhibit PPL/102  
Witness: Andrea L. Kelly

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF OREGON

PACIFICORP

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**Rebuttal Testimony of Andrea L. Kelly**

**POLICY**

July 25, 2007

1 **Q. Are you the same Andrea L. Kelly who provided direct testimony in this**  
2 **proceeding?**

3 A. Yes.

4 **Introduction and Overview**

5 **Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?**

6 A. I address the policy issues raised in the Direct Testimony presented by Citizens'  
7 Utility Board of Oregon ("CUB") witness Bob Jenks and Industrial Customers of  
8 Northwest Utilities ("ICNU") witness Randall Falkenberg. To respond generally  
9 to several proposed adjustments, I discuss the purpose and limited scope of the  
10 TAM. More specifically, I address:

- 11 • CUB's objections to the use of the most updated version of GRID, and to  
12 the correction of certain errors by the Company.
- 13 • ICNU's proposed adjustments regarding the level of Net Variable Power  
14 Costs (NVPC) in rates and related to the Camas contract.
- 15 • CUB's proposal to partially update the Embedded Cost Differential  
16 (ECD) mechanism as part of the TAM filing.

17 **Q. Please provide an overview of the testimony of the Company's other rebuttal**  
18 **witnesses.**

19 A. Mr. Widmer sponsors the TAM GRID update scheduled for July 2007. His  
20 rebuttal testimony responds to Staff's proposals regarding the operating reserve  
21 calculation, wholesale margin, carbon generation and stochastic modeling  
22 analysis. Mr. Widmer also responds to ICNU's contentions regarding the  
23 extrinsic value of the call option, excess reserve allocation, CT reserve capability,

1 W-E reserve transfer, hydro modeling, station service, reverse DJ-3 derate, Cholla  
2 4 minimum generation, uneconomic CT operation, and planned outages, and  
3 CUB's contentions regarding the GRID version change, Hermiston losses, and  
4 benchmark forward price curves. Mr. Mansfield, Vice President of Thermal  
5 Operations for PacifiCorp Energy, sponsors rebuttal testimony addressing ICNU's  
6 testimony regarding unplanned outages.

7 **Q. Based upon the TAM updates and the Company's rebuttal testimony, what is**  
8 **the current estimated amount of the increase in NVPC for 2008?**

9 A. On an Oregon-allocated basis, the Company's forecasted normalized power costs  
10 for calendar year 2008 are \$247.0 million. This is approximately \$29.6 million  
11 higher than the NVPC in Oregon rates for 2007. This would result in an overall  
12 increase to net rates of approximately 3.2 percent.

### 13 **Purpose and Structure of the TAM**

14 **Q. What is the purpose of the TAM?**

15 A. The TAM is a relatively narrow, streamlined proceeding where the Company's  
16 NVPC are updated annually, subject to a prudence review. At the  
17 recommendation of Staff, the Commission directed the Company to develop and  
18 file the TAM to refine the process for setting the annual direct access Transition  
19 Adjustment.

20 Recent developments have demonstrated the importance and versatility of  
21 the TAM for other regulatory purposes. First, in Order No. 07-015 (Docket UE  
22 180), the Commission expressly recognized the importance of annually updating  
23 the forecast of power costs included in rates to account for changes in market

1 prices and contracts.

2 Second, Section 13 of SB 838, Oregon's new Renewable Portfolio  
3 Standard, mandates timely recovery for the costs associated with renewable  
4 resources. The TAM provides a good foundation for the development of the  
5 Section 13 recovery mechanism for PacifiCorp, because it already passes through  
6 to customers the benefits of the variable costs associated with renewable resources  
7 on a timely basis.

8 Third, the Commission's investigation of the potential "build vs. buy"  
9 bias, UM 1276, has highlighted the importance of a streamlined, annual power  
10 cost update for other policy purposes. By facilitating the timely recovery of power  
11 costs, the TAM is a positive consideration in the development of PacifiCorp's risk  
12 factor for imputation of debt by rating agencies associated with purchased power  
13 contracts. Additionally, the TAM provides a good framework for purchased  
14 power incentive models proposed in that case, by allowing a timely introduction  
15 of new power costs into rates, as well as a means for timely removal of costs from  
16 rates after their full recovery.

17 **Q. If costs are not within the net variable power cost category, how are they**  
18 **updated for ratemaking purposes?**

19 A. Primarily through a general rate case filing. Some limited exceptions exist such  
20 as the automatic adjustment mechanisms associated with Senate Bill 408 and the  
21 Renewable Portfolio Standard.



1 **Q. Is PacifiCorp's understanding of the TAM consistent with the description**  
2 **contained in CUB's reply testimony?**

3 A. Yes. PacifiCorp agrees with CUB's characterization of the limited scope of the  
4 TAM. While the calculation and approval of the TAM includes a full procedural  
5 schedule, including testimony, rebuttal, and multiple net power cost updates, the  
6 annual TAM is nevertheless a relatively narrow, streamlined proceeding. As the  
7 Commission recognized in its final order in UE 170, the TAM is largely  
8 mechanical in nature in order to minimize the time and resources involved in the  
9 process. (UE 170, Order 05-1050 at 21.)

10 PacifiCorp agrees with CUB that the limited scope of the TAM dictates  
11 what costs the Company should include in its filing in the first instance and in  
12 subsequent updates:

13 "the net power cost estimate incorporates the following updates: (1)  
14 forward price curve; (2) forecast loads; (3) normalized hydro generation;  
15 (4) forecast fuel prices; (5) contract updates; (6) heat rates, planned  
16 outages, and de-rates; (7) wheeling expenses; (8) new resource  
17 acquisitions; and (9) state allocation factors." (PPL/100, Kelly/3, lines 3 –  
18 7).

19 **Q. Does the limited scope of the TAM also dictate what adjustments Staff and**  
20 **intervenors may appropriately propose?**

21 A. Yes. Adjustments should pertain only to components of net variable power costs  
22 and they should fall within the categories listed above. As I discuss in detail  
23 below, ICNU's Camas adjustment and CUB's ECD adjustment do not meet these  
24 two criteria. Another key consideration is the manner in which the adjustment is  
25 calculated. To ensure orderly and auditable updates of NVPC in this proceeding

1 and in future TAM proceedings, each parties' adjustments must be subject to  
2 implementation within the GRID model under changing assumptions and dispatch  
3 conditions, or outside the GRID model in a manner that can be harmonized with  
4 the changes in GRID inputs and outputs.

5 **Q. Why is this last point important to the Commission's decision in this**  
6 **proceeding?**

7 A. Absent a settlement, the Company expects that the Commission will evaluate each  
8 proposed adjustment and decide whether or not to adopt it, irrespective of its  
9 monetary impact on the NVPC. Once an adjustment is adopted, it will need to be  
10 modeled for purposes of future updates, including the final update scheduled for  
11 November 14, 2007. In these updates, the dollar amount of the Commission-  
12 ordered adjustment may increase, decrease or stay the same depending on inputs  
13 and dispatch.

14 **Q. CUB contends that the Company's technical updates to its GRID model are**  
15 **inconsistent with the narrow scope of the TAM. Do you agree?**

16 A. No. In filing the TAM, the Company used an updated version of its GRID  
17 model, which includes minor modeling changes and an improved user interface.  
18 Mr. Widmer described these improvements in his Direct Testimony. Neither  
19 ICNU nor Staff objects to using this version of GRID for the TAM filing. While  
20 CUB acknowledges that the model changes result in lower power costs, CUB  
21 nevertheless urges the Commission to reject them. See CUB/100, Jenks/3.

22 Despite CUB's objections, the Company's technical updates to GRID are  
23 consistent with both the scope and purpose of the TAM. As described previously,

1 the purpose of the TAM is to fairly and appropriately value the Company's  
2 NVPC. Recognizing both the complex and multidimensional nature of these costs  
3 and the need for expediency, the Commission approved the Company's use of its  
4 GRID model in the TAM. (UM 1081, Order 04-516 at 12 (approving of use of  
5 GRID for interim TAM); UE 170, Order 05-0150 at 21 (approving of use of  
6 GRID for permanent TAM).) To maintain the credibility of the GRID model and  
7 in response to issues raised in ratemaking proceedings across PacifiCorp's six  
8 states, new versions of GRID are developed on a fairly regular basis with the goal  
9 of improving the model logic and achieving a more accurate forecast of the  
10 Company's NVPC. Consistent with this, it would not be advisable to completely  
11 prohibit the use of a newer version of GRID in a TAM proceeding.

12 **Q. How does PacifiCorp respond to CUB's procedural concerns about**  
13 **introduction of GRID model changes in the TAM?**

14 A. PacifiCorp is sensitive to these concerns and, prior to including the GRID model  
15 update in this filing, discussed the model changes with the parties. As Mr.  
16 Widmer explains in his Rebuttal Testimony, PacifiCorp used the updated model  
17 in this case because it understood that no party objected to it. Staff and  
18 intervenors reviewed the model changes pre-filing, the model changes are minor,  
19 and the model changes lower power costs. Contrary to CUB's assertion, there is  
20 no prejudice to the parties in the Company's use of an improved model in this  
21 case.

22 To address CUB's concern about future filings, PacifiCorp is willing to  
23 formalize a pre-filing review process for GRID model changes. Prior to using an

1 updated version of GRID in a future TAM filing, at the request of any party,  
2 PacifiCorp agrees to convene a pre-filing workshop to review the model changes.  
3 Additionally, PacifiCorp will not use the updated model in a TAM filing without  
4 the agreement of Staff, CUB and ICNU.

5 **Q. CUB contends that the Company's proposed correction to include the**  
6 **Hermiston wheeling losses erroneously omitted from the Company's direct**  
7 **case is also inconsistent with the narrow scope of the TAM proceeding. Do**  
8 **you agree?**

9 A. No. CUB asks the Commission to prohibit the Company from correcting in its  
10 rebuttal testimony the erroneously omitted Hermiston wheeling losses, an error  
11 that the Company identified and notified parties of after the Company filed its  
12 direct testimony. As a general policy matter, the Company cannot agree with an  
13 approach that encourages or requires the Company or any other party to  
14 knowingly allow errors to remain in its filed case. Certainly the Commission  
15 expects all parties to correct errors in filings as they are identified. Such  
16 corrections provide all parties with the best possible information. Additionally,  
17 known errors in filed testimony must be corrected before a witness may attest that  
18 the testimony is true and correct to the best of the witness's knowledge, which  
19 must be done in order to move a witness's testimony into evidence.

20 **Q. Are the Company's corrections selective or one-sided in nature?**

21 A. No. Although CUB only objects to the Company's correction related to  
22 Hermiston wheeling losses (which would cause NVPC to increase), the Company  
23 is correcting all known errors in its direct testimony in this rebuttal filing. While

1 the correction related to Hermiston wheeling losses will cause NVPC to increase,  
2 the Company has also identified and made a correction related to the calculation  
3 of reserves and gas swaps, which will cause NVPC to decrease.

4 **Q. Has the Commission approved of such corrections in the past?**

5 A. Yes. In UE 170, the Commission approved a stipulation between PacifiCorp and  
6 Staff, in which the parties agreed to an adjustment for a fuel handling charge error  
7 that PacifiCorp corrected later in its case. In approving the stipulation, the  
8 Commission specifically addressed an argument similar to the one raised by CUB  
9 here. There, ICNU had objected to the fuel handling charge correction as an  
10 untimely and selective adjustment. The Commission rejected ICNU's argument,  
11 specifically holding that "[t]he costs are not additional expenses, but expenses  
12 inadvertently omitted by PacifiCorp." The Commission then observed that ICNU  
13 had sufficient time to respond to PacifiCorp's correction, which PacifiCorp had  
14 made in its rebuttal testimony, and that Staff had reviewed the expense, agreed  
15 that an error had occurred, and recommended that the expense be included in  
16 revenue requirement so that the test year could accurately reflect PacifiCorp's  
17 costs. (UE 170, Order 05-1050 at 9.)

18 **Net Variable Power Costs In Rates**

19 **Q. Please describe Mr. Falkenberg's adjustment to the level of NVPC in rates.**

20 A. Mr. Falkenberg disputes the baseline of NVPC in rates which was established in  
21 the Company's last rate case, UE 179. Mr. Falkenberg contends that because the  
22 NVPC in rates is higher than the \$834.4 million used by the Company, the  
23 Company's proposed rate increase should be reduced by \$6.9 million. Mr.

1 Falkenberg’s adjustment is inconsistent with the terms of the Stipulation filed and  
2 approved by the Commission in UE 179. ICNU was a signatory to the  
3 Stipulation.

4 **Q. Please explain why Mr. Falkenberg’s adjustment is inconsistent with the UE**  
5 **179 Stipulation.**

6 A. Most fundamentally, the adjustment assumes that the UE 179 NVPC in rates is  
7 significantly higher than the cap of \$834.4 million set in the UE 179 Stipulation.  
8 To avoid future disputes over the amount of NVPC in rates, the parties agreed to a  
9 specific calculation for determining UE 179 NVPC. Mr. Falkenberg’s adjustment  
10 deviates from this calculation.

11 **Q. What specific language from the UE 179 Stipulation addresses this issue?**

12 A. First, Section (5)(b)(v) specified that the increase is based upon total Company  
13 NVPC, in contrast to how Mr. Falkenberg calculates his adjustment:

14 “The ultimate level of the NVPC/TAM increase for 2007 will be based on  
15 the difference between the *total Company* NVPC in rates as approved in  
16 UE 170 and the *total Company* net power costs in rates after the  
17 completion of the TAM process in this case.” (emphasis added.)

18 Second, Section (5)(b)(i) – (iii) of the Stipulation sets forth the agreed-upon  
19 calculation of NVPC in rates in UE 179:

20 “In addition to the non-NVPC rate increase, the Parties agree to a  
21 NVPC/TAM rate increase for 2007 capped at a maximum of \$10 million.  
22 This increase will be calculated using the following steps:

23 (i) Begin with PacifiCorp proposed UE 179 the total Company  
24 NVPC of \$889.4;

25 (ii) Subtract \$50 million producing an adjusted NVPC of \$839.4  
26 million. ...

1 (iii) Subtract PacifiCorp's current NVPC of \$796.5 million from  
2 the adjusted UE 179 NVPC of \$839.4 million to determine the total  
3 NVPC-related increase before 2007 TAM updates and before application  
4 of the \$10 million cap. This increase to \$839.4 million would result in a  
5 \$42.9 million NVPC increase. Regardless of the final TAM amount, the  
6 total Company NVPC for 2007 will be capped at \$834.4 million and the  
7 NVPC increase will be capped at \$37.9 million. Exhibit A contains the  
8 calculation used to derive these amounts."

9 **Q. Does Exhibit A to the Stipulation illustrate this calculation?**

10 A. Yes. This exhibit, entitled "Net Variable Power Cost (NVPC) Cap and Increase  
11 Calculation" contains the following calculation:

12	Total Company UE 170 NVPC		\$796.5
13	Oregon TAM Cap Increase UE 179	10	
14	Allocation Factor	26.40%	
15	Total company Cap Increase	37.9	
16			37.9
17	Total company NVPC CAP		\$834.4

18 **Q. What was PacifiCorp's final NVPC in rates in UE 179?**

19 A. The final TAM update reflected total Company NVPC of \$872.6 million, which  
20 exceeded the cap. Therefore, consistent with the terms of the Stipulation, the total  
21 Company NVPC for 2007 was capped at \$834.4 million.

22 **Q. How was this cap reflected in rates?**

23 A. As shown in ICNU Exhibit 102, a section taken from the Company's compliance  
24 filing in Docket UE 179, the \$10 million revenue increase was added to the  
25 present revenues associated with the UE 179 test period. To calculate present  
26 revenues, the Company multiplies the rates approved in the Company's last rate  
27 case by the forecasted billing determinants for each rate schedule for the test

1 period. As part of a general rate case, the Company then compares its estimate of  
2 test period present revenues to its test period revenue requirement to calculate the  
3 rate increase that is needed to provide it with a reasonable opportunity to earn its  
4 authorized rate of return. When the Commission authorizes a rate increase, the  
5 Company designs rates to increase test period revenues by the amount of the  
6 granted increase.

7 **Q. Does Mr. Falkenberg's analysis reflect this approach?**

8 A. No, Mr. Falkenberg erroneously assumes that:

- 9 • "the settlement agreement in UE 179 specified a maximum \$10 million  
10 NVPC/TAM increase over the rates approved in UE 170." (Exhibit  
11 ICNU/100, Falkenberg/5, lines 9 -10); and  
12 • "the Company increased rates by \$10 million over UE 170 levels,  
13 irrespective of any final (or even intermediate) GRID study results."  
14 (Exhibit ICNU/100, Falkenberg/5, line 22, Falkenberg/6 lines 1 - 2).

15 **Camas Contract Adjustment**

16 **Q. Please describe Mr. Falkenberg's Camas contract adjustment.**

17 A. Mr. Falkenberg argues that the Company has incorrectly modeled the Camas  
18 contract update. He claims that the Company correctly updated the contract cost  
19 of power component in the case, but that the Company incorrectly failed to update  
20 for various offsets it receives from the customer. He then argues that, because the  
21 Company has not made this update, the Commission should not allow the  
22 Company to update the Camas contract costs.



1 **Q. Is this a correct adjustment?**

2 A. No, this adjustment should be rejected because it is outside the scope of the TAM.

3 **Q. Please explain.**

4 A. In 1993, PacifiCorp executed a contract (the "Camas contract") with James River  
5 Paper Company with respect to the Camas mill, later acquired by GP. Under the  
6 Camas contract, PacifiCorp built a steam turbine and is recovering the capital  
7 investment over the twenty-year operational term of the agreement. The Camas  
8 contract also includes payment of royalties from PacifiCorp to the mill owner  
9 based on contract provisions. PacifiCorp's net variable power costs include the  
10 contract costs of energy for the Camas unit as a purchased power expense.

11 PacifiCorp's net variable power costs do not include the credit to Other Revenues  
12 for the offset of the capital cost recovery and maintenance cost recovery amounts.  
13 Therefore, only the purchase power component of the GP Camas contract is  
14 properly updated through the TAM.

15 **Q. If the non-power costs aspects of the Camas contract were updated in rates,  
16 would this increase or decrease the Company's revenue requirement?**

17 A. If calculated correctly, the adjustment increases revenue requirement.

18 **Q. What are the Other Revenues associated with the Camas contract in 2007  
19 and 2008?**

20 A. As shown in the Company's testimony in Docket UE 179 the amount in 2007 is  
21 \$6,942,485, (UE 179, PPL/901 at 3.5.1), reduced to \$6,595, 987, (*id.* at 3.5.2).

1 **Q. If the Company had updated the Other Revenues associated with the Camas**  
2 **contract in this case, how would this have effected the requested revenue**  
3 **requirement?**

4 A. On a total company basis, Other Revenue would decrease by \$376,498 and the  
5 revenue requirement deficiency would increase by the same amount. ICNU's  
6 proposal to include both the net variable power cost and Other Revenue impact of  
7 the update to the Camas contract, would further increase the Company's requested  
8 increase in this TAM proceeding.

9 **Embedded Cost Differential Mechanism**

10 **Q. How does the Company respond to CUB's proposal to modify the TAM**  
11 **mechanism to include a recalculation of the Embedded Cost Differential**  
12 **related to inter-jurisdictional cost allocations?**

13 A. The Company opposes the proposal and urges the Commission to reject it. The  
14 proposal is a dramatic departure from the approved design of the TAM. The ECD  
15 is neither a component of NVPC nor is it included in the list of approved update  
16 categories. In addition, a selective update of the ECD outside a rate case is  
17 inconsistent with the intent of the Revised Protocol Inter-jurisdictional Cost  
18 Allocation Methodology (Revised Protocol) and the terms of the Stipulation  
19 reached in Docket UM 1050, the proceeding approving the Revised Protocol.

20 **Q. Please explain the ECD.**

21 A. This allocation methodology was adopted as part of the Hydro-Endowment in the  
22 Revised Protocol. The Revised Protocol defines the Owned Hydro ECD  
23 Adjustment as follows:

1                    “Owned Hydro Embedded Cost Differential Adjustment. The Owned  
2                    Hydro Embedded Cost Differential Adjustment is calculated as the Annual  
3                    Embedded Costs – Hydro-Electric Resources, less the Annual Embedded  
4                    Costs – All Other, multiplied by the normalized MWh’s of output from the  
5                    Hydro- Electric Resources used to set rates (Hydro less All Other). The  
6                    Owned Hydro Embedded Cost Differential Adjustment will be allocated  
7                    on the DGP factor and the inverse amount will be allocated on the SG  
8                    factor.” Revised Protocol, page 5

9                    The Revised Protocol also contains the following defined terms:

10                    **“Annual Embedded Costs – All Other”** means PacifiCorp’s total  
11                    normalized annual production costs expressed in dollars per MWh (not  
12                    including costs associated with Hydro-Electric Resources, Mid-Columbia  
13                    Contracts and Existing QF Contracts) as recorded in the FERC Accounts  
14                    listed in Appendix E to the Protocol.

15                    **“Annual Embedded Costs – Hydro-Electric Resources”** means  
16                    PacifiCorp’s total normalized annual production costs, expressed in  
17                    dollars per MWh, associated with Hydro-Electric Resources as recorded in  
18                    the FERC Accounts listed in Appendix E to the Protocol.

19                    **Q.     CUB asserts that the Hydro-Endowment should be updated through the**  
20                    **ECD in this filing. Is it possible to update the ECD in this manner consistent**  
21                    **with the TAM?**

22                    A.     No. To accurately and completely update the ECD in the TAM would require the  
23                    Company to update its rate base, depreciation expense, capitalized hydro  
24                    relicensing costs and all other generation costs. PacifiCorp could not conduct  
25                    such an update without expanding the scope of the TAM into a full generation-  
26                    only rate case.

27                    **Q.     CUB proposes to update the ECD using only the variables included in the**  
28                    **TAM filing. Could the Company just update some of the elements in the**  
29                    **ECD consistent with the Revised Protocol?**

30                    A.     No. The ECD is designed to compare “total annual production costs” of defined

1 groups of resources for a single annual period. If data was used from different  
2 test periods, it would no longer represent “total normalized annual production  
3 costs” and would create a significant mismatch between FERC account data. In  
4 addition, the ECD was designed to recognize the capital intensive nature of hydro-  
5 electric resources; isolating the variable costs benefits through fuel adjustment  
6 mechanisms was considered in the Multi-State Process and dismissed as unfair  
7 given the capital considerations:

8 “Several factors led the MSP participants away from including a Fuel  
9 Adjustment in the Revised Protocol. Parties were concerned that it did not  
10 provide a long-term recognition of the costs and benefits of the Hydro-  
11 Electric Resources and Mid-Columbia Contracts. In addition, parties were  
12 concerned that Hydro Endowment recipients might receive short-term  
13 benefits while all States bore the costs and risks of hydro relicensing.”  
14 MSP Summary 5.1.1.

15 The Stipulation in Docket UE 1050 also captures these considerations:

16 “The parties to this Stipulation recognize that the addition of relicensing  
17 costs to the Company’s ratebase may cause the Hydro-Electric Resources  
18 to be more costly than other market opportunities in the near term, but  
19 Oregon parties are willing to accept responsibility for these higher near-  
20 term costs in the expectation that, as the relicensing costs are depreciated,  
21 Hydro-Electric Resources will yield long-term benefits to Oregon  
22 customers.” MSP Stipulation, Page 2

23 “If any party to this Stipulation proposes a material change to the  
24 allocation methodology for Hydro-Electric Resources, Mid-Columbia  
25 Contracts or Existing QF contracts as specified in the Revised Protocol,  
26 the proposed change should be consistent with the trade-off between near-  
27 term negative impacts of Existing QF contracts and long-term positive  
28 impacts of Mid-Columbia contracts and the potential near-term costs and  
29 long-term benefits of Hydro Electric Resources.” MSP Stipulation, Page 4

30 If states begin to selectively update only certain aspects of the ECD, this could  
31 undermine the long-term stability of the Hydro Endowment.

1   **Q.    CUB argues that updating the variable cost of the Hydro Endowment is**  
2       **required for a full and fair update of power costs in this case. Do you agree?**

3    A.    No. The Company's filing updated state allocation factors, as specifically  
4        contemplated in the Commission's order approving the TAM. The Revised  
5        Protocol defines "state allocation factors" in detail; these definitions do not  
6        include the ECD. As noted in my Direct Testimony, the updated allocation  
7        factors reduced PacifiCorp's Oregon TAM increase by \$9 million. In the  
8        Company's next full rate case, it will update the ECD, as required by the Revised  
9        Protocol, at the same time that it comprehensively updates rate base and  
10       depreciation. This is the paradigm contemplated by the Commission's orders on  
11       the TAM and the Revised Protocol; the major, one-sided change that CUB  
12       advocates is not supported by considerations of policy or fairness.

13   **Q.    Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?**

14   A.    Yes.



Case UE-191  
Exhibit PPL/204  
Witness: Mark T. Widmer

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF OREGON

PACIFICORP

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**Rebuttal Testimony of Mark T. Widmer**

**NET POWER COSTS**

July 25, 2007

1 **Q. Are you the same Mark T. Widmer who previously testified in these**  
2 **proceedings?**

3 A. Yes.

4 **Purpose and Summary**

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

6 A. My testimony has two parts, a Transition Adjustment Mechanism (TAM) update  
7 section and a rebuttal section. In the TAM update section, I provide contract and  
8 forward price updates to the Company's net power costs. In the rebuttal section, I  
9 address the following issues:

- 10 • The data corrections proposed by the Company for non-owned generation  
11 operating reserves.
- 12 • The proposed adjustments from Staff and intervenor direct testimony that  
13 the Company will accept, which include Mr. Wordley's proposed  
14 operating reserve, Carbon adjustment and recommendation on stochastic  
15 modeling; Mr. Falkenberg's proposed adjustments on combustion turbine  
16 (CT) reserve capability, west-to-east reserve transfer, uneconomic CT  
17 operation and planned outages for the Gadsby CT component of the  
18 adjustment; and Mr. Jenks' proposal to provide benchmark curves for the  
19 Company's forward price curves for electricity and natural gas.
- 20 • The proposed Staff and intervenor adjustments that the Company contests,  
21 which include Mr. Wordley's wholesale margin adjustment; Mr.  
22 Falkenberg's proposed adjustments on extrinsic value of call options,  
23 excess reserve allocation, hydro modeling (Vista), station service, reverse



1 Dave Johnston 3 update, Cholla 4 minimum and planned outages for the  
2 Carrant Creek portion of the adjustment; Mr. Jenks' proposal to reject the  
3 Company's the latest version of the GRID production dispatch model  
4 version 6.1 instead of version 5.3 and his opposition to the Hermiston loss  
5 correction.

6 **Q. Using the TAM updates, data corrections and the adopted adjustments, have**  
7 **you recalculated the Company's forecast net variable power costs (NVPC)**  
8 **for 2008?**

9 A. Yes. Total company net power costs are now \$979.5 million, a reduction from the  
10 NVPC forecast of \$1.002 billion in my direct testimony. PPL Exhibit 205  
11 summarizes the cost impact of the TAM updates, data corrections and adopted  
12 adjustments.

13 **I. TAM - Net Power Costs Updates**

14 **Q. Please describe the TAM net power costs updates.**

15 A. The net power costs updates include the following contract data and forward price  
16 curve updates:

- 17 • Utah Irrigation demand side management program – net power costs are  
18 updated to include this new program,
- 19 • Blanding purchase power – net power costs are updated to include this  
20 new contract,
- 21 • Black Hills wholesale sale – the contract was updated to include a price  
22 update,
- 23 • Bonneville peaking purchase – the contract was updated to reflect a new

1 lower price, an operational limit that allows Bonneville to restrict return  
2 deliveries during certain periods and an operational benefit that allows the  
3 Company to return an additional 100 megawatts above the contract  
4 demand level of 575 megawatts from March through October of each year  
5 during light loads hours,

6 • Grant County purchase - the Grant Reasonable portion of the contract was  
7 updated to reflect new information from Grant County and the Grant  
8 Meaningful contract was updated to reflect the June 2007 forward price  
9 curve,

10 • Short-term firm – net power costs were updated to include new wholesale  
11 sales and purchase power transactions completed since the original April  
12 filing,

13 • Goodnoe project contract – the size of the project was lowered from 112  
14 megawatts to 94 megawatts to reflect the final design from two farms to  
15 one farm,

16 • Coal contracts – net power costs were updated to reflect changes related to  
17 mine plan updates and actual cost increases,

18 • TransAlta exchange – net power costs were updated to include the new  
19 location exchange contract that provides the Company energy at our Paul  
20 substation, which the Company returns at Mid Columbia,

21 • Oregon Environmental Industries purchase - net power costs were updated  
22 to reflect this new qualifying facility purchase power contract,

23 • Schwendiman purchase – the expected start date of this qualifying facility

1 contract was extended until March 2008 to reflect project delays,

- 2 • June 2007 forward price curve – net power costs were updated to reflect
- 3 the Company's new forward price curve,
- 4 • New gas swaps - transactions were updated and include the impact of the
- 5 June 2007 curve,
- 6 • Bonneville wheeling contracts – prices were updated to reflect the latest
- 7 Bonneville projections,
- 8 • Hydro generation – was re-shaped to reflect the impact of the June 2007
- 9 forward price,
- 10 • Douglas Wells purchase – the contract was updated to reflect new cost
- 11 estimates provided by the project owner,
- 12 • AMP Resources – the contract was removed from net power costs because
- 13 it is now not expected to be in-service during the test year, and
- 14 • Roseburg Forest Products California – the contract was removed from net
- 15 power costs because of the increased uncertainty at this time that the
- 16 contract will be executed.

17 **II. Rebuttal**

18 **A. Data Corrections**

19 **Q. Please describe the corrections included in the Company's net power costs**  
20 **filing.**

21 A. As shown on PPL Exhibit 205, this filing includes corrections for non-owned  
22 generation operating reserves located in the Company's east control area,  
23 Hermiston line losses and natural gas swaps. The operating reserve adjustment

1 corrects the amount of generation expected from the Tesoro company generator.  
2 Tesoro is a retail customer located in Utah that has onsite generation. Because  
3 they are located in the Company's east control area, the Company is required to  
4 carry contingency reserves on their behalf. The correction reduces the expected  
5 level of Tesoro generation and the associated reserve requirement. The Hermiston  
6 line loss correction includes line losses that were inadvertently excluded from the  
7 line loss study used to develop the load forecast for this case. The natural gas  
8 swap correction incorporates sales transactions that were originally included as  
9 purchases as a result of incorrect labeling in the system which tracks the data. In  
10 total these corrections *decrease* proposed net power costs by \$15.8 million total  
11 Company.

12 **Q. Has Mr. Jenks opposed certain of these corrections?**

13 A. Yes. Mr. Jenks recommended rejection of the Company's proposed correction for  
14 Hermiston line losses on the basis that it was outside the scope of the TAM. The  
15 Company believes that data corrections are within the proper scope of the rebuttal  
16 testimony in this case. The Company has always filed corrections to known errors  
17 in its rebuttal case, whether these errors work in customers' favor or the  
18 Company's, and it made such data corrections in its last TAM rebuttal filing in  
19 UE 170. In this case, as just noted, on a net basis the corrections work in  
20 customers' favor.

1 **B. Uncontested Adjustments**

2 **Operating Reserve Adjustment**

3 **Q. Do you agree with the operating reserve correction proposed by Mr.**  
4 **Wordley?**

5 A. Yes. As I explained above, this correction should be adopted along with the other  
6 corrections included in my rebuttal testimony.

7 **Carbon Generation Plant**

8 **Q. Please explain the Carbon generation plant adjustment proposed by Mr.**  
9 **Wordley.**

10 A. The proposed adjustment increases the Carbon plant capacity factor from 70  
11 percent in the Company's April 2007 filing to an 80 percent capacity factor. This  
12 would result in lower net power costs as a result of additional wholesale sales and  
13 or decreased market purchases.

14 **Q. Do you agree with the adjustment?**

15 A. Yes. While the Company is willing to adopt the proposed mechanics of the  
16 adjustment, Carbon's exact new capacity factor will be a function of the variables  
17 that are updated in the TAM. For example, the Carbon capacity factor in this  
18 TAM update is now 74 percent after incorporating the adopted adjustments. As  
19 additional updates are made the capacity factor may change further. Therefore,  
20 the monetary impact of the Carbon adjustment should be finalized with the  
21 Company's final TAM update on November 14, 2007, so the adjustment matches  
22 final updated net power costs. Based upon the current TAM filing, the proposed  
23 adjustment would reduce net power costs by approximately \$4.8 million on a total

1 company basis.

2 **Stochastic Net Power Costs Modeling**

3 **Q. Is the Company willing to accept Mr. Wordley's recommendation to file a**  
4 **written report to the Commission on the feasibility of net power costs'**  
5 **estimation through the use of stochastic modeling by September 1, 2007?**

6 A. Yes, with one qualification on timing. The Company has completed its analysis  
7 of stochastic modeling and it is now working on internal review of the results and  
8 preparation of the summary report. To finish these tasks and incorporate any new  
9 developments from this case, the Company proposes to file its stochastic  
10 modeling report 15 business days after the issuance of the final order in this case.

11 **CT Reserve Capability**

12 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Falkenberg's proposal to increase the quick start**  
13 **capability of the Gadsby and West Valley CTs from 20 megawatts to 40**  
14 **megawatts?**

15 A. Yes. The Company agrees to incorporate the model change in future updates in  
16 this case. In this update, the proposed adjustment reduces net power costs by  
17 approximately \$0.2 million total Company. The final impact of this change will  
18 be based on the Company's final net power costs update.

19 **W-E Reserve Transfer**

20 **Q. Please explain the west-to-east reserve transfer adjustment proposed by Mr.**  
21 **Falkenberg.**

22 A. The proposed adjustment would incorporate the transmission capability to transfer  
23 up to 100 megawatts of ready reserves from the Pacific–West to Pacific–East

1 control areas. Mr. Falkenberg believes the capability should be included in the  
2 model even though there are adequate ready reserves in the east, because there are  
3 times when the transfer capability may still provide a benefit. The proposed  
4 adjustment would reduce net power costs by \$2.99 million total company.

5 **Q. Do you agree with the proposed adjustment?**

6 A. I agree with the general recommendation to leave the transfer capability turned on  
7 in GRID so that any benefits that may arise can be captured in those limited times  
8 when it may be of use. I do not agree with ICNU's quantification of the value of  
9 this adjustment. In this update, for example, the proposed adjustment reduces net  
10 power costs by approximately \$0.2 million total Company. The final impact will  
11 be included in the Company's final TAM update.

## 12 **Uneconomic CT Operation**

13 **Q. Please describe Mr. Falkenberg's proposed adjustment.**

14 A. The proposed adjustment removes West Valley from GRID because the model  
15 incorrectly dispatched this resource when it was not the lowest cost resource  
16 option. The adjustment would reduce net power costs by \$0.74 million total  
17 company.

18 **Q. Do you agree with the proposed adjustment?**

19 A. The Company accepts the mechanics of the proposed adjustment and will  
20 incorporate it in the remaining GRID updates if removal of West Valley results in  
21 lower net power costs. In this update, the adjustment reduces net power costs by  
22 \$1.6 million total company.

1 **Planned Outages**

2 **Q. Please describe Mr. Falkenberg's proposed adjustment.**

3 A. The proposed adjustment uses the 48-month average of actual planned outages for  
4 the Gadsby and West Valley CTs and the Currant Creek combined cycle  
5 combustion turbine.

6 **Q. Do you agree with the proposed adjustment?**

7 A. I agree with the portion of the adjustment related to the Gadsby CTs because the  
8 Company has 48 months of actual maintenance information. The adjustment  
9 related to West Valley units may no longer be necessary since the unit may be  
10 excluded in the final update if doing so lowers the net power costs. I do not agree  
11 with the proposed adjustment for Currant Creek. The Company does not have 48  
12 months of actual information since the plant has only been in service since March  
13 2006. I will therefore discuss Currant Creek below as I discuss contested  
14 adjustments. In this update, the Gadsby CT adjustment reduces net power costs  
15 by an immaterial amount.

16 **Forward Price Curve Benchmark**

17 **Q. Please explain Mr. Jenks' recommendation.**

18 A. Mr. Jenks proposes that the Company include at least two independently-  
19 produced forward electricity and natural gas prices curves with its final TAM  
20 filing. He also recommends that the Company explain any deviation of five  
21 percent or greater in the filing. He suggests that this would provide a check on the  
22 reasonableness of the Company's forward price curves.



1 **Q. Do you agree with this recommendation?**

2 A. Yes, with modifications. The Company is willing to make available its forward  
3 price curve, along with the independent third-party forward pricing information  
4 that the Company uses, for the one-year test period for the final TAM net power  
5 costs update. In this case, for example, PacifiCorp would make available its  
6 forward price curve for 2008, along with the independent third-party forward price  
7 information for 2008 it relied upon to determine this curve. The information will  
8 be made available on a confidential basis under the terms of a protective order.  
9 However, if the Company's curve and the independent third party pricing  
10 information vary by five percent or more, the Company will not be able to explain  
11 the difference, because we do not have access to third party data or models.  
12 Based on past experience, however, the Company does not believe that the prices  
13 will vary by more than five percent.

14 **B. Contested Adjustments**

15 **Staff Adjustment - Wholesale Margin**

16 **Q. Please explain Mr. Wordley's proposed wholesale margin adjustment.**

17 A. Mr. Wordley proposes to adjust the 2008 wholesale margin and volume between  
18 short-term firm and non-firm sales and purchases included in the Company's  
19 filing to reflect the alleged value of the differences between the actual historical  
20 volume and margins for the 12-month historical periods ended June 30, 2003,  
21 March 31, 2004, and December 31, 2006, and the wholesale volumes and margins  
22 modeled in GRID for UE 134, UE 147 and UE 170. He believes the adjustment is  
23 appropriate because actual volumes and margins during the referenced periods

1 were different than forecast in the Company's GRID production dispatch model in  
2 UE 134, UE 147 and UE 170.

3 **Q. What is the value of Mr. Wordley's proposed margin adjustment?**

4 A. The proposed adjustment reduces net power costs by approximately \$66.37  
5 million total Company and \$17.24 million on an Oregon basis.

6 **Q. Why does the Company object to Mr. Wordley's proposed adjustment?**

7 A. Mr. Wordley's adjustment would unfairly and unreasonably offset a significant  
8 portion of the power cost increases in this case, which are based upon objectively  
9 verifiable contract and market price updates. The adjustment has many problems:

- 10 • It is inconsistent with the Commission's recent rejection of Staff's extrinsic  
11 value adjustment in UE 180, which recognized that system value should be  
12 captured by comprehensive modeling changes, not one-factor adjustments.
- 13 • It is poor regulatory policy, unjustifiably imputing an actual cost model into a  
14 normalized ratemaking paradigm.
- 15 • It is based on the incorrect premise that power costs are overstated because  
16 they do not reflect actual short-term transactions.
- 17 • It overstates the value of the margin on increased wholesale transactions.
- 18 • It is poor regulatory policy because it systematically mismatches costs and  
19 benefits.

20 **UE 180 Order**

21 **Q. Is this the first time that Mr. Wordley has suggested this adjustment?**

22 A. No. Mr. Wordley first proposed this adjustment in UE 116. In that case, he  
23 asserted that the margin adjustment was necessary because the Company's power

1 cost model in use at that time, PD/Mac, was not an hourly cost model and failed to  
2 capture the flexibility of the Company's resource portfolio. (Staff/200,  
3 Wordley/5-8). The adjustment was resolved in that case through a Stipulation on  
4 power costs where the Company agreed to develop an hourly power cost model.

5 **Q. After the Company developed GRID, an hourly power cost model, did Mr.**  
6 **Wordley change his rationale for his margin adjustment?**

7 A. Yes. In UE 179, Mr. Wordley proposed the same adjustment, this time claiming  
8 that it and a closely related adjustment for extrinsic value were necessary until the  
9 Company developed stochastic power cost modeling:

10 "If the company successfully implemented stochastic power cost modeling,  
11 there may no longer be a need for staff's proposed margin and extrinsic value  
12 adjustments. Stochastic power cost modeling would mitigate the concerns  
13 regarding the primary inputs to GRID discussed earlier, and would help capture  
14 the impact on power costs of the sales and purchase transactions currently not  
15 captured by GRID and the option (extrinsic) value of the undispached capacity  
16 of PacifiCorp's flexible resources." (Staff/100, Wordley/9).

17 These adjustments were resolved in UE 179 through a Stipulation that settled all  
18 issues in the case.

19 **Q. Did Mr. Wordley propose similar adjustments in PGE's last rate case, UE**  
20 **180?**

21 A. Yes. Mr. Wordley proposed an extrinsic value adjustment:

22 "Until PGE develops and implements stochastic power cost modeling, Staff  
23 recommends that the Commission adjust the NVPC estimates for the extrinsic  
24 value of PGE's resources to ensure that customers receive the benefits from the  
25 Company's flexible power resources for which they are already paying in  
26 rates." *In re Portland General Electric*, Order No. 07-015 at 11.

1 **Q. How did the Commission resolve this adjustment?**

2 A. The Commission rejected this adjustment on the basis that it was unreasonable to  
3 review only one factor in considering the overall accuracy of PGE's power cost  
4 model (one that would lower NVPC), especially when the model generally  
5 underestimated NVPC. The Commission also directed PGE to study stochastic  
6 modeling and file a report on its potential for use in forecasting NVPC. *Id.* at 11-  
7 12.

8 **Q. Are Staff's adjustments for wholesale margin and extrinsic value related?**

9 A. Yes. Staff has historically argued for both margin and extrinsic value adjustments  
10 in PacifiCorp's power cost filings. In essence, Staff's wholesale margin  
11 adjustment is a one-sided approach to capturing extrinsic value, where benefits are  
12 counted without consideration of the expense incurred to obtain the benefit.

13 Extrinsic value is the benefit created through the flexibility of a resource  
14 and the underlying volatility of the commodities. For example, if the market price  
15 of electricity increases at a higher rate than the price of natural gas, a combustion  
16 turbine may become more economic to run at a higher level than was dictated  
17 under normal conditions. The extrinsic value of that flexibility is generated  
18 through additional wholesale sales made possible by incremental generation or  
19 through the avoidance of higher priced wholesale purchases.

20 The potential benefits of extrinsic value are covered in the proposed  
21 wholesale margin adjustment. What is never captured in the margin adjustment,  
22 however, is the additional fuel expense incurred to generate the extrinsic value.

23 Thus, the margin adjustment is a deviation from a general extrinsic value

1 adjustment, one that is incomplete and one-sided.

2 **Q. Does the Commission's Order rejecting the extrinsic value adjustment in UE**  
3 **180 apply equally to the margin adjustment in this case?**

4 A. Yes. As just noted, Staff has historically argued for both margin and extrinsic  
5 value adjustments in PacifiCorp's power cost filings on the basis that PacifiCorp's  
6 power cost model (first PD/Mac and then GRID) systematically overstated power  
7 costs by not capturing these values. The Commission's conclusion that PGE's  
8 power cost model did not overstate power costs by failing to account for extrinsic  
9 value applies even more clearly to PacifiCorp's model and the margin adjustment.  
10 That is, while the GRID model does not account for actual volumes of short-term  
11 purchases and sales, this does not result in a systematic overstatement of power  
12 costs—in part because, as noted below, PacifiCorp's actual, historic margins on  
13 its short-term purchase and sale transactions are negative on an average basis.

14 Additionally, the Commission in UE 180 rejected a single-factor approach,  
15 implicitly recognizing that a deterministic power cost model fails to capture other  
16 values that might partially or fully offset an extrinsic value adjustment. Instead,  
17 the Commission recognized that the better course was to work toward a new  
18 power cost model that more comprehensively captures the costs and benefits of  
19 stochastic volatility.

20 This reasoning applies with full force to Staff's margin adjustment. Rather  
21 than adopting this adjustment that captures the benefits of system cost variation  
22 without considering the significant costs of system variation, the Commission  
23 should adopt Staff's recommendation that PacifiCorp file the results of its

1 stochastic power cost analysis, working toward development of a power cost  
2 model that fairly and accurately captures the system values Staff has attempted to  
3 quantify in its extrinsic value and margin adjustments.

4 **Inconsistency with Normalized Ratemaking**

5 **Q. Mr. Wordley states that GRID does not capture the benefits of the**  
6 **Company's system characteristics such as load diversity, transmission**  
7 **capability and resource flexibility. Is this accurate?**

8 A. No. These benefits are all captured on a deterministic basis by GRID. The system  
9 dispatch portion of the model is a linear program that optimizes the Company's  
10 system with perfect foresight based upon market prices, load requirements,  
11 resource characteristics and transmission availability. This optimization includes  
12 monetization of available transmission by buying energy in a lower priced market  
13 hub and reselling the energy in higher priced market hub and curtailing generation  
14 when lower cost market purchases are available.

15 **Q. Mr. Wordley claims that his adjustment is reasonable because "there is**  
16 **considerably more variation and interaction, between actual loads, market**  
17 **energy prices, thermal plant availability and hydro generation than what is**  
18 **modeled in GRID." Does the actual variability justify the adjustment?**

19 A. No. The existence of variability between forecast and actual short-term wholesale  
20 transactions does not justify adoption of what is essentially an historical true-up  
21 adjustment for prior unrelated periods within a power cost model that is otherwise  
22 based upon normalized forecasts. If the Commission adopted the Staff's margin  
23 adjustment, consistency and matching principles would require adoption of

1 similar true-ups (without deadbands or sharing) for other cost items with actual  
2 results that generally vary from normalized forecasts, such as hydro generation,  
3 loads and forced outages. This, in turn, suggests adoption of a power cost  
4 adjustment mechanism to comprehensively true-up forecasted power costs to  
5 actual power costs, a very different power cost model from the one now approved  
6 for PacifiCorp in Oregon.

7 **Q. Is Mr. Wordley correct that GRID produces lower volumes of wholesale**  
8 **transactions than occurs on an actual basis?**

9 A. Yes. This is a characteristic of any deterministic hourly production dispatch  
10 model that balances and optimizes a forecast test year on an hourly basis. The  
11 GRID model produces a lower volume of transactions because it balances loads  
12 and resources on an hourly basis with perfect foresight. Even with a stochastic  
13 model, the volumes may still be lower than actual results because a model can  
14 only capture the variation determined by the given statistical properties. On an  
15 actual basis, system balancing is a long process that involves numerous updates of  
16 load and resource balances due to changes in load forecasts, the availability of  
17 thermal units, hydro conditions, etc., up to the actual time of delivery.  
18 Additionally, products available in the market are not always a good fit to balance  
19 resource requirements, which also leads to higher actual volumes. As a result,  
20 actual balancing generates higher volumes than GRID or other deterministic  
21 models.

1           **PacifiCorp's Power Costs Are Not Overstated**

2   **Q.   Mr. Wordley asserts that his adjustment is necessary to ensure that power**  
3   **costs are not systematically overstated. Is this true?**

4   A.   No, the opposite is true. The results from the Company's last two rate cases  
5       demonstrate (1) that power costs in rates were generally close to the Company's  
6       actual costs; and (2) application of the proposed margin adjustments Mr. Wordley  
7       has calculated for these cases would have produced a significant understatement  
8       of power costs.

9                Approved net power costs in UE 147 were \$610.7 million, based on a  
10              forecast test year of twelve months ended March 2004. Actual net power costs for  
11              that test year were higher, \$646.6 million. Mr. Wordley's margin adjustment,  
12              however, asserts that GRID underestimated wholesale margins in UE 147 by  
13              \$22.2 million, so that power costs in UE 147 should have been \$588.5 million—  
14              or \$58.1 million below the \$646.6 million actual net power costs incurred for the  
15              UE 147 test period.

16             This same problem exists for the UE 170 test period except the problem is  
17             even worse. In UE 170, the Company's filed net power costs were approximately  
18             \$814 million. The wholesale margin adjustment Mr. Wordley calculated for UE  
19             170 is \$102.5 million. The actual net power costs for 2006 were \$783.2 million.  
20             If the filed net power costs were adjusted to reflect Mr. Wordley's margin  
21             adjustment, authorized net power costs would have been \$711.5 million or \$71.7  
22             million below actual costs.



1           **Oversatement of Value of Margin**

2   **Q.    How is Mr. Wordley defining wholesale margin?**

3    A.    Mr. Wordley defines wholesale margin as the average price per megawatt hour of  
4           short-term firm and nonfirm sales, less the average price per megawatt hour of  
5           short-term firm and non-firm purchases.

6   **Q.    Do you agree with this definition?**

7    A.    No. Typically, a wholesale margin is connected to wholesale trading, where a  
8           company buys energy that it intends to sell to generate a margin. Mr. Wordley is  
9           improperly applying the concept of margin to the Company's short-term  
10          transactions, the majority of which are balancing transactions where the Company  
11          is either buying or selling energy to cover a short position or to reduce a long  
12          position to balance the system.

13 **Q.    What margin does Mr. Wordley propose in his adjustment and how does this**  
14 **compare to the Company's historical wholesale margins?**

15 A.    Mr. Wordley's wholesale margin adjustment would produce a wholesale margin  
16          of \$5.43 per megawatt hour if adopted, based on the Company's filed case. In  
17          comparison, actual margins per megawatt hour for calendar years 2002 through  
18          2006 were (\$2.42), \$.08, (\$3.03), (\$4.75) and \$1.59. Thus, the adjustment does  
19          not reflect the actual information upon which it purports to be based.

20           **Mismatches Inherent in the Margin Adjustment**

21 **Q.    Does the proposed adjustment create significant problems with the mismatch**  
22 **of costs and benefits?**

23 A.    Yes. There are at least three ways in which the proposed wholesale margin

1 adjustment violates the regulatory principle of matching in a manner that is  
2 prejudicial to PacifiCorp.

- 3 • There are different resources included in the actual results than in GRID filed  
4 net power costs. Similarly, certain resource costs are excluded in the  
5 normalized net power costs even though these costs were incurred to generate  
6 actual wholesale sales or offset actual wholesale purchases.
- 7 • There are different resource planned maintenance schedules in actual  
8 operations than were in GRID due to the 48-month normalization method.
- 9 • The adjustment combines general rate and TAM case results, even though the  
10 TAM updates wholesale transaction volumes throughout the year, leading to a  
11 more accurate forecast, while a rate case does not.

12 **Q. Does the development of the wholesale margin adjustment from Dockets UE**  
13 **170 and UE 134 violate the regulatory principle of matching?**

14 A. Yes. The GRID data for UE 170 and UE 134 is not comparable to the actual data  
15 for those test years due in part to the treatment of new resources under Oregon's  
16 used and useful statute, ORS 757.355.

17 **Q. Please explain.**

18 A. GRID modeled net power costs for UE 170 did not include the impact of the 525  
19 megawatt Currant Creek combined cycle combustion turbine or the 100 megawatt  
20 Leaning Juniper wind project because they were not in-service prior to the start of  
21 the test year. However, both resources are in actual net power costs because  
22 Currant Creek was placed in service in March 2006 and Leaning Juniper was  
23 placed in service in September 2006. As a result, actual net power costs include

1 approximately 1.8 million megawatt hours of below market price generation used  
2 to make wholesale sales and or avoid market purchases that were not included in  
3 UE 170 GRID calculated net power costs and not being paid for by Oregon  
4 customers. Actual costs also include \$58 million of natural gas fuel expense that  
5 is not captured in the margin adjustment even though the benefit of the generation  
6 is included in the margin adjustment. A similar situation exists for UE 134 where  
7 GRID modeled net power costs did not include the 200 megawatts of West Valley  
8 combustion turbines, which started in June 2002 and were included in actual net  
9 power costs.

10 **Q. Could you discuss the mismatch inherent in the adjustment related to plant**  
11 **maintenance?**

12 A. Yes. Normalized ratemaking uses a 48-month average for planned maintenance.  
13 However, in a given year actual planned maintenance varies from the 48-month  
14 average because thermal plant overhaul schedules change from year to year. In a  
15 situation where the actual planned maintenance is less than the 48-month average,  
16 more generation will be available to make additional wholesale sales or reduce  
17 wholesale market purchases, which is incorporated in the wholesale margin  
18 calculation. But, there is also a significant level of fuel expenses associated with  
19 the additional generation benefit that is not included in the wholesale margin  
20 adjustment—or elsewhere in PacifiCorp's rates. It is also worth noting that the  
21 use of actual forecast maintenance is not allowed in the TAM net power costs  
22 calculation, yet it is included in the wholesale margin adjustment. The same is  
23 also true for variation in other system elements, such as hydro generation.

1 **Q. Please explain.**

2 A. If we have a good hydro year and the Company is able to make more wholesale  
3 sales, the entire benefit of those sales is included in the wholesale margin  
4 adjustment. Conversely, if the Company has a bad hydro year and generates with  
5 higher cost thermal resources, the only recourse the Company has to collect the  
6 higher thermal costs is through a deferred accounting application or by seeking  
7 interim rate relief. The Commission has made clear that it will not allow a  
8 Company such relief absent extraordinary circumstances.

9 **Q. Earlier you mentioned that there was a problem with the type of cases Mr.  
10 Wordley uses to develop the wholesale margin adjustment. Please explain.**

11 A. Dockets UE 134 and UE 147 were not TAM filings and therefore did not include  
12 the data updates that the TAM process includes. As a result, net power costs for  
13 those dockets have a significantly lower volume of short-term transactions than  
14 TAM filings do because the TAM updates incorporate new transactions for the  
15 2008 test year up through October 31, 2007. For example, the Company's April  
16 2007 filing in this docket, which would be similar to the UE 134 and UE 147  
17 filings, included 16.6 million megawatt hours of sales. The net power costs  
18 update filed with this rebuttal includes 26.8 million megawatt hours of sales and  
19 will be updated again for transactions completed by October 31, 2007. The point  
20 here is that since Mr. Wordley's wholesale margin adjustment is in large part  
21 based on the volume difference between GRID net power costs and actual net  
22 power costs, it is not appropriate to use the comparison between GRID results  
23 from UE 134 and UE 147 with the corresponding actual results for this TAM

1 because they were not updated as are TAM net power costs.

2 **Q. What is your recommendation to the Commission?**

3 A. The proposed margin adjustment should be rejected.

4 **ICNU Adjustment - Extrinsic Value Call Options**

5 **Q. Please explain Mr. Falkenberg's proposed adjustment for call options.**

6 A. The proposed adjustment imputes extrinsic value for five call option contracts  
7 included in GRID. Mr. Falkenberg believes this is reasonable because it will  
8 prevent a situation where customers pay for the costs of the contracts and receive  
9 no benefits. The proposed adjustment would reduce net power costs by \$5.27  
10 million total Company.

11 **Q. Do you agree with the proposed adjustment?**

12 A. No. This is not a case of customers not receiving a benefit. Customers receive  
13 the benefit of reliable service and the benefit of energy dispatch when it is  
14 economic. As I explain, not all the call option contracts meet the Commission  
15 criteria for allowing imputation of extrinsic value, because some of them lower  
16 the net power costs as dispatched in GRID. And while the option contracts are  
17 not providing an energy dispatch value at this time, that could change with future  
18 TAM updates.

19 **Q. How do call option contracts ensure reliable service?**

20 A. The contracts in part ensure reliable service by providing physical delivery of  
21 energy into our Utah load area during periods of increased demand and / or  
22 transmission constraints when prices are higher. So even if the contracts are not  
23 dispatched purely in GRID, they can provide customers a real benefit in the event

1 of a change in the Company's system.

2 **Q. Is the proposed adjustment consistent with Commission precedent?**

3 A. No. While Mr. Falkenberg makes reference to the Commission's decision in UE  
4 180, he expands the impact of that decision by suggesting that unless a contract  
5 energy component provides enough benefits to cover the premium, extrinsic value  
6 should be imputed. This is definitely not what the order adopted. In the pertinent  
7 part of that order the Commission states:

8 "The Super Peak and Cold Snap contracts can be distinguished from the  
9 Company's other resources because they **do not dispatch at all in the Monet**  
10 **run** used to estimate test year power costs. Without an extrinsic value  
11 adjustment, customer rates would **include all of the costs and none of the**  
12 **benefits.**" *In re Portland General Electric*, Order No. 07-015 at 13.

13 Nowhere in the order does the Commission state that the energy portion of the  
14 contract must provide enough benefit to cover the cost of the premium. In fact,  
15 Mr. Falkenberg's logic doesn't make sense for an option contract purchased to  
16 provide reliability and capture value when market prices justify dispatch.

17 **Q. Please explain.**

18 A. When the Company buys an option contract, the Company looks for out-of-the-  
19 money contracts that have a lower premium as a means of providing reliability  
20 while keeping costs low, because the contracts are not expected to be dispatched  
21 all of the time. If the Company were to buy in-the-money option contracts, the  
22 premium and overall cost would be higher because of the expectation that they  
23 would be dispatched most of the time.

1 **Q. Mr. Falkenberg claims that the removal of the contracts lowered net power**  
2 **costs. Is that the case in the Company's updated net power costs?**

3 A. No. Two of the contracts used in Mr. Falkenberg's adjustment lower the net  
4 power costs when they are dispatched and would reduce net power costs if  
5 removed. Therefore, customers are receiving a benefit from these contracts in  
6 addition to the reliability benefit they receive.

7 **Q. What is the impact of the other three call option contracts?**

8 A. When the remaining call option contracts used in Mr. Falkenberg's adjustment are  
9 removed from the GRID calculation, the Company's net power costs decrease.  
10 Therefore, the Company proposes to remove these contracts from the Company's  
11 final TAM calculation as long as that is still the case when the final update is  
12 completed. If their removal does not lower net power costs, they should not be  
13 removed.

14 **Q. What other adjustment may the Company make regarding the call option**  
15 **contracts?**

16 A. Following the same logic, the Company may also remove the premium payments  
17 when those in-the-money contracts are not dispatched. At the current time,  
18 removing those three contracts and a portion of the premium payments of the  
19 other two contracts, lowers net power costs by approximately \$5.3 million on total  
20 Company basis. The value of the adjustment will be based on the Company's  
21 final net power costs update.

1 **ICNU Adjustment - Excess Reserve Allocation**

2 **Q. Please explain Mr. Falkenberg's proposed adjustments for excess reserve**  
3 **allocation.**

4 A. Mr. Falkenberg proposes to adjust reserve requirements for a variety of reasons.  
5 Those reasons include his belief that the GRID regulating margin calculation is  
6 not consistent with a Western States Coordinating Council white paper, is not  
7 consistent with the Company's actual practice, and what he says is a more serious  
8 issue whereby GRID allocates more capacity to reserves than required to meet the  
9 requirements. The proposed adjustments would reduce net power costs by \$14.9  
10 million total Company.

11 **Q. Do you agree that the operating reserve requirements as modeled in the**  
12 **Company's April 1, 2007 filing were overstated?**

13 A. Yes, but not for the reasons suggested by Mr. Falkenberg. As noted above, the  
14 Company had an error in its operating reserve modeling, which has been corrected  
15 in the net power costs update filed with my rebuttal testimony. This is the same  
16 adjustment that was proposed in Mr. Wordley's testimony.

17 **Q. Why do you contest Mr. Falkenberg's excess reserves adjustment?**

18 A. The adjustment double counts contractual reserves and assigns a cost to the excess  
19 reserves when there is no cost because they are derived from the unused capacity  
20 of the Company's western hydro units.



1 **ICNU Adjustment - Regulating Reserve**

2 **Q. Mr. Falkenberg criticizes GRID's regulating reserve calculation. Does he**  
3 **propose any adjustment on this basis?**

4 A. No. He does not propose a specific adjustment.

5 **Q. Mr. Falkenberg makes the point that the regulating reserve requirement is**  
6 **"performance based." From this, he concludes that any measure of the**  
7 **regulating reserve requirement based on the ramp within an hour is invalid.**  
8 **Is this a logical conclusion?**

9 A. No. The fact that NERC does not establish a formula for the regulating reserve  
10 requirement does not preclude utilities from developing an estimate of the  
11 regulating margin requirement. The Company needs to be able to forecast  
12 requirements so that it can operate its system appropriately by following load in  
13 order to meet the NERC performance criteria.

14 **Q. Mr. Falkenberg states that the Company's method of calculating regulating**  
15 **margin in GRID is not comparable to the methods identified in the Western**  
16 **Systems Coordinating Council white paper included in his testimony as**  
17 **ICNU Exhibit/104. Do you agree?**

18 A. No. The Company's method is similar to Method B, the load following method  
19 discussed on pages 9 and 10 in the white paper. Method B calculates the  
20 regulating margin requirement as the sum of the 10 minute forecast load change  
21 plus the 10 minute schedule variation in ramps and dynamic schedules  
22 (interchange) plus a function in ACE (difference between scheduled interchange  
23 and actual interchange). GRID calculates regulating margin requirement as the

1 hourly change in net area load, which includes interchange divided by 2. The  
2 main difference is that GRID does the calculation on an hourly basis instead of 10  
3 minute increments. Since GRID uses an average approach, it is conservative  
4 because it does not capture the 10 minute spikes and drops in load. Further, as I  
5 explained in my direct testimony, GRID does not capture the ramping  
6 requirements associated with wind generation variability.

7 **Q. Has the Company recently successfully litigated the issue of regulating**  
8 **reserve calculation with ICNU?**

9 A. Yes. The issue was litigated in the Company's most recent Washington case  
10 Docket No. UE 061546. The order for that case was received June 2007 and the  
11 issue was decided in the Company's favor.

12 **ICNU Adjustment - Hydro modeling**

13 **Q. Mr. Falkenberg raises multiple issues with the hydro generation data used by**  
14 **the Company in this filing. Starting with the discussion of correlation among**  
15 **the hydro facilities, how do you respond?**

16 A. In the simplest of terms, I agree with Mr. Falkenberg's statements regarding the  
17 correlation (or lack thereof) among the individual hydro plants and river systems.  
18 However, I disagree with his conclusion and his mean hydro adjustment  
19 calculation.

20 The Company is aware that it would be a relatively rare occurrence if the  
21 entire region including the Mid-Columbia River and the Utah plants would be  
22 either significantly dry or wet contemporaneously. "Dry," or 75 percent  
23 exceedence level, represents a reasonable lower bound for hydro generation and

1 “wet,” or 25 percent exceedence level, represents a reasonable upper bound. The  
2 Company believes that most of the actual outcomes will fall between the upper  
3 and lower boundaries.

4 As Mr. Falkenberg mentions, in the Company’s first use of VISTA, greater  
5 extremes and more points across a range of possible outcomes were included.  
6 Upon reviewing the data, we found that when combined for all river systems,  
7 these extremes were greater than any year in the historical record. That discovery  
8 prompted the move to 25 percent and 75 percent exceedence levels. On  
9 individual river systems the 25 percent / 75 percent levels are roughly equal to  
10 plus and minus one standard deviation of the annual total generation. When all of  
11 the river systems are combined, the range is closer to plus and minus two standard  
12 deviations – a reasonable range of possible hydro generation.

13 **Q. After review of the associated work papers, it appears that much of Mr.**  
14 **Falkenberg’s recommended hydro adjustment comes down to the use of the**  
15 **mean rather than the median as the best measure of the central tendency of**  
16 **hydro generation. Please explain why PacifiCorp supports the use of the**  
17 **median value for hydro generation.**

18 A. Both mean and median are legitimate statistics used to define the central tendency  
19 of an underlying distribution. Mr. Falkenberg clouds the issue when he argues  
20 that the mean can be more accurately calculated. The question of accurate  
21 calculation is not relevant. Either metric can be calculated accurately. The  
22 question is whether the mean or the median defines the central tendency of the  
23 VISTA hydro generation data distribution. In the case of a symmetric distribution

1 the mean and the median would be equal. However, as Mr. Falkenberg correctly  
2 points out, the distribution of hydrologic generation data is asymmetric. Thus, it  
3 would be inappropriate to use the mean rather than the median to define the  
4 central tendency of hydro generation data. Again, the issue is not a question of  
5 accuracy, but a choice of the best statistic to use to define the central tendency.

6 The Company believes that the median rather than the arithmetic mean  
7 provides the best predictive result for any future year. All values above the  
8 median have the same probability of occurrence (50 percent) as do all of the  
9 values below the median. In a small sample, such as 40 measures of the annual  
10 hydro generation, the mean can be affected by the magnitude of a single extreme  
11 event.

12 As an example, consider the Lewis River historical generation. Exhibit  
13 206 shows the mean and the median value of the historical generation calculated  
14 with and without the extreme years (above and below the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile). The  
15 effect of excluding the extreme years on the mean hydro generation is a shift of  
16 190.6 megawatt hour, while the impact on the median is unaffected. By selecting  
17 the median rather than the arithmetic mean as the third point and measure of  
18 central tendency, there is some assurance of stability in the hydro generation  
19 distribution, with changes generally affecting the upper and lower bounds.

20 **Q. Is Mr. Falkenberg's mean hydro adjustment calculation incorrect?**

21 A. Yes. First, Mr Falkenberg substitutes the "mean" hydro generation impact in the  
22 calculation using a flawed linear regression approach. Second, he inappropriately  
23 averages the generation of three exceedence levels to determine the "mean"

1 annual hydro generation.

2 As I explain, the 25 percent and 75 percent exceedence values have equal  
3 probability but not equal weight. Using them in a calculation of the mean is not  
4 appropriate. One would have to go back and model all the levels of generation to  
5 determine the average. However, the mean hydro impact calculation used by Mr.  
6 Falkenberg is wrong.

7 **Q. What is Mr. Falkenberg's method for making the hydro adjustment, and**  
8 **why is it wrong?**

9 A. Mr. Falkenberg uses a linear regression using the GRID hydro generation as the  
10 independent variable and the GRID model output of total Company net power  
11 costs as the dependent variable. In turn, he isolates the slope parameter, ignoring  
12 the intercept parameter, to calculate the difference between the Company's hydro  
13 normalized net power costs and an estimated mean hydro condition net power  
14 costs.

15 By ignoring the regression calculated intercept and substituting median  
16 hydro net power costs, Mr. Falkenberg produces a solution that is not feasible  
17 given his own regression estimates. The problem has two parts. First, rather than  
18 using the regression estimated intercept corresponding to his estimated slope  
19 parameter, he instead uses the median hydro net power costs as the intercept.  
20 Alone, this misstep causes his use of the regression approach to be misapplied.  
21 Second, though he estimates the slope parameter based on the total company  
22 hydro generation levels, his extrapolation uses differences. A regression estimate  
23 of the slope based on differenced data will produce a different slope than the one

1 produced with Mr. Falkenberg's analysis.

2 **Q. What is your recommendation?**

3 A. Mr. Falkenberg's adjustment should be rejected because the median is the best  
4 measure of central tendency. Further, if Mr. Falkenberg's calculation is corrected  
5 to include all the information from his own analysis, the impact of his adjustment  
6 is zero.

7 **ICNU Adjustment - Station Service**

8 **Q. Please explain Mr. Falkenberg's proposed station service adjustment.**

9 A. Mr. Falkenberg proposes to eliminate the Company's station service adjustment  
10 because he believes that the adjustment is trivial, not well supported and is not  
11 industry standard. The proposed adjustment would reduce proposed net power  
12 costs by \$3.28 million total Company.

13 **Q. Do you agree with the proposed adjustment?**

14 A. No. Whether or not another utility models station service during outages in the  
15 same manner as the Company is irrelevant and is not a sound reason for rejecting  
16 the adjustment. The fact remains that the Company's modeling of loads and  
17 resources does not capture station service when a unit is offline and station service  
18 is a load on the Company's system.

19 **Q. How does the Company model the load associated with station service when  
20 thermal units are offline?**

21 A. Station service is modeled as an addition to retail load to capture the associated  
22 system cost. The information is captured and provided by PacifiCorp Energy's  
23 Compliance Reporting Department.

1 **Q. Why isn't station service captured in the load and resource modeling?**

2 A. Load is equal to net generation plus interchange. Net generation only captures  
3 station service when the units are running, thereby excluding station service when  
4 the units are not running. To be consistent, heat rates are also calculated based on  
5 when the thermal units are running and do not include the impact of station  
6 service when the units are not running. Unless a separate load adjustment is made  
7 as proposed by the Company, the costs of that station service will not be  
8 recovered by the Company and there will not be a proper match between costs and  
9 benefits.

10 **Q. Does Mr. Falkenberg's suggestion that his adjustment is reasonable because**  
11 **there are times when the Company's generation exceeds the maximum**  
12 **ratings modeled in GRID provide a supportive reason for adopting his**  
13 **adjustment?**

14 A. No. The reasoning is not consistent with normalized ratemaking. As explained by  
15 Mr. Falkenberg, the higher operating levels are due to factors such as cooler  
16 operating temperatures, higher fuel quality and other circumstances, which allow  
17 generators to briefly exceed their rated capacities. This limited variation in  
18 generation does not belong in normalized ratemaking.

19 **Q. Is the Company's adjustment one-sided as claimed by Mr. Falkenberg?**

20 A. No. The Company's GRID modeling produces 44.9 million megawatt hours of  
21 coal generation, which exceeds the actual 48-month period ended December 2006  
22 amount of 44.6 million megawatt hours. Therefore, the Company's generation  
23 modeling is generous if anything.

1 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Falkenberg's claim that the Company's adjustment is**  
2 **trivial?**

3 **A.** No. This is a substantial cost incurred to serve customers that should be  
4 recoverable.

5 **Q. What is your recommendation for Mr. Falkenberg's adjustment?**

6 **A.** The proposed adjustment should be rejected because the Company's adjustment is  
7 not one-sided, is not trivial and our modeling is appropriate.

8 **ICNU Adjustment - Reverse DJ-3 Derate**

9 **Q. Please explain Mr. Falkenberg's proposal to reverse the Company's rerating**  
10 **of the Dave Johnston Unit 3 generation plant.**

11 **A.** The proposed adjustment would increase the Company's official re-rated net  
12 generation capability of 220 megawatts to 230 megawatts. Mr. Falkenberg  
13 believes the adjustment is appropriate because at times the unit runs above the 220  
14 megawatt level. The adjustment would reduce proposed net power costs by \$2.71  
15 million total Company.

16 **Q. Mr. Falkenberg claims that the Company's de-rate adjustment to Dave**  
17 **Johnston 3 is not warranted. Do you agree with that assertion?**

18 **A.** No. The unit is limited by state law to 1.2 lb/MM Btu of SO<sub>2</sub> emission as long as  
19 the heat input is below 2500 MMBtu/hour. If the unit exceeds the 2500 MMBtu  
20 heat input number, a reduction in the SO<sub>2</sub> emission rate is triggered to 0.5lb/MM  
21 Btu SO<sub>2</sub>. Through analysis, the Company determined that running the unit at the  
22 2500 MMBtu/hour heat input, the unit produces approximately 220 megawatts of  
23 net generation. If the Company triggers the 0.5 lb/MMBtu SO<sub>2</sub> emission limit,



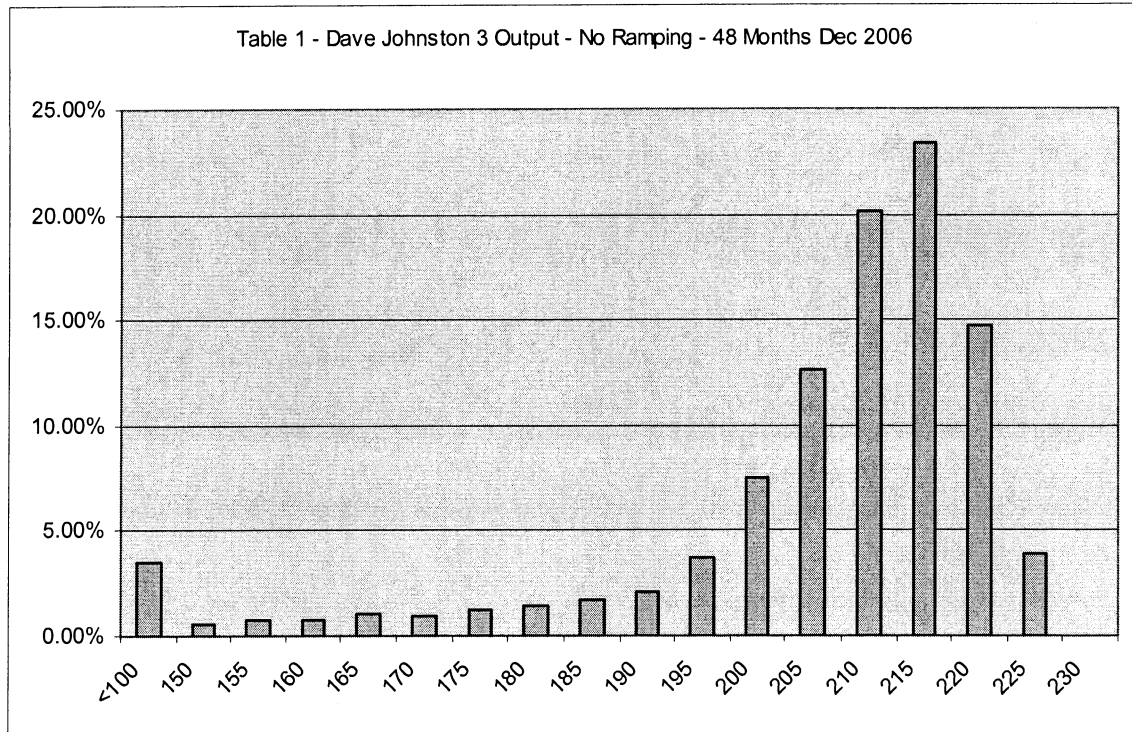
1 the Company either has to build a scrubber or find a lower sulfur coal source.

2 There are no plans to build a scrubber by the end of the test period and the

3 Company is already burning among the lowest sulfur source coals available.

4 **Q. Mr. Falkenberg states that in the last four years, the level of generation at the**  
5 **Dave Johnston 3 unit has exceeded the 220 megawatt level approximately**  
6 **5900 hours and by nearly 1800 hours in 2006. Did the Company exceed the**  
7 **state imposed emission limit in these hours?**

8 A. No. The Company reviewed the 48-month historical generation levels ending  
9 December 2006, consistent with the data used to determine the thermal de-rates  
10 included in GRID. The Company found that over the last two years of the data,  
11 the generation level was above 220 megawatts, on average, approximately 3.9  
12 percent of the time, as shown on Table 1 below. During these hours, the level of  
13 generation was on average 225 megawatts or less. This is due to variations in the  
14 sulfur content of the coal source. Through the Company use of targeting the SO<sub>2</sub>  
15 emission limit, the level of generation could slightly be above 220 megawatt a  
16 limited amount of time but not consistently.



- 1 **Q. Given the results of the analysis, do you agree with Mr. Falkenberg's**  
2 **proposed adjustment to the Dave Johnston 3 capacity?**
- 3 A. No. Mr. Falkenberg proposes to change the capacity at Dave Johnston 3 to 230  
4 megawatts. In doing so, GRID would calculate the Equivalent Availability of this  
5 unit above 220 megawatts 100 percent of the time. Given the historical data and  
6 the Company's SO<sub>2</sub> emission limit target, this adjustment is unreasonable. The  
7 Company believes that the 220 megawatt capacity is the appropriate level at  
8 which to run the Dave Johnston 3 unit. For these reasons, Mr. Falkenberg's  
9 proposed adjustment should be rejected.

1 **ICNU Adjustment - Cholla 4 Minimum Capacity**

2 **Q. Please explain Mr. Falkenberg's proposed Cholla 4 minimum capacity**  
3 **adjustment.**

4 A. The adjustment reduces the minimum capacity from the 250 megawatt level to  
5 150 megawatt. Mr. Falkenberg believes this is appropriate because the sodium  
6 depletion problem clears up during outages and the minimum can be reset to the  
7 150 megawatt level. The adjustment would reduce proposed net power costs by  
8 \$0.27 million total Company.

9 **Q. Is this the first case that the Company has modeled Cholla 4 with a 250**  
10 **megawatt minimum operating capacity?**

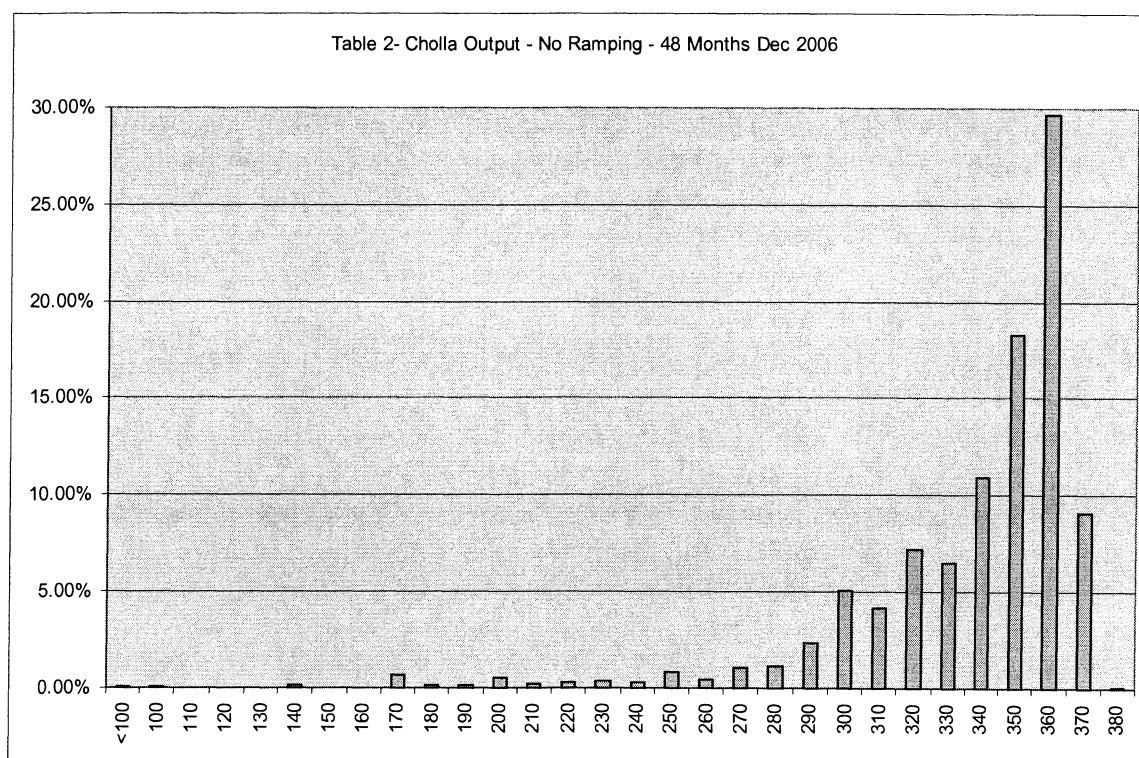
11 A. No. Contrary to Mr. Falkenberg's assertion, this is not the first case that the  
12 Cholla 4 minimum operating capacity has been modeled at 250 megawatts. The  
13 Company has been modeling Cholla 4 in this manner for several years.

14 **Q. Please explain the constraints on the minimum operating level of Cholla**  
15 **Unit 4.**

16 A. The plants physical minimum operating level is 95 megawatts. Due to  
17 transmission constraints the Company is limited to a minimum generation level of  
18 150 megawatts. Additionally, a sodium depletion problem causes the minimum  
19 loading of the plant to increase up to 250 megawatts in a period of 60 days after  
20 an outage. After an outage the sodium depletion issue clears up. The question  
21 here is the appropriate minimum operating level.

1 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Falkenberg's contention that the unit seldom operates**  
2 **at the 250 megawatt level?**

3 A. Yes, however, since Mr. Falkenberg focuses on how often the unit operates **below**  
4 250 megawatts, he fails to realize that with the removal of hours due to thermal  
5 ramping prior to or after an outage, the unit historically has operated **below** the  
6 250 megawatts level only 3.0 percent of the time over the four years ending  
7 December 2006 as shown on Table 2 below. Obviously, the Company's modeling  
8 has not assumed a worst case scenario. By re-running GRID with the minimum  
9 operating level of Cholla 4 at 150 megawatts, the operating level falls below 250  
10 megawatts approximately 14 percent of the hours. This is inconsistent with the  
11 historical results. Therefore, Mr. Falkenberg's proposed adjustment should be  
12 rejected.



13

1 **ICNU Adjustment - Planned Outages, Currant Creek**

2 **Q. Earlier in your testimony you indicated that you accepted the Gadsby CTs**  
3 **portion of Mr. Falkenberg's proposed adjustment but did not accept the**  
4 **Currant Creek portion of the adjustment. Please explain your reasoning**

5 A. The reasoning is straightforward. The Company has four years of actual  
6 information for the Gadsby CTs so it is appropriate to use a 48-month average. On  
7 the other hand, Currant Creek is a new plant and does not have 48 months of  
8 history to create the normalized maintenance level. It has been the Company's  
9 policy that when a new generating unit comes online, the planned maintenance  
10 schedules will be estimated based on manufacturers' recommendations. For the  
11 type of units used at the Currant Creek plant, the manufacturer GE Energy has  
12 recommended schedules for various maintenances. For example, combustion  
13 inspections will take seven days; hot gas path inspections will take 14 days; and  
14 major inspections will take 28 days. Based on this information, the Company  
15 made a very conservative estimate and modeled the seven-day maintenance  
16 schedule for Currant Creek. Therefore, Mr. Falkenberg's proposed adjustment to  
17 the maintenance schedule of the Currant Creek plant should be rejected.

18 **CUB Adjustment - GRID Version Change**

19 **Q. Please explain the background on the Company's proposal to use an**  
20 **upgraded version of GRID in this case.**

21 A. Prior to beginning the preparation of the 2008 TAM filing, the Company  
22 approached Staff, CUB and ICNU about the possibility of using the latest version  
23 of GRID, version 6.1, instead of version 5.3, which was used in the prior general

1 rate case. In these conversations, we informed the parties that the Company  
2 believed that the upgraded version 6.1 would produce a slightly lower net power  
3 costs than version 5.3. Staff consented to use of the GRID update, and ICNU  
4 indicated they would not contest the update. In my conversation with Mr. Jenks, I  
5 understood that CUB would also not contest the update.

6 Based upon these conversations, the Company developed the TAM filing  
7 based on version 6.1. Subsequently, during a discussion with CUB immediately  
8 before this case was filed, CUB informed the Company that it did not agree to the  
9 use of version 6.1. Unfortunately, the case had been substantially prepared and  
10 the Company was unable to go back to version 5.3 and meet the required April 2,  
11 2007 filing date.

12 **Q. Would switching back to GRID version 5.3 be a burden at this point?**

13 A. Yes. Switching back to version 5.3 would be an administrative burden at this  
14 point as it would require the parties to return their GRID computers to the  
15 Company so they could be re-imaged with version 5.3. This could not occur until  
16 after the two-to-three week period necessary for the Company to convert the net  
17 power costs data into version 5.3 format. Going backwards to version 5.3 would  
18 also require the parties to rerun analysis already performed with version 6.1.

19 **Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?**

20 A. Yes.



Case UE-191  
Exhibit PPL/205  
Witness: Mark T. Widmer

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF OREGON

PACIFICORP

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**Exhibit Accompanying Rebuttal Testimony of Mark T. Widmer**

**NET POWER COSTS UPDATE**

July 25, 2007



<b>Oregon TAM 2007 (April Filing)</b>	NPC (\$) =	<b>1,002,998,558</b>
	\$/MWh =	<b>17.29</b>

**Oregon TAM 2007 (July Filing):**

<b>Update</b>		<b>Impact (\$)</b>	<b>NPC (\$)</b>
1	DSM Utah Irrigation	66,851	
2	City of Blanding Purchase	8,378	
3	Black Hills Sales Prices Update	(1,227,386)	
4	BPA Peaking (BPA rate = \$6.82 from \$7.87)	(7,244,998)	
5	BPA Settlement	700,799	
6	Grant Reasonable and Meaningful	6,971,875	
7	Short Term Firm Transactions	(4,077,285)	
8	One Goodnoe	3,690,064	
9	Coal Costs	7,718,107	
10	New TransAlta Contracts	(1,889,256)	
11	Oregon Environmental Ind. QF	(62,553)	
12	New Dates (Schwendiman QF)	(162,117)	
13	Official Forward Price Curve	12,845,727	
14	Gas Swaps	(13,729,873)	
15	Wheeling Expenses	(1,872,841)	
16	Re-shaped Hydro	(676,902)	
17	Douglas Wells Purchase Expenses	393,532	
18	Exclude Cove Fort	(1,232,432)	
19	Exclude Roseburg PD	(457)	
20	System balancing impact of all adjustments	4,065,455	
<b>Correction</b>			
1	Non-owned Generation Reserves	(16,209,910)	
2	Hermiston Losses	3,732,811	
3	Gas Swaps	<u>(3,371,765)</u>	
		<b>Total Adjustments from April Filing =</b>	<b>(11,564,174)</b>
		<b>Oregon TAM 2007, updated =</b>	<b>991,434,384</b>
<b>Adopted</b>			
1	Uneconomic CT Operation	(1,648,765)	
2	Planned Outages (Gadsby CTs)	(45)	
3	CT Reserve Capability at 40MW (Gadsby CTs)	(228,440)	
4	Call Options	(5,289,814)	
5	Carbon at 80% C.F.	<u>(4,802,094)</u>	
		<b>Total Adjustments from updated =</b>	<b>(11,969,159)</b>
		<b>Oregon TAM 2007 (July Filing) =</b>	<b>979,465,225</b>



Case UE-191  
Exhibit PPL/206  
Witness: Mark T. Widmer

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF OREGON

PACIFICORP

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**Exhibit Accompanying Rebuttal Testimony of Mark T. Widmer**

**LEWIS RIVER HISTORICAL GENERATION**

July 25, 2007

**Lewis River Historical Generation**

	Calendar Year	Hydro Gen (MWh)	Ranked Hydro Gen (MWh)	Extreme Water Excluded
1	1964	74,488	47,020	
2	1965	65,950	47,460	
3	1966	67,521	49,138	closest to 95% 49,138
4	1967	74,358	53,968	53,968
5	1968	84,806	55,997	55,997
6	1969	71,638	56,355	56,355
7	1970	72,624	56,759	56,759
8	1971	93,266	60,446	60,446
9	1972	94,159	60,865	60,865
10	1973	64,432	62,486	62,486
11	1974	96,519	63,446	closest to 75% 63,446
12	1975	85,684	64,432	64,432
13	1976	67,296	64,882	64,882
14	1977	53,968	65,400	65,400
15	1978	62,486	65,947	65,947
16	1979	56,759	65,950	65,950
17	1980	64,882	67,296	67,296
18	1981	47,460	67,365	67,365
19	1982	82,145	67,521	67,521
20	1983	89,451	69,945	69,945
21	1984	77,710	71,090	71,090
22	1985	55,997	71,638	71,638
23	1986	60,865	72,624	72,624
24	1987	60,446	73,008	73,008
25	1988	63,446	74,358	74,358
26	1989	65,400	74,488	74,488
27	1990	78,600	77,710	77,710
28	1991	71,090	78,600	78,600
29	1992	47,020	80,844	80,844
30	1993	56,355	82,145	closest to 25% 82,145
31	1994	65,947	84,806	84,806
32	1995	86,706	85,684	85,684
33	1996	90,922	86,706	86,706
34	1997	102,735	89,451	89,451
35	1998	80,844	90,922	90,922
36	1999	98,878	93,266	93,266
37	2000	67,365	94,159	94,159
38	2001	49,138	96,519	closest to 5% 96,519
39	2002	69,945	98,878	
40	2003	73,008	102,735	
				<b>Impact</b>
	Mean	72,308	72,308	72,117 190.6
	Median	70,517	70,517	70,517 0.0
	25%	82,810	82,810	81,170 1,640.8
	75%	63,206	63,206	64,185 (979.7)
	5%	96,637		
	95%	49,054		



Case UE-191  
Exhibit PPL/400  
Witness: Mark C. Mansfield

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF OREGON

PACIFICORP

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**Rebuttal Testimony of Mark C. Mansfield**  
**GENERATION OUTAGE RATES**

July 25, 2007

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address and position with the Company.**

2 A. My name is Mark C. Mansfield. My business address is 1407 West North Temple  
3 Street, Room 310, Salt Lake City, Utah. My position is Vice President of  
4 Thermal Operations for PacifiCorp Energy.

5 **Qualifications**

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

7 A. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Master of  
8 Business Administration degree. I am also a registered professional engineer in  
9 the State of Utah. I have worked in the electric industry for 24 years and in the  
10 process control industry for an additional eight years.

11 During my career with PacifiCorp, I have served as an Engineer at the  
12 Carbon Plant, Maintenance Supervisor at the Carbon Plant, Maintenance  
13 Superintendent at the Hunter Plant, and Director of Technical Support for  
14 PacifiCorp Generation in Salt Lake City. I have served as the Managing Director  
15 of the Naughton Plant, Huntington Plant, and Hunter Plant. In 2006, I became  
16 Vice President of Safety, Environmental and Operations Support for PacifiCorp  
17 Energy. In 2007, I was appointed to my current position.

18 **Summary of Testimony**

19 **Q. Please summarize your rebuttal testimony.**

20 A. My rebuttal testimony responds to certain issues raised by ICNU witness  
21 Falkenberg regarding (1) PacifiCorp outage rates, and (2) the treatment of certain  
22 generating unit outages. My testimony makes the following points:

- 23
- Earlier this year, the Commission: (1) reaffirmed the use of a four-year rolling

1 average to calculate the forced outage rate; and (2) agreed to review proposals  
2 to modify this approach in a future generic docket. ICNU's proposal to  
3 change the forced outage rate to exclude outage costs that it claims were  
4 caused by management or personnel errors, avoidable mistakes and/or  
5 manufacturer design flaws raises policy issues that belong in the generic  
6 docket, not in this TAM filing.

- 7 • In response to Mr. Falkenberg's testimony about PacifiCorp thermal plant  
8 performance, my testimony shows that:
  - 9 – Mr. Falkenberg's Exhibit ICNU/109 implies that PacifiCorp's forced  
10 outage rate is increasing, when in fact this rate has decreased over the  
11 past several years;
  - 12 – Mr. Falkenberg asserts that the increase in the forced outage rate has  
13 lowered PacifiCorp's thermal capacity. In fact, during the period  
14 covered in Mr. Falkenberg's Exhibit ICNU/109, the total net generation  
15 output by the plants was improved. This demonstrates the problems  
16 inherent in Mr. Falkenberg's use of one performance factor to assess  
17 overall system performance.
- 18 • In response to Mr. Falkenberg's testimony that certain generating unit outages  
19 should be excluded from ratemaking calculations because they were the result  
20 of "imprudent operation and management," my testimony shows that:
  - 21 – Specific outages identified by Mr. Falkenberg were correctly reported  
22 and are not evidence of "imprudent operation and management."
  - 23 – Outages that involve personnel or maintenance error should not be



1 excluded from the calculation of net power costs.  
2 – Selectively removing forced outages in order to improve PacifiCorp  
3 thermal system equivalent availability and capacity factor in the  
4 calculation of net power costs is unreasonable given that PacifiCorp’s  
5 system equivalent availability factor and capacity factor are already  
6 better than the industry average.

7 **Commission Policy on Outage Rates**

8 **Q. Does PacifiCorp’s TAM filing reflect the Commission’s current approach to**  
9 **calculating forced outage rates?**

10 A. Yes. In *In re Portland General Electric*, Order No. 07-015 at 13 (2007), the  
11 Commission affirmed the use of a four-year rolling average to calculate the forced  
12 outage rate: “We continue to believe that past performance is the best predictor of  
13 a plant’s outage rate. For this reason, we adhere to our long-standing practice of  
14 using actual plant outage rates to predict future activity of that plant.” Outage  
15 rates in this case are based upon use of this long-standing methodology.

16 **Q. Does the Commission plan to open a generic docket on this issue?**

17 A. Yes. Also in Order No. 07-015, the Commission agreed to open a generic  
18 proceeding to consider proposals to change or modify the outage rate calculation.  
19 Given the established nature of the current approach and importance of this issue,  
20 the Commission’s decision to adhere to its current approach but open a generic  
21 docket to consider modification proposals is a balanced outcome, one that is fair  
22 to all parties.

1 **Q. Does ICNU propose a change to the current approach to calculating outage**  
2 **rates in this case?**

3 A. Yes. ICNU proposes to exclude outage costs that it alleges were caused by  
4 management or personnel errors, avoidable mistakes and/or manufacturer design  
5 flaws. This effectively lowers the outage rates in this case calculated using the  
6 four-year average.

7 **Q. Does ICNU's adjustment raise policy issues that the Commission should**  
8 **address in its upcoming generic docket on forced outage rates instead of this**  
9 **case?**

10 A. Yes. There are several important policy issues implicated by ICNU's adjustment,  
11 all of which require consideration in the Commission's generic docket. First,  
12 ICNU proposes to reduce PacifiCorp's forced rate by any outage that it claims  
13 was PacifiCorp's fault. ICNU ignores data, however, that shows that PacifiCorp's  
14 overall plant performance exceeds industry average. PacifiCorp submits that it is  
15 poor regulatory policy to lower outage rates by charging isolated mistakes or  
16 errors to a utility, when the utility's overall system of plant management is  
17 prudent. Such a policy could easily lead to an approach to plant maintenance that  
18 reduces outages but raises costs.

19 Second, ICNU's proposal to charge the utility with outages due to  
20 manufacturer problems raises similar but even more complicated policy issues.  
21 ICNU cites the Trojan precedent as support for this proposal. I understand that  
22 this case did not address outage rates or normal coal and gas plant maintenance  
23 and repair issues. I also understand that ICNU's proposal that the Commission

1 impute a prudence disallowance to PacifiCorp based upon a manufacturer error  
2 significantly lowers the traditional prudence standard in Oregon.

3 Third, ICNU has relied on selected portions of selected PacifiCorp root  
4 cause analysis reports to establish an adjustment to outage rates. There are at  
5 least three significant policy issues implicated by the manner in which ICNU uses  
6 the reports in this case: (1) ICNU takes reports that are developed and maintained  
7 for prudence purposes and inappropriately uses them to establish imprudence; (2)  
8 ICNU's use of the outage reports in this manner could discourage utilities from  
9 carefully reviewing and remediating specific outage incidences; and (3) ICNU's  
10 use of raw, computer-generated report data exacerbates these issues, because the  
11 unsynthesized data it cites is misleading in this context.

12 For all of these reasons, the Commission should reject the application of  
13 ICNU's adjustment to the outage rate calculation in this case and instead direct  
14 ICNU to raise its proposal in the upcoming generic docket on outage rates.

#### 15 **PacifiCorp Outage Rates**

16 **Q. Is Mr. Falkenberg's method of using outage rates to judge PacifiCorp**  
17 **generating plant performance an accurate indicator of performance?**

18 A. No. No single parameter can be used alone as a measure of overall system  
19 performance. Unit ratings, planned outage rate, equivalent forced outage rate,  
20 equivalent availability factor, capacity factor, and net generation must all be taken  
21 into consideration when measuring system performance.

1 **Q. Looking at all of these factors, is PacifiCorp’s overall system performance at**  
2 **or better than industry average?**

3 A. Yes. The following table provides a comparison of performance using five  
4 standard North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) availability  
5 definitions. The table compares PacifiCorp coal-fired unit performance for the  
6 last three years to the average performance of an equivalent system in the NERC  
7 availability database, using NERC 2004 data as a baseline.<sup>1</sup>

	NERC Equivalent System for 4-years Ending 12/31/2004	PacifiCorp Coal-fired Units for 4-years Ending 12/31/2004	PacifiCorp Coal-fired Units for 4-years Ending 12/31/2005	PacifiCorp Coal-fired Units for 4-years Ending 12/31/2006
Forced Outage Rate	4.82%	6.25%	5.91%	5.47%
Equivalent Forced Outage Rate	7.05%	10.02%	10.03%	9.59%
Planned Outage Factor	7.45%	3.30%	3.47%	3.38%
Equivalent Availability Factor	84.02%	85.54%	85.47%	85.87%
Capacity Factor	71.79%	82.29%	82.51%	82.84%

8 The table shows that PacifiCorp’s forced outage rate is declining and now near  
9 the industry average. At the same time, PacifiCorp’s planned outage factor and  
10 equivalent availability factor, which results from the combination of forced  
11 outages and planned outages, are consistently better than the industry average.  
12 Likewise, the capacity factor, which is a measure of actual output, shows that  
13 PacifiCorp thermal units are significantly better than the industry average.

<sup>1</sup> NERC data for four-years ending 2005 is similar: Forced outage rate: 4.8%; Equivalent Forced Outage Rate: 7.0%; Planned Outage Factor: 7.0%; Equivalent Availability Factor: 84.6%; Capacity Factor: 72.2%. NERC data for four-years ending 2006 is not yet available.

1 **Q. Mr. Falkenberg uses Exhibit ICNU/109 to demonstrate that PacifiCorp's**  
2 **outage rates are increasing and claims "that the increase in outage rates has**  
3 **also led to the need for additional thermal capacity." Can you comment on**  
4 **these points?**

5 A. First, the data above demonstrates that PacifiCorp's forced outage rates have  
6 *decreased* over the last three years, while its planned outage rates have remained  
7 flat. While Mr. Falkenberg relies on comparisons between current and ten-year-  
8 old outage rates to attempt to demonstrate a trend toward increasing outage rates,  
9 more recent and relevant data demonstrate the opposite trend.

10 Second, Exhibit ICNU/109 is based on the test year data that was used for  
11 the 1999 General Rate Case and the current proceeding. The test periods for  
12 availability data for these general rate cases are the four-year period ending  
13 December 31, 1998, and the four-year period ending December 31, 2006. The  
14 total actual output from generating units identified in Mr. Falkenberg's exhibit  
15 was actually greater for the period ending December 31, 2006, than the period  
16 ending December 31, 1998, as shown below, undermining Mr. Falkenberg's  
17 assertion that increasing outage rates have created the need for additional thermal  
18 capacity.

<b>PacifiCorp Coal-fired Generating Units</b>		
	4-years Ending 12/31/1998	4-years Ending 12/31/2006
Total Net Generation from Coal-fired units	175.9 million MWh	178.5 million MWh

19 The improvement in output resulted from a positive combination of system  
20 performance and market conditions. This is an example of how no single factor  
21 can be used to judge system performance. In this case, overall energy output of

1 the thermal units was improved and is indicative of PacifiCorp maximizing the  
2 utilization of its generating assets.

3 **Exclusion of “imprudent and unreasonable outage costs”**

4 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Falkenberg’s conclusion that the selected outage**  
5 **reports provide evidence of “imprudent operation and management of**  
6 **PacifiCorp’s resources”?**

7 A. No. Mr. Falkenberg incorrectly infers that imprudent operation and management  
8 is evidenced by incidents that involve personnel error. PacifiCorp strives to  
9 reduce personnel error by contractors and employees, but it nonetheless occurs, as  
10 it does in any business. While personnel error cannot be totally eliminated, the  
11 negative impact on production is reduced by emphasizing continuous  
12 improvement.

13 **Q. What has been the Company’s approach to continuous improvement?**

14 A. The process of continuous improvement includes tracking unit availability,  
15 analyzing causes of failures, and taking appropriate corrective action. The NERC  
16 Generating Availability Database is used to track availability. PacifiCorp has a  
17 number of programs that focus on analyzing failures and implementing corrective  
18 actions. As PacifiCorp identifies areas that need improvement, corrective action  
19 plans are developed. Examples include our Electric Power Research Institute  
20 (EPRI) based boiler tube failure reduction program for our boilers. We have a  
21 chemistry management program that uses the EPRI cycle chemistry improvement  
22 program to address plant chemistry issues. Our high energy piping condition  
23 assessment program includes on-going inspections, maintenance and analysis of

1 critical piping issues.

2 **Q. As a part of these efforts, is PacifiCorp in the process of implementing a**  
3 **more structured root cause analysis program for the analysis of significant**  
4 **plant incidents?**

5 A. PacifiCorp is in the process of rolling out a new, standard root cause analysis  
6 method. PacifiCorp is now using a method called *Behavior Justification*, which it  
7 has recently been working to automate using *Reason* software. This software  
8 automatically creates reports that string together raw inputs on possible root  
9 causes. The reports must be manually reviewed and synthesized for accuracy.

10 **Q. Are the reports in Exhibit ICNU/111 from PacifiCorp's new root cause**  
11 **methodology?**

12 A. Yes. Mr. Falkenberg is using some of the first unsynthesized reports generated by  
13 PacifiCorp's new root cause analysis approach to claim that outages are  
14 imprudent and outage costs should be disallowed. This is problematic because  
15 PacifiCorp has not yet had a chance to fully implement the program and refine the  
16 reports it generates. However, the fact that PacifiCorp maintains an extensive  
17 database on unit outages and can provide the reports from these programs for Mr.  
18 Falkenberg's review—even if these reports remain somewhat rough—is evidence  
19 that PacifiCorp is a prudent operator.

20 **Q. Please comment on Mr. Falkenberg's assertion that the Root Cause Analysis**  
21 **reports in Exhibit ICNU/111 demonstrate that PacifiCorp's increased outage**  
22 **rates are due to poor operation and maintenance.**

23 A. Mr. Falkenberg's use of selective portions of selective unsynthesized root cause

1 reports to demonstrate PacifiCorp’s imprudence is unfair and misleading. As just  
 2 noted, these reports are a developing remedial tool, inappropriately applied to a  
 3 forensic analysis of a particular outage. Additionally, Mr. Falkenberg points to  
 4 several passages in the reports that address budget-driven decisions to delay  
 5 certain repairs or part replacements and concludes that “cost cutting measures  
 6 were implemented that placed earnings above long-term reliability.” This  
 7 conclusion is irresponsible given that: (1) PacifiCorp’s reliability statistics are  
 8 consistently at or above industry standards; (2) prudent plant operation and  
 9 maintenance recognizes and indeed requires budgetary limitations on how much  
 10 is spent on plant repair and upkeep; and (3) ICNU regularly advocates for various  
 11 forms of cost control in its efforts to keep its customers’ rates as low as possible.  
 12 For example, in PacifiCorp’s last rate case, UE 179, ICNU proposed a large  
 13 disallowance in PacifiCorp’s proposed generation overhaul costs. (ICNU/116,  
 14 Falkenberg/2.)

15 **Q. How does PacifiCorp’s record with respect to personnel errors compare with**  
 16 **that of other utilities?**

17 A. The percent equivalent availability factor attributed to personnel error in the  
 18 industry is small. The percent equivalent availability factor attributed by  
 19 PacifiCorp to personnel errors is in-line with the industry.

<b>PacifiCorp Coal-fired Generating Units</b>		
	<b>Equivalent Coal-fired NERC Industry Level Data</b>	<b>PacifiCorp Coal-fired Plants</b>
<b>Percent Equivalent Availability Factor Lost Due to Personnel Error NERC Codes 9900- 9940</b>	<b>0.06%</b>	<b>0.06%</b>



1 **Q. Mr. Falkenberg points out that outages he has determined to be due to**  
2 **personnel or maintenance errors were not reported to NERC as being due to**  
3 **personnel or maintenance error. How does PacifiCorp determine how to**  
4 **report outage causes?**

5 A. PacifiCorp plant personnel determine the cause and duration of each derating and  
6 forced outage and enter that information into the PacifiCorp Availability  
7 Information System (AIS) database. The AIS database uses standard NERC  
8 cause codes. Each incident is coded with the most appropriate NERC cause code  
9 based on available information. The information in the AIS database is reported  
10 to NERC.

11 **Q Is there any reason to believe that PacifiCorp intentionally under reports the**  
12 **number of incidents caused by personnel error?**

13 A. Absolutely not. Accurate information is essential to good analysis of the causes  
14 of deratings and outages. Plant personnel determine the most appropriate code  
15 using available information. The data entered into the database is reviewed and  
16 validated monthly for consistency and accuracy.

17 **Q. Mr. Falkenberg identifies a number of specific outages that he claims were**  
18 **due to “personnel or maintenance errors or other avoidable problems” that**  
19 **were attributed to another cause. What is your perspective on these outages?**

20 A. Plant personnel assigned the appropriate NERC cause code to each outage given  
21 the nature of the event. Personnel error or maintenance error may have played a  
22 part in the incidents; however, that does not mean the incidents were incorrectly  
23 coded or reported. PacifiCorp uses the NERC guidelines for reporting into the

1 NERC Generating Availability Data System. The guidelines recommend  
2 selecting the code that best describes the cause or component responsible for the  
3 event. The NERC guidelines specifically recommend not assigning the cause to  
4 an auxiliary component or operation that triggered the failure of a major  
5 component or system.

6 **Q. Mr. Falkenberg claims that outage incidents reported to NERC as being due**  
7 **to operator or personnel errors contribute to imprudent and unreasonable**  
8 **costs. Do you agree?**

9 A. No. Personnel errors alone are not an indication of imprudence. PacifiCorp  
10 records the cause of each outage incident as accurately as practical in the  
11 PacifiCorp Availability database, which is essential to having good information  
12 for making decisions on how to improve plant performance. PacifiCorp  
13 recognizes that personnel error does contribute to some outages. PacifiCorp is  
14 committed to minimizing these incidents by maintaining an emphasis on  
15 continuous improvement.

16 **Q. Do you agree that selected outages should be removed from calculation of net**  
17 **power costs?**

18 A. No. PacifiCorp's equivalent availability factor and capacity factor are better than  
19 industry averages.

Four-year period ending	NERC Equivalent System		PacifiCorp Coal-fired System	
	Equivalent Availability Factor	Capacity Factor	Equivalent Availability Factor	Capacity Factor
2004	84.02%	71.79%	85.54%	82.29%
2005	84.56%	72.25%	85.47%	82.51%

1           PacifiCorp coal-fired plant capacity factor is only 3 percent less than the  
2           equivalent availability, which indicates that the coal fired units operate near the  
3           maximum available capacity all the time. Also, the small spread between  
4           equivalent availability factor and capacity factor compared to the average industry  
5           spread shows that PacifiCorp is able to achieve a higher than average utilization  
6           of its thermal generating assets. Mr. Falkenberg recommends that certain outages  
7           be removed in order to further “improve” the system availability and capacity  
8           factor and consequently reduce net power costs. Mr. Falkenberg’s  
9           recommendation is unreasonable and unwarranted given that PacifiCorp’s  
10          equivalent availability and capacity factors are better than industry averages.

11   **Q.   PacifiCorp’s capacity factor for the four-year period ending in December 31,**  
12   **2005 is approximately 10 percent greater than the NERC average. What is**  
13   **the approximate value associated with PacifiCorp’s above average capacity**  
14   **during this period?**

15   A.   The value of the power associated with PacifiCorp’s coal plants running at above-  
16   industry-average capacity factors for the four-year period ending December 31,  
17   2005 is approximately \$292 million. These savings have helped PacifiCorp  
18   maintain relatively low net power costs compared to other utilities.

19   **Q.   Please summarize the Company’s position regarding the removal of outages**  
20   **from the availability calculations for ratemaking purposes.**

21   A.   All outages should remain in the availability calculations used in the net power  
22   costs model. PacifiCorp is focused on continuous improvement. Our objective is  
23   to maximize the generation from the thermal units with attention to safety and

1 environmental compliance. Consequently, PacifiCorp maintains a constant  
2 emphasis on minimizing deratings and outages. Even so, it is not possible to  
3 eliminate all personnel error. Removing outages attributed to personnel error  
4 from the net power costs model inputs will result in unreasonably high thermal  
5 unit output. The historic forced outage rate should be the basis of the outage rate  
6 used in the net power costs model.

7 **Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?**

8 A. Yes.

