

February 4, 2013

***VIA ELECTRONIC FILING
AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY***

Oregon Public Utility Commission
550 Capitol Street NE, Ste 215
Salem, OR 97301-2551

Attn: Filing Center

**RE: UM 1610 – Investigation into Qualifying Facility Contracting and Pricing
Opening Testimony of PacifiCorp**

PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power (PacifiCorp or the Company) encloses for filing in the above-referenced docket its opening testimony and exhibits of Brian S. Dickman and Bruce W. Griswold. CDs containing the workpapers are also provided.

The Company requests that all data requests on this matter be sent to the following:

By email (preferred): datarequest@pacificorp.com

By regular mail: Data Request Response Center
PacifiCorp
825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000
Portland, Oregon 97232

Please contact Joelle Steward, Director of Pricing, Cost of Service and Regulatory Operations, at (503) 813-5542 for questions on this matter.

Sincerely,



William R. Griffith
Vice President, Regulation

Enclosure

Cc: Service List – UM 1610

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing document, in Docket UM 1610, on the date indicated below by email and/or US Mail, addressed to said parties at his or her last-known address(es) indicated below.

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DATED: February 4, 2013



Amy Eissler
Coordinator, Regulatory Operations

Docket No. UM-1610
Exhibit PAC/100
Witness: Brian S. Dickman

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

PACIFICORP

Direct Testimony of Brian S. Dickman

February 2013

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address and present position with**
2 **PacifiCorp (the Company).**

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

6 **Qualifications**

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

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

15 **Purpose and Summary of Testimony**

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

17 A. My testimony presents the Company's proposed changes to the methodology used
18 to calculate avoided costs for qualifying facilities (QFs) in Oregon pursuant to the
19 Public Utilities Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) and provides the
20 Company's response to various items identified on the issues list adopted
21 pursuant to Chief Administrative Law Judge Michael Grant's October 25, 2012
22 Ruling (Issues List). My testimony is structured to follow the Issues List as much
23 as possible. Specifically I address Issue 1A and 1C, Issue 2A, Issue 3, and Issue

1 4A and 4C. These issues are related to the methodology for calculating avoided
2 cost prices, including: identifying the appropriate methodology, determining a
3 schedule for price updates, and accounting for specific QF characteristics.

4 **Q. Are any other Company witnesses presenting testimony in this proceeding?**

5 A. Yes. Mr. Bruce Griswold, Director of Short-Term Origination & Qualifying
6 Facility Contracts, presents testimony regarding commercial issues related to QF
7 contracting in Oregon. Specifically, Mr. Griswold addresses the Phase I
8 eligibility issues and contracting issues on the Issues List, as well as issues
9 involving levelization, environmental attributes, and third-party transmission
10 costs.

11 **Q. Please summarize your testimony.**

12 A. The Company proposes that certain modifications should be made to the current
13 method of calculating avoided cost prices in Oregon to ensure that those prices
14 accurately reflect the true avoided cost of large QF resources and to maintain the
15 customer indifference required under PURPA. The Company proposes to use two
16 distinct methodologies: a standard method based on a proxy resource to calculate
17 published avoided cost prices for small QFs under 3 megawatts on Schedule 37
18 (standard avoided costs), and a model-based approach that captures resource-
19 specific characteristics and their impact on the utility system to calculate non-
20 standard, or negotiated, avoided cost prices for larger QFs on Schedule 38 (non-
21 standard avoided costs).

22 With respect to the published standard avoided cost prices, the Company
23 recommends only minor modifications to the current method. First, the Company

1 recommends that the eligibility cap be lowered from 10 megawatts to 3
2 megawatts. Mr. Griswold's testimony provides details regarding the rationale for
3 the proposed reduction. Second, the Company proposes to use market prices from
4 a single market hub rather than blended market prices to calculate standard
5 avoided cost prices during the resource sufficiency period.

6 With respect to non-standard avoided cost prices, the Company
7 recommends a modeling approach that relies on information from the Company's
8 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and measures the impact a QF has on the
9 Company's revenue requirement using the Generation and Regulation Initiative
10 Decision Tools (GRID) production cost model. This approach, known as the
11 Partial Displacement Differential Revenue Requirement (PDDRR) method, is
12 commonly used by the Company in its other jurisdictions to calculate non-
13 standard avoided cost prices. Utilizing the PDDRR method will improve the
14 accuracy of the avoided cost prices for large QFs that do not qualify for standard
15 avoided cost prices, compared to the current static proxy method for calculating
16 non-standard avoided cost prices.

17 Additionally, the Company recommends the Commission not adopt
18 preferential pricing options for current QF customers seeking a renewal of a
19 contract. Doing so would result in offering contracts longer than 20 years, which
20 the Commission currently does not allow.

21 Last, the Company recommends that the avoided cost calculations be
22 updated as often as practical to reflect the best available information. For inputs
23 to standard avoided cost prices that are tied to the IRP, the current schedule of

1 updates at least every two years and within 30 days of acknowledgement of an
2 IRP should be retained. Updates to forward market prices for electricity and
3 natural gas, however, should be made on a quarterly basis in order to ensure that
4 the published standard avoided cost prices more closely reflect the current
5 avoided cost to the utility. Furthermore, inputs to non-standard avoided cost
6 prices should reflect the best available information at the time a QF requests
7 prices.

8 **Q. Have you prepared an exhibit that summarizes the Company's proposals in**
9 **the same format as the Issues List?**

10 A. Yes. Please refer to Exhibit PAC/101 for a comprehensive list of the Company's
11 proposals in the Issues List format.

12 **Avoided Cost Price Calculation**

13 **Standard Avoided Cost Prices—Schedule 37**

14 **Q. Should the Commission retain the current method of calculating the**
15 **Company's standard avoided cost prices for small QFs?**

16 A. Yes, with only a couple of exceptions as discussed below. The current approach
17 for calculating Oregon standard avoided cost prices relies on market prices during
18 a resource sufficiency period and the cost of the next avoidable resource identified
19 in the Company's IRP during the period of resource deficiency, which is defined
20 by the timing of the next avoidable resource in the IRP (Proxy Method). This
21 Proxy Method is reasonable only for resources that will not substantially impact a
22 utility's load and resource plan because few, if any, of the QF resources that
23 qualify for standard prices produce energy that provides equivalent value to the

1 proxy resource energy. During the deficiency period, standard rates are based on
2 a proxy plant that is fully dispatchable by the Company and is located at an
3 optimum location relative to load. Prices paid to the QF are higher than they
4 might otherwise be to the extent that a QF is not in an optimum location, is not
5 dispatchable, is not reliable, does not provide reserves, produces intermittent
6 power, or does not allow the Company to schedule maintenance.

7 Notwithstanding these differences, PURPA expressly contemplates that
8 very small projects (100 kW and less) should get standard rates to minimize
9 transaction costs that might otherwise keep the projects from going forward. The
10 Company believes that for projects under three megawatts the Proxy Method used
11 in Oregon is a reasonable balance between accuracy and transparency, and serves
12 to minimize the transaction costs for smaller and less sophisticated project
13 developers.

14 **Q. Should the Commission change the eligibility cap for the standard contract?**

15 A. Yes. Company witness Mr. Griswold provides testimony supporting the
16 Company's proposal to reduce the eligibility cap from 10 megawatts to 3
17 megawatts.

18 **Q. Does the Company propose to make any modifications to the calculation of
19 standard avoided cost prices under the Proxy Method?**

20 A. Yes. The Company proposes to use market prices from a single market hub rather
21 than blended market prices to calculate standard avoided cost prices during the
22 resource sufficiency period.

1 **Q. Has the Company previously raised the issue of market blending with the**
2 **Commission?**

3 A. Yes. On March 5, 2012, the Company filed Advice No. 12-005 for changes to
4 standard avoided cost prices, where it proposed to remove market blending from
5 standard avoided cost calculations. Following discussions with Staff for the
6 Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Staff), it was determined that issues
7 regarding market blending should be addressed in a formal proceeding. On
8 March 21, 2012, the Company revised the proposed standard avoided cost prices
9 in the sufficiency period to use market blending, and these rates are currently in
10 effect.

11 **Q. How does market blending impact the standard avoided cost calculation.**

12 A. In Order No. 05-584 in Docket No. UM 1129, the Commission required the
13 Company to use monthly on- and off-peak forward market prices to calculate
14 avoided cost prices when it was in a resource sufficient position.¹ Rather than use
15 a single market index price, the Company has been required to use multiple
16 markets across its system and to apply weightings to the markets based on an
17 analysis performed in the GRID production cost model.

18 **Q. Why does the Company propose to eliminate market blending?**

19 A. Market blending introduces unnecessary complexity and administrative burden
20 into the Company's standard avoided cost calculation without having a material
21 impact on prices. If market blending were eliminated, it would not be necessary
22 for the Company to perform any GRID model runs to calculate the standard

¹ *In the Matter of Public Utility Commission of Oregon Staff's Investigation Relating to Electric Utility Purchases from Qualifying Facilities*, Order No. 05-584, Docket UM 1129 at 28 (May 13, 2005).

1 avoided costs. In its March 21, 2012, standard avoided cost filing, market
2 blending had a \$0.20/MWH impact on avoided costs.

3 **Q. What market does the Company propose to use in the period of resource**
4 **sufficiency if market blending were eliminated?**

5 A. The Company proposes to use forward Mid-Columbia market prices to calculate
6 avoided costs in the period of resource sufficiency. The Mid-Columbia market is
7 an active market in the Company's western balancing authority area (PACW) and
8 fairly represents short-term energy value of small QF resources in Oregon. This is
9 also the same method authorized by the Commission for Portland General
10 Electric.

11 **Q. Should standard avoided costs include a separate stream of prices for**
12 **renewable resources?**

13 A. Yes. The Company supports a renewable avoided cost price option in Schedule 37
14 as approved by the Commission in Order No. 11-505 in Docket No. UM 1396,
15 subject to modifications in market blending discussed above and the eligibility
16 limits as discussed in the testimony of Mr. Griswold. Later in my testimony I will
17 discuss the appropriate calculation of avoided cost prices for renewable resources,
18 including accounting for integration charges.

19 **Non-Standard Avoided Cost Prices—Schedule 38**

20 **Q. Should the Commission adopt a new method for calculating non-standard**
21 **avoided cost prices for large QFs?**

22 A. Yes. The Company proposes to calculate non-standard avoided cost prices for
23 large QFs using the PDDRR method, a modeling approach that relies on

1 information from the Company's IRP and measures the impact a QF has on the
2 Company's revenue requirement. The PDDRR method is commonly used by the
3 Company in Utah, Wyoming, and Idaho to calculate non-standard avoided cost
4 prices. The Company proposes that the PDDRR replace the current practice of
5 making individual adjustments to the Proxy Method prices for standard avoided
6 costs. Independently calculating the avoided cost of large QFs using the PDDRR
7 method is a more accurate approach for determining the value of the energy and
8 capacity on the Company's system, taking into account the unique characteristics
9 of each QF.

10 **Q. Why is a differential revenue requirement approach more accurate than**
11 **basin avoided cost prices on a proxy plant?**

12 A. The costs that are assumed to be avoided by the Company under the Proxy
13 Method are not always being incurred. Specifically, under the Proxy Method, it is
14 assumed that the Company is always able to use the QF output to make additional
15 wholesale sales or avoid making wholesale purchases during the resource
16 sufficiency period, and is always able to save the variable cost of the IRP proxy
17 resource during the resource deficiency period. In reality this is not the case. For
18 example, there may be times during the sufficiency period where the highest
19 avoidable variable cost is fuel for generation, not market prices. During the
20 deficiency period, the IRP proxy resource, which is a natural-gas fired plant, is
21 not dispatched when it is more expensive to run compared to other resources
22 available to the Company or compared to wholesale market prices. If a plant is
23 not dispatched, it cannot be displaced. Both of these deficiencies cause the prices

1 derived from the Proxy Method to be higher than the costs that the Company can
2 avoid.

3 **Q. Does the PDDRR method remedy the deficiencies of the Proxy Method?**

4 A. Yes. The PDDRR method directly measures the impact each QF facility has on
5 the Company's power costs by utilizing the Company's production cost model,
6 GRID, to calculate the value of energy and capacity from QFs based on the
7 unique characteristics of the QF resource and the Company's system.

8 **Q. How are non-standard avoided cost prices for QFs calculated now?**

9 A. Currently, non-standard avoided cost prices are determined based on the same
10 Proxy Method used to set standard avoided cost prices, with a limited set of
11 discrete adjustments meant to recognize some resource-specific characteristics. In
12 Order No. 07-360 the Commission adopted the current methodology to calculate
13 non-standard avoided cost prices for large QFs.² The list of authorized resource-
14 specific adjustments was derived based on the seven factors outlined in 18 CFR §
15 292.304(e)(2). Many adjustments identified in 18 CFR § 292.304(e)(2) are
16 interdependent, and it is often not possible to calculate a particular adjustment
17 viewed in isolation. The Company's experience in its other jurisdictions is that a
18 differential revenue requirement approach using the PDDRR method is best suited
19 to account for the factors in 18 CFR § 292.304(e)(2).

20 **Q. What are the seven factors identified in 18 CFR § 292.304(e)(2)?**

21 A. 18 CFR § 292.304(e)(2) states that the following factors shall, to the extent
22 practicable, be taken into account:

² See *In the Matter of Public Utility Commission of Oregon Staff's Investigation Relating to Electric Utility Purchases from Qualifying Facilities*, Order No. 07-360, Docket UM 1129 (Aug. 20, 2007).

- 1 i) The ability of the utility to dispatch the qualifying facility;
2 ii) The expected or demonstrated reliability of the qualifying
3 facility;
4 iii) The terms of any contract or other legally enforceable
5 obligation, including the duration of the obligation,
6 termination notice requirements, and sanctions for non-
7 compliance;
8 iv) The extent to which scheduled outages of the qualifying
9 facility can be usefully coordinated with scheduled outages
10 of the utility's facilities;
11 v) The usefulness of energy and capacity supplied from a
12 qualifying facility during system emergencies, including its
13 ability to separate its load from its generation;
14 vi) The individual and aggregate value of energy and capacity
15 from qualifying facilities on the electric utility's system;
16 and
17 vii) The smaller capacity increments and the shorter lead times
18 available with additions of capacity from qualifying
19 facilities.

20 **Q. In Order No. 07-360, did the Commission prescribe a method to account for**
21 **each of the seven factors?**

22 A. No. Of the seven factors, the Commission adopted adjustments to the standard
23 avoided cost prices to address i) dispatchability, and ii) reliability. The
24 Commission determined the issues related to iii) contract terms, iv) outages, and
25 v) system emergencies were better addressed in contract provisions rather than as
26 adjustments to avoided costs. The Commission did not adopt any specific
27 framework for addressing vi) the individual and aggregate value of energy and
28 capacity from QFs on the utility system, or vii) the smaller capacity increments
29 and shorter lead times available from QFs, citing a lack of proposed methods from
30 parties. The Commission did, however, recognize that an adjustment should be
31 made if it can be done in a practical and reasonable way.

1 **Q. Are there additional resource-specific factors that should also be considered**
2 **when calculating the avoided cost of energy and capacity of large QFs?**

3 A. Yes. Because large QFs may have specific characteristics that materially impact
4 the value of the energy and capacity on the Company's system, additional factors
5 such as the QF's location, delivery pattern, and capacity contribution need to be
6 considered to accurately calculate its specific value to the Company. Modeling
7 each specific QF in the Company's GRID model allows for these characteristics
8 to be taken into account in the calculation of avoided costs.

9 **Q. Please provide an overview of the PDDRR method.**

10 A. Under the PDDRR method, the Company performs two simulations using the
11 GRID model to determine the system energy value of a QF resource, taking into
12 account its specific operating characteristics and point of delivery on the
13 Company's system. In addition, the PDDRR method provides a capacity payment
14 based on the cost of the "next deferrable resource" in the preferred portfolio. In
15 applying the capacity payment, the method accounts for the difference between
16 the capacity value provided by QF resources and the next deferrable resource,
17 including the capacity contribution of the QF resource.

18 **Q. What are the components of the avoided cost calculations under the PDDRR**
19 **method?**

20 A. Using the PDDRR, QF avoided cost prices consist of three main components:
21 avoided capacity costs, avoided energy costs, and integration costs (where
22 appropriate).

1 **Q. Please describe how the Company calculates avoided costs of energy under**
2 **the PDDRR method?**

3 A. The calculation of the avoided energy cost begins with existing and planned
4 resources that represent the Company's most recent preferred resource portfolio.
5 This portfolio can come from the IRP, the IRP Update, or other sources such as
6 the resource need assessment the Company provided in the recent all-source
7 Request for Proposals (RFP). Using the preferred portfolio, the Company runs
8 two simulations using the GRID model to determine the avoided energy cost. The
9 first simulation (the Base Simulation) calculates net power costs of the preferred
10 portfolio. The second simulation (the Avoided Cost Simulation) calculates net
11 power costs of the preferred portfolio with two modifications: the operating
12 characteristics of the proposed QF are added with its energy included at zero cost,
13 and the capacity of the next deferrable resource is reduced by an amount equal to
14 the QF's capacity contribution. This reduction in the capacity of the next
15 deferrable resource, known as partial displacement, reflects the deferral of a
16 portion of the next avoidable resource in a manner that maintains resource
17 adequacy and system reliability equivalent to that of the Base Simulation. Front
18 Office Transactions are typically the next avoidable resources partially displaced
19 during the sufficiency period, followed by the proxy natural-gas fired resource
20 during the deficiency period. The difference in net power costs between the
21 Avoided Cost Simulation and the Base Simulation equals the avoided energy cost.
22 The avoided energy cost does not include the benefit of deferring the fixed costs
23 (avoided capacity costs) of the next deferrable resource in the deficiency period.

1 **Q. Please describe how the Company calculates avoided costs of capacity during**
2 **the deficiency period under the PDDRR method.**

3 A. The Company calculates the avoided cost of capacity during the deficiency period
4 outside of the GRID model using the fixed costs associated with partial
5 displacement of the “next deferrable resource” in the IRP. The calculation is
6 similar to the calculation currently used in the Proxy Method for standard avoided
7 costs.

8 Specifically, the deferred fixed costs are calculated per kilowatt-year using
9 the resource operating characteristics and payment factor from the most recent
10 IRP. To convert the proxy plant capital cost, grossed up for revenue requirement,
11 to an annual cost per kilowatt, the method uses the IRP resource payment factor
12 as the basis for a real levelized annual cost per kilowatt-year. Inflation is then
13 applied to convert the first year fixed costs to a nominal payment stream. The
14 capacity component is calculated based on the amount of capacity expected to be
15 provided by the QF resource. Different types of QF resources (i.e. wind, solar,
16 hydro and thermal) have different abilities to defer the capacity of the next
17 deferrable resource. The Company refers to this as a resource’s capacity
18 contribution.

19 **Q. What is capacity contribution?**

20 A. Capacity contribution is the ability of QF resources to contribute towards meeting
21 the Company’s hourly summer peak obligation to serve system load.

1 **Q. Has the Company developed capacity contribution levels for various types of**
2 **resources?**

3 A. Yes. For intermittent resources, such as wind and solar, the Company developed
4 capacity contribution values using historical operating data from existing projects
5 that have contributed to the Company's summer peak obligation to determine the
6 capacity contribution. If historical operating data was not available—which is the
7 case for solar—the Company used third party information to develop the capacity
8 contribution. For non-intermittent thermal QF resources, such as cogeneration or
9 biomass resources, the Company assumes the QF's entire rated capacity can
10 contribute towards the Company's summer peak obligation.

11 **Q. How did the Company determine the capacity contribution for wind and**
12 **solar QFs?**

13 A. In its analysis, the Company matched the hourly generation profile for each of
14 these technologies against historical hourly loads from 2007 through 2011 and
15 identified the quantity of generation from each technology during the Company's
16 top 100 summer peak hours in each year. Next, the Company identified the
17 amount of capacity contribution each technology would be expected to provide at
18 least 90 percent of the time. This percentage is the capacity contribution for wind
19 and solar QFs.

20 **Q. What capacity contribution did the Company calculate for wind and solar**
21 **resources?**

22 A. The Company calculated capacity contributions of 4.1 percent for wind resources.
23 Capacity contributions of solar resources depend on the facility's configuration

1 11.5 percent for a fixed solar facility that maximizes its energy across all hours,
2 and 25.9 percent for a fixed or tracking solar facility that is configured to produce
3 greater energy during the Company's peak times. For further detail on the
4 capacity contribution percentages for each resource please refer to Exhibit
5 PAC/102, which describes and illustrates the assumptions and calculations.

6 **Q. Would an integration charge be applied under the PDDRR method for**
7 **intermittent resources such as wind and solar?**

8 A. Yes. Avoided cost rates under the PDDRR method are reduced for integration
9 costs. The cost of integration is calculated by GRID based on the additional
10 reserves required to regulate and follow wind as identified in the Company's most
11 recent wind integration study.

12 **Q. Do previously signed QFs also impact the deferrable capacity available from**
13 **the next deferrable resource?**

14 A. Yes. The capacity contribution of all signed QF contracts executed subsequent to
15 the development of the IRP preferred portfolio reduce the deferrable capacity of
16 the next avoidable resource and therefore are included in the GRID simulation
17 used in the PDDRR method. This ensures that the Company includes the IRP-
18 determined level of avoidable capacity in the simulated resource portfolios as
19 newly signed QFs are added into the resource portfolio.

20 **Q. Are inputs to the production cost model runs used to calculate avoided costs**
21 **under the PDDRR method updated after completion of an IRP?**

22 A. Yes. Modeling inputs are based on the best information available to the Company
23 at the time the QF pricing is prepared. Accordingly, all modeling inputs should

1 be subject to update, including but not limited to the forecast of wholesale market
2 prices for electricity and natural gas, executed purchase and sale contracts,
3 wheeling contracts, coal contracts, and the retail load forecast. The resource
4 additions outlined in the IRP preferred portfolio will be updated with a new IRP
5 or IRP update, or if there is a known change to the IRP action plan, such as a
6 delay or abandonment of a resource addition that causes a change to the preferred
7 portfolio. Updating modeling assumptions in this manner ensures that the
8 PDDRR method provides accurate avoided cost prices and maintains retail
9 customer indifference.

10 **Contract Renewals**

11 **Q. Should existing QFs seeking to renew a standard contract during a utility's**
12 **sufficiency period be given a price during the sufficiency period that is**
13 **different than the market price?**

14 **A.** No. It would not be appropriate to differentiate pricing, either for standard
15 avoided cost prices or negotiated prices, based on whether a QF has an existing
16 contract. A QF has an expected life and contract term that is incorporated into
17 utility planning processes, and a utility cannot expect QFs to be available to
18 provide capacity beyond their useful lives or contract terms. Offering preferential
19 pricing when a contract is renewed has the same effect as offering contracts
20 longer than 20 years, which the Commission currently does not allow.

1 **Renewable Avoided Cost Price Calculation**

2 **Q. Should there be distinct avoided cost prices for renewable resources that**
3 **supply intermittent generation?**

4 A. Yes. The Company proposes to include an adjustment for integration costs in the
5 calculation of avoided cost prices for renewable QFs supplying the Company with
6 intermittent generation. For standard avoided costs for renewable resources,
7 rather than include multiple price streams in Schedule 37, the Company proposes
8 to specify in the tariff that the price offered to intermittent QFs during the
9 renewable resource sufficiency period will be reduced for the cost of integration.

10 **Q. Does the Company intend to adjust the standard renewable avoided cost**
11 **prices for integration costs during the renewable resource deficiency period?**

12 A. No. Consistent with the Company's position in its February 2012 compliance
13 filing in Docket No. UM 1396, an adjustment for integration costs will not be
14 included in the renewable avoided cost pricing option during the deficiency
15 period. Because the proxy wind resource would also incur wind integration costs,
16 an intermittent QF will not impose incremental integration costs under the
17 renewable avoided cost pricing option.

18 **Q. How does the Company calculate the cost of integrating intermittent**
19 **resources on its system?**

20 A. The Company has performed several wind integration analyses including the 2010
21 Wind Integration Study and the current draft 2012 Wind Integration Study. The
22 Company's studies determine the incremental level of reserves required to
23 integrate intermittent wind generation. The studies are developed using a

1 collaborative process involving input from various stakeholders, and the draft
2 2012 Wind Integration Study also involved a technical review committee. These
3 studies are used in the IRP and to set rates in general rate cases and should form
4 the basis for the integration costs used in the calculation of renewable avoided
5 costs.

6 **Q. How will avoided cost prices be adjusted to reflect integration costs?**

7 A. Standard avoided cost prices for intermittent renewable resources will be adjusted
8 by the cost of integration identified in the IRP. For large QFs, the non-standard
9 avoided cost prices will also be adjusted for integration costs that are calculated
10 for each year of the contract based on differential GRID model runs. The
11 differential GRID model runs utilize the results of the wind integration study to
12 calculate the cost of incremental reserves required to integrate the intermittent
13 generation over the term of the QF contract using on the updated modeling inputs
14 (such as forward market prices) in GRID.

15 **Q. Is an adjustment made to the standard renewable avoided cost prices to**
16 **reflect avoided integration costs during the deficiency period if the renewable**
17 **QF is a base load resource?**

18 A. No. In Order No. 11-505 the Commission ordered that, rather than calculating a
19 separate avoided cost for each type of renewable resource, a QF has “the option of
20 choosing between the renewable resource QF rate—likely to be based on a wind
21 resource—or the standard QF rate based on the CCCT proxy.”³ Because a base
22 load renewable QF already has the ability to choose an avoided cost price that

³*In the Matter of Public Utility Commission of Oregon Investigation Into Resource Sufficiency Pursuant to Order No. 06-538, Order No. 11-505, Docket UM 1396 Phase II at 5 (December 13, 2011).*

1 includes the benefit of deferring a base load resource, the renewable avoided cost
2 prices should not be adjusted for avoided integration costs during the period of
3 renewable resource deficiency.

4 **Q. Has the Company calculated separate integration costs for solar resources?**

5 A. No. The Company proposes to use its calculated wind integration costs as a
6 proxy for integrating solar resources at this time.

7 **Q. Should the Renewable Portfolio Implementation Plan be used in lieu of the
8 IRP to determine renewable resource sufficiency?**

9 A. No. The RPS Implementation Plan filed pursuant to ORS 469A.075 and OAR
10 860-083-0400 is not sufficient for a determination of resource deficiency for
11 purposes of setting a renewable resource avoided cost rate. Fundamentally, the
12 calculation of standard avoided costs for a renewable resource should be
13 consistent with the calculation of the standard avoided costs for a non-renewable
14 resource, with the primary difference being the proxy resource. The RPS
15 Implementation Plan is limited in that its purpose is to calculate only the cost
16 limitation of complying with the RPS and that it covers only a five year period.
17 On the other hand, the IRP includes an evaluation of future RPS compliance
18 obligations over a longer time horizon and identifies the timing of the Company's
19 next deferrable renewable resource. Furthermore, the IRP forms the basis for
20 various assumptions in the RPS Implementation Plan and evaluates renewable
21 resource needs across PacifiCorp's six-state service territory.

1 **Schedule of Avoided Cost Updates**

2 **Q. Should the Commission revise the current schedule for updating the inputs**
3 **used to calculate avoided cost prices?**

4 A. Yes. Inputs to the avoided cost calculation should be updated as often as practical
5 to reflect the best information available. Consistent with the Company's proposal
6 to have two different methodologies for calculating avoided costs, updates under
7 each method may be made at different times.

8 **Q. How often should the standard avoided cost prices be updated?**

9 A. For the standard avoided cost prices, including standard prices for renewable QFs,
10 the Company proposes to segregate the ability to update information for inputs
11 that are directly tied to the IRP and those that are not. The Company recommends
12 that forward market prices for electricity and natural gas used to calculate
13 standard avoided costs be updated on a quarterly basis when the Company creates
14 an official forward price curve (OFPC). All other inputs that are tied to the IRP,
15 such as the timing of resource additions and the fixed costs of proxy resources,
16 should continue to be updated at least every two years and within 30 days
17 following the acknowledgement of an IRP or IRP Update. The Company also
18 proposes that the standard avoided cost calculation should be subject to updates
19 when there are known changes to the IRP preferred portfolio, such as the delay or
20 abandonment of a future resource acquisition or a change in the Company's
21 resource need assessment.

1 **Q. Why is it necessary to segregate the schedule of updates for those inputs that**
2 **are tied to the IRP and those that are not?**

3 A. Biennial updates to standard avoided cost prices are too infrequent to ensure
4 published prices are accurate reflections of avoided costs. Acknowledgement of
5 an IRP recognizes the preferred resource portfolio and action plan in the IRP, not
6 the snapshot of projected market prices used to develop that portfolio and action
7 plan. For example, during the two-year period spanning 2009 to 2011, market
8 prices at Mid-Columbia dropped by over 27 percent.

9 **Q. For what purpose does the Company develop its quarterly OFPCs?**

10 A. The Company issues quarterly OFPCs for use in regulatory filings, business
11 planning, and long-term avoided cost pricing. The OFPC reflects the most current
12 information available at the time they are prepared, is subjected to a rigorous
13 review process by the Company, is available for review by others, and has been
14 used for several years as the basis for updating the Company's Transition
15 Adjustment Mechanism (TAM) filings.

16 **Q. Would a quarterly update cycle for forward market prices require additional**
17 **regulatory review by the Commission?**

18 A. No. The process used to develop the Company's OFPC is routine and well
19 understood by parties. The Company's OFPCs and the process underlying their
20 creation has been the subject of extensive debate and review in previous TAM
21 filings and market price updates to standard avoided cost prices would require
22 only minimal review.

1 **Q. What would be the process for the quarterly updates?**

2 A. Within 30 days of the end of each quarter, the Company would submit updated
3 standard avoided cost prices to the Commission that reflect the new OFPC. Ten
4 days following submission to the Commission, the updated standard avoided cost
5 prices would become effective and be published on the Company website.

6 **Q. How often should the inputs to the PDDRR method for non-standard
7 avoided cost prices be updated?**

8 A. As discussed earlier in my testimony, inputs used to calculate non-standard
9 avoided cost prices for large QFs using the PDDRR method should be updated at
10 the time a QF requests prices in order to reflect the best available information. An
11 accurate determination of non-standard avoided cost prices requires a more
12 involved calculation than the Proxy Method, and merits the use of updated inputs.
13 In order for retail customers to be indifferent to the calculated avoided cost prices,
14 the underlying assumptions and modeling inputs must be based on the best
15 information available. For example, forward market prices for electricity and
16 natural gas should be based on the Company's most recent OFPC, and purchase
17 and sale contracts for energy and capacity as well as contracts for wheeling,
18 transportation of natural gas, and coal should be updated to include all executed
19 transactions.

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

21 A. Yes.

Docket No. UM-1610
Exhibit PAC/101
Witness: Brian S. Dickman

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

PACIFICORP

Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Brian S. Dickman

February 2013

PacifiCorp's Summary of Issues

1. Avoided Cost Price Calculation

A. What is the most appropriate methodology for calculating avoided cost prices?

1. Should the Commission retain the current method based on the cost of the next avoidable resource identified in the company's current IRP, allow an "IRP" method-based on computerized grid modeling, or allow some other method?

The current method is reasonable only for very small QFs. Changes should be made to standard prices (Schedule 37) to: 1) reduce the eligibility cap to 3 MW [See Exhibit PAC/200 (Direct Testimony of Bruce W. Griswold)] and 2) use a single market price in the resource sufficiency period. [See Exhibit PAC/100 (Direct Testimony of Brian S. Dickman)]

Non-standard avoided cost prices (Schedule 38) for large QFs should be calculated using the partial displacement differential revenue requirement modeling approach. [See Exhibit PAC/100]

2. Should the methodology be the same for all three electric utilities operating in Oregon?

The Company takes no position

B. Should QFs have the option to elect avoided cost prices that are levelized or partially levelized?

No. Levelization increases risk to customers and increases administrative complexity of managing the PPA. [See Exhibit PAC/200]

C. Should QFs seeking renewal of a standard contract during a utility's sufficiency period be given an option to receive an avoided cost price for energy delivered during the sufficiency period that is different than the market price?

No. Differentiation is equivalent to extending the length of a contract. [See Exhibit PAC/100]

D. Should the Commission eliminate unused pricing options?

Yes. The Schedule 37 Gas Market Indexed and Banded Gas Market Indexed options should be eliminated. [See Exhibit PAC/200]

2. Renewable Avoided Cost Price Calculation

A. Should there be different avoided cost prices for different renewable generation sources? (for example different avoided cost prices for intermittent vs. base load renewables; different avoided cost prices for different technologies, such as solar, wind, geothermal, hydro, and biomass.)

Yes. Prices for intermittent renewable resources should be adjusted for integration costs. [See Exhibit PAC/100]

B. How should environmental attributes be defined for purposes of PURPA transactions?

Environmental attributes should be defined as the environmental, social, and other positive, non-energy characteristics of electricity generation from a renewable resource. [See Exhibit PAC/200]

- C. Should the Commission amend OAR 860-022-0075, which specifies that the non-energy attributes of energy generated by the QF remain with the QF unless different treatment is specified by contract?
Yes. The Commission should amend OAR 860-022-0075 to be consistent with Order No. 11-505. [See Exhibit PAC/200]

3. Schedule for Avoided Cost Price Updates

- A. Should the Commission revise the current schedule of updates at least every two years and within 30 days of each IRP acknowledgement?
Yes. For standard prices (Schedule 37), market prices for electricity and natural gas should be updated quarterly. For non-standard prices (Schedule 38), all model inputs should reflect the best available information. [See Exhibit PAC/100]
- B. Should the Commission specify criteria to determine whether and when mid-cycle updates are appropriate?
Yes. Known changes in the preferred resource portfolio should trigger an update to standard prices (Schedule 37). [See Exhibit PAC/100]
- C. Should the Commission specify what factors can be updated in mid-cycle? (such as factors including but not limited to gas price or status of production tax credit.)
Yes. For standard prices (Schedule 37), market prices for electricity and natural gas should be updated quarterly. For non-standard prices (Schedule 38), all model inputs should reflect the best available information. [See Exhibit PAC/100]
- D. To what extent (if any) can data from IRPs that are in late stages of review and whose acknowledgement is pending be factored into the calculation of avoided cost prices?
For non-standard prices (Schedule 38), all model inputs should reflect the best available information. [See Exhibit PAC/100]
- E. Are there circumstances under which the Renewable Portfolio Implementation Plan should be used in lieu of the acknowledged IRP for purposes of determining renewable resource sufficiency?
No. The RPS Implementation Plan is not sufficient to determine the timing of the next deferrable renewable resource. [See Exhibit PAC/100]

4. Price Adjustments for Specific OF Characteristics

- A. Should the costs associated with integration of intermittent resources (both avoided and incurred) be included in the calculation of avoided cost prices or otherwise be accounted for in the standard contract? If so, what is the appropriate methodology?
Yes. PacifiCorp proposes to annotate the standard avoided cost Schedule 37 tariff with a separate provision stating that the price offered to intermittent QFs during the renewable resource sufficiency period will be reduced for the cost of integration.

Non-standard (Schedule 38) prices will also be adjusted to reflect the cost of integration. [See Exhibit PAC/100]

- B. Should the costs or benefits associated with third party transmission be included in the calculation of avoided cost prices or otherwise accounted for in the standard contract?
Yes. Costs or benefits associated with third party transmission captured should be accounted for on a project-by-project basis and addressed as an addendum to the PPAs. [See Exhibit PAC/200]
- C. How should the seven factors of 18 CPR 292.304(e)(2) be taken into account?
The PDDRR method proposed for non-standard avoided costs accounts for the resource specific characteristics. [See Exhibit PAC/100]

5. Eligibility Issues

- A. Should the Commission change the 10 MW cap for the standard contract?
Yes. The Company proposes that the eligibility cap of 10 MW to qualify for standard prices (Schedule 37) should be reduced to 3 MW. [See Exhibit PAC/200]
- B. What should be the criteria to determine whether a QF is a "single QF" for purposes of eligibility for the standard contract?
The Partial Stipulation adopted in UM 1129 should be modified to remove the passive investor exception. [See Exhibit PAC/200]
- C. Should the resource technology affect the size of the cap for the standard contract cap or the criteria for determining whether a QF is a "single QF"?
Yes. Wind and photovoltaic solar resources are capable of disaggregating into multiple projects. [See Exhibit PAC/200]
- D. Can a QF receive Oregon's Renewable avoided cost price if the QF owner will sell the RECs in another state?
Yes. During the resource sufficiency period the QF assumes all ownership risk. [See Exhibit PAC/200]

6. Contracting Issues

- A. Should the standard contracting process, steps and timelines be revised? (Possible revisions include but are not limited to: when an existing QF can enter into a new PP A and the inclusion of conditions precedent to the PPA including conditions requiring a specific interconnection agreement status.)
- B. When is there a legally enforceable obligation?
It is reasonable to establish that a legally enforceable obligation has arisen when the QF approves the final draft PPA as contemplated in B(5) on page 10 of Schedule 37. [See Exhibit PAC/200]
- C. What is the maximum time allowed between contract execution and power delivery?

- D. Should QFs smaller than 10 MW have access to the same dispute resolution process as those greater than 10 MW?
- E. How should contracts address mechanical availability?
- F. Should off-system QFs be entitled to deliver under any form of firm point to point transmission that the third party transmission provider offers? If not, what type of method of delivery is required or permissible? How does method of delivery affect pricing?
- G. What terms should address security and liquidated damages?
- H. May utilities curtail QF generation based on reliability and operational considerations, as described at 18 CPR §292.304(f)(l)? If so, when?
- I. What is the appropriate contract term? What is the appropriate duration for the fixed price portion of the contract?
The current term length of up to twenty years with a fixed price period of the initial ten years is appropriate. [See Exhibit PAC/200]
- J. What is the appropriate process for updating standard form contracts, and should the utilities recently filed standard contracts be amended by edits from the stakeholders or the Commission?

7. Interconnection Process

- A. Should PPAs include conditions that reference the timing of the interconnection agreement and interconnection milestones? If so, what types of conditions should be included?
- B. Should QFs have the ability to elect a larger role for third party contractors in the interconnection process? If so, how could that be accomplished?

Docket No. UM-1610
Exhibit PAC/102
Witness: Brian S. Dickman

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

PACIFICORP

Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Brian S. Dickman

February 2013

HISTORICAL CAPACITY CONTRIBUTION OF WIND AND SOLAR RESOURCES

OVERVIEW

PacifiCorp uses the historical capacity contribution provided by its portfolio of existing intermittent resources to evaluate the capacity value of new intermittent resources. Capacity contribution represents the percentage of a generator's nameplate capacity that PacifiCorp can use to reliably satisfy peak load requirements. The methodology used to measure historical capacity contribution compares the reliability of intermittent resources during peak load hours with the expected reliability of the next deferrable resource in the integrated resource plan ("IRP"). Based on the assumption that the full capacity of the next deferrable resource in the IRP will be available in approximately 90 percent of peak load hours, the methodology measures the level of power provided by PacifiCorp's portfolio of intermittent resources that was achieved or exceeded in 90 percent of the largest 100 summer peak load hours.

Using historical data, the average capacity contribution of wind and solar resources in calendar years 2007 to 2011¹ was as follows:

Resource Class	Capacity Contribution
Wind	4.1%
Solar (Energy-oriented)	11.5%
Solar (Peak-oriented)	25.9%

METHODOLOGY

The approach used by PacifiCorp to measure historical capacity contribution is commonly referred to as an exceedance methodology. The concept behind this methodology is to measure the level of intermittent capacity necessary to provide the same level of reliability in peak hours as expected from the next deferrable resource in the IRP. Because the full output of the next deferrable resource in the IRP is expected to be available in more than 90 percent of peak load hours, the methodology measures the level of power achieved or exceeded by the intermittent resources in 90 percent of the largest 100 summer peak load hours.

ASSUMPTIONS

The measurement of historical capacity contribution is based on the following principles and assumptions:

- The measurement is based on the aggregate capacity benefit of the resource class taken as a whole, not the capacity benefit of an individual resources analyzed in isolation.
 - A resource class is defined as group resources that rely on the same generation technology and possess the same supply characteristics, such as wind and solar resources.

¹ Calendar years 2007 to 2011 were used in order to present a multiyear view of the capacity provided by particular resources.

- The use of an aggregate capacity value is required because a geographically dispersed array of facilities may produce a level of reliability greater than any one resource taken separately.
- The use of aggregate output ensures that all of the generators in a resource class share proportionally in the capacity benefit provided by the class as a whole.
- The measurement calculates the reliability of generation output from a resource class based on a 90% reliability requirement.
 - The methodology calculates the level of generation that was achieved or exceeded in 90 percent of peak load hours.
 - Because incremental IRP resources are added to provide capacity, the capacity contribution of the intermittent resource must be measured based on the level of capacity necessary to provide the same level of reliability as the incremental IRP resource.
- The measurement is performed on an annual basis over the top 100 summer peak load hours to ensure that it is representative of PacifiCorp's peak system load obligation, while preserving the statistical significance of the calculation.
 - Due to varying correlations between the output from intermittent resources and peak load hours, the number of hourly intervals used in the measurement must be sufficiently large to preserve the natural variability the resource output and sufficiently small to preserve the relationship between generation output and peak load hours.
 - The period of measure is restricted to summer load hours since PacifiCorp's system peak occurs in the summer months and will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. On a weather normalized basis, a winter peak does not occur until the top 160th hour.

CALCULATION

PacifiCorp measured the historical capacity contribution provided by a particular resource class based on the level of power that was achieved or exceeded in 90 percent of the top 100 summer load hours. The measurement was performed separately for each resource class over the five year period from 2007 to 2011. PacifiCorp then calculated the average of five annual values to be representative of the ongoing capacity value provided by the resource class in the future.

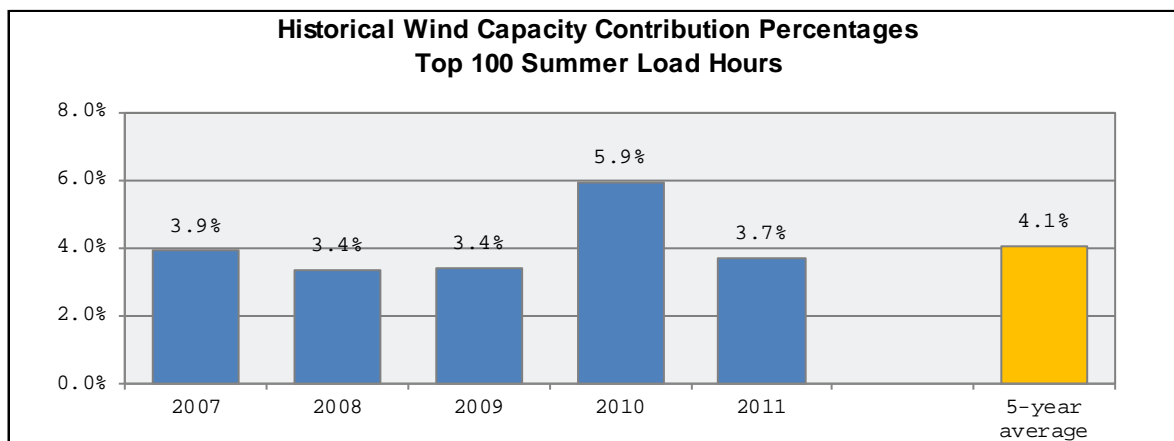
The calculation was based on the following steps:

- Compile the aggregate energy output from all resources within the resource class in each hour of the year.
- Calculate the aggregate nameplate capacity from all resources in the resource class in each hour of the year.
- Divide the aggregate energy output by the aggregate nameplate capacity to arrive at the aggregate capacity factor for each hour of the year.

- Use actual hourly system load data to determine the top 100 load hours that occurred in each year between the months of June and September. The resulting hours are the top 100 summer peak load hours for 2007-2010 for each year.
- Filter the hourly aggregate capacity factors to the top 100 summer peak load hours.
- Calculate the capacity factor that was achieved or exceeded in 90 percent of the top 100 summer load hours for each year.

WIND

Over the period 2007 to 2011 PacifiCorp's portfolio of wind resources provided an average capacity contribution of 4.1 percent. This value is comparable to the 5 percent wind capacity contribution assumption used by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council.² The annual capacity contribution values were as follows:



² Sixth Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan, N.W.P.C.C. Chapter 12, 4, http://www.nwcouncil.org/energy/powerplan/6/final/SixthPowerPlan_Ch12.pdf.

Hourly generation logs were used to measure the historical capacity contribution from the PacifiCorp's system wind resources. The analysis included both owned and non-owned wind resources where PacifiCorp acquired the output under a power purchase agreement. The analysis did not include wind resource where PacifiCorp did not acquire the final output from the facility, such as under an exchange agreement. The wind resources included in the measurement were as follows:

Wind Resource	COD	Type	Nameplate Capacity
Chevron Wind QF	12/1/2009	PPA	16.5
Combine Hills	12/22/2003	PPA	41.0
Dunlap I Wind	10/1/2010	Owned	111.0
Foote Creek Generation	7/21/1997	Owned	32.1
Glenrock III Wind	1/17/2009	Owned	39.0
Glenrock Wind	12/31/2008	Owned	99.0
Goodnoe Wind	5/31/2008	Owned	94.0
High Plains Wind	9/13/2009	Owned	99.0
Leaning Juniper 1	9/14/2006	Owned	100.5
Marengo 1 & 2	8/3/2007	Owned	210.6
McFadden Ridge Wind	9/29/2009	Owned	28.5
Mountain Wind 1 & 2 QF	7/2/2008	PPA	140.7
Oregon Wind Farm QF	3/31/2009	PPA	64.6
Rock River I	11/7/2001	PPA	50.0
Rolling Hills Wind	1/17/2009	Owned	99.0
Seven Mile II Wind	12/31/2008	Owned	19.5
Seven Mile Wind	12/31/2008	Owned	99.0
Spanish Fork Wind 2 QF	7/31/2008	PPA	18.9
Three Buttes Wind	12/1/2009	PPA	99.0
Threemile Canyon Wind QF	9/1/2009	PPA	9.9
Top of the World Wind	10/1/2010	PPA	200.2
Wolverine Creek	2/12/2006	PPA	64.5
Total Wind:			<u>1,736.5</u>

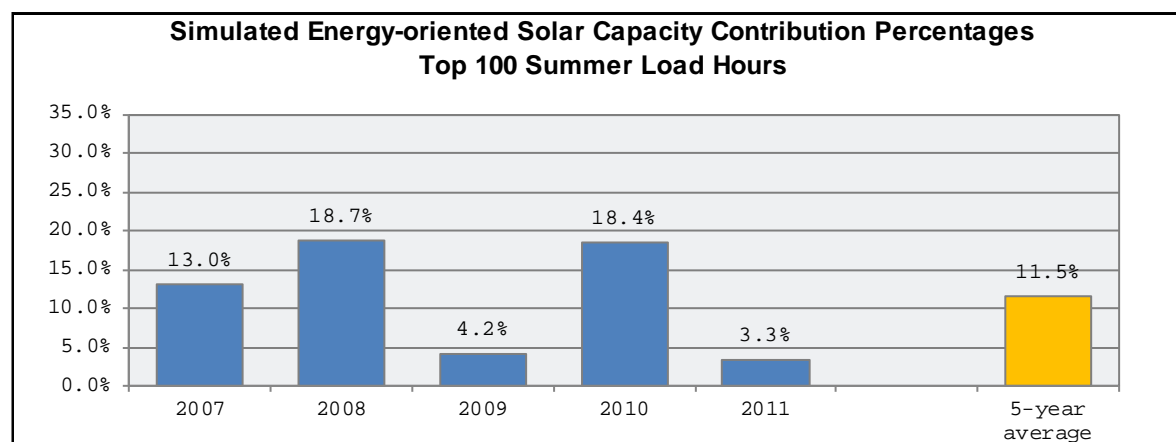
SOLAR

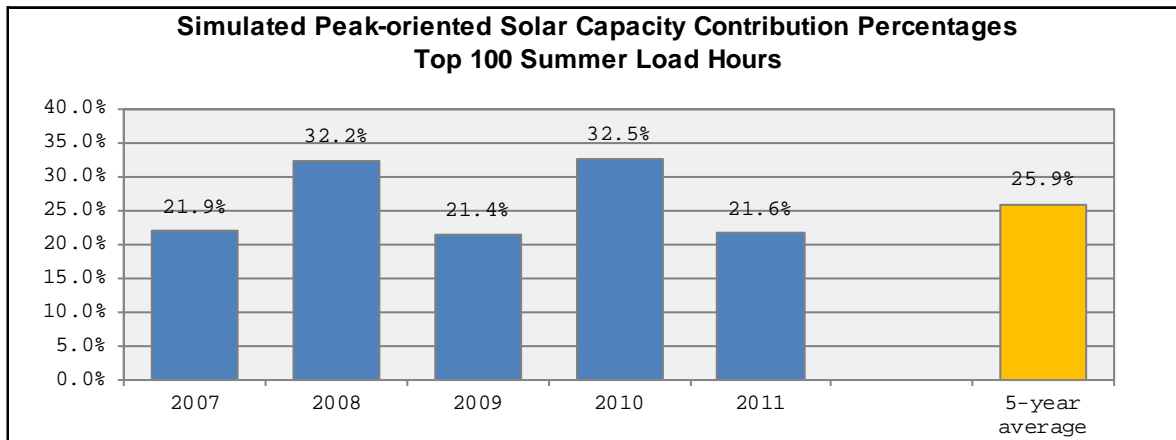
PacifiCorp has limited historical solar data necessary to develop the capacity contribution value of a class of geographically distributed solar resources on its system. Accordingly, PacifiCorp relied on simulated hourly solar profile data developed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). The simulated hourly data is compared against the top 100 summer load hours in each year 2007 – 2011 using the methodology described above. Unlike wind, where the levels of generation change in each year depending on the output of the resource set, the simulated solar output remains constant in each year and is compared to changes in the timing of the top 100 peak summer load hours from year-to-year.

Differences in the panel configuration of a solar resource impact the capacity value provided by the resource. Accordingly, it is necessary to differentiate between classes of solar resources based on whether the resource has been configured to maximize energy output or whether it has been configured to maximize output during peak load periods. A solar resource configured to maximize energy output may operate at a low capacity factor during peak loads that occur in the evening, where a solar resource aligned more towards the west or with a tracking device may operate at a higher capacity factor during evening peaking periods. Based on these panel configurations the following capacity contribution measurements resulted:

Configuration	Energy-orientation	Peak-orientation*
Tilt	Latitude	Latitude minus 15°
Azimuth	Due South	Due South plus 25°
Capacity Contribution	11.5%	25.9%

*A solar resource with a tracking system is considered a peak orientation.





In developing the solar generation profile PacifiCorp used an NREL tool, PVWatts, to simulate hourly solar generation levels based on historical meteorological solar radiation data. The PVWatts tool develops a solar profile based on input parameters such as the location, size, array type, tilt angle, and azimuth angle of the solar resource.

The capacity contribution measurement was based on a simulated class of solar resources representative of locations throughout the PacifiCorp's service territory. It was developed using the combined simulated profiles from five locations: Pocatello, ID; Yakima, WA; Pendleton, OR; Lander, WY; and Salt Lake City, UT. The analysis was performed twice, first with all of the resources configured to energy and second with all of the resources configured to peak, as detailed above.

Docket No. UM-1610
Exhibit PAC/200
Witness: Bruce W. Griswold

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

PACIFICORP

Direct Testimony of Bruce W. Griswold

February 2013

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address and present position with**
2 **PacifiCorp (the Company).**

3 A. My name is Bruce W. Griswold. My business address is 825 NE Multnomah
4 Street, Suite 600, Portland, Oregon 97232. I am employed by PacifiCorp
5 (PacifiCorp or Company) as Director of Short-Term Origination and Qualifying
6 Facility (QF) Contracts for PacifiCorp Energy, a division of PacifiCorp.

7 **Qualifications**

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

9 A. I have a B.S. and M.S. degree in Agricultural Engineering from Montana State
10 University and Oregon State University, respectively. I have been employed by
11 the Company for over 25 years in various positions of responsibility in retail
12 energy services, engineering, marketing and wholesale energy services. I have
13 also worked at an environmental firm as a project engineer.

14 My current responsibilities as Director of Short-term Origination and QF
15 Contracts include the negotiation and management of wholesale power supply and
16 resource acquisition through requests for proposals (RFP) as well as overall
17 responsibility for the Company's QF power purchase agreements (PPA). I have
18 appeared as a witness on behalf of the Company in multiple proceedings across its
19 six state jurisdictions.

20 **Purpose and Overview of Testimony**

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

22 A. The purpose of my testimony today is to respond to Issues 1B, 1D, 2B, 2C, 4B,
23 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 6B and 6I listed in Appendix A – Issues list to Chief

1 Administrative Law Judge Michael Grant's December 21 2012 Ruling.

2 **Q. Please summarize your testimony.**

3 A. I have summarized the Company's position on each of the issues below.

4 • Issue 1B. Should QFs have the option to elect avoided cost prices that are
5 levelized or partially levelized? No. The Company recommends that QFs
6 not be given the option to elect levelization of avoided cost prices over the
7 term of a QF PPA. A levelization option may lead to increased risks to
8 customers if the QF defaults in the early years. Further, if levelization is
9 an option, credit and security requirements need to be sufficient to cover
10 the associated front-loaded cost and risk.

11 • Issue 1D. Should the Commission eliminate unused pricing options? Yes.
12 The Company proposes to eliminate the Gas Market Indexed and Banded
13 Gas Market Indexed avoided cost pricing options from Schedule 37,
14 which sets forth the Company's standard avoided costs.

15 • Issue 2B. How should environmental attributes be defined for purposes of
16 PURPA transactions? Environmental attributes are included in the
17 Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) promulgated rules, codified at
18 OAR 330-160-0015(13) that defines Renewable Energy Certificate.

19 • Issue 2C. Should the Commission amend OAR 860-022-0075, which
20 specifies that the non-energy attributes of energy generated by the QF
21 remain with the QF unless different treatment is specified by contract?

22 The Company recommends that the Commission amend OAR 860-022-
23 0075 to be consistent with Order No. 11-505 and state that the utility

1 receives the non-energy attributes during periods of renewable resource
2 deficiency.

- 3 • Issue 4B. Should the costs or benefits associated with third party
4 transmission be included in the calculation of avoided cost prices or
5 otherwise accounted for in the standard contract? Yes. The Company
6 proposes that individual QFs should be responsible for the any third-party
7 transmission costs incurred, or benefits realized, by the utility, associated
8 with the purchase of that QF's energy. Third party transmission costs and
9 benefits should not be incorporated into the calculation of the standard
10 avoided cost price but the third-party transmission adjustment should be
11 accounted for in the contract with the QF as a separate adjustment
12 calculation in an addendum to the PPA.

- 13 • Issue 5A. Should the Commission change the 10 MW cap for the standard
14 contract? Yes. The Company recommends reducing the eligibility cap for
15 standard avoided cost prices and contracts to 3 MW. Projects over 3 MW
16 would be eligible for non-standard avoided cost prices and contracts.

- 17 • Issue 5B. What should be the criteria to determine whether a QF is a
18 "single QF" for purposes of eligibility for the standard contract? The
19 Company recommends that the passive investor exemption be removed
20 from the Partial Stipulation adopted in UM 1129 with a waiver available
21 to individual family or community-owned projects.

- 22 • Issue 5C. Should the resource technology affect the size of the cap for the
23 standard contract cap or the criteria for determining whether a QF is a

1 "single QF"? Yes. The Company views wind and photovoltaic (PV) solar
2 as the two resource types capable of disaggregating from a large single
3 project into multiple projects eligible for standard avoided cost prices and
4 contract terms.

5 • Issue 5D. Can a QF receive Oregon's Renewable avoided cost price if the
6 QF owner will sell the RECs in another state? Yes. The Company
7 believes that Order No. 11-505 establishes REC ownership when receiving
8 Oregon's renewable avoided cost prices. During the resource sufficiency
9 period, the QF assumes all ownership risk of the RECs including
10 registration of the QF facility with any appropriate agency or program, the
11 qualification and application of those RECs for any mandatory renewable
12 portfolio standard (RPS) or voluntary renewable program, management or
13 accounting of those RECs, and the sales of those RECs to third parties.

14 • Issue 6B. When is there a legally enforceable obligation? The Company
15 recognizes that the issue of a legally enforceable obligation involves many
16 legal questions and proposes that the Commission set criteria for
17 establishing a legally enforceable obligation using the milestone of the QF
18 approving the final draft PPA as contemplated in B(5) on page 10 of
19 Schedule 37.

20 • Issue 6I. What is the appropriate contract term? What is the appropriate
21 duration for the fixed price portion of the contract? The Company
22 recommends that the current term length of up to 20 years be continued
23 with the fixed price period in the contract changed from the initial 15

1 years to the initial 10 years. The remaining years of the PPA would be at
2 the Electric Market Option.

3 **Issues**

4 Issue 1B. Should QFs have the option to elect avoided cost prices that are levelized or
5 partially levelized?

6 **Q. Should QFs have the option to elect avoided cost prices that are levelized or**
7 **partially levelized?**

8 A. No, for several reasons. First, levelization in the avoided cost prices introduces
9 additional customer risk in the early years of the QF PPA. In order to maintain
10 customer indifference, contract prices for a given year should track the utility's
11 avoided cost price stream for that year. Second, levelization provides an
12 additional level of administrative complexity to manage the additional billing and
13 security provisions contained in a PPA that incorporates levelization. Third, the
14 Commission has addressed the concept of avoided cost price levelization on
15 multiple occasions since 1980 and most recently in 2005. In Order No. 05-584,
16 the Commission declined to apply levelization to published avoided cost rates. In
17 that order, the Commission concluded that "since it was not adopting Commission
18 Staff's (Staff) proposed methodology that would separately value capacity and
19 pay levelization, we need not address the issue of levelization in this Order."¹
20 The Company is not aware of any reason to revisit this issue or for the
21 Commission to reverse its 2005 decision.

22 However, in the event the Commission determines that levelization is
23 warranted, the Company recommends that appropriate credit thresholds and

¹ OPUC Order No. 05-584 page 28 and at footnote 46.

1 security requirements be required to protect customers from the risk of default by
2 the QF in the early years of levelization when the levelized contract price exceeds
3 the non-levelized avoided cost price. Security should be in the form of a cash
4 deposit or a letter of credit if the QF does not meet the Company's
5 creditworthiness test.

6 Issue 1D. Should the Commission eliminate unused pricing options?

7 **Q. Does the Company propose the Commission eliminate any of the avoided cost**
8 **pricing options from the standard avoided cost price options?**

9 A. Yes. The Company proposes to eliminate the Gas Market Indexed and Banded
10 Gas Market Indexed avoided cost pricing options from the standard avoided cost
11 price options included in Schedule 37.

12 **Q. Have any QFs entering into a contract with the Company ever elected to use**
13 **one of these options?**

14 A. No. The Gas Market Indexed and Banded Gas Market Indexed avoided cost
15 prices have been options for over seven years. During this time, no QF under the
16 standard avoided cost eligibility cap has entered into a contract using either
17 option. That includes both the option for the full term of an agreement or for the
18 last five market option years of a 20 year agreement. QFs consistently utilize
19 only the Firm Market Indexed option when they select it at all. Moreover, the
20 Company rarely receives any questions on these two options other than to ask
21 why they are offered.

22 **Q. What is the Company's rationale for eliminating the options?**

23 A. The Gas Market Indexed and Banded Gas Market Indexed options have not been

1 used by QFs. In the interest of simplifying the standard avoided cost price
2 options and reducing transactional costs for QFs, removing these options will
3 eliminate the need for QFs to incur additional cost and time to research and
4 conduct additional analysis on future gas as well as electric markets to assess the
5 risk of market volatility.

6 Issue 2B. How should environmental attributes be defined for purposes of PURPA
7 transactions?

8 **Q. What are Environmental Attributes?**

9 A. The Company proposes to define “Environmental Attributes” of electricity
10 generation from a renewable resource as the environmental, social, and other
11 positive, non-energy characteristics of that renewable generation. Environmental
12 Attributes include not only the avoided emissions characteristics, and the proof of
13 generation of renewable energy, but also the right to make a claim with respect to
14 that energy; specifically, the exclusive right to claim to have performed the social
15 and environmental good of generating renewable, as opposed to fossil fuel,
16 energy. Renewable generation has environmental attributes. A key value of
17 energy from renewable resources being purchased is the “renewableness” of the
18 energy. The Environmental Attributes of the energy that give it the unique
19 characteristic of being “renewable” can be separated from the energy itself and
20 traded by definition. Some or all of the Environmental Attributes could be
21 transferred in a transaction concerning them, depending on how the attribute
22 being transferred is defined in the agreement or in regulation. A typically

1 important characteristic is avoidance of emissions of carbon dioxide to the
2 atmosphere.

3 **Q. How are “Environmental Attributes,” “renewable attributes,” “green**
4 **attributes,” “non-energy attributes of energy,” “Tradable Renewable Energy**
5 **Credits,” and “Renewable Energy Certificates” different?**

6 A. All the terms refer to some of all of the positive attributes of generation from
7 renewable resources. “Environmental Attributes” refers to all of the sticks in the
8 bundle, and is often synonymous with “non-energy attributes of energy,” “green
9 attributes,” and “renewable attributes.” Not all of the sticks in the bundle are
10 necessarily transferred in a transaction in “TRCs” or “RECs,” which refers to an
11 instrument including some or all such attributes separately tradable from the
12 renewable energy. “Renewable Energy Certificates” is a common name for a
13 tradable instrument that includes most or all of the environmental attributes of
14 generation, depending on the definition used. It is often accompanied by proof of
15 generation—for example a Western Renewable Energy Generation Information
16 System (WREGIS) Certificate. Accordingly, both “Tradable Renewable Energy
17 Credit” and “Renewable Energy Certificate” are generic names for a class of
18 tradable instrument by which some or all of the positive attributes of renewable
19 generation, as well as certification of the proof of generation, are transferred.
20 What is in a REC or a TRC or an agreement to transfer environmental attributes
21 or green attributes or non-energy attributes or renewable attributes will depend on
22 the definition in the agreement or the applicable regulation.

1 **Q. Has Oregon developed a definition of Renewable Energy Certificate?**

2 A. Yes. The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) promulgated rules, codified at

3 OAR 330-160-0015(13) that defines Renewable Energy Certificate as:

4 a unique representation of the environmental, economic,
5 and social benefits associated with the generation of
6 electricity from renewable energy sources that produce
7 Qualifying Electricity. One Certificate is created in
8 association with the generation of one MegaWatt-hour
9 (MWh) of Qualifying Electricity. While a Certificate is
10 always directly associated with the generation of one MWh
11 of electricity, transactions for Certificates may be
12 conducted independently of transactions for the associated
13 electricity.

14 This seems to refer to all, although it is unclear that it includes all, attributes other
15 than the generation—be they called “renewable,” “environmental,” “green,” or
16 “non-generation” attributes. “Unique representation” could mean serial
17 numbered, like WREGIS Certificates, which can therefore uniquely express each
18 megawatt hour of generation, so there is no double counting.

19 **Q. From these definitions, what do you conclude with respect to RECs or other
20 environmental attributes in QF power purchase agreements?**

21 A. It appears that “Environmental Attributes” are included in Oregon’s definition of
22 a REC. Therefore, during a period of renewable resource deficiency, when the
23 QF transfers the facility’s RECs to the utility, the Environmental Attributes,
24 including avoided greenhouse gas emissions, are similarly transferred.

25 Issue 2C. Should the Commission amend OAR 860-022-0075, which specifies that the
26 non-energy attributes of energy generated by the QF remain with the QF unless different
27 treatment is specified by contract?

1 **Q. Should the Commission amend OAR 860-022-0075, which specifies that the**
2 **non-energy attributes of energy generated by the QF remain with the QF**
3 **unless different treatment is specified by contract?**

4 A. Yes. The Company recommends that the Commission amend OAR 860-022-
5 0075 to be consistent with Order No. 11-505 and state that the utility receives the
6 non-energy attributes during periods of renewable resource deficiency.

7 Issue 4B. Should the costs or benefits associated with third party transmission be
8 included in the calculation of avoided cost prices or otherwise accounted for in the
9 standard contract?

10 **Q. Should the costs or benefits associated with third-party transmission be**
11 **included in the calculation of avoided cost prices or otherwise accounted for**
12 **in the standard contract?**

13 A. Any costs and benefits of third-party transmission should be attributed to the
14 individual QF and should be reflected as a contractual adjustment to the price in
15 the contract. The costs and benefits of third-party transmission should not be
16 incorporated into the actual calculation of the standard avoided cost, rather the
17 costs and benefits should be captured on an individual QF project basis in the
18 contract between the QF and Company as an addendum to the agreement. This is
19 necessary because each project will be unique based on geographical location and
20 the local electrical system loads and resources, and including costs or benefits
21 associated with third party transmission would create unwarranted subsidization
22 within QF prices depending on the location of the QF or local transmission loads.

1 **Q. Under what circumstances would third-party transmission be required for a**
2 **QF contract?**

3 A. The Company's Oregon service territory is not one continuous system. Rather, it
4 is composed of multiple allocated service territories across the state—some large,
5 some small—all interconnected by transmission lines. In some instances, the
6 Company's transmission function (PacifiCorp Transmission) controls the
7 transmission system interconnecting elements of the Company's larger system. In
8 other cases, the Company purchases service across transmission owned by a third
9 party in order to deliver (or export) generation to (or from) an isolated portion of
10 its service territory. The Company refers to these areas that are entirely or
11 partially reliant on third-party transmission as *load pockets*. Excess generation in
12 a load pocket is primarily expected to occur in the off-peak time period or during
13 seasonal periods when customer loads are normally lower and cannot absorb the
14 generation, but also may occur with the addition of a small number of large QF
15 projects or significant numbers of standard QF projects. Under minimum load
16 conditions, the Company must either back down its own resources, move the
17 generation elsewhere (if feasible), or curtail the generator. While the Company
18 recognizes that locational transmission constraints and the need for transmission
19 upgrades should not prevent project development, any incremental cost resulting
20 from the constraint or upgrade should be borne by the developer and not
21 customers. Analysis of transmission system constraints and the cost of options
22 for dealing with those constraints should be incorporated into the QF pricing and
23 contract process so that appropriate adjustments can be made, either for the

1 incremental cost borne by the utility or the benefits to the utility associated with
2 localized generation. In many cases, the analysis of the transmission system will
3 take additional time to complete and needs to be accounted for when establishing
4 the contract process schedule.

5 **Q. Please describe the nature of the issue.**

6 A. The Company's Oregon load pocket's individual load and resource balances are a
7 mix of conditions from those with surplus internal generation to those with
8 inadequate internal generation, and some with seasonal variations between surplus
9 and inadequate internal generation, relative to their loads. When new generation
10 is interconnected to a load pocket and creates a surplus of local resources, then the
11 Company must purchase transmission out of the load pocket or else curtail the
12 local generation, to the extent the new generation exceeds local load. Thus, any
13 time a new generator causes generation within a load pocket to exceed load, the
14 Company will incur an additional cost to transmit the excess load pocket
15 generation across third-party transmission to another load pocket that has
16 inadequate internal generation.

17 The Company therefore can alleviate a load pocket surplus generation
18 condition caused by proposed QFs if it can purchase firm point-to-point
19 transmission from the third-party transmission provider under the provider's Open
20 Access Transmission Tariff (OATT). An example is Bonneville Power
21 Administration (BPA). Firm point-to-point (PTP) transmission may be purchased
22 on a short-term or long-term basis where short-term is for a month, a day, or even
23 an hour, and long-term is for a minimum one year but a minimum five-year

1 commitment is required to obtain renewal rights for continuing service beyond the
2 initial commitment. Long-term firm (LTF) PTP is the only form of transmission
3 service that provides a dependable right to wheel surplus generation from a load
4 pocket to the Company's larger system for the full term of a PPA. Short-term
5 non-firm transmission may also be available but is not used for network load
6 service because it is subject to displacement by other parties who have firm
7 transmission or higher priority non-firm transmission. In the event another
8 transmission customer owns or purchases firm or higher priority non-firm
9 transmission from the transmission provider across the same path, the third-party
10 transmission provider will deny the lower priority non-firm transmission use if
11 there is not enough capacity for all customer uses. Therefore, in order to ensure
12 that firm third-party transmission service will remain available over the term of
13 the PPA, the Company purchases long-term firm PTP transmission, if it is
14 available. In all cases in a load pocket where a QF's delivery exceeds load and the
15 Company must rely on third-party transmission to wheel excess generation out of
16 the load pocket, the Company expects to incur additional costs to secure such
17 transmission services from the third-party transmission provider.

18 **Q. Has the Company incurred third-party transmission costs with any of its**
19 **current standard contracts under Schedule 37?**

20 A. Yes. The Company's recent experience with the Threemile Canyon Wind Farm
21 1, LLC (Threemile) 9.9 MW wind QF project illustrates the incremental costs that
22 are involved. In eastern Oregon, BPA owns transmission linking the Company's
23 load pockets to other portions of PacifiCorp's system. Dalreed is a PacifiCorp

1 load pocket near Arlington, Oregon where loads range from about 44 MW peak
2 during the summer to less than 2 MW during the winter. Prior to the Threemile
3 project becoming operational in 2009, the Company required no transmission
4 service provision for energy exports out of the Dalreed load pocket as there was
5 only load and no generation. In order to insure that any excess generation could
6 be moved to load outside the Dalreed load pocket, the Company initiated the
7 purchase of long-term firm PTP transmission (with rollover rights) from BPA and
8 entered BPA's queue in the spring of 2009 to secure such transmission prior to
9 initial start-up of the wind turbines. BPA determined it would not have firm long-
10 term capacity available to grant this request until upgrades were completed on
11 their system. In 2009, Threemile began commercial operation, and excess
12 generation occurred throughout the winter months. As an interim measure, the
13 Company purchased short-term firm PTP transmission during the winter and
14 spring months to address the period when generation could exceed load. When
15 LTF PTP transmission is available at Dalreed, the Company would secure the
16 long-term to ensure firm rights in all hours for any excess generation.

17 In theory, the cost to export excess generation from Dalreed should be
18 partially offset by any transmission service savings realized under the current
19 transmission agreement with BPA. Therefore, if the QF generation reduced peak
20 imports, the Company might realize a reduction in transmission service charges
21 into the load pocket. In actuality, the amount of savings realized has been
22 minimal. In 2009, there was no reduction in peak hourly demand and in 2010
23 Threemile reduced the annual peak hour demand at Dalreed by just over 300 kW.

1 Compared to the cost the Company incurred for short-term firm transmission out
2 of Dalreed, or the estimated annual cost the Company expects to incur once long-
3 term firm transmission out of Dalreed is available, the reduction to import costs is
4 negligible. Adding the Threemile facility to the Dalreed load pocket has had a net
5 effect of increasing the Company's cost above the Schedule 37 standard avoided
6 cost rates.

7 **Q. Is the Threemile Canyon Wind Farm 1, LLC example an isolated case?**

8 A. No. There are other QF projects in Oregon that have executed PPAs with the
9 Company that are located within a load pocket.

10 **Q. Are minimum load issues unique to QF resources?**

11 A. No. However in the case of purchases from non-QF resources, minimum load
12 issues are handled through contract price adjustment and/or curtailment of the
13 resource.

14 **Q. Are the costs or benefits associated with third-party transmission
15 incorporated into non-standard avoided cost prices?**

16 A. Yes. In the calculation of the project specific avoided cost prices for a non-
17 standard QF, the costs or benefits associated with third-party transmission, if any,
18 are calculated. The costs and benefits are included in the contract between the QF
19 and the Company as an addendum to the PPA for any avoided cost price
20 adjustment and/or curtailment of the resource.

21 **Q. Would reducing the standard avoided cost eligibility cap have a beneficial
22 impact on the load pocket issue?**

23 A. Yes. In the case of QFs eligible for standard contracts and prices, the Company

1 currently must pay the published standard avoided cost price even if the QF's
2 generation exceeds load in the load pocket and requires delivery to load elsewhere
3 on the Company's system. These incremental costs are borne by customers.
4 Reducing the standard avoided cost eligibility cap to 3 MW, as proposed later in
5 my testimony, would not eliminate the load pocket issue, but it would reduce the
6 potential of a QF's generation to exceed the load in a load pocket and would
7 thereby, reduce the magnitude and frequency of the Company to purchase firm
8 PTP transmission.

9 Issue 5A. Should the Commission change the 10 MW cap for the standard contract?

10 **Q. Should the Commission change the 10 MW cap for the standard contract?**

11 A. Yes, the maximum nameplate capacity rating eligible for standard avoided cost
12 prices should be reduced from 10 MW to 3 MW. Reducing the eligibility cap will
13 help mitigate several of the current issues before the Commission including the
14 disaggregation of large single projects into multiple projects and responsibility for
15 third-party transmission costs; while at the same time it would maintain the
16 objective of minimizing transaction costs for the small QFs. Standard avoided
17 cost rates on Schedule 37 are based on a proxy plant that is fully dispatchable by
18 the Company and is located at an optimum location relative to load. Those rates
19 may reflect an inherent overpayment to the extent that a QF is not identical to the
20 proxy plant's optimum operating characteristics or location. Few, if any, of the
21 QF resources eligible for standard avoided cost prices produce energy that
22 provides equivalent value to the proxy resource energy. Most QF resources
23 receiving standard avoided cost prices are, to some degree, receiving incremental

1 value based on the difference between the operating characteristics of the QF
2 resource and the proxy plant, and therefore do not always reflect the true avoided
3 cost to the utility. This divergence from applying the project specific
4 characteristics to calculate the standard avoided cost pricing does not account for
5 system impact costs of the individual QF, and will lead to the Company's
6 customers carrying the burden of a higher-cost QF resource.

7 As the standard eligibility cap increases, the cost impact to customers
8 increases. This is a major factor that the Commission should consider in
9 determining the appropriate level at which to set the eligibility cap for standard
10 avoided cost prices.

11 The difference in cost between the QF resource and the proxy plant has
12 become more significant since the eligibility cap was raised from 1 MW to 10
13 MW. For example, since the 10 MW eligibility cap was established in 2005,
14 wind QF PPAs eligible for standard avoided cost prices account for 114.5 MW, or
15 59 percent, of the Company's total QF projects. Nine of the 14 standard wind QF
16 PPAs are sized at 9.9 MW or 10 MW and only one wind QF project is less than 3
17 MW. These large standard wind projects are all remote, intermittent resources
18 with low capacity factors. The cost to the Company and its customers, for
19 integration of the resource, capacity contribution, and system transmission costs
20 are significant and yet they have not been reflected in the true cost of those
21 projects due to the 10 MW eligibility cap. The Company's proposal for reducing
22 the eligibility cap for standard avoided cost prices to 3 MW would mitigate the
23 ability of the larger standard QF projects to shift those types of costs noted above

1 to customers and address a number of the other issues under consideration in this
2 docket.

3 **Q. Did PURPA support the concept of small QF projects receiving standard**
4 **rates?**

5 A. Yes. PURPA expressly contemplates that standard rates should apply to very
6 small projects or those under 100 kW in order to minimize transactions costs that
7 might otherwise keep the projects from going forward. In its order implementing
8 the PURPA regulations, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
9 stated:

10 The Commission is aware that the supply characteristics of a particular
11 facility may vary in value from the average rates set forth in the utility's
12 standard rates required by this 12 paragraph. If the Commission were to
13 require individualized rates, however, the transaction costs associated with
14 administration of the program would likely render the program
15 uneconomic for this size of qualifying facility. As a result, the
16 Commission will require that standard tariffs be implemented for facilities
17 100 kW or less.²

18 In other words, the FERC acknowledged that standard rates may be higher than a
19 project specific avoided cost rates, but approved an exception for projects less
20 than 100 kW that might otherwise be unable to afford the transaction costs of
21 negotiating an individual rate.

22 **Q. Has this Commission previously acknowledged that the purpose of standard**
23 **rates is to minimize transaction costs for small QFs?**

24 A. Yes. In 1991, this Commission increased the ceiling for standard rates from 100
25 kW to 1 MW in Order No. 91-1605. The Commission explained:

26 The parties' recommendation to increase the standard rate size limit to 1
27 MW derives from a report developed by PUC staff and staff of the Oregon

² FERC, 18 CFR Part 292, Docket RM79-55, Order No. 69.

1 Department of Energy. The report concludes that the transaction costs
2 associated with negotiating a QF/utility power purchase agreement could
3 be prohibitive for small QFs and effectively eliminate them from the
4 marketplace. The standard rate is intended to address this concern by
5 minimizing the transaction costs of negotiating a power purchase
6 agreement. The report concluded that the transaction costs associated with
7 participating in a competitive bid could further disadvantage small QFs.
8 Therefore, staff recommended increasing the size limit for QFs which are
9 eligible to receive the standard rate to 1 MW.

10
11 **Q. Does the eligibility cap serve a definitive purpose?**

12 A. Yes. The standard eligibility cap is a clear delineation between projects that are
13 deemed to be small to minimize their transaction costs for securing a PPA with
14 the utility. These projects are generally categorized as being developed by
15 individuals or organizations with limited resources that do not have the corporate
16 backing, financial wherewithal, or technical skills to handle significant
17 administrative issues or cost. These types of projects that PURPA intended
18 should receive the benefit of standard avoided cost rates and contracts. As the
19 eligibility cap has increased over time to the current 10 MW, the Company is now
20 negotiating with well-funded, experienced developers who have successfully
21 developed multiple QF and renewable projects across the country, and hire some
22 of the most skilled technical and legal firms in the country. It is clear that there
23 has been a shift from the “mom & pop” developer to the well-staffed development
24 firm where there is a direct correlation between the size of the QF project and the
25 amount of resources that can be applied to the project.

26 **Q. Please summarize the factors to be considered when setting the maximum
27 nameplate capacity eligible for standard avoided cost prices.**

28 A. The desire to stimulate QF development should be balanced with the mandate that

1 customers not pay more for QF power than for other resources. The primary
2 rationale for standard rates is to minimize transaction costs for small projects.
3 Rates for larger projects should take individual operating characteristics into
4 account. In balancing these factors, the Commission should review and set the
5 eligibility cap for standard avoided cost prices to include only projects that may
6 otherwise be unable to afford the transaction costs of negotiating an
7 individualized purchase rate.

8 **Q. Do you have a specific recommendation as to the appropriate capacity**
9 **ceiling?**

10 A. Yes. The Company proposes that 3 MW is a reasonable eligibility cap for QF
11 projects seeking standard avoided cost prices and standard contracts. Setting the
12 eligibility cap to 3 MW would continue to encourage the development of
13 additional community-scale QF resources across all resource types, while
14 reducing the disaggregation of large single projects in multiple small projects.
15 Further, 3 MW is consistent with the transaction cost rationale for standard
16 avoided cost rates and contract terms noted earlier in my testimony. Any projects
17 over 3 MW would still receive avoided cost prices. However, prices would be
18 calculated under a non-standard methodology that incorporates the PURPA
19 adjustment factors for the specific project operating characteristics and providing
20 the appropriate avoided cost prices. Company witness Mr. Brian S. Dickman
21 provides testimony supporting the Company's proposed methodology for
22 calculating non-standard avoided cost rates.

1 **Q. Is a 3 MW capacity ceiling consistent with the level in the other jurisdictions**
2 **where the Company operates?**

3 A. Yes. Exhibit PAC/201 shows the eligibility caps by state for the Company's
4 multiple jurisdictions. While some states do have eligibility caps greater than 3
5 MW, those caps also have lower eligibility caps for specific resource type such as
6 wind or solar. Oregon now has the highest eligibility cap across all resource types
7 of the six states served by the Company. As explained above, both the FERC and
8 Commission rationale for standard avoided cost rates is to minimize the
9 transaction costs associated with negotiating an individualized rate that reflects
10 the operating characteristics of the particular project and the Company's belief is
11 that a 3 MW eligibility cap achieves this rationale.

12 Issue 5B. What should be the criteria to determine whether a QF is a "single QF" for
13 purposes of eligibility for the standard contract?

14 **Q. Why would a QF developer disaggregate a large project into smaller projects**
15 **in Oregon?**

16 A. A developer might disaggregate a large project into separate smaller projects
17 under the standard avoided cost eligibility cap because it is economically
18 advantageous to obtain published avoided cost prices. As previously discussed,
19 the standard avoided cost prices do not accurately approximate the avoided cost of
20 a large project because they do not take into account specific characteristics that
21 may reduce the avoided cost associated with the large project. In addition, a QF
22 that is eligible for the standard avoided cost price is also eligible to contract under
23 the standard PPA which has defined and known terms and conditions that were

1 approved by Commission and are more lenient than the non-standard avoided cost
2 contract available in Schedule 38 which has negotiated terms and conditions. The
3 standard PPA is largely not subject to negotiation.

4 **Q. How has FERC defined a “single QF” for purposes of implementing**
5 **PURPA?**

6 A. In assessing whether a given electric generation facility is a QF, FERC evaluates
7 “the power production capacity of a facility for which qualification is sought,
8 together with the power production capacity of any other small power production
9 facilities that use the same energy resource, are owned by the same person(s) or
10 its affiliates, and are located at the same site.”³ In total these power production
11 capacities must not exceed 80 megawatts.⁴ FERC has also established that if a
12 facility is located on the same site as the facility for which qualification is sought
13 then a distance test is applied.⁵ The distance test between facilities to determine
14 whether they are considered to be on the same site is based on the distance
15 between electric generating equipment of the respective locations.⁶ If the electric
16 generating equipment is within a one mile radius of each other then it is
17 considered to be on the same site.

18 **Q. What are Oregon’s criteria for determining multiple QF project eligibility**
19 **for standard avoided costs?**

20 A. While FERC established the same site criteria at the federal level, FERC also
21 looks to the individual state to implement. In Oregon, Docket No. UM 1129

³ 18 CFR 292.204(a)(1).

⁴ Id.

⁵ Id. 292.204(a)(2).

⁶ Id.

1 examined the issue and the parties agreed to a Partial Stipulation⁷ in 2006. In
2 Order No. 06-538, the Oregon Commission adopted clarifying language for
3 determining when generating facilities located near each other and using the same
4 motive force should be deemed a single facility for purposes of determining the
5 Facility Capacity Rating which establishes the size threshold for eligibility for
6 Oregon standard avoided cost prices and eligibility for the standard PPA terms
7 and conditions. The clarifying language was contained in the Partial Stipulation.
8 The purpose and intent of the Partial Stipulation was to develop a mechanism that
9 would allow independent family or community-based QF projects the ability to
10 have an exemption from the single site restriction so that these certain types of
11 projects could share common infrastructure and have common passive investors
12 without violating PURPA or state regulations.

13 **Q. Was the Partial Stipulation successful in achieving its intent?**

14 A. No. While the Partial Stipulation provided specific eligibility criteria, those
15 criteria, as it turned out, did not prevent a large (64.5 MW) wind project from
16 devising an ownership structure that technically enabled it to meet the eligibility
17 criteria and therefore receive published rates. After the Partial Stipulation was
18 approved by the Commission, the Company received a request from a developer
19 for nine QF contracts ranging in size from 1.65 MW to 10 MW, totaling 64.5
20 MW. The projects were not independent family or community-based projects and
21 clearly were a disaggregation of a large single wind project. Under the Partial
22 Stipulation Eligibility Test, projects located at the same site using the same
23 motive force are ineligible for the Oregon standard avoided costs if they are

⁷ Attach hereto as Exhibit PAC/202.

1 owned or controlled by the same or affiliated person(s). In this case, there was a
2 single common owner who owned at least 99 percent of each of the nine projects,
3 which initially disqualified a number of the projects.

4 **Q. How did the nine “projects” qualify for Oregon standard avoided costs on**
5 **Schedule 37?**

6 A. The Partial Stipulation provides an exception whereby individual projects may
7 still be eligible even if they are owned by the same person. That exception
8 provides:

9 two facilities will not be held to be owned or controlled by the same
10 person(s) or affiliated person(s) if such common person or persons is a
11 ‘passive investor’ whose ownership interest in the QF is primarily related
12 to utilizing production tax credits, green tag values and MACRS
13 depreciation as the primary ownership benefit. (passive investor
14 exception).

15 After significant due diligence by the Company and a review of the projects’
16 ownership structure with the Commission staff and ODOE, it was agreed that a
17 single majority owner for the nine projects technically met the passive investor
18 exception and therefore could not be denied under the Partial Stipulation for
19 Oregon Schedule 37. As a result, nine QF projects, each less than the 10 MW
20 eligibility cap were built by a single developer who received standard avoided
21 cost prices which were likely higher than the prices it would have otherwise
22 received as a single large QF project due to project specific characteristics
23 adjustments.

24 **Q. Did disaggregation provide other benefits to the developer?**

25 A. Yes. The projects retained the RECs and maximized the total amount of Oregon
26 Business Energy Tax Credits (BETC) by establishing each project individually.

1 As a result, the RECs associated with the nine projects do not contribute toward
2 the Company's renewable portfolio standard compliance requirements.

3 **Q. What does the Company propose to improve the disaggregation**
4 **requirements?**

5 A. The Company recommends that the Commission remove the passive investor
6 exception from the Partial Stipulation. The exception should not be generally
7 applicable to all small projects.

8 **Q. Should independent family or community-based projects still have an**
9 **exemption?**

10 A. Yes. The Commission could modify the current exemption to be a waiver that is
11 applicable *only* for independent family or community-based projects. This would
12 allow these types of projects to share common infrastructure and have common
13 passive investors without violating PURPA or state regulations. To qualify for
14 the independent family or community-based project waiver, the project
15 proponents would simply need to present satisfactory evidence to the Commission
16 Staff. The Commission could then approve the waiver during the consent agenda
17 portion of a public meeting. This process is not expected to be burdensome for
18 Commission Staff as the number of independent family or community-based
19 projects is expected to be small.

20 **Q. What does the Company propose if the Commission desires to retain the**
21 **passive investor exception?**

22 A. If the Commission seeks to retain the passive investor exception, the Company
23 recommends the Commission direct its Staff to evaluate how to modify the Partial

1 Stipulation to maintain the intent of allowing only independent family or
2 community-based projects to share common infrastructure and have common
3 passive investors without violating PURPA or state regulations.

4 Issue 5C. Should the resource technology affect the size of the cap for the standard
5 contract cap or the criteria for determining whether a QF is a "single QF"?

6 **Q. Should the resource technology affect the size of the cap for the standard**
7 **contract cap or the criteria for determining whether a QF is a "single QF"?**

8 A. Yes. The Company views wind and photovoltaic (PV) solar as the two resource
9 types capable of disaggregating from a large single project into multiple projects
10 that would be eligible for standard avoided cost prices. As noted in my testimony
11 under Issue 5B, 13 of the 14 Oregon wind QF projects are the result of a large
12 wind project developed by a single developer that have been disaggregated into
13 smaller wind QF projects that are less than or equal to 10 MW. While the
14 projects met the Partial Stipulation through a creative ownership and management
15 structure, they all share a single common interconnection and are operationally
16 viewed as a common wind project on the Company's system. If the eligibility cap
17 and additional criteria proposed by the Company were implemented, multiple
18 projects would be more limited.

19 **Q. Do you believe that lowering the eligibility threshold for standard avoided**
20 **cost prices from 10 MW to 3 MW would stop developers from disaggregating**
21 **their large projects?**

22 A. In combination with the suggested changes to the Partial Stipulation stated above,

1 it would be much more difficult to disaggregate projects of all resource types for
2 the purpose of qualifying for standard avoided cost prices.

3 Issue 5D. Can a QF receive Oregon's Renewable avoided cost price if the QF owner will
4 sell the RECs in another state?

5 **Q. Can a QF receive Oregon's Renewable avoided cost price if the QF owner**
6 **will sell the RECs in another state?**

7 A. Yes. As established in Order No. 11-505, if the QF selects the standard
8 renewable avoided cost price, it retains ownership of the RECs during the
9 resource sufficiency period. The Company is indifferent to the QF's management
10 and disposition of those RECs during the resource sufficiency period and is only
11 responsible to the QF for any administrative service established by WREGIS that
12 the QF acquires from the Company. During that resource sufficiency period, the
13 QF assumes all ownership risk of the RECs including registration of the QF
14 facility with any appropriate agency or program, the qualification and application
15 of those RECS for any mandatory renewable portfolio standard (RPS) or
16 voluntary renewable program, management or accounting of those RECs, and the
17 sales of those RECs to any third parties. Once the resource deficiency period
18 begins, the RECs are transferred to the utility along with the net output of the QF.

19 Issue 6B. When is there a legally enforceable obligation?

20 **Q. Why is it important to establish criteria for when a legally enforceable**
21 **obligation arises?**

22 A. FERC has established that PURPA allows a QF to sell to a utility under two
23 commercial scenarios: (1) under a contract (PPA); or (2) through a non-

1 contractual, but binding, legally enforceable obligation.⁸ The legally enforceable
2 obligation (LEO) is important in a couple of contexts. First, it acts to prevent the
3 utility from avoiding purchases from a QF by refusing to sign a power purchase
4 agreement with the QF.⁹ Second, it acts as a threshold standard a QF must meet
5 in order to qualify to sell to a utility (at a given avoided cost rate). Thus, the LEO
6 acts to protect both the QF and the utility (and ultimately the utility customers that
7 will pay the costs of avoided cost purchases from QFs).

8 In the Company's experience, QFs have attempted to establish a LEO by
9 several means. In one case the QF simply downloaded a form power purchase
10 agreement from the internet, signed it, and sent it to the Company. In a second
11 case, the QF sent a letter to the Company days before the avoided cost rate was
12 set to change and indicated it is willing and able to enter into a power purchase
13 agreement immediately (with no prior negotiations or discussions). Finally, the
14 QF contacted the Company months before about a potential PPA but failed to take
15 any action. Then, days before a change in avoided cost rates was set to occur, the
16 QF presented the Company with some project information and declared it was
17 ready to sign a PPA. If the utility obtains purchase obligations upon the
18 occurrence of a LEO, more than mere verbal statements about being willing and
19 able to sign a power purchase agreement should be required of the QF to obtain
20 the benefits of a LEO (and the attendant avoided cost rates). The Commission
21 should establish, consistent with the implementing regulations of PURPA as

⁸ Cedar Creek Wind , LLC, 137 FERC P 61006, 8 (October 4, 2011).

⁹Small Power Production and Cogeneration Facilities; Regulations Implementing Section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, 45 Fed. Reg. 12214, 12224, FERC Order No. 69 (February 25, 1980).

1 promulgated by FERC, criteria a QF must show in order to establish that it has
2 “commit[ed] itself to sell all or part of its electric output to an electric utility” as
3 required by FERC.¹⁰

4 **Q. When is there a legally enforceable obligation?**

5 A. As an initial matter, this question involves legal considerations and those are not
6 addressed in my testimony. Nonetheless, in the last couple years FERC has
7 issued at least three orders addressing various aspects of establishing a LEO.¹¹
8 Those orders have consistently established that “a QF, by committing itself to sell
9 to an electric utility, also commits the electric utility to buy from the QF; these
10 commitments result either in contracts or in non-contractual, but binding, legally
11 enforceable obligations.”¹² While FERC has stated that requiring a QF to enter
12 into a power purchase agreement before finding a LEO has arisen is inconsistent
13 with PURPA, FERC has not provided specific criteria a state regulatory
14 commission can consider in establishing when a QF has “committed itself” and
15 thereby created a legally enforceable obligation.¹³ In the absence of specific
16 criteria from FERC, the Commission can act, consistent with PURPA and its
17 implementing regulations, to define the criteria for establishing a LEO.¹⁴

18 **Q. How does the Commission currently address LEOs?**

19 A. Under Oregon law and regulations, a LEO exists for purposes of establishing the

¹⁰Cedar Creek Wind, LLC, 137 FERC P 61006, 8 (October 4, 2011).

¹¹ See Cedar Creek Wind, LLC, 137 FERC P 61006 (October 4, 2011); Rainbow Ranch Wind, LLC, 139 FERC P 61,077 (April 30, 2012); and, Murphy Flat Power, LLC, 141 FERC P 61145, (November 20, 2012).

¹² Murphy Flat Power, LLC, 141 FERC P 61145, 5 (November 20, 2012).

¹³ See Cedar Creek Wind, LLC, 137 FERC P 61006, 7-11 (October 4, 2011).

¹⁴ *Id.* at 9.

1 applicable avoided cost rate only when a utility and a QF owner have executed a
2 PPA or executed an agreement stating that an LEO has arisen.¹⁵

3 **Q. What criteria would you recommend the Commission adopt in connection**
4 **with establishing a legally enforceable obligation?**

5 A. Recognizing recent FERC decisions, the Company recommends that the
6 Commission utilize, at least as pertaining to the Company, Schedule 37 to set
7 criteria for establishing a LEO. Schedule 37 contains a step by step process for
8 negotiating a power purchase agreement, including deadlines by which the utility
9 must respond to various inquiries and submission from the QF. The Company
10 believes that it is reasonable to establish that a LEO has arisen (in other words a
11 QF has committed itself) when the QF approves the final draft power purchase
12 agreement as contemplated in B(5) on page 10 of Schedule 37.

13 Some may argue that if such a standard were adopted the utility could
14 frustrate the establishment of a LEO by dragging out negotiations or always
15 demanding more information from the QF. This is simply not the case. Schedule
16 37 contains specific information the Company requires and timelines in which the
17 Company must act. If the Company tries to request information beyond Schedule
18 37 or fails to act within the timeframes established in tariff the QF can seek relief
19 from the Commission. Specifying the establishment of a LEO within Schedule 37
20 will allow both the utility and the QF to know the rules of establishing a LEO
21 from the beginning and will create standards that the Commission can review and
22 enforce if either the utility or the QF attempt to frustrate or manipulate the

¹⁵ OAR 860-029-0010 (29). See also OPUC Order No. 09-439 at 6 (holding that a LEO was not formed because the parties had not executed a PPA or otherwise executed an agreement that a LEO existed).

1 establishment of a LEO. In a similar vein, the standards and procedures in
2 Schedule 38 could be used to establish when a LEO arises for non-standard
3 qualifying facilities.

4 Failure to adopt criteria that require some affirmative action on the part of
5 the QF places the utility in the position of potentially being required to accept and
6 pay for energy from a QF that the utility has little or no information about. This
7 can present commercial, safety and resource planning issues for the utility. It is
8 hard to imagine the Commission, in other circumstances, finding a contract
9 prudent when the utility entered into that contract without conducting reasonable
10 due diligence. By adopting the criteria already contained in Schedule 37 and
11 Schedule 38 the Company is able to ensure it has information to conduct the
12 minimum due diligence necessary prior to entering into a commercial relationship
13 with a QF and yet does not allow the Company to avoid a power purchase
14 agreement by refusing to execute such an agreement. The Company also
15 acknowledges that there may be individual circumstances that do not squarely fit
16 into the Schedule 37 or Schedule 38 criteria (though the majority will), thus the
17 Commission should always retain the ability to look at the individual facts and
18 circumstances of any QF's claim for a LEO.

19 Issue 6I. What is the appropriate contract term? What is the appropriate duration for the
20 fixed price portion of the contract?

21 **Q. What is the appropriate term for a QF contract?**

22 A. The Company has found that that the current maximum term length of up to 20
23 years as described in Order No. 05-584 represents an appropriate balance between

1 a term that allows the QF to secure financing, and the risks that accompany long
2 range power price forecasting. The fundamental objective of the term of a QF
3 contract is to enable eligible QFs to obtain adequate financing but also minimize
4 the possible divergence of the QF contract prices from actual avoided costs. The
5 Company does propose changes to the fixed price portion of the allowed contract
6 term of the power purchase agreement under Schedule 37 and Schedule 38.

7 **Q. What is the appropriate duration for the fixed price portion of the contract?**

8 A. As noted above, a QF may receive a maximum contract term of 20 years. Under
9 Order No. 05-584, the fixed price portion is the initial 15 years of the contract
10 term, with a market price option available for the remaining term of the contract
11 (up to five years).¹⁶ The Company proposes that the initial fixed price portion of
12 the contract term be reduced to 10 years and any additional years beyond the
13 initial 10 years are at the market price option.

14 **Q. Why is 10 years appropriate for the fixed price portion of the contract?**

15 A. The Company believes that a 20 year contract containing the initial 10 years of
16 fixed avoided cost prices is sufficient to secure financing. Having that balance in
17 place between fixed and market prices provides the QF with certainty in the early
18 years while aligning future QF contract prices with prices closer to actual avoided
19 costs. Having short term contracts has not deterred the QF from securing
20 financing, at least based on the Company's experience. Since Order No. 05-084,
21 the Company has executed standard PPAs with 38 new construction QF projects
22 totaling 195.5 MWs. These projects encompass multiple resource types including
23 wind, biomass, biogas, cogeneration, hydro, and geothermal. All of those projects

¹⁶ Order No. 05-584 at 20.

1 are commercially operating or are under construction except for one PPA that was
2 terminated for default unrelated to financing. A large percentage of those new
3 construct QF projects chose shorter term contracts. Forty-three percent elected
4 terms of 15 years or less. Of those selecting terms 15 years or less, half chose
5 terms of 10 years or less. In fact, two selected the Electric Market Option for full
6 term of their contract of 10 years or less. Thus, a 20-year term with a 10-year
7 fixed price period is adequate to secure financing. Because of the dynamics of
8 energy prices in the utility industry, the longer the fixed price component of the
9 contract term, the greater the risk to the Company and customers of incurring an
10 uneconomic PPA. Furthermore, once the term of a QF's contract expires, they
11 may choose to continue to make sales to the utility (if the PURPA obligation to
12 purchase is still in-place) or sell to third parties, which would allow the QF the
13 opportunity to continue to recover its investment if the plant is operational. The
14 contract term does not limit the period of time in which a QF may recover its
15 investment, it merely limits the time period for which fixed pricing is based on a
16 snapshot projection of avoided costs.

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

18 A. Yes.

Docket No. UM-1610
Exhibit PAC/201
Witness: Bruce W. Griswold

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

PACIFICORP

Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Bruce W. Griswold

February 2013

Qualifying Facility (“QF”) Eligibility for Standard Avoided Cost Prices and Contracts

State	MW Cap for Standard Avoided Cost Prices ¹
California	0.1 MW
Idaho	0.1 MW nameplate – Wind and solar 10 average MW output
Oregon	10 MW
Utah	1MW for cogeneration 3 MW for other small power production (wind, solar, biogas, etc.)
Washington	2 MW
Wyoming	1 MW (at or below 70% capacity factor) 10 MW (above 70% capacity factor)

¹ Nameplate Capacity Rating unless noted.

Docket No. UM-1610
Exhibit PAC/202
Witness: Bruce W. Griswold

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

PACIFICORP

Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Bruce W. Griswold

February 2013

HARDY MYERS
Attorney General



Exhibit PAC/202
Griswold/1
PETER D. SHEPHERD
Deputy Attorney General

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
GENERAL COUNSEL DIVISION

February 6, 2006

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND HAND DELIVERY

Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Attention: Filing Center
550 Capitol Street NE, #215
P.O. Box 2148
Salem, OR 97308-2148
Puc.filingcenter@state.or.us

Re: *In the Matter of Public Utility Commission of Oregon Staff's Investigation Relating to
Electric Utility Purchases from Qualifying Facilities*
OPUC Docket No. UM 1129
DOJ File No. 330-020-GN0041-04

Enclosed for filing are originals and five copies of Oregon Department of Energy's
Motion to Admit Partial Stipulation, Partial Stipulation with attachment, and certificate of
service in the above-captioned matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Janet L. Prewitt

Janet L. Prewitt
Assistant Attorney General
Natural Resources Section

Enclosures

c: Phil Carver, ODOE (email only)
Jeff Keto, ODOE (email only)
UM 1129 Service List

JLP:jrs/GENP1683

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON
UM 1129**

In the Matter of the

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF
OREGON

Staff's Investigation Relating to Electric
Utility Purchases from Qualifying Facilities

**OREGON DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY'S MOTION TO ADMIT
PARTIAL STIPULATION**

The Oregon Department of Energy ("ODOE") moves to admit the Partial Stipulation resolving Issue Number 4 in the Issues List for Track I, as set forth in Appendix A of the Correct Ruling issued herein on November 29 2005.

Current parties to this stipulation are Idaho Power Company ("Idaho Power"), PacifiCorp, Portland General Electric, the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon ("Staff"), Sherman Count/J.R. Simplot ("Sherman County/Simplot"), and ODOE. Industrial Customer of Northwest Utilities ("ICNU") has indicated that it neither opposes nor supports the stipulation. The partial stipulation is available to any other parties to the docket, who may participate by signing and filing a copy of the Partial Stipulation.

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This stipulation is supported by the Rebuttal Testimony of Carel Dewinkel, ODOE Exhibit No. 8 and the statement made during the cross examination on February 2, 2006 by Staff witness Lisa Schwartz.

Dated this 6th day of February, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

HARDY MYERS
Attorney General

/s/ Janet L. Prewitt

Janet L. Prewitt, #85307
Assistant Attorney Generals
Of Attorneys for Oregon
Department of Energy

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 6th day of February, 2006, I served the foregoing MOTION TO ADMIT PARTIAL STIPULATION and PARTIAL STIPULATION upon the persons named on the attached UM 1129 service list by electronic mail and by mailing a full, true and correct copy thereof addressed to the persons at the addresses on the UM 1129 service list (with the exception of those parties who have waived paper service).

Dated: February 6, 2006

/s/ Janet L. Prewitt

Janet L. Prewitt, #85307
Assistant Attorney General

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON

UM 1129

In the Matter of Public Utility Commission
of Oregon Staff's Investigation Relating to
Electric Utility Purchases from Qualifying
Facilities.

PARTIAL STIPULATION

This Partial Stipulation is entered into for the purpose of resolving a specific issue identified in this docket and does not address issues other than the specifically identified issue.

PARTIES

1. The initial parties to this Partial Stipulation are Idaho Power Company ("Idaho Power"), PacifiCorp, Portland General Electric Company ("PGE"), the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon ("Staff"), Sherman County Court/J.R. Simplot ("Sherman County/Simplot"), and the Oregon Department of Energy ("ODOE") (together "the Parties"). This Partial Stipulation will be made available to the other parties to this docket, who may participate by signing and filing a copy of this Partial Stipulation.

BACKGROUND

2. On May 13, 2005, the Commission issued Order No. 05-584 in this Docket which specified terms and conditions to be included in standard QF contracts. The order also indicated that a second phase of Docket No. UM 1129 would be opened to address issues that required further evidentiary development.

3. Each of the electric utilities filed avoided costs, revised tariffs and new standard QF contracts on July 12, 2005. On August 2, 2005, the Commission allowed the filings to go into effect, but ordered that an investigation of the filings be undertaken.

4. Phase II of this Docket was divided into tracks, with one track addressing compliance issues and another addressing the issues the Commission identified in Order No. 05-584 to be further investigated. Following the parties' development of proposed issues lists and the filing of comments, a Corrected Ruling was issued November 29, 2005, adopting an Issues List for Track I, as set forth in Appendix A of the Corrected Ruling, and an Issues List for Track II, as set forth in Appendix B of the Corrected Ruling.

5. Issue number 4 in Appendix A ("Issue 4") states:

"Should the Commission adopt criteria for determining whether multiple energy projects are in fact a single Qualifying Facility to protect the intent of Order No. 05-584, which directs that only projects 10 MW and smaller are eligible for standard avoided cost rates and a standard contract? For example, if a 60 MW wind farm is divided into six 10 MW installments in close proximity to one another, all built in the same calendar year, and with underlying ownership structures containing similar persons or entities, should each installment be eligible for standard rates and standard contracts? What criteria determine when a Qualifying Facility is 10 MW or less and eligible for the standard contract when the project/site has multiple generating units?"

6. Pursuant to Administrative Law Judge Kirkpatrick's August 23, 2005 Prehearing Conference Memorandum, a settlement conference on UM 1129 issues was held on November 1, and an additional settlement conference was held on December 13, 2005. The settlement conferences were open to all parties.

7. As a result of the settlement conferences, the Parties have reached agreement on the matters set forth below. The Parties submit this Partial Stipulation to the Commission and request that the Commission approve the settlement as presented.

AGREEMENT

8. The Parties agree that the definitions and terms set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein, are fair and reasonable and should be adopted by the Commission as a resolution to Issue 4.

9. The Parties agree that this Partial Stipulation represents a compromise in the positions of the Parties. As such, conduct, statements and documents disclosed in the negotiation of this Partial Stipulation shall not be admissible as evidence in this or any other proceeding.

10. This Partial Stipulation will be offered into the record of this proceeding as evidence pursuant to OAR 860-14-0085. The Parties agree to support this Partial Stipulation throughout this proceeding and any appeal, provide witnesses to sponsor this Partial Stipulation at the hearing and recommend that the Commission issue an order adopting the settlements contained herein.

11. The Parties agree that they will continue to support the Commission's adoption of the terms of this Partial Stipulation. If this Partial Stipulation is challenged by any other party to this proceeding, the Parties agree to cooperate in cross-examination and put on such a case as they deem appropriate to respond fully to the issues presented, which may include raising issues that are incorporated in the settlements embodied in this Partial Stipulation.

12. The Parties have negotiated this Partial Stipulation as an integrated document. If the Commission rejects all or any material portion of this Partial Stipulation or imposes additional material conditions in approving this Partial Stipulation, any party disadvantaged by such action shall have the rights provided in OAR 860-014-0085 and shall be entitled to seek reconsideration or appeal of the Commission's Order.

13. By entering into this Partial Stipulation, no party shall be deemed to have approved, admitted or consented to the facts, principles, methods or theories employed by any other party in arriving at the terms of this Partial Stipulation, other than those specifically identified in the body of this Partial Stipulation, including Exhibit A. No party shall be deemed to have agreed that any provision of this Partial Stipulation is appropriate for resolving issues in any other proceeding, except as previously identified in Paragraph 8 of the Partial Stipulation.

14. This Partial Stipulation may be executed in counterparts and each signed counterpart shall constitute an original document.

This Partial Stipulation is entered into by each party on the date entered below such party's signature.

Signatures follow on next page

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

STAFF

By: BT/Ch

By: _____

Date: January 19, 2006

Date: _____

PACIFICORP

ODOE

By: _____

By: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC

SHERMAN COUNTY/SIMPLOT

By: _____

By: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

STAFF

By: _____

By: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

PACIFICORP

ODOE

By: 

By: _____

Date: 1-18-06

Date: _____

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC

SHERMAN COUNTY/SIMPLOT

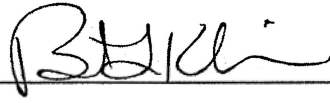
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By: _____

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Date: _____

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

By: 
Date: January 19, 2006

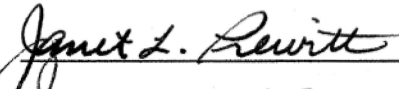
STAFF

By: _____
Date: _____

PACIFICORP

By: _____
Date: _____

ODOE

By: 
Date: January 31, 2006

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC

By: _____
Date: _____

SHERMAN COUNTY/SIMPLLOT

By: _____
Date: _____

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

By: BTU

Date: January 19, 2006

STAFF

By: Mike

Date: 1/26/06

PACIFICORP

By: _____

Date: _____

ODOE

By: _____

Date: _____

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC

By: _____

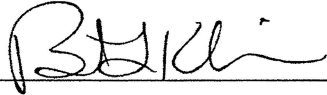
Date: _____

SHERMAN COUNTY/SIMPLOT

By: _____

Date: _____

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

By: 

Date: January 19, 2006

STAFF

By: _____

Date: _____

PACIFICORP

By: _____

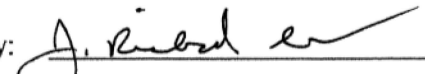
Date: _____

ODOE

By: _____

Date: _____

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC

By: 

Date: 1/31/06

SHERMAN COUNTY/SIMPLOT

By: _____

Date: _____

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

STAFF

By: _____

By: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

PACIFICORP

ODOE

By: *John Blissen*

By: _____

Date: 1-18-06

Date: _____

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC

SHERMAN COUNTY/SIMPLOT

By: _____

By: *Pete J. Dehaer*

Date: _____

Date: 2/2/05

EXHIBIT "A" TO PARTIAL STIPULATION

Definition of a Small Cogeneration Facility or Small Power Production Facility Eligible to Receive the Standard Rates and Standard Contract:

A Qualifying Facility (either a small power production facility or a cogeneration facility) ("QF") will be eligible to receive the standard rates and standard contract if the nameplate capacity of the QF, together with any other electric generating facility using the same motive force, owned or controlled by the same person(s) or affiliated person(s), and located at the same site, does not exceed 10 MW.

Definition of Person(s) or Affiliated Person(s):

As used above, the term "same person(s)" or "affiliated person(s)" means a natural person or persons or any legal entity or entities sharing common ownership, management or acting jointly or in concert with or exercising influence over the policies or actions of another person or entity. However, two facilities will not be held to be owned or controlled by the same person(s) or affiliated person(s) solely because they are developed by a single entity. Furthermore, two facilities will not be held to be owned or controlled by the same person(s) or affiliated person(s) if such common person or persons is a "passive investor" whose ownership interest in the QF is primarily related to utilizing production tax credits, green tag values and MACRS depreciation as the primary ownership benefit. A unit of Oregon local government may also be a "passive investor" if the local governmental unit demonstrates that it will not have an equity ownership interest in or exercise any control over the management of the QF and that its only interest is a share of the cash flow from the QF, which share will not exceed 20%. The 20% cash flow share limit may only be exceeded for good cause shown and only with the prior approval of the Commission.

Definition of Same Site:

For purposes of the foregoing, generating facilities are considered to be located at the same site as the QF for which qualification for the standard rates and standard contract is sought if they are located within a five-mile radius of any generating facilities or equipment providing fuel or motive force associated with the QF for which qualification for the standard rates and standard contract is sought.

Shared Interconnection and Infrastructure:

QFs otherwise meeting the above-described separate ownership test and thereby qualified for entitlement to the standard rates and standard contract will not be disqualified by utilizing an interconnection or other infrastructure not providing motive force or fuel that is shared with other QFs qualifying for the standard rates and standard

EXHIBIT "A" TO PARTIAL STIPULATION

contract so long as the use of the shared interconnection complies with the interconnecting utility's safety and reliability standards, interconnection contract requirements and Prudent Electrical Practices as that term is defined in the interconnecting utility's approved standard contract.

Dispute Resolution:

Upon request, the QF will provide the purchasing utility with documentation verifying the ownership, management and financial structure of the QF in reasonably sufficient detail to allow the utility to make an initial determination of whether or not the QF meets the above-described criteria for entitlement to the standard rates and standard contract. Any dispute concerning a QF's entitlement to the standard rates and standard contract shall be presented to the Commission for resolution.

Standard Contract Provision

To insure continued compliance with the requirements stated above, the standard contracts shall contain a representation in substantially the following form: "Seller will not make any changes in its ownership, control or management during the term of this Agreement that would cause it to not be in compliance with the *Definition of a Small Cogeneration Facility or Small Power Production Facility Eligible to Receive the Standard Rates and Standard Contract* approved by the Commission at the time this Agreement is executed. Seller will provide, upon request by Buyer not more frequently than every 36 months, such documentation and information as may be reasonably required to establish Seller's continued compliance with such Definition. Buyer agrees to take reasonable steps to maintain the confidentiality of any portion of the above-described documentation and information that the Seller identifies as confidential except Buyer will provide all such confidential information to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon upon the Commission's request."