

1 **BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**
2 **OF OREGON**

3 UE 296

4 In the Matter of
5 PACIFICORP, dba PACIFIC POWER,
6 2016 Transition Adjustment Mechanism
7

**STAFF'S POSITION STATEMENT
REGARDING HEARING MATTERS**

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9 In accordance with the Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) Ruling issued August 21,
10 2015, staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Staff) files this Position Statement
11 regarding matters related to the hearing set for August 25, 2015.

12 First, Staff does not object to any of the hearing exhibits submitted by the parties.

13 Second, Staff objects to Noble Energy Solutions, LLC's (Noble) request to present live
14 rebuttal testimony of its witness Kevin Higgins. Allowing live rebuttal testimony is inconsistent
15 with usual Commission hearing practice, which relies upon multiple rounds of extensive written
16 testimony and exhibits. This makes sense because the issues presented in Commission
17 proceedings are frequently highly-complex, which lends itself to presentation of written
18 testimony in order to allow all parties to understand, and explore, each party's position. The
19 issues in this case are no exception. Because of the complexity of the issues, it would be very
20 difficult to absorb and react to live rebuttal testimony presented for the first time at hearing.

21 Staff is not persuaded that Noble has established valid reasons for being allowed the
22 unusual step of presenting live rebuttal testimony. Staff believes that Noble should be able to
23 establish the facts it desires by means of cross examination of other parties' witnesses.

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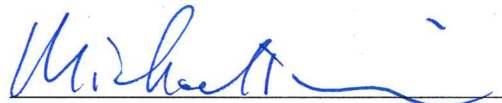
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1 For these reasons, Staff requests that the ALJ deny Noble's request.

2 DATED this 24th day of August, 2015.

3 Respectfully submitted,

4 ELLEN F. ROSENBLUM
5 Attorney General

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7 Michael T. Weirich, #82425
8 Assistant Attorney General
9 Of Attorneys for Staff of the Public Utility
10 Commission of Oregon
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