

July 21, 2017

***VIA ELECTRONIC FILING,  
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Public Utility Commission of Oregon  
201 High Street SE, Suite 100  
Salem, OR 97301-3398

Attn: Filing Center

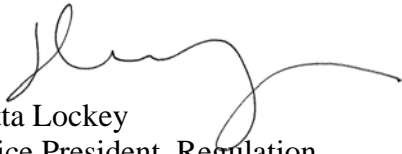
**Re: UM 1802 – PacifiCorp July 2017 Opening Testimony and Exhibits**

PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power hereby submits for filing the July 2017 Opening Testimony and Exhibits of Daniel MacNeil and Etta Lockey. Electronic workpapers will be posted to Huddle.

Please direct any informal correspondence and questions regarding this filing to Natasha Siores Manager, Regulatory Affairs, at (503) 813-6583.

Confidential material in support of the filing has been provided to parties under Order No. 16-456.

Sincerely,

  
Etta Lockey  
Vice President, Regulation

Enclosures

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I served a true and correct copy of PacifiCorp's **July 2017 Opening Testimony** filed on July 21, 2017, on the parties listed below via electronic mail and/or overnight delivery in compliance with OAR 860-001-0180.

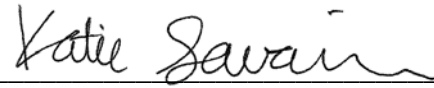
### Service List UM 1802

<b>COALITION UM 1802</b>	
KEVIN HIGGINS (C) ENERGY STRATEGIES LLC 215 STATE ST - STE 200 SALT LAKE CITY UT 84111-2322 <a href="mailto:khiggins@energystrat.com">khiggins@energystrat.com</a>	JOHN LOWE RENEWABLE ENERGY COALITION 12050 SW TREMONT ST PORTLAND, OR 97225-5430 <a href="mailto:jravenesanmarcos@yahoo.com">jravenesanmarcos@yahoo.com</a>
IRION A SANGER (C) SANGER LAW PC 1117 SE 53RD AVE PORTLAND, OR 97215 <a href="mailto:irion@sanger-law.com">irion@sanger-law.com</a>	
<b>CREA</b>	
GREGORY M. ADAMS RICHARDSON ADAMS, PLLC PO BOX 7218 BOISE, ID 83702 <a href="mailto:greg@richardsonadams.com">greg@richardsonadams.com</a>	BRIAN SKEAHAN CREA PMB 409 18160 COTTONWOOD RD SUNRIVER, OR 97707 <a href="mailto:brian.skeahan@yahoo.com">brian.skeahan@yahoo.com</a>
<b>CYRPRESS CREEK UM 1802</b>	
DAVID BUNGE CYPRESS CREEK RENEWABLES 3250 OCEAN PARK BLVD, STE 355 SANTA MONICA, CA 90405 <a href="mailto:bunge@ccrenew.com">bunge@ccrenew.com</a>	TODD GLASS WILSON SONSINI GOODRICH & ROSATI PC 701 FIFTH AVE STE 5100 SEATTLE, WA 98104 <a href="mailto:tglass@wsgr.com">tglass@wsgr.com</a>
KEENE M O'CONNOR WILSON SONSINI GOODRICH & ROSATI PC 701 FIFTH AVE STE 5100 SEATTLE, WA 98104 <a href="mailto:kmoconnor@wsgr.com">kmoconnor@wsgr.com</a>	
<b>ICNU 1802</b>	
JESSE E COWELL (C) DAVISON VAN CLEVE 333 SW TAYLOR ST., SUITE 400 PORTLAND, OR 97204 <a href="mailto:jec@dvclaw.com">jec@dvclaw.com</a>	BRADLEY MULLINS (C) MOUNTAIN WEST ANALYTICS 333 SW TAYLOR STE 400 PORTLAND, OR 97204 <a href="mailto:brmullins@mwanalytics.com">brmullins@mwanalytics.com</a>

RILEY G PECK DAVISON VAN CLEVE, PC 333 SW TAYLOR, STE 400 PORTLAND OR 97204 <a href="mailto:rgp@dvclaw.com">rgp@dvclaw.com</a>	
<b>IDAHO POWER UM 1802</b>	
IDAHO POWER COMPANY PO BOX 70 BOISE, ID 83707-0070 <a href="mailto:dockets@idahopower.com">dockets@idahopower.com</a>	LISA F RACKNER MCDOWELL RACKNER & GIBSON PC 419 SW 11TH AVE., SUITE 400 PORTLAND, OR 97205 <a href="mailto:dockets@mrg-law.com">dockets@mrg-law.com</a>
DONOVAN E WALKER IDAHO POWER COMPANY PO BOX 70 BOISE, ID 83707-0070 <a href="mailto:dwalker@idahopower.com">dwalker@idahopower.com</a>	
<b>NIPPC UM 1802</b>	
ROBERT D KAHN NORTHWEST & INTERMOUNTAIN POWER PRODUCERS COALITION PO BOX 504 MERCER ISLAND, WA 98040 <a href="mailto:rkahn@nippc.org">rkahn@nippc.org</a>	SIDNEY VILLANUEVA (C) SANGER LAW, PC 1117 SE 53RD AVE PORTLAND, OR 97215 <a href="mailto:sidney@sanger-law.com">sidney@sanger-law.com</a>
<b>ODOE UM 1802</b>	
DIANE BROAD (C) OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY 625 MARION ST NE SALEM OR 97301-3737 <a href="mailto:diane.broad@state.or.us">diane.broad@state.or.us</a>	JESSE D. RATCLIFFE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY 1162 COURT ST NE SALEM, OR 97301-4096 <a href="mailto:jesse.d.ratcliffe@doj.state.or.us">jesse.d.ratcliffe@doj.state.or.us</a>
WENDY SIMONS OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY 625 MARION ST NE SALEM, OR 97301 <a href="mailto:wendy.simons@oregon.gov">wendy.simons@oregon.gov</a>	
<b>PACIFICORP UM 1802</b>	
PACIFICORP, DBA PACIFIC POWER 825 NE MULTNOMAH ST, STE 2000 PORTLAND, OR 97232 <a href="mailto:oregondockets@pacificorp.com">oregondockets@pacificorp.com</a>	ETTA LOCKEY PACIFIC POWER 825 NE MULTNOMAH ST., STE 2000 PORTLAND, OR 97232 <a href="mailto:etta.lockey@pacificorp.com">etta.lockey@pacificorp.com</a>

<p>DUSTIN T TILL  PACIFIC POWER  825 NE MULTNOMAH ST STE 1800  PORTLAND, OR 97232  <a href="mailto:dustin.till@pacificorp.com">dustin.till@pacificorp.com</a></p>	
<p><b>PGE UM 1802</b></p>	
<p>ROB MACFARLANE  PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC  121 SW SALMON ST, 1WTC0702  PORTLAND, OR 97204  <a href="mailto:rob.macfarlane@pgn.com">rob.macfarlane@pgn.com</a>  <a href="mailto:pge.opucfilings@pgn.com">pge.opucfilings@pgn.com</a></p>	<p>V. DENISE SAUNDERS  PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC  121 SW SALMON ST 1WTC1301  PORTLAND, OR 97204  <a href="mailto:denise.saunders@pgn.com">denise.saunders@pgn.com</a></p>
<p><b>RENEWABLE NW</b></p>	
<p>RENEWABLE NORTHWEST  421 SW 6TH AVE., STE. 1125  PORTLAND, OR 97204  <a href="mailto:dockets@renewablenw.org">dockets@renewablenw.org</a></p>	<p>DINA DUBSON KELLEY (C)  RENEWABLE NORTHWEST  421 SW 6TH AVE STE 1125  PORTLAND, OR 97204  <a href="mailto:dina@renewablenw.org">dina@renewablenw.org</a></p>
<p>SILVIA TANNER (C)  RENEWABLE NORTHWEST  421 SW 6TH AVE, STE 1125  PORTLAND, OR 97204  <a href="mailto:silvia@renewablenw.org">silvia@renewablenw.org</a></p>	
<p><b>STAFF UM 1802</b></p>	
<p>BRITTANY ANDRUS (C)  PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON  PO BOX 1088  SALEM, OR 97308-1088  <a href="mailto:brittany.andrus@state.or.us">brittany.andrus@state.or.us</a></p>	<p>STEPHANIE S ANDRUS (C)  PUC STAFF--DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  BUSINESS ACTIVITIES SECTION  1162 COURT ST NE  SALEM, OR 97301-4096  <a href="mailto:stephanie.andrus@state.or.us">stephanie.andrus@state.or.us</a></p>
<p>NOLAN MOSER (C)  OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  PO BOX 1088  SALEM OR 97308  <a href="mailto:nolan.moser@state.or.us">nolan.moser@state.or.us</a></p>	

Dated this 21<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2017.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katie Savarin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Katie Savarin  
Coordinator, Regulatory Operations

Docket No. UM 1802  
Exhibit PAC/200  
Witness: Etta Lockey

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON**

**PACIFICORP**

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**July 2017 Opening Testimony of Etta Lockey**

**July 2017**

**JULY 2017 OPENING TESTIMONY OF ETTA LOCKEY**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

QUALIFICATIONS .....1  
PURPOSE AND SUMMARY .....1  
PRINCIPLES OF RENEWABLE AVOIDED COSTS.....5  
CONCLUSION.....9

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address, and present position with PacifiCorp**  
2 **d/b/a Pacific Power (PacifiCorp).**

3 A. My name is Etta Lockey. My business address is 825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite  
4 2000, Portland, Oregon 97232. My current position is Vice President, Regulation.

### 5 **QUALIFICATIONS**

6 **Q. Briefly describe your education and professional experience.**

7 A. I graduated from the University of Oregon with a bachelor's degree in political  
8 science. I received my juris doctorate from the Northwestern School of Law of Lewis  
9 and Clark College in Portland, Oregon. Before joining PacifiCorp, I worked for the  
10 law firm of McDowell, Rackner, & Gibson where I represented utility clients,  
11 including PacifiCorp, in a variety of rate-related regulatory matters in Oregon,  
12 Washington, and Alaska. I joined PacifiCorp in 2013 and since that time have  
13 provided legal representation to the company in a wide range of regulatory and  
14 legislative issues in California, Oregon, and Washington, including general rate cases,  
15 administrative investigations, and rulemakings. I became Vice President of  
16 Regulation in 2017. In my current role, I oversee regulatory affairs for California,  
17 Oregon, and Washington.

### 18 **PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

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

20 A. My testimony sets forth the background, policy basis, and related procedural  
21 recommendations supporting the updated non-standard renewable avoided cost price  
22 stream proposal in the reply testimony of Mr. Daniel MacNeil. Specifically, I discuss  
23 PacifiCorp's updated evaluation of how cost-effective renewable resources, rather



1 than renewable resources specifically needed to comply with Oregon's renewable  
2 portfolio standard (RPS), identified in an integrated resource plan (IRP) should be  
3 considered when developing renewable non-standard avoided cost pricing. My  
4 testimony also recommends a procedural process for addressing certain elements of  
5 PacifiCorp's updated proposal.

6 **Q. What is PacifiCorp proposing?**

7 A. In light of six years of experience implementing Oregon's RPS and recent trends  
8 impacting the timing and costs associated with the acquisition of renewable resources,  
9 PacifiCorp is proposing that the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission)  
10 clarify certain policies adopted in Order No. 11-505 regarding avoided cost pricing  
11 for renewable resources. Specifically, as explained in my testimony and in greater  
12 detail in the testimony of Mr. MacNeil, PacifiCorp recommends that the non-standard  
13 renewable avoided cost stream should be calculated based on avoided Oregon RPS  
14 compliance costs instead of renewable resource acquisitions that are not driven by  
15 Oregon RPS compliance needs. Under PacifiCorp's proposal, the RPS price stream  
16 would reflect the benefit of an RPS-eligible renewable resource to the company  
17 inasmuch as it avoids projected RPS-compliance costs. This is consistent with  
18 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) guidance and Commission  
19 precedent.

20 **Q. Is PacifiCorp's current proposal different from the proposal made by the**  
21 **company in its opening testimony?**

22 A. Yes. As explained in greater detail in the testimony of Mr. MacNeil, PacifiCorp has  
23 refined its initial proposal with respect to the basis for establishing the non-standard

1 renewable avoided cost price stream. The company's updated proposal reflects that  
2 PacifiCorp's renewable resource acquisitions have been and are planned to be driven  
3 by least-cost, least-risk resource planning as opposed to RPS compliance need. The  
4 updated proposal better reflects established FERC and Commission policy that the  
5 renewable price stream should fundamentally be tied to avoided Oregon RPS  
6 compliance costs. Mr. MacNeil describes PacifiCorp's proposal, which is based on  
7 the value of avoided RPS compliance costs.

8 **Q. Why is it critical that these issues be raised in this proceeding?**

9 A. Standard renewable avoided cost prices are currently higher than actual RPS  
10 compliance costs. Under Section 210(b) of the Public Utilities Regulatory Policy Act  
11 (PURPA), purchases from qualifying facilities (QFs) must be at rates that are both  
12 just and reasonable to electric consumers and in the public interest and not in excess  
13 of the incremental costs to the electric utility of alternative electric energy. Standard  
14 renewable avoided cost prices that are higher than RPS compliance costs violate all of  
15 these PURPA policies by requiring customers to pay more than the incremental cost  
16 of a QF's RPS-compliance value.

17 As has been discussed in this docket, with respect to renewable avoided costs,  
18 FERC concluded that states could impose a multi-tiered avoided cost structure  
19 without violating PURPA principles if the multi-tiered avoided cost structure is  
20 rooted in the state's ability to take into account obligations imposed by the state, such  
21 as a state RPS program.<sup>1</sup> In Order No. 11-505, the Commission similarly concluded  
22 that renewable QFs willing to sell their output and transfer their renewable energy

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<sup>1</sup> 133 FERC ¶ 61,059 at 13 (Oct. 21, 2010).

1 certificates (RECs) to the utility allow the utility to avoid building (or buying)  
2 renewable generation to meet the utility's RPS requirements, justifying the need for a  
3 separate cost stream in instances when a utility's RPS compliance obligation is  
4 deferred as the result of purchases from QFs.<sup>2</sup>

5 Current standard renewable avoided costs greatly exceed RPS compliance  
6 costs because they are based on utility resource acquisitions and not driven by RPS  
7 compliance requirements. To avoid continued undue cost-shifting to customers  
8 associated with QF purchase prices that exceed avoided costs, raising these critical  
9 issues now is fully warranted.

10 **Q. Why has PacifiCorp not raised these issues earlier in this proceeding or in prior**  
11 **proceedings?**

12 A. Recent developments, including the near-term renewable acquisitions planned in  
13 PacifiCorp's 2017 IRP, has highlighted the fundamental flaws with existing policies  
14 and caused the company to reconsider its position.

15 **Q. Procedurally, how do you propose that the Commission address the application**  
16 **of the issues you raise here to a broader context including standard avoided costs**  
17 **and other utilities' avoided cost calculations?**

18 A. Given the broader implication of these policy concerns raised and their potential  
19 application to standard renewable avoided cost pricing and other utilities' avoided  
20 costs, PacifiCorp recommends that the Commission address these issues in a separate  
21 policy docket of more general applicability. Following the closure of docket UM  
22 1794, the Commission directed parties to engage in workshops to address certain

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<sup>2</sup> *In the Matter of Public Utility Commission of Oregon Investigation into determination of resource sufficiency*, Docket No. UM 1396, Order No. 11-505 (Order No. 11-505) at 9 (Dec. 13, 2011).

1 policy issues related to avoided costs. These issues include the avoided cost  
2 implications where a utility is pursuing near-term capacity investments that are not  
3 driven by reliability, RPS, or load-service needs.<sup>3</sup> The Company proposes that it  
4 would be more appropriate to address generally applicable policy implications in that  
5 future proceeding rather than the instant one, which is more narrowly focused on  
6 PacifiCorp's non-standard avoided cost pricing.

### 7 PRINCIPLES OF RENEWABLE AVOIDED COSTS

8 **Q. Please summarize the relevant policies adopted by the Commission in Order No.**  
9 **11-505 addressing issues related to avoided costs for renewable resources.**

10 A. In relevant part, the Commission concluded in Order No. 11-505 that:

- 11 • During periods of renewable sufficiency, the rate will be based  
12 on market prices. During periods of renewable resource  
13 deficiency, the rate will be based on the renewable avoided  
14 cost of the next utility scale renewable resource acquisition in  
15 that utility's IRP. The renewable resource QF will keep all  
16 associated Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) during  
17 periods of renewable resource sufficiency, but will transfer  
18 those RECs to the purchasing utility during periods of  
19 renewable resource deficiency;  
20
- 21 • The IRP Action Plan should be used to identify when a  
22 renewable resource acquisition could be avoided. Out-of-state  
23 renewable portfolio standards should not be used to determine  
24 when a renewable resource can be avoided;  
25
- 26 • A renewable QF should have the option of choosing among the  
27 renewable avoided cost stream and the standard avoided cost  
28 stream.<sup>4</sup>  
29

30 Significantly, the Commission also concluded that because ORS Chapter 469A

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<sup>3</sup> *In the Matter of PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power Investigation into Schedule 37 – Avoided Cost Purchases from Qualifying Facilities of 10,000 kW or Less*, Docket No. UM 1794, Order No. 17-239 at 3 (July 7, 2017).

<sup>4</sup> Order No. 11-505 at 1-2.

1 requires the electric utilities to meet a RPS through the acquisition of RECs  
2 associated with qualifying renewable generation resources, a properly designed  
3 renewable energy avoided cost rate for renewable resources would comply with  
4 PURPA.<sup>5</sup>

5 **Q. What was the Commission's rationale for basing the renewable avoided cost on**  
6 **the next utility scale renewable acquisition in the utility's IRP?**

7 A. The Commission's reasoning relied on market conditions associated with renewables,  
8 specifically, that renewable resources will always be procured to meet RPS  
9 compliance requirements (as opposed to being selected as the most cost-effective  
10 least-cost, least-risk resource needed to meet system load) and that reference to the  
11 utility's IRP would best ensure that the renewable resource avoided cost rate  
12 accurately reflects the RPS compliance costs the utility will avoid with the QF  
13 purchase. The assumption at the time was that an energy or capacity deficiency  
14 functions in the same manner as an RPS deficiency when in fact planning and  
15 acquiring resources for energy and capacity is very different from planning and  
16 acquiring resources for RPS compliance. The very concepts of sufficiency and  
17 deficiency do not apply in the context of determining the value of an avoided or  
18 deferred RPS compliance obligation.

19 **Q. Why does the Commission tie renewable avoided costs to avoided RPS**  
20 **compliance costs?**

21 A. First, because this would be consistent with FERC precedent associated with states  
22 establishing multi-tiered avoided cost rates. In an order dated January 20, 2011,

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<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 4.

1 FERC held that “the state may take into account obligations imposed by the state that,  
2 for example, utilities purchase energy from particular resources of energy for a long  
3 duration.”<sup>6</sup> This framework would not apply absent procurement obligations imposed  
4 by the state. It is not possible to capture the actual costs the utility is avoiding  
5 without considering the costs associated with compliance with the relevant state  
6 resource procurement mandate.

7 Second, in Order No. 11-505, the Commission explicitly tied the entitlement  
8 to renewable pricing to a QF’s ability to allow a utility to defer RPS compliance  
9 costs.<sup>7</sup> If the QF does not transfer the RECs, the utility will not avoid costs to  
10 purchase energy that complies with the RPS.<sup>8</sup> In other words, if the utility does not  
11 receive the REC, then the utility is not avoiding RPS compliance costs. Therefore,  
12 the calculation of the costs avoided should be firmly rooted in the avoided RPS  
13 compliance costs. The only difference between renewable and non-renewable  
14 avoided costs is the incremental avoided cost associated with the transfer of a REC to  
15 the utility.

16 **Q. Is PacifiCorp’s proposal consistent with other parties’ positions in this docket?**

17 A. Most parties appear to agree that PacifiCorp’s obligation to offer non-standard  
18 renewable avoided cost prices to renewable QFs is based on PacifiCorp’s obligation  
19 to acquire renewable resources under Oregon’s RPS.<sup>9</sup> Staff witness Ms. Andrus notes  
20 that “thermal resources planned for in the IRP are intended to serve load, but  
21 renewable resources planned for in the IRP are intended to meet the utility’s

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<sup>6</sup> 134 FERC ¶ 61,044 at 18 (Jan. 20, 2011).

<sup>7</sup> Order No. 11-505 at 7.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> See Staff/100, Andrus/1; REC/100, Lowe/4-5; ODOE/100, Broad/4.

1 obligation under the RPS. A MWh of renewable solar provides the same RPS value  
2 as a MWh of renewable wind. A renewable QF defers the next renewable resource in  
3 the IRP preferred portfolio, with no capacity equivalence constraint.”<sup>10</sup> ODOE  
4 witness Ms. Broad notes that “all bundled RECs are interchangeable under ORS  
5 469A.”<sup>11</sup> These statements reveal parties’ belief that a single avoided RPS  
6 compliance cost should be applicable to all types of eligible renewable resources  
7 since different types of renewable resources contribute to RPS compliance equally.

8 **Q. Does PacifiCorp agree that a single avoided RPS compliance cost should be**  
9 **applied to all RPS-eligible resources?**

10 A. Yes. While RECs can be differentiated based on their vintage, which impacts the  
11 “bankability” of the REC, the operational characteristics (e.g., fuel type or capacity)  
12 of the underlying generation has no bearing on the avoided RPS compliance cost.

13 **Q. Please describe PacifiCorp’s renewable resource acquisition strategies and how**  
14 **they relate to RPS compliance needs.**

15 A. PacifiCorp’s acquisition of renewable resources has and continues to be based on  
16 cost-effectiveness and risk mitigation rather than being based on acquisitions intended  
17 to specifically meet any individual state’s RPS requirements. In PacifiCorp’s 2017  
18 IRP, the company is proposing to acquire at least 1,100 megawatts of renewable  
19 resources by 2021 to take advantage of the economic benefits associated with federal  
20 production tax credits. Because these resources are not driven by an RPS compliance  
21 need, their acquisition does not represent a deficiency from an RPS compliance  
22 perspective, even though acquisition of the resource will further defer PacifiCorp’s

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<sup>10</sup> See Staff/100, Andrus/10.

<sup>11</sup> ODOE/100, Broad/4.

1 RPS compliance shortfall. These renewable resources represent components of the  
2 company's least-cost, least-risk preferred portfolio regardless of the status as  
3 resources eligible for Oregon's RPS. Accordingly, these resources represent an  
4 effective negative RPS compliance cost.

5 **Q. Under this framework, should the IRP Action Plan continue to be used as the**  
6 **sole basis for establishing the renewable deficiency period?**

7 A. No. As noted by Mr. MacNeil, the renewable price stream is more accurately  
8 described as the RPS price stream and should reflect PacifiCorp's avoided cost  
9 including avoided costs associated with compliance with the Oregon RPS. FERC and  
10 Commission precedent is clear that the distinction between the two price streams is  
11 related to compliance with state law, such as the RPS, rather than the generic  
12 condition of being a renewable resource, which is already one of the key factors for  
13 establishing QF eligibility under PURPA.

14 **Q. What are you recommending as next steps?**

15 A. As noted above, the issues described in my testimony are significant enough to  
16 warrant a separate investigation by the Commission. Given that the Commission has  
17 already raised related issues following the closure of docket UM 1794, I recommend  
18 that the broader policy questions raised in my testimony be addressed in that  
19 proceeding rather than the instant one.

20 **CONCLUSION**

21 **Q. Does this conclude your opening testimony?**

22 A. Yes.



Docket No. UM 1802  
Exhibit PAC/300  
Witness: Daniel MacNeil

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON**

**PACIFICORP**

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**July 2017 Opening Testimony of Daniel MacNeil**

**July 2017**

**JULY 2017 OPENING TESTIMONY OF DANIEL MACNEIL**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY .....	1
RENEWABLE AND NON-RENEWABLE PRICING OPTIONS.....	7
PDDRR METHODOLOGY .....	14
DEFERRAL OF LIKE RENEWABLES.....	18
NEW WIND AND TRANSMISSION .....	25
MARKET PRICE FLOOR .....	29
POTENTIAL QF QUEUE.....	40
CONCLUSION.....	46

**ATTACHED EXHIBITS**

Exhibit PAC/301 –Confidential GRID Model Topology with Transfer Rights

Exhibit PAC/302 –Oregon Non-Standard Avoided Cost Rates Business Practices

1 **Q. Are you the same Daniel MacNeil who previously submitted testimony in this**  
2 **proceeding on behalf of PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power?**

3 A. Yes.

4 **PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

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

6 A. This opening testimony, filed July 21, 2017, (July 2017 opening testimony) responds  
7 to testimony regarding whether PacifiCorp should offer a non-standard renewable  
8 avoided cost price stream, and if so, how that price stream should be calculated.

9 Specifically, I respond to the testimony presented by:

- 10 • Ms. Brittany Andrus on behalf of Public Utility Commission of Oregon  
11 (Commission) Staff (Staff/100);
- 12 • Mr. Brad Mullins on behalf of the Industrial Customers of Northwest  
13 Utilities (ICNU) (ICNU/100);
- 14 • Mr. Brian Skeahan on behalf of the Community Renewable Energy  
15 Association (CREA) (CREA/100);
- 16 • Mr. John Lowe on behalf of the Renewable Energy Coalition (the  
17 Coalition) (REC/100);
- 18 • Mr. Kevin Higgins on behalf of the Coalition and CREA (the Joint  
19 Parties) (REC-CREA/100); and
- 20 • Ms. Diane Broad on behalf of the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE)  
21 (ODOE/100).

22 As part of my response to parties' testimony, I also re-evaluate how cost-effective  
23 renewable resources identified in an integrated resource plan (IRP) should be  
24 considered when developing renewable non-standard avoided cost pricing. The  
25 policy basis for this proposal is set forth in the testimony of Ms. Etta Lockey.

26 **Q. Please summarize your opening testimony filed on January 27, 2017.**

27 A. My opening testimony, filed on January 27, 2017, (January 2017 opening testimony)  
28 proposed a renewable partial displacement differential revenue requirement (PDDRR)

1 methodology based on deferral of renewable resources identified in PacifiCorp's IRP  
2 preferred portfolio. Parties raised concerns that not all eligible renewable resources  
3 would receive a renewable pricing option under my proposed methodology.

4 **Q. How has PacifiCorp's proposal changed between your January 2017 opening  
5 testimony and July 2017 opening testimony?**

6 A. My January 2017 opening testimony proposed two avoided cost price streams—a  
7 renewable price based on the deferral of a like renewable resource and a non-  
8 renewable price stream based on deferral of a non-renewable resource. That  
9 approach, however, did not accurately reflect the narrow circumstances under which  
10 the Commission has indicated that a qualifying facility (QF) is entitled to a renewable  
11 price stream.

12 I am familiar with Commission Order No. 11-505, and I understand that the  
13 Commission determined that a renewable price stream is available when a QF allows  
14 a utility to defer building or buying a renewable resource needed to meet renewable  
15 portfolio standard (RPS) compliance obligations. Under my initial proposal, a QF  
16 would be entitled to renewable pricing even if it did not allow PacifiCorp to defer  
17 RPS compliance costs—a result that proposal is inconsistent with Commission  
18 policy.

19 Consistent with Order No. 11-505, my revised proposal recognizes that the  
20 renewable price stream should fundamentally be tied to avoided Oregon RPS  
21 compliance costs. Consequently, my revised proposal differentiates renewable and  
22 non-renewable price streams on the basis of avoided Oregon RPS compliance costs  
23 rather than differentiating the two price streams based upon whether a QF defers a

1 renewable resource. Because the distinguishing feature between the two price  
2 streams is tied to avoided RPS compliance costs, it is more precise to refer to the two  
3 price streams as the “RPS avoided cost price stream” and the “non-RPS avoided cost  
4 price stream.”

5 **Q. Please describe PacifiCorp’s proposed non-RPS price stream.**

6 A. The avoided cost for the non-RPS price stream is based on a QF deferring a capacity-  
7 equivalent amount of the next cost-effective resource in the IRP preferred portfolio.  
8 Under this proposal, a QF would defer cost-effective renewable resources, included in  
9 the IRP preferred portfolio to reliably meet system load, of the same type (*i.e.*, the  
10 like-for-like concept introduced in my January 2017 opening testimony). If there is  
11 no like-for-like resource in PacifiCorp’s preferred portfolio during a QF’s proposed  
12 term, avoided cost pricing for these QF resources would be based on deferring a  
13 capacity-equivalent amount of the next major thermal resource.

14 **Q. What is PacifiCorp's updated proposal for determining the renewable price  
15 stream?**

16 A. Oregon RPS compliance is based on retirement of renewable energy certificates  
17 (RECs). REC ownership has no impact on PacifiCorp’s treatment of QF output when  
18 calculating avoided energy and capacity costs because system operations and dispatch  
19 would be the same for a given project regardless of REC ownership. Under  
20 PacifiCorp’s updated proposal, the RPS avoided cost pricing stream reflects the non-  
21 RPS avoided cost price stream plus avoided Oregon RPS compliance costs.

1 **Q. Is this docket the appropriate place for the Commission to adopt PacifiCorp's**  
2 **updated proposal for the renewable price stream?**

3 A. Not necessarily. As explained in the concurrently-filed policy testimony of Ms.  
4 Lockey (PAC/200), PacifiCorp's revised proposal is consistent with precedent from  
5 the Commission and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding  
6 renewable price streams. PacifiCorp's revised proposal, however, also reveals  
7 nuanced policy considerations about renewable pricing that will have an effect  
8 outside of the narrow issue addressed in this docket (how to calculate a renewable  
9 PDDRR price stream for PacifiCorp's non-standard QF purchases). Indeed, the  
10 Commission's resolution of these policy issues will impact both standard and non-  
11 standard price streams offered by PacifiCorp and other Oregon utilities. PacifiCorp  
12 therefore believes that the appropriate path forward is to investigate these issues in a  
13 generic docket involving a full range of stakeholders and all Oregon utilities with  
14 mandatory Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) purchase  
15 obligations.

16 **Q. How should the Commission resolve these policy issues?**

17 A. As more fully explained in Ms. Lockey's policy testimony, the Commission directed  
18 parties to engage in workshops after the closure of docket UM 1794. I understand  
19 that some of the issues to be addressed in those workshops are similar to the policy  
20 issues raised by PacifiCorp's updated proposal. The workshops provide an initial  
21 forum for determining the next procedural steps for resolution of the policy issues  
22 raised in PacifiCorp's updated proposal.

1 **Q. Will consideration of the policy issues in a separate proceeding harm QFs?**

2 A. No. Under PacifiCorp's updated proposal, PacifiCorp's 2017 IRP, which includes  
3 renewable resources added to meet PacifiCorp's system load, shows an Oregon RPS  
4 compliance shortfall in 2035 indicating that QFs contracting with PacifiCorp in the  
5 near term would not receive the RPS price stream. Therefore, QFs will receive the  
6 non-RPS price stream and retain their RECs until their avoided cost pricing reflects  
7 deferral of cost-effective renewable resources.

8 **Q. If the Commission adopts PacifiCorp's proposal to address the policy issues in a**  
9 **separate proceeding, what issues remain for Commission resolution in this**  
10 **proceeding?**

11 A. The PDDRR methodology proposed in my January 2017 opening testimony, now  
12 referred to as a non-RPS avoided cost price stream, can still be considered by the  
13 Commission in this proceeding.

14 **Q. What are the contested issues related to the PDDRR methodology?**

15 A. Several parties propose modifications to specific aspects of the renewable PDDRR  
16 methodology proposed in my 2017 opening testimony. Those proposals respond to  
17 my recommendations to:

- 18 1) limit deferral of renewable resources of the same type;
- 19 2) prohibit deferral of 2021 wind resources identified in PacifiCorp's  
20 2017 IRP preferred portfolio;
- 21 3) eliminate the market price floor; and
- 22 4) continue to utilize the potential QF queue.

1 **Q. Please summarize your response to the recommendation that renewable**  
2 **resources in the preferred portfolio be deferrable by QFs of any type.**

3 A. My July 2017 opening testimony demonstrates that renewable pricing that would  
4 allow a QF to displace other types of resources is inconsistent with PacifiCorp's  
5 resource needs and avoided capacity and energy costs.

6 **Q. Please summarize your response to the recommendation that 2021 wind**  
7 **resources in the preferred portfolio should be deferrable by QFs of any type.**

8 A. QFs located in Oregon are unlikely to either defer or supplant the 2021 Wyoming  
9 wind resources in the 2017 IRP preferred portfolio. If a QF defers a production tax  
10 credit (PTC)-qualifying wind resource beyond 2020, the cost of replacing the QF's  
11 capacity and energy at the end of its term will be at a higher cost because it will not  
12 have the benefits of the PTC, leaving customers with higher costs in the future than  
13 they would otherwise incur. Such a result conflicts with PURPA's customer  
14 indifference standard. If QFs are allowed to defer the 2021 Wyoming wind resource  
15 included in the 2017 IRP preferred portfolio, it would upset the economic calculus  
16 behind both the transmission investments and the wind investments, and would cause  
17 customers to pay higher costs that do not reflect an optimized resource portfolio that  
18 takes full advantage of PTCs.

19 **Q. Please summarize your response to the recommendation that the market price**  
20 **floor remain in place.**

21 A. The market price floor significantly increases avoided costs relative to the PDDRR  
22 methodology, does not correspond to the treatment of QF generation in the  
23 development of retail prices in contradiction with the PURPA customer indifference



1 standard, and disregards the impact of previous QF additions on PacifiCorp's avoided  
2 capacity and energy costs. In addition, QF output is not delivered to markets and is  
3 not equivalent to firm market transactions, particularly the monthly market prices on  
4 which it is based.

5 **Q. Please summarize your response to the recommendations related to the potential**  
6 **QF queue.**

7 A. To address parties' concerns about the effect of the potential QF queue on avoided  
8 cost pricing, I propose additional procedures to ensure that QF-contract negotiations  
9 proceed in a timely manner, allowing all QFs an opportunity to receive prices from  
10 the top of the potential QF queue while ensuring that customers are protected from  
11 paying more than PacifiCorp's forecast of avoided costs.

12 **RENEWABLE AND NON-RENEWABLE PRICING OPTIONS**

13 **Q. Please describe your updated proposal for the RPS avoided cost price stream.**

14 A. My proposal aligns the renewable price stream with PacifiCorp's avoided RPS  
15 compliance costs. The RPS avoided cost price stream reflects the non-RPS avoided  
16 cost price stream plus avoided Oregon RPS compliance costs.

17 **Q. What RPS compliance cost do you recommend including in the RPS avoided**  
18 **cost pricing streams?**

19 A. Avoided RPS compliance costs should be based on the value to the utility of deferring  
20 a future RPS compliance shortfall. PacifiCorp's 2017 IRP shows an RPS compliance  
21 shortfall in 2035. PacifiCorp's RPS compliance cost for 2035 is the net present value  
22 of the least-cost RPS compliance instruments available to be acquired between now  
23 and 2035.

1 **Q. Do you propose a specific cost here?**

2 A. No. As previously discussed, the harm to QFs from not having an RPS avoided cost  
3 price option is limited since PacifiCorp's Oregon RPS compliance shortfall is not  
4 until 2035, which for QFs having projected commercial operation dates prior to 2020,  
5 is beyond the 15-year portion of a maximum contract term for which QF pricing is  
6 not based on a market index. In addition, RECs from Oregon QFs are exempt from  
7 restrictions on the use of unbundled RECs for RPS compliance, so the value of RECs  
8 a QF retains will remain the same whether acquired through a power purchase  
9 agreement or separate REC purchase agreements. In light of these factors, not having  
10 an RPS avoided cost price option while waiting for resolution of the policy questions  
11 related to Oregon RPS compliance costs will not be unduly burdensome to QFs.

12 **Q. Does your modified proposal for an RPS-based avoided cost price stream clarify**  
13 **the cost-allocation concerns raised by the Coalition?**

14 A. Yes. Under PacifiCorp's revised RPS avoided cost proposal, pricing consists of  
15 avoided RPS compliance costs added to non-RPS avoided cost pricing. The  
16 differentiation of renewable avoided cost pricing is consistent with FERC and  
17 Commission guidance regarding renewable price streams reflecting compliance with  
18 state-imposed requirements, such as Oregon's RPS regulations. Oregon customers  
19 would be responsible for all of the avoided cost associated with RPS compliance, and  
20 would receive all of the RECs acquired or allocated for Oregon RPS compliance.  
21 Because the avoided RPS compliance costs are discrete additions with defined  
22 timeframes, cost-allocation and REC assignment are straightforward.

1 **Q. Does the presence of a renewable resource in the preferred portfolio indicate**  
2 **that PacifiCorp faces incremental Oregon RPS compliance costs?**

3 A. No. Simply put, the renewable resources in the preferred portfolio are not proposed  
4 to address an RPS compliance shortfall (i.e., renewable resource deficiency). Based  
5 upon its 2017 IRP, PacifiCorp does not have an Oregon RPS compliance shortfall  
6 until 2035. The renewable resources identified in PacifiCorp's 2017 IRP come online  
7 well before 2035, and are included in the preferred portfolio because they are the  
8 least-cost, least-risk resources that are used to reliably meet system load. The  
9 renewable resources identified in the preferred portfolio supply lower cost energy and  
10 capacity than other resource alternatives and would remain in the preferred portfolio  
11 even if the Oregon RPS ceased to exist. Consequently, Oregon RPS compliance costs  
12 cannot be attributed to these renewable resources and the cost for these renewable  
13 resources should not be considered when developing an avoided cost pricing stream  
14 based on RPS compliance costs.

15 **Q. Are there any special considerations related to the RECs associated with**  
16 **deferral of cost-effective renewable resources from PacifiCorp's preferred**  
17 **portfolio?**

18 A. To the extent the Commission establishes a value for avoided RPS compliance costs  
19 as contemplated by PacifiCorp's updated proposal, it would be appropriate to account  
20 for any difference between a QF's generation and that of the renewable resource it is  
21 deferring.

1 **Q. Does the 2017 IRP identify any renewable resources to be acquired for**  
2 **compliance with the Oregon RPS?**

3 A. No. The 2017 IRP preferred portfolio does not include any renewable resources  
4 added for the purpose of meeting Oregon RPS targets; however, as previously  
5 discussed, the 2017 IRP Action Plan calls for PacifiCorp to issue RFPs for unbundled  
6 RECs. As a result, determining the appropriate treatment for situs physical resources  
7 under the PDDRR methodology is moot at this time. It would be reasonable to  
8 address the treatment of renewable resources added for the purposes of meeting  
9 Oregon RPS targets in conjunction with the consideration of methodologies for  
10 determining avoided RPS compliance costs in a separate proceeding.

11 **RESPONSE TO PARTIES' RENEWABLE PRICING STREAM PROPOSALS**

12 **Q. Do parties offer renewable pricing stream proposals based on the energy output**  
13 **of a renewable resource?**

14 A. Staff suggests that it may be appropriate to use the PDDRR methodology to allow a  
15 renewable QF to defer an equivalent volume of energy from a renewable resource in  
16 PacifiCorp's preferred portfolio. An RPS pricing stream based on a single RPS  
17 avoided cost for all renewable resource types takes this proposal to its logical  
18 conclusion, by recognizing that resource eligibility for RPS compliance does not  
19 impact system dispatch.

1 **Q. Do parties offer any other alternatives for developing a renewable pricing**  
2 **stream?**

3 A. Staff supports adjusting standard avoided cost prices to account for a specific QF's  
4 characteristics, based on the factors prescribed by FERC.<sup>1</sup>

5 **Q. Does PacifiCorp support this proposal from Staff?**

6 A. No. The current standard renewable pricing methodology significantly overstates  
7 PacifiCorp's avoided RPS compliance cost.

8 **Q. Do standard renewable prices reflect a single avoided RPS cost for all QF types?**

9 A. No. PacifiCorp's non-renewable and renewable standard avoided cost prices  
10 approved on October 25, 2016, were presented in Staff's testimony.<sup>2</sup> The only  
11 difference between a QF selecting the standard renewable avoided cost and the same  
12 QF selecting the standard non-renewable avoided cost is the transfer of REC's in  
13 support of RPS compliance.

14 Consistent with the policies articulated by FERC and the Commission, and  
15 more fully described in Ms. Lockey's policy testimony, standard renewable prices  
16 should reflect PacifiCorp's costs to meet its Oregon RPS obligations. Table 1 below  
17 illustrates that the implied cost of RPS compliance, calculated as the difference  
18 between standard non-renewable and renewable prices in calendar year 2028, varies  
19 by technology type and delivery period (on and off peak). These variations are not  
20 consistent with PacifiCorp's RPS compliance obligations, which are indifferent to  
21 different types of RPS-eligible resources and to energy generated during on and off-  
22 peak periods. Table 1 shows only the implied cost of RPS compliance under the

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<sup>1</sup> Staff/100 Andrus/6.

<sup>2</sup> Staff/100 Andrus/12.

1 standard renewable avoided cost prices and does not include the value of a QF's  
2 energy or capacity.

**Table 1: Implied Cost of RPS Compliance in Standard Renewable  
Avoided Cost Prices (\$/MWh)**

	On-Peak	Off-Peak	On-Peak	Off-Peak
	<b>Baseload</b>		<b>Wind</b>	
2028	39.8	33.5	24.1	33.5
	<b>Fixed Solar</b>		<b>Tracking Solar</b>	
2028	27.1	33.5	29.9	33.5

3 **Q. Can the cost of RPS compliance in standard renewable avoided cost prices be**  
4 **reconciled to a single value?**

5 A. Yes. A proxy wind resource is used to set the standard renewable avoided costs for  
6 other resources types, so the difference between the standard renewable and non-  
7 renewable avoided cost prices for wind reflects the fewest adjustments. Based on the  
8 expected on- and off-peak output of the proxy wind resource, PacifiCorp's standard  
9 avoided cost prices imply that the 2028 cost of RPS compliance is \$28.42/MWh.

10 **Q. Is \$28.42/MWh consistent with PacifiCorp's actual costs of RPS compliance?**

11 A. No. In Order No. 16-482, the Commission found that: (1) there is not currently a  
12 reliable way of estimating RPS compliance costs in future periods; and (2) PacifiCorp  
13 would not need to take resource actions to comply with the RPS until the mid-2020s.  
14 The Commission concluded that any reasonable estimate of those future deferred RPS  
15 compliance costs related to the loss of load from Direct Access customers would be  
16 de minimis when discounted to today's dollars. Since that time, PacifiCorp's IRP

1 preferred portfolio has incorporated a significant quantity of cost-effective renewable  
2 resources that further delay PacifiCorp's need for actions to comply with the RPS to  
3 2035, indicating that future RPS compliance costs will be even lower than the de  
4 minimis level identified by the Commission in Order No. 16-482.

5 **Q. Has the implied cost of RPS compliance included in the standard renewable**  
6 **avoided cost prices changed recently?**

7 A. Yes. Since this proceeding was initiated, PacifiCorp's standard avoided costs were  
8 recently updated, with new prices effective June 1, 2017. The implied cost of RPS  
9 compliance in 2028 associated with the updated prices has increased to \$33.16/MWh,  
10 primarily as a result of a reduction in the non-renewable price stream.

11 **Q. How do the RPS compliance costs derived from the current standard avoided**  
12 **costs compare to the cost of renewables in the 2017 IRP preferred portfolio?**

13 A. The 2017 IRP preferred portfolio includes cost-effective wind, solar, and geothermal  
14 resources as part of PacifiCorp's least-cost, least-risk plan. While these resources are  
15 included in the preferred portfolio regardless of their renewable attributes, they will  
16 defer PacifiCorp's RPS compliance need from 2030 to 2035. Because the renewable  
17 resources are cost-effective and being added to reliably meet system load, the RPS  
18 compliance cost of these resources is zero.

19 **Q. What do you propose regarding RPS compliance costs?**

20 A. As more fully explained in Ms. Lockey's policy testimony, RPS compliance costs  
21 should be determined in a separate proceeding. QFs entering contracts in the interim  
22 would retain their RECs until their avoided cost pricing reflects deferral of cost-  
23 effective renewable resources.

**PDDRR METHODOLOGY**

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**Q. Please summarize the parties' positions with regard to the PDDRR methodology generally.**

A. Certain aspects of the capacity contribution-based PDDRR methodology proposed by PacifiCorp were addressed by many parties and are each separately addressed in other sections of my testimony. These topics include PacifiCorp's proposals to: limit deferral to renewables of the same type, not allow deferral of 2021 wind resources, eliminate the market price floor, and continue to utilize the potential QF queue.

With regard to the PDDRR methodology in general, ICNU agrees with PacifiCorp's initial proposal for calculating avoided costs. The Joint Parties, supported by CREA, opposed certain details, but did not oppose the PDDRR methodology generally. ODOE similarly opposes certain aspects of PacifiCorp's proposal, and also proposes incorporating updates in avoided cost calculations beyond the date a contract is signed.

Staff proposes an alternative PDDRR methodology based on deferral of energy-equivalent renewable resources, with the intent of being more consistent with RPS compliance obligations. Staff also suggests that returning to the previous non-standard avoided cost methodology, which was based on specific adjustments to standard prices, may be necessary if its proposal to use an energy-equivalent PDDRR is not adopted.

The Coalition also supports returning to the previous methodology if non-standard prices are not roughly comparable to the published price offered to QFs in standard contracts.



1 **Q. What is the position of ODOE with regard to the timing of updates to avoided**  
2 **cost inputs?**

3 A. ODOE asks the Commission to clarify that the schedule for updating inputs to non-  
4 standard avoided costs adopted in Order No. 14-058 should continue to be used.

5 **Q. How do you respond?**

6 A. This specific issue was addressed in my January 2017 opening testimony.<sup>3</sup> The  
7 updates incorporated in the determination of non-standard avoided costs are  
8 consistent with the methodology the Commission approved in Order No. 16-174.

9 **Q. Do you have any additional comments on this issue?**

10 A. Yes. Under PURPA, QFs are entitled to avoided costs calculated at either the time of  
11 delivery or at the time the obligation is incurred. Even allowing for the  
12 administrative difficulties of managing updates to standard prices, using cost,  
13 performance, and system requirement information from a past IRP that was locked  
14 down in 2014 during the early stages of IRP preparation is not consistent with setting  
15 an avoided cost at the time the obligation is incurred and is at odds with PURPA.

16 **Q. Both Staff and the Coalition support prices derived from standard avoided costs.**  
17 **Should standard and non-standard avoided cost prices be roughly comparable**  
18 **for an equivalent project?**

19 A. Yes. But I question the Coalition's conclusion that the detailed and comprehensive  
20 determination of avoided costs using the PDDRR methodology and the Generation  
21 and Regulation Initiative Decision Tools (GRID) model is less accurate than the  
22 outdated, simplistic assumptions incorporated in standard avoided cost prices. As I

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<sup>3</sup> PAC/100, MacNeil/8.

1 described above with regard to ODOE's opposition to updating avoided cost inputs,  
2 standard avoided cost prices incorporate several inputs that were established in 2014.  
3 As previously noted in Table 1 above, standard renewable prices include levels of  
4 compensation for RECs that vary by resource type and delivery period, neither of  
5 which is relevant to RPS compliance. As a result some of the prices are necessarily  
6 deviating from avoided cost to the detriment of customers. Finally, the compensation  
7 for RECs in the current standard renewable prices is far in excess of PacifiCorp's  
8 expected Oregon RPS compliance costs.

9 **Q. The Coalition suggests that since the GRID model is overly complex and**  
10 **controlled by PacifiCorp, it is likely to result in lower QF prices. How do you**  
11 **respond?**

12 A. First, I would note that the Commission has already determined that the PDDRR  
13 methodology more accurately forecasts avoided costs. The relevant issue is not  
14 whether the GRID model results in lower or higher QF prices; the relevant issue is  
15 whether the GRID model results in a more accurate forecast of avoided costs, which  
16 it does. A sophisticated model is necessary to accurately account for the wide-  
17 ranging conditions experienced in actual operations. This is increasingly true as the  
18 proportion of PacifiCorp's load met with intermittent solar and wind resources  
19 increases. The proportion of regional load met by these resources is also relevant as it  
20 drives volatility in market prices, increasing the value of flexible resources and  
21 reducing the value of uncontrollable resources.

22 As experience with these effects grows, I anticipate that GRID model inputs  
23 and assumptions will need to become more sophisticated. While GRID is used for

1 determining avoided cost pricing, it is first and foremost used to set the rates paid by  
2 retail customers, whom also pay for QF purchases and receive the associated benefits  
3 from QF generation. Ultimately, the GRID model and PDDRR methodology need to  
4 be sufficiently sophisticated to ensure retail customers pay just and reasonable rates.

5 Second, after signing a non-disclosure agreement, QF developers may request  
6 access to the GRID model, including all inputs and outputs associated with their  
7 indicative pricing request. PacifiCorp provides GRID assistance to help users locate  
8 the information of interest to them, most of which is readily available. PacifiCorp  
9 also routinely responds to data requests from developers seeking additional  
10 background on the assumptions in their indicative pricing. To the extent their  
11 concerns cannot be resolved, QFs may bring contested issues related to their  
12 indicative pricing to the Commission.

13 Finally, I would note that both witnesses with significant experience with the  
14 GRID model (ICNU and the Joint Parties) support the PDDRR methodology in some  
15 form.

16 **Q. The Coalition indicates that QFs should be allowed to challenge the**  
17 **implementation of the PDDRR methodology on an as-applied basis. How do you**  
18 **respond?**

19 A. The procedures for the negotiation of avoided cost purchases from non-standard  
20 resources specify that a QF may file a complaint asking the Commission to adjudicate

1 any unresolved contract terms or conditions.<sup>4</sup> A pricing dispute would be covered by  
2 this clause.

3 **DEFERRAL OF LIKE RENEWABLES**

4 **Q. Please summarize PacifiCorp’s proposal to allow QFs to defer renewable**  
5 **resources identified in its IRP preferred portfolio.**

6 A. Under the proposed renewable PDDRR methodology, a renewable resource would be  
7 eligible to defer the next major renewable resource of the same type in the IRP preferred  
8 portfolio, based on equivalent-capacity contributions.

9 **Q. Do you agree with parties’ proposals that all renewable QF resources should be**  
10 **eligible to defer any renewable resource identified in the IRP preferred**  
11 **portfolio?**

12 A. No. The identified wind, solar, and geothermal resources are cost-effective  
13 components of the least-cost, least-risk portfolio. The IRP preferred portfolio  
14 analysis does not include any special obligations for the acquisition of renewables or  
15 include any value for renewable attributes, and only accounts for the contribution of  
16 their operating characteristics to the composition and dispatch of PacifiCorp’s  
17 portfolio of resources. As a result, labeling resources as “renewable” is not pertinent  
18 to the composition of the preferred portfolio. Ensuring reasonable alignment between  
19 the operating characteristics of a QF and the resources it defers from the preferred  
20 portfolio helps to ensure that the least-cost, least-risk outcomes achieved by the  
21 preferred portfolio are maintained.

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<sup>4</sup> AVOIDED COST PURCHASES FROM QUALIFYING FACILITIES OF GREATER THAN 10,000 KW.  
Available at:  
[https://www.pacificpower.net/content/dam/pacificcorp/doc/Efficiency\\_Environment/Net\\_Metering\\_Customer\\_Generation/Avoided\\_Cost\\_Purchases\\_from\\_Qualifying\\_Facilities\\_of\\_Greater\\_than\\_10\\_000\\_kw.pdf](https://www.pacificpower.net/content/dam/pacificcorp/doc/Efficiency_Environment/Net_Metering_Customer_Generation/Avoided_Cost_Purchases_from_Qualifying_Facilities_of_Greater_than_10_000_kw.pdf).

1 **Q. What is meant by renewables of the same type?**

2 A. The “type” is meant to reflect the operational characteristics of the QF on  
3 PacifiCorp’s system, not the specific technology of the resource identified in the  
4 preferred portfolio. The 2017 IRP preferred portfolio includes wind, solar, and  
5 geothermal resources. The geothermal resource in the 2017 IRP preferred portfolio is  
6 expected to have a flat generation profile with little daily or seasonal variation.  
7 Biomass, biogas, hydro, and other renewable resources with similar output profiles  
8 would also be eligible to displace the geothermal resource. Any resource with  
9 relatively flat output over a daily and monthly timeframe would be considered a  
10 resource of the same type as the geothermal resource in the 2017 IRP.

11 **Q. Are there additional considerations associated with capacity deferral by other  
12 renewable resource types?**

13 A. Yes. Resources that can be economically dispatched by PacifiCorp to their maximum  
14 output would have capacity contributions based on their maximum output. Resources  
15 that cannot be economically dispatched by PacifiCorp have capacity contributions  
16 based on their expected output relative to the availability of the deferrable thermal or  
17 baseload resource identified in the IRP. Resources with seasonal variations in output  
18 would have capacity contributions based on their output during the months of  
19 PacifiCorp’s peak load requirements, as identified in the loss of load probability study  
20 used to develop the wind and solar capacity contribution values in the IRP. These  
21 distinctions ensure that the capacity provided by a QF is equivalent to the capacity  
22 being removed from the IRP preferred portfolio when forecasting avoided costs.

1 **Q. Please respond to ODOE's statement that PacifiCorp has not adequately**  
2 **explained why an imbalance is created when different renewable technologies**  
3 **are deferred.**

4 A. PacifiCorp's 2017 preferred portfolio ensures that each load bubble can meet the  
5 specified planning reserve margin of 13 percent, inclusive of imports of excess  
6 resources from other transmission areas. Imports are restricted to the firm  
7 transmission rights between each area. The GRID model does not enforce the  
8 planning reserve margin requirements by transmission area, and PacifiCorp's PDDRR  
9 allows for displacement of wind and solar resources from across PacifiCorp's system  
10 with only limited restrictions.

11 As an example, replacing wind resources that generate more in the winter with  
12 solar resources that generate more in the summer is likely to result in periods when  
13 transmission prevents delivery of resources to the locations where they are needed.  
14 Daily and seasonal shapes of solar and wind resources are complementary and can  
15 make better use of limited transmission resources than either resource on its own.

16 Wind and solar resources also exhibit significant variation both within the  
17 hour and over multiple hours. While the cost of maintaining flexible capacity within  
18 the hour is included in the IRP analysis, the cost of adjusting PacifiCorp's resource  
19 balance to accommodate solar and wind ramping has not been fully quantified.  
20 PacifiCorp's optimization models determine least-cost market transactions to balance  
21 the solar and wind in each hour independently.

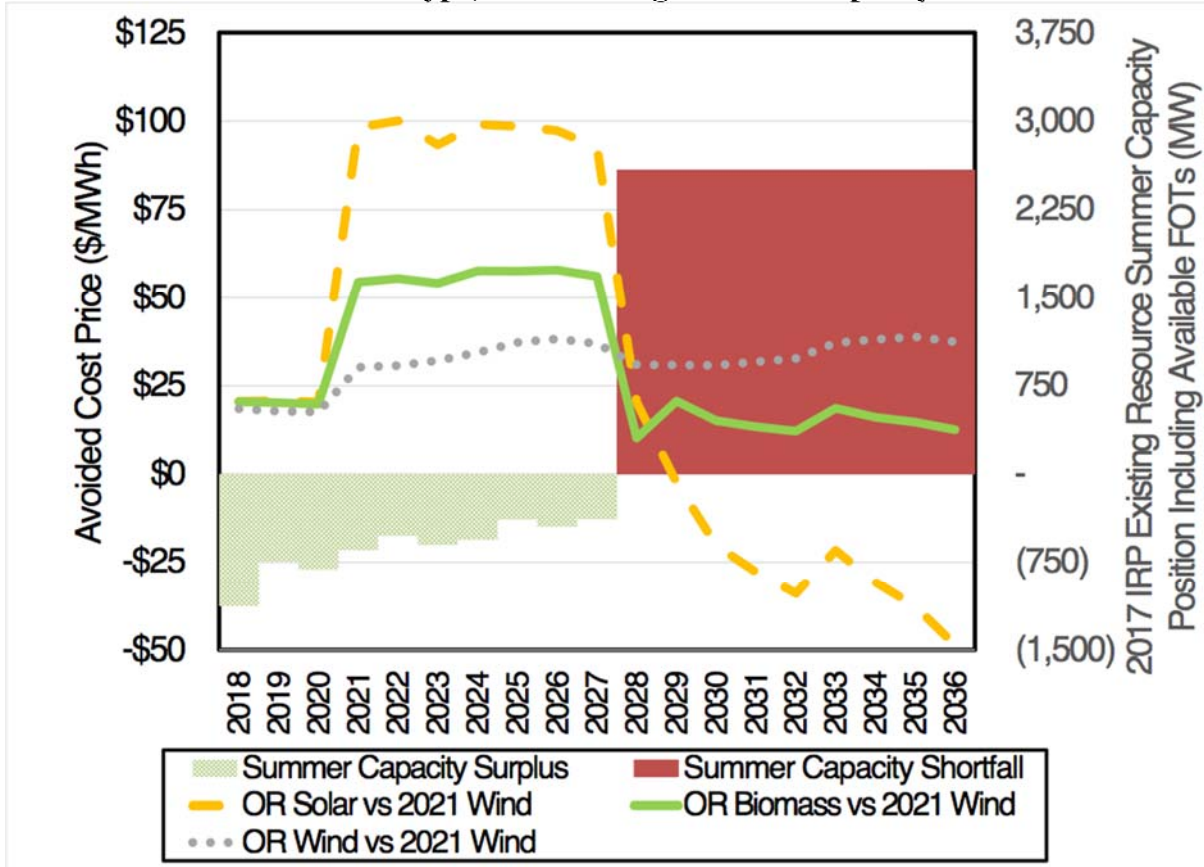
22 In actual operations, PacifiCorp must rely on a combination of day-ahead  
23 block products and a limited supply of hourly transactions at prices that are often

1 unfavorable—a tendency toward high prices when PacifiCorp is purchasing and low  
2 prices when PacifiCorp is selling. Renewable QFs will exacerbate these costs if their  
3 variations are correlated with other resources already in PacifiCorp’s portfolio or with  
4 resources across the broader region, particularly as it becomes increasingly integrated  
5 via the Energy Imbalance Market. Deferring like renewable resources thus ensures  
6 that a QF results in a portfolio with a comparable risk profile.

7 **Q. Can you provide more detail on the inconsistencies when deferral of varying**  
8 **renewable resource types occurs?**

9 A. In response to the Coalition’s data requests, PacifiCorp prepared indicative avoided  
10 cost pricing for 20 MW wind, solar, and biomass resources. Figure 1 shows the  
11 annual avoided cost using the PDDRR methodology when these same resources  
12 instead defer capacity-equivalent amounts of the 2021 wind resource in PacifiCorp’s  
13 2017 IRP preferred portfolio. The 2021 wind resource was selected to provide a  
14 sense of the range of variation in avoided costs over the course of the IRP forecast  
15 period and a QFs contract term. On the right axis of Figure 1 is PacifiCorp’s summer  
16 capacity position when only existing resources and available front office transactions  
17 (FOTs) are considered (*i.e.*, not including any new resources), as identified in the  
18 2017 IRP. PacifiCorp has surplus capacity through 2027, and a capacity shortfall  
19 starting in 2028.

**Figure 1: Avoided Cost Assuming Deferral of IRP Wind Resources, by Resource Type, with Existing Resource Capacity Position**



1 Q. Are the solar and biomass avoided cost prices shown in Figure 1 reasonably  
2 consistent with PacifiCorp’s capacity needs and costs?

3 A. No. The discrepancy is most evident in the prices for a solar QF, which are extremely  
4 high and much higher than PacifiCorp’s avoided cost through 2027, but drop  
5 precipitously in 2028 and become negative in 2029 when the QF would be required to  
6 pay PacifiCorp for each MWh it delivered to PacifiCorp’s system. Faced with these  
7 avoided costs, a solar QF would be expected to elect a ten-year contract term through  
8 2027, which does nothing to address PacifiCorp’s capacity needs in 2028.

9 Through 2027 existing resources and capacity available from FOTs are  
10 sufficient to meet PacifiCorp’s summer capacity needs, so avoided capacity costs are



1 expected to be low—at or below market prices, not significantly in excess of market  
2 prices.

3 Starting in 2028, FOTs are not sufficient to meet PacifiCorp’s summer  
4 capacity needs and more expensive thermal and renewable resources are required, so  
5 a drop in avoided capacity in this time frame is not reasonable. The effect for a  
6 biomass QF is of a smaller magnitude, but still reflects a more than 80 percent  
7 reduction in avoided costs from 2027 to 2028.

8 **Q. How do these avoided costs compare to cost assumptions for solar resources in the**  
9 **2017 IRP?**

10 A. The 2017 IRP included Oregon solar resource options that were not selected as part of  
11 the preferred portfolio, indicating that lower-cost, lower-risk resource alternatives  
12 were available. The cost of an Oregon tracking solar resource in the 2017 IRP was  
13 \$61/MWh in 2021, rising at inflation to \$70/MWh in 2027. This is well below the  
14 avoided cost of solar based on displacement of the 2021 wind resources shown in  
15 Figure 1, which range from \$92-\$100/MWh in this same time frame. The fact that  
16 this resource was not selected as part of the 2017 IRP preferred portfolio indicates  
17 that actual avoided costs through 2027 are even lower.

18 **Q. Why do these resources produce such significant variations in avoided cost?**

19 A. Generally these variations reflect the relative quantity of capacity and energy  
20 provided by each of the QF resources. As shown in Table 2, wind resources provide  
21 the least amount of capacity relative to energy, while solar resources provide the  
22 most. The significant variation in the relative value of energy and capacity results in  
23 different resources being more valuable at different periods of the IRP forecast based

1 on their overall characteristics. While the PDDRR methodology and GRID model  
 2 cannot reflect a comprehensive reoptimization of PacifiCorp’s resource portfolio,  
 3 deferral of renewable resources of the same type has the greatest potential to maintain  
 4 the least-cost, least-risk characteristics of the preferred portfolio.

**Table 2: Capacity to Energy Ratios**

Resource	Capacity Factor	Capacity Contribution	Capacity to Energy Ratio
Oregon Solar	28.8%	64.8%	2.25
Oregon Biomass	100.0%	100.0%	1.00
Oregon Wind	28.2%	11.8%	0.42
2021 IRP Wind	41.2%	15.8%	0.38

5 **Q. Is there a place for resources producing predominantly energy, rather than**  
 6 **capacity?**

7 A. Yes. Utility systems have traditionally included both peaking units built primarily for  
 8 capacity, and baseload units built for energy production. Solar units share many  
 9 characteristics with peaking units because they have relatively high all-in cost per unit  
 10 output, but greater contribution to serving peak requirements. On the other hand,  
 11 wind units generally have a lower cost per unit output, along with a lower  
 12 contribution to serving peak requirements. Coal units have traditionally provided  
 13 much of the energy on PacifiCorp’s system and the significant coal plant retirements  
 14 assumed in the 2017 IRP result in a greater need and associated value from low-cost  
 15 energy resources such as wind when compared to solar resources.

1 **Q. Are there significant differences between the generation of the QF resources and**  
2 **the 2021 IRP wind they would displace as described above?**

3 A. Yes. Because a 20 MW Oregon solar QF provides capacity equivalent to 81 MW of  
4 2021 IRP wind and has a lower capacity factor, PacifiCorp loses six RECs from the  
5 2021 IRP wind resource for each REC received from the QF. Similarly a 20 MW  
6 Oregon Biomass QF provides capacity equivalent to 127 MW of 2021 IRP wind and  
7 has a higher capacity factor. The higher capacity contribution partially offsets the  
8 capacity deferral, but PacifiCorp still loses 2.7 RECs from the 2021 IRP wind  
9 resource for each REC received from the QF. On the other hand, the Oregon wind  
10 QF generates 18 percent more RECs than the 2021 IRP wind resource. As a result,  
11 even if PacifiCorp receives the RECs from solar or biomass QFs, its Oregon RPS  
12 compliance needs would increase significantly as a result of the greater loss of  
13 generation from displaced IRP wind resources.

14 **NEW WIND AND TRANSMISSION**

15 **Q. Several parties state that the wind and transmission resources identified in**  
16 **PacifiCorp's 2017 IRP preferred portfolio should be deferrable by any**  
17 **renewable QF. Do you agree?**

18 A. No. The 1,100 MW of new PTC-eligible Wyoming wind resources added in 2021 (as  
19 a proxy for a December 31, 2020 in-service date to ensure the assumed tax benefits  
20 are achieved) is tied to the Aeolus-to-Bridger/Anticline transmission line (Energy  
21 Gateway Sub-Segment D2). The new wind and transmission associated with this  
22 project provides all-in economic benefits to PacifiCorp customers in all jurisdictions.  
23 Therefore, QF projects that do not interconnect with and/or use PacifiCorp's

1 Wyoming transmission system (*i.e.*, Oregon QFs) to deliver energy and capacity in  
2 this timeframe would not partially displace or defer any of the 1,100 MW of new  
3 wind associated with the project.

4 **Q. Please describe the partial displacement methodology.**

5 A. A 10 MW Oregon tracking solar QF can defer 10.9 MW of an east-side tracking  
6 solar resource or 6.5 MW of a thermal resource from an IRP preferred portfolio.<sup>5</sup>

7 In both cases, the IRP resource is reduced in size by exactly the capacity  
8 contribution of the QF, even though resources generally have to be constructed in  
9 discrete sizes. This captures the PURPA requirement that avoided costs should take  
10 into the account smaller capacity increments and the shorter lead times available with  
11 additions of capacity from QFs.

12 **Q. How does the partial displacement concept relate to the potential deferral of the**  
13 **2021 Wyoming wind resources included in the 2017 IRP preferred portfolio?**

14 A. Two characteristics of the 2021 Wyoming wind resources make them inappropriate to  
15 consider for capacity deferral. First, these resources cannot be deferred to a later  
16 date, as they would not qualify for the PTC after December 31, 2020. The loss of the  
17 PTC would eliminate much of the benefits associated with the 2021 Wyoming wind  
18 resources. And without those benefits, the Wyoming wind would not be part of  
19 PacifiCorp's least-cost, least-risk plan to reliably meet system load.

20 Second, the transmission line that enables the addition of these resources to  
21 PacifiCorp's system cannot be reduced in size. To the extent it is economic to build it  
22 at all, an optimized resource plan would continue to include as much of the 2021

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<sup>5</sup> East Tracking Solar: 59.7%. West Tracking Solar: 64.8%.  $64.8\% / 59.7\% = 109\%$   
Thermal Resource: 100%. West Tracking Solar: 64.8%.  $64.8\% / 100\% = 65\%$

1 Wyoming wind resource as possible, so long as it provides benefits in excess of its  
2 costs. As a result of these characteristics, resources outside of the area of the new  
3 transmission line would not either delay or supplant the 2021 Wyoming wind  
4 resources in the 2017 IRP preferred portfolio.

5 **Q. Does the expiration of the PTC create differences in deferral value when**  
6 **compared to other resources that are not eligible for the PTC?**

7 A. Yes. For most resources, the real-levelized annual cost assumed in the IRP is fixed,  
8 so a plant built at a later date has the same real cost as a plant built today. As a result,  
9 if a QF defers a gas plant for five years, the gas plant can be built in year six at the  
10 same real-levelized cost that would have been incurred in year six if the QF had not  
11 deferred the gas plant for five years.

12 This is not the case for a PTC-qualifying wind resource, as wind resources  
13 online by the end of 2020 will receive the full value of the PTC, whereas wind  
14 resources constructed at a later date will receive a reduced PTC value (or no value at  
15 all). As a result, if a QF defers a PTC-qualifying wind resource for five years beyond  
16 2020, their real-levelized annual cost in year six will be higher than if they were built  
17 before the end of 2020. So a QF deferring the 2021 Wyoming wind resource in the  
18 IRP would leave customers with higher costs in the future than they would otherwise  
19 incur.

20 **Q. Should the fact that the 2021 wind resources are renewable influence the**  
21 **determination of whether they are deferrable?**

22 A. No. As previously discussed, the 2017 IRP preferred portfolio does not assign any  
23 additional value to renewables, simply for being renewable resources, relative to

1 other resource options. As such, if capacity contribution is the only pertinent factor  
2 for determining resource deferral, the entire 2021 wind project could be deferred by  
3 174 MW of baseload resources of any type.

4 **Q. Have you prepared indicative avoided costs assuming 2021 Wyoming wind could**  
5 **be deferred by resources outside of the area supported by the Wyoming**  
6 **transmission additions?**

7 A. Yes. Table 3 provides a comparison of avoided costs based on the proposed partial  
8 displacement of like renewables (and excluding displacement of the 2021 Wyoming  
9 wind resource), relative to partial displacement of 2021 Wyoming wind by any  
10 renewable resource as proposed by parties. For ease of comparison these results do  
11 not reflect the potential QF queue or the market price floor.

**Table 3: 15-year Levelized Avoided Cost Prices Starting 2018**

Deferral	Solar	Wind	Biomass
Like Renewables	\$38.12	\$26.87	\$30.94
2021 Wind	\$50.36	\$28.79	\$36.15

12 **Q. Does the additional value shown in Table 3 as a result of deferring 2021**  
13 **Wyoming wind reasonably reflect PacifiCorp's avoided cost?**

14 A. No. As shown in Figure 1 and previously discussed, the avoided cost results for solar  
15 and biomass resources have dramatic inconsistencies over time when they are  
16 assumed to defer the 2021 Wyoming wind resource.

17 **Q. What do you conclude with regard to deferral of the 2021 Wyoming wind**  
18 **resource?**

19 A. It is inappropriate to partially displace the 2021 Wyoming wind resource based on

1 resource additions outside of the constrained area connected by the proposed  
2 transmission line.

### 3 **MARKET PRICE FLOOR**

4 **Q. Can you please summarize the issues raised by parties concerning PacifiCorp's**  
5 **proposal to remove the market price floor?**

6 A. Parties' substantive issues are related to two elements of the market price floor. First,  
7 parties claim that only transmission limits can impact the applicability of the market  
8 price floor. Second, parties claim that the GRID model understates avoided cost and  
9 the market price floor represents a more accurate measure of avoided cost.

10 **Q. Do parties have an accurate understanding of PacifiCorp's transmission rights?**

11 A. No. ODOE erroneously claims that PacifiCorp's modeled transmission constraints  
12 are highly speculative, and that the Mid-Columbia market is between PacifiCorp's  
13 generation and its loads, neither of which is accurate.

14 **Q. Are the transmission constraints modeled in GRID highly speculative?**

15 A. No. The transmission constraints in the GRID model reflect the sum of PacifiCorp's  
16 long term firm transmission rights between each transmission area in the model.  
17 Each of PacifiCorp's transmission reservations has a specified point of receipt and  
18 point of delivery. To manage performance of the GRID model, closely located  
19 delivery points which do not normally have binding transmission limits between them  
20 in actual operations are aggregated to the transmission areas represented in GRID.  
21 Transfer capability within a single transmission area is thus effectively unlimited.

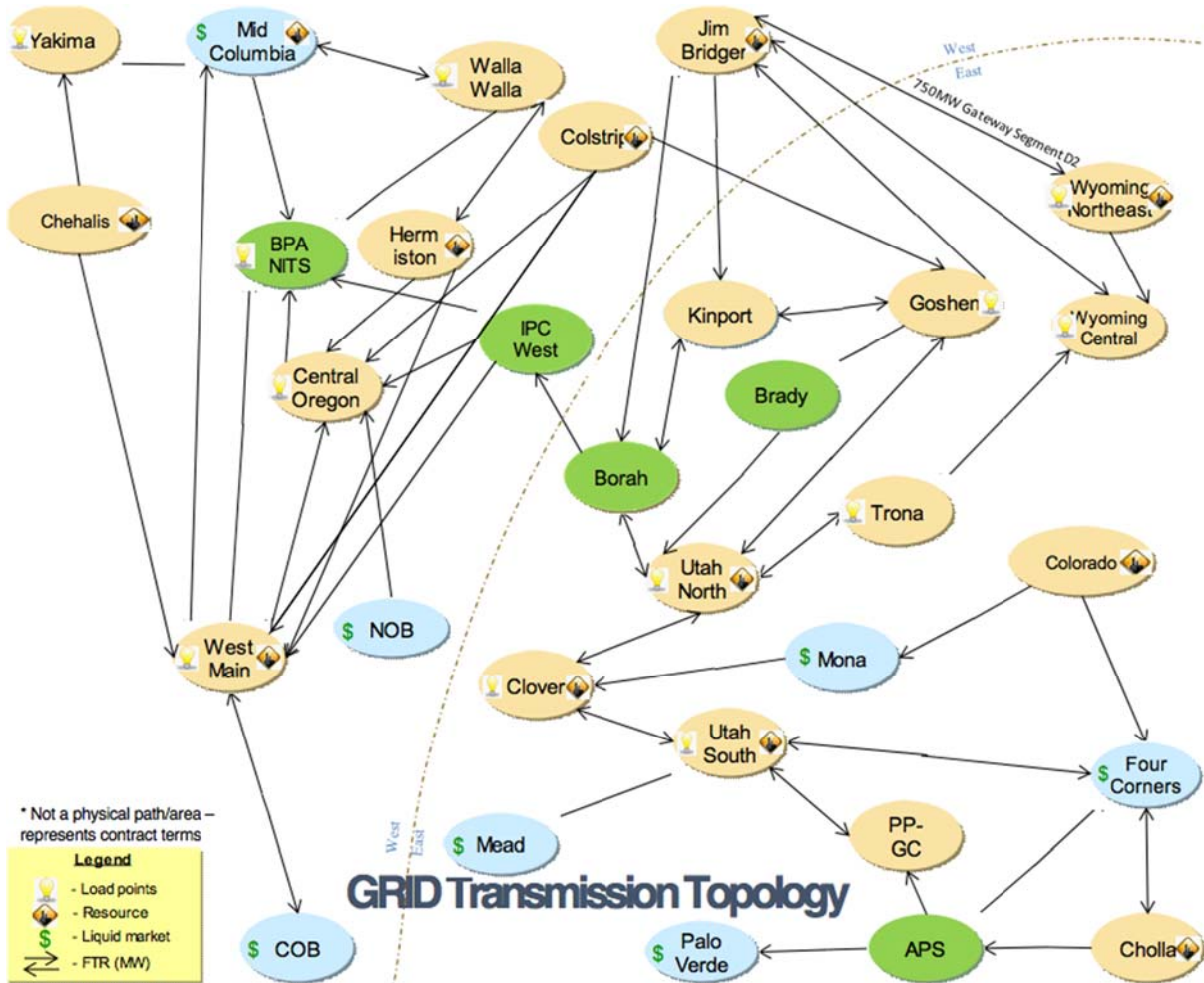
1                   Transmission outages or changes in the load and resource mix in the area can  
2                   lead to binding transmission limits not represented in GRID. The GRID model also  
3                   includes historical levels of short term and non-firm rights at zero incremental cost.

4   **Q.   Is the Mid-Columbia market between PacifiCorp’s generation and its loads?**

5   A.   While the Mid-Columbia market is geographically west of PacifiCorp’s resources in  
6           Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming, and east of the majority of its Oregon loads, PacifiCorp’s  
7           long-term firm transmission rights into the Mid-Columa market are limited, as its  
8           primary transmission connection from east to west passes through central Oregon on  
9           its way to southern Oregon (a.k.a. West Main) and does not intersect with the Mid-  
10          Columbia market. The transmission topology used in PacifiCorp’s GRID model is  
11          shown in Figure 2. The same figure including PacifiCorp’s transfer rights between  
12          bubbles is provided as Exhibit PAC/301.



Figure 2: GRID Model Transmission Topology



1 Q. Are the transmission constraints experienced by PacifiCorp the same as the  
2 transmission constraints that might be identified in a QF's interconnection  
3 request?

4 A. No. In accordance with FERC rules, PacifiCorp's Open Access Transmission Tariff  
5 (OATT) identifies the two distinct duties of PacifiCorp's transmission function:  
6 generation interconnection service and transmission service. An Oregon QF's  
7 generation interconnection study identifies the transmission modifications necessary

1 to deliver the aggregate generation in the area of the proposed resource to a network  
2 customer's network load without displacement of existing or higher queued network  
3 resources or QFs. The studies examine the transmission system at peak and minimum  
4 load under a variety of severely stressed conditions in order to determine the  
5 necessary transmission modifications.

6 **Q. ODOE claims that there is no need to address transmission issues outside of load**  
7 **pockets, and PacifiCorp has requested closure of docket on transmission for load**  
8 **pockets. Why did PacifiCorp request closure of the docket related to**  
9 **transmission for load pockets?**

10 A. Transmission service for a QF involves two separate requests. First, a QF submits a  
11 generation interconnection request and PacifiCorp's transmission function performs a  
12 study identifying the changes necessary to connect the proposed resource to the  
13 system and deliver its output to load.

14 Second, after a power purchase agreement with the QF has been signed,  
15 PacifiCorp's Energy Supply Management (ESM) function submits a transmission  
16 service request for the right to transfer the QF's output from its interconnection point  
17 to PacifiCorp's network loads. In accordance with PacifiCorp's OATT and FERC  
18 regulations, these two processes are separate and independent.

19 Furthermore, ESM's request cannot be submitted until a commitment has  
20 been made to accept a resource's output. Transmission service requests submitted by  
21 other transmission customers and other changes to the transmission system can occur  
22 between the time a QF signs its interconnection agreement and the time it signs the  
23 power purchase agreement, which enables ESM to submit a transmission service

1 request. As a result, ESM does not have assurance that transmission service  
2 sufficient to deliver a QF's output to its network loads will be available. If sufficient  
3 transmission service is not available, ESM could be faced with additional costs for  
4 transmission system upgrades or third-party transmission.

5 While PacifiCorp requested that QFs be made responsible for such costs,  
6 I understand that the FERC precedent for cost allocation between a QF's generation  
7 interconnection request and PacifiCorp ESM's transmission service request does not  
8 support this position. As a result, PacifiCorp concluded that it was inappropriate to  
9 request that QFs be allocated the costs identified in PacifiCorp ESM's transmission  
10 service request and requested closure of the docket where it had proposed allocating  
11 those costs to QFs.

12 **Q. Are there conditions when it is appropriate to adjust indicative pricing for**  
13 **identified transmission issues?**

14 A. Yes. To the extent a QF's interconnection agreement identifies network upgrades to  
15 be paid for by the QF which allow the delivery of the QF to load elsewhere on  
16 PacifiCorp's system, it would be appropriate to adjust the delivery location of the QF  
17 to reflect delivery at the identified location. Because transmission upgrades are  
18 typically required when resources exceed the load in the proposed area of the QF, the  
19 new delivery location would result in higher avoided costs.

20 **Q. Can indicative pricing automatically incorporate transmission upgrades**  
21 **necessary to move a QF to load?**

22 A. No. PacifiCorp's ESM function manages the owned and contracted resources used to  
23 serve PacifiCorp's retail load, including purchases from QFs. PacifiCorp ESM

1 receives transmission service from PacifiCorp's transmission function. Under  
2 FERC's Standards of Conduct requirements, PacifiCorp ESM cannot receive special  
3 treatment not available to other customers of PacifiCorp transmission. As a result,  
4 PacifiCorp ESM does not have sufficient information to identify transmission  
5 upgrades for a QF. Additionally, non-public transmission information related to other  
6 transmission customer's requests cannot be communicated to PacifiCorp ESM by  
7 PacifiCorp transmission. Because a QF requesting generation interconnection service  
8 is itself a customer of PacifiCorp transmission, it must either provide the studies  
9 prepared by PacifiCorp transmission to PacifiCorp ESM or sign a waiver to allow  
10 PacifiCorp transmission to discuss its non-public transmission information with  
11 PacifiCorp ESM. As a result, indicative pricing can only incorporate information on  
12 transmission upgrades after the associated transmission studies are provided to  
13 PacifiCorp ESM.

14 **Q. Please reiterate the second theme of parties' opposition to removing the market**  
15 **price floor.**

16 A. Parties conclude, without evidence, that the market price floor is a more accurate  
17 representation of PacifiCorp's avoided cost than the GRID results.

18 **Q. Are the monthly market prices reflected in the market price floor an accurate**  
19 **representation of PacifiCorp's avoided cost?**

20 A. No. First, in accordance with North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)  
21 reliability standard BAL-002-WECC-2, which took effect in October 2014, PacifiCorp  
22 must hold contingency reserves equal to 3 percent of generation for on-system QF

1 resources, but does not need to hold contingency reserves for market purchases. The  
2 cost of holding these reserves is not reflected in the current market floor.

3 Second, monthly market prices assume that a QF's output will either displace a  
4 purchase from that market or support an additional sale at the market. If PacifiCorp is  
5 purchasing at multiple markets, purchases at the highest cost market would be displaced  
6 first and additional QF resources would then displace purchases from lower cost  
7 markets. If PacifiCorp's resources are less than the market price, it will not need to  
8 purchase from the market but may be able to make sales. However, if PacifiCorp has  
9 sufficient resources less than the market price to serve load and fill up its transmission  
10 rights to a given market, the QF will be unable to support an additional sale at that  
11 market. These conditions routinely occur.

12 Third, even if transmission is available to deliver resources to electricity  
13 markets, those markets have limited depth. When preparing indicative avoided cost  
14 pricing for Oregon QFs, the GRID model uses the relaxed market capacity limits  
15 approved by the Commission in docket UE 245 (Order No. 12-409), rather than the  
16 more stringent limits applied in PacifiCorp's other jurisdictions.

17 The market price floor incorrectly assumes that unlimited volumes can be sold  
18 at the market price, in excess of the caps approved by the Commission. To the extent  
19 willing buyers cannot be found or market prices fall in response to the quantities  
20 available from PacifiCorp and other market participants, the average market price  
21 reflected in the market price floor will overstate PacifiCorp's avoided cost.

22 **Q. Can QF generation integrated solely with market transactions?**

23 A. No. The 2017 IRP included a "Flexible Reserve Study," which calculated the reserve

1 requirements and costs associated with balancing variations in load, wind, solar, and  
2 non-variable resources to maintain PacifiCorp's system reliability and comply with  
3 NERC reliability standards.<sup>6</sup> The Flexible Reserve Study identifies wind integration  
4 costs of \$0.57/MWh (2016\$), and solar integration costs of \$0.60/MWh (2016\$).  
5 This represents the cost of keeping dispatchable PacifiCorp resources available to  
6 compensate for variations in the output of wind and solar resources. While specific  
7 integration costs were not calculated on for non-variable resources, the study did  
8 identify regulation reserve requirements for these resources that were equivalent to  
9 2.3 percent of their nameplate capacity.<sup>7</sup> In accordance with the proposal in my direct  
10 testimony,<sup>8</sup> integration costs would be included in the avoided costs for any solar or  
11 wind QF. To the extent a QF is deferring a solar or wind resource, it would also  
12 avoid the integration costs associated with the deferred solar or wind resource's  
13 generation.

14 **Q. If integration costs are accounted for, are market prices a reasonable**  
15 **representation of a QFs avoided cost?**

16 A. No. Integration costs only reflect the cost of maintaining a supply of dispatchable  
17 capacity to compensate for changes in loads and resources. To the extent a QF's  
18 output varies from forecasted levels, PacifiCorp's dispatchable resources must  
19 increase or decrease their output to compensate. PacifiCorp's avoided cost would  
20 then reflect the dispatch costs of those resources.

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<sup>6</sup> 2017 Integrated Resource Plan. Volume II. Appendix F: Flexible Reserve Study.  
[http://www.pacificorp.com/content/dam/pacificorp/doc/Energy\\_Sources/Integrated\\_Resource\\_Plan/2017\\_IRP/2017\\_IRP\\_VolumeII\\_2017\\_IRP\\_Final.pdf](http://www.pacificorp.com/content/dam/pacificorp/doc/Energy_Sources/Integrated_Resource_Plan/2017_IRP/2017_IRP_VolumeII_2017_IRP_Final.pdf).

<sup>7</sup> *Id.* Table F.7.

<sup>8</sup> PAC/100, MacNeil/10, lines 14-16.

1 **Q. What is the impact of the market price floor on QF purchase prices?**

2 A. Since the 2017 IRP was published, PacifiCorp has provided indicative avoided cost  
3 prices for six proposed solar QFs in Oregon totaling 399 MW of nameplate capacity.  
4 As shown in Table 4, during the course of the proposed term, the market price floor  
5 results in indicative prices that are 54 percent higher than the prices without the floor.  
6 This would amount to additional costs with overpayments above PacifiCorp's  
7 forecasted avoided costs totaling \$242 million over the fixed price term of the  
8 proposed contracts.

**Table 4: Impact of the Market Price Floor on Recent Pricing Requests**

15-Year Levelized Price							
Project	COD	Capacity	2016 Floor	2017 Floor	w/o Floor	Additional Cost (\$)	% Change
<b>Market Price Floor: Standard Prices Approved October 25, 2016</b>							
QF - 380 - OR - Solar	Jan-19	50	\$42.54		\$24.93	29,100,622	63%
QF - 383 - OR - Solar	Dec-19	80	\$46.01		\$28.25	49,059,119	53%
QF - 384 - OR - Solar	Dec-19	80	\$44.51		\$26.64	49,474,321	58%
QF - 385 - OR - Solar	Dec-19	80	\$43.89		\$25.78	50,201,431	61%
QF - 381 - OR - Solar	Jan-21	80	\$49.82		\$32.32	48,793,964	43%
<b>Market Price Floor: Standard Prices Effective June 1, 2017</b>							
QF - 293 - OR - Solar	Aug-19	28.6	\$41.11	\$35.53	\$21.96	15,471,803	60%

1 **Q. How do these indicative pricing results demonstrate the issues related to the**  
2 **market price floor?**

3 A. First, while all six of the indicative pricing studies utilized PacifiCorp's March 31,  
4 2017 Official Forward Price Curve (OFPC), the first five projects received indicative  
5 pricing incorporated the market price floor based on the March 31, 2016 OFPC used  
6 to determine standard avoided cost prices. The last project received prices after new  
7 standard avoided cost prices were approved, so its indicative pricing incorporated the  
8 market price floor based on the March 31, 2017 OFPC. The switch to the updated  
9 market price floor reduced the last project's indicative price over the term by  
10 \$5.58/MWh, or 14 percent. This significant change demonstrates that using a market  
11 price floor based on market prices that are more than a year out of date may result in  
12 QF pricing that is not consistent with PacifiCorp's avoided costs at the time a contract  
13 is executed.

14 Second, projects 383, 384, and 385 are identical projects submitted by the  
15 same developer. Consistent with the pricing queue methodology, these projects were  
16 studied in succession. In the GRID model, the first project displaces the highest cost  
17 purchases and resources or contributes to additional sales at the highest-priced  
18 markets. The volume available to be displaced at the highest cost resources or  
19 markets is limited, so successive projects result in declining avoided costs, which is  
20 logical and expected. With the market price floor, prices during the sufficiency  
21 period are identical for all three projects, which is not consistent with the forecast of  
22 avoided costs. As a result, the impact the market price floor has on artificially  
23 inflating avoided costs increases as additional resources are considered.



1 **Q. Does eliminating the potential QF queue eliminate the issues associated with the**  
2 **market price floor?**

3 A. While eliminating the potential QF queue reduces the impact of the market price  
4 floor, it does not eliminate it. PacifiCorp provided sample indicative pricing  
5 calculations for solar, wind, and biomass resources in response to the Coalition’s data  
6 requests 6.3, 6.5, and 6.7. As shown in Table 5, the previous market price floor in  
7 effect through May 31, 2017 resulted in costs which were 17 percent to 37 percent  
8 higher than the GRID model results. Under the current market price floor effective  
9 June 1, 2017, costs are still 8 percent to 18 percent higher than the GRID model  
10 results. The additional cost associated with the market price floor would increase as  
11 additional signed contracts are reflected in the GRID model.

**Table 5: Impact of the Market Price Floor on Pricing without Potential QF Queue**

Project	COD	Capacity	15-Year Levelized Price		Incremental Cost (\$)	% Change
			w/ Floor	w/o Floor		
<b>Market Price Floor: Standard Prices Approved October 25, 2016</b>						
REC 6.3 Solar	Jan-18	20	\$46.48	\$38.12	5,586,977	17%
REC 6.5 Wind	Jan-18	20	\$37.95	\$26.87	10,917,589	37%
REC 6.7 Biomass	Jan-18	20	\$39.62	\$30.94	21,529,121	24%
<b>Market Price Floor: Standard Prices Effective June 1, 2017</b>						
REC 6.3 Solar	Jan-18	20	\$42.15	\$38.12	2,686,914	8%
REC 6.5 Wind	Jan-18	20	\$32.45	\$26.87	5,481,026	18%
REC 6.7 Biomass	Jan-18	20	\$34.78	\$30.94	9,536,322	10%

12 **Q. What do you recommend with regard to the market price floor?**

13 A. I continue to recommend that the market price floor be removed to align avoided cost  
14 pricing with the best forecast of the benefits retail customers will receive in actual

1 operations. Maintaining the market price floor is in contradiction with the PURPA  
2 customer indifference standard.

3 **POTENTIAL QF QUEUE**

4 **Q. Please summarize your proposal for managing the potential QF queue.**

5 A. When a QF request indicative pricing, its project proposal is added to the queue of  
6 potential QFs currently negotiating contracts. Based on the distinction between RPS-  
7 based pricing and non-RPS pricing, and the proposed pricing differential based on  
8 REC value, it is not necessary for the QF to identify a specific pricing stream for  
9 indicative pricing. Instead, all potential QFs would defer cost-effective resources  
10 from the 2017 IRP preferred portfolio, which represents expected system operations  
11 in the absence of Oregon RPS obligations. This deferral does not change if a QF  
12 selects an RPS-based pricing stream including payment for avoided RPS compliance  
13 costs.

14 **Q. Do parties have alternative suggestions regarding how the potential QF queue**  
15 **should be applied?**

16 A. Yes. ODOE proposes that avoided cost prices should be updated to reflect higher  
17 queued projects that withdraw their request, with updating continuing until the project  
18 is placed in service. The Coalition suggests that the historic percentage of the queue  
19 that was constructed should be used, rather than the entire queue, and also identifies  
20 other alternatives to determine projects that are likely to be developed. The Joint  
21 Parties, supported by CREA, suggests that only signed QFs should be considered in  
22 indicative pricing, and that indicative pricing would not be subject to change for 60-  
23 90 days.

1 **Q. Does PacifiCorp update avoided cost pricing to reflect higher queued projects**  
2 **that have withdrawn?**

3 A. Yes. When repricing is requested or required, PacifiCorp updates the potential QF  
4 queue to remove any projects which have been withdrawn or not met their negotiating  
5 milestones.

6 **Q. Are QFs always priced at the bottom of the potential QF queue?**

7 A. No. After receiving indicative pricing, a QF may proceed to negotiating a contract, a  
8 process that typically takes several months. During this time PacifiCorp's avoided  
9 costs are likely to change, but as time passes before queued QFs will either sign  
10 contracts or drop out and the QF in question would retain its queue position.

11 Proposed QFs in Utah are subject to milestones for negotiations and specific  
12 restrictions on changes to their proposals. The first key milestone is that a QF must  
13 request a draft PPA and submit necessary additional information within 60 days of  
14 receiving indicative pricing.

15 The second key milestone is that a PPA must be executed by both parties  
16 within five months of the draft PPA being provided to the QF, unless delays are  
17 caused by PacifiCorp's ESM function. If a QF misses either of these milestones it is  
18 removed from the pricing queue and will no longer impact the prices of later queued  
19 projects when they are repriced. This ensures that each QF has an opportunity to be  
20 repriced with projects that did not proceed toward a contract removed from the QF  
21 queue. Exhibit PAC/302 attached to my testimony is a proposed Business Practice  
22 for managing Oregon QF pricing requests that incorporates these milestones and

1 would ensure Oregon QFs are appropriately reflected in the potential QF queue and  
2 removed in a timely manner.

3 **Q. Can you provide an example illustrating how projects move up in the pricing**  
4 **queue?**

5 A. Yes. PacifiCorp provided sample indicative prices for various renewable resources in  
6 response to the Coalition's data request set six. Since that data request was prepared,  
7 141 MW of QFs have signed contracts, 568 MW of higher queued QFs have dropped  
8 out of the queue, and 450 MW of higher queued QFs have been moved to the end of  
9 the queue. When the projects from the Coalition's data request set six are repriced,  
10 the changes in the QF queue would be reflected in their updated indicative pricing.  
11 Since that data request was prepared, PacifiCorp has also received indicative pricing  
12 requests for an additional 2,211 MW of nameplate capacity.

13 **Q. Is it appropriate to continue updating QF pricing until the project goes into**  
14 **service as recommended by ODOE?**

15 A. Per the PURPA statute, QFs may select pricing based on either avoided costs  
16 calculated at the time the obligation is incurred (*i.e.*, when the contract is executed),  
17 or at the time of delivery. It is my understanding that continuing to update the  
18 contract price to reflect changes in avoided costs after the contract is executed may  
19 not be consistent with PURPA.

20 **Q. Is the historic percentage of the potential QF queue that was constructed a**  
21 **reasonable proxy for providing indicative avoided cost pricing?**

22 A. No. Utah only implemented explicit QF negotiation procedures related to the queue  
23 in mid-2016, and while PacifiCorp has used the Utah procedures as guidelines for

1 Oregon QFs, the obligations of QFs in Oregon have not been clearly established. As  
2 a result, the historical data available may not be representative of future conditions.  
3 In addition, avoided cost prices and QF development costs can both vary. If QF  
4 development costs drop and avoided cost prices rise, a significant number of projects  
5 could immediately become viable and sign contracts in a limited time frame. By  
6 prioritizing projects in advance and establishing milestones and time limits for  
7 negotiations, each project can receive the opportunity to be at the top of the queue  
8 without the risk of providing pricing based on the top of the queue to every project.

9 **Q. Is there a risk in providing indicative pricing at the top of the queue to every**  
10 **project?**

11 A. Per the PURPA statute avoided cost pricing is not necessarily based on the timing of  
12 contract execution. QFs may also establish or claim a legally enforceable obligation  
13 without PacifiCorp signing a contract. According to PURPA, avoided cost pricing  
14 should be calculated at the time that obligation is established. In practice, QFs often  
15 argue that this means the most recent prices provided regardless of changes in  
16 circumstances since that time. This is currently the circumstance in an open docket  
17 before the Wyoming Commission.<sup>9</sup>

18 **Q. Is there a real risk of multiple signed contracts within a short time frame?**

19 A. Yes. Table 6 presents the updated list of potential QFs ahead of the indicative pricing  
20 proposals prepared in response to the Coalition's data request set six, broken down by  
21 developer and by state. Most of the projects in PacifiCorp's potential QF queue are

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<sup>9</sup> Docket No. 20000-505-EC-16 (Record No. 14579): Complaint of EverPower Wind Holdings, Inc. et al.

1 from developers with multiple projects and several developers are active in more than  
2 one state.

3 Parties have not contested the fact that avoided costs under the PDDRR  
4 methodology decline as additional QF resources are added. To the extent the rules  
5 allow for two contracts that displace the same marginal resources in the sufficiency  
6 period or the same increment of capacity in the deficiency period, this would result in  
7 retail ratepayers paying in excess of avoided cost.

8 The potential for two or more developers to sign contracts for substantial QF  
9 capacity within a short period is real. This is particularly true when changes (i.e.  
10 reductions) in avoided costs are anticipated. As a result, providing prices based on  
11 signed contracts are likely to result in customers paying more than avoided costs for  
12 QF output and is likely to cause disputes. Prices that are not subject to change for a  
13 length of time would exacerbate the risk and cost to customers, as does the absence of  
14 clear procedures establishing the necessary steps for a QF to receive an executable  
15 power purchase agreement or establish a legally enforceable obligation.

**Table 6: Potential QF Queue by Developer and State**

Developer #	Nameplate				QF Count			
	OR	UT	WY	Total	OR	UT	WY	Total
1	50			50	1			1
2	80	139		219	1	2		3
3		80		80		1		1
4	286			286	4			4
5		1,280		1,280		16		16
6	55	58		113	1	1		2
7			240	240			3	3
8	55			55	1			1
9			280	280			4	4
10	160			160	4			4
11			40	40			1	1
12	18			18	1			1
<b>Total</b>	704	1,557	560	2,821	13	20	8	41

1 **Q. The Joint Parties recommend that indicative pricing assume that only signed**  
2 **contracts are included in the QF pricing queue and that indicative pricing is not**  
3 **subject to change for a specified time. Is there a circumstance under which it**  
4 **might be reasonable to include only signed contracts in the QF queue?**

5 A. Yes. If a QF signs a final execution version of a contract which is subject to the  
6 determination of pricing, PacifiCorp would be willing to provide pricing with only  
7 previously signed contracts incorporated in the potential QF queue and incorporating  
8 assumptions as of the time the contract is signed. The contract could include the right

1 to terminate the contract within 30 days of receiving final pricing if it was inadequate  
2 to support development of their project. This would ensure that the impact of  
3 successive proposals is reflected in QF pricing and that projects which are not moving  
4 forward are removed in a timely manner.

5 **Q. What do you recommend with regard to the potential QF queue?**

6 A. The potential QF queue should continue to be used in the preparation of indicative  
7 avoided costs and the milestones identified in the QF Pricing Status Management  
8 Business Practices contained in Exhibit PAC/302 should be adopted.

9 **CONCLUSION**

10 **Q. Please summarize your recommendations to the Commission.**

11 A. I recommend the Commission take the following actions:

- 12 1. Move consideration of the policy issues associated with the PacifiCorp's  
13 updated RPS and non-RPS avoided cost price streams to a generic investigation  
14 proceeding, beginning with the workshops directed by the Commission at the  
15 conclusion of docket UM 1794;
- 16 2. Adopt PacifiCorp's proposed refinements to the PDDRR methodology used to  
17 calculate non-RPS avoided cost price streams.

18 **Q. Does this conclude your July 2017 opening testimony?**

19 A. Yes.



**CONFIDENTIAL**  
Docket No. UM 1802  
Exhibit PAC/301  
Witness: Daniel MacNeil

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON**

**PACIFICORP**

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**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**Exhibit Accompanying July 2017 Opening Testimony of Daniel MacNeil**

**GRID Model Topology with Transfer Rights**

**July 2017**

This document is confidential in its entirety and is provided  
under separate cover.

Docket No. UM 1802  
Exhibit PAC/302  
Witness: Daniel MacNeil

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON**

**PACIFICORP**

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**Exhibit Accompanying July 2017 Opening Testimony of Daniel MacNeil**

**Oregon Non-Standard Avoided Cost Rates Business Practices**

**July 2017**



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**PACIFIC POWER**  
**QUALIFYING FACILITY**  
**PRICING STATUS MANAGEMENT BUSINESS PRACTICES**  
**FOR**  
**OREGON NON-STANDARD AVOIDED COST RATES**

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**PREFACE:**

These Business Practices are applicable to proposed Qualifying Facilities (QFs) in all territory served by the Company in the state of Oregon, including QFs that may be physically located (in whole or in part) outside of the Oregon state boundary but have a proposed point of interconnection located in the state of Oregon. Once a QF owner provides PacifiCorp Energy Supply Management (PacifiCorp ESM) all information described in Pacific Power's Oregon Non-Standard Avoided Cost Rates, Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures (Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures), Section B.1.a through j, such QF project will become a "**Pending QF Facility**" for purposes of these Business Practices until such time as a QF power purchase agreement (PPA) has been executed between PacifiCorp ESM and the QF owner. Any time a QF project loses its status as a "Pending QF Facility" under these Business Practices (as described below), the owner of such QF project must re-apply for indicative avoided cost pricing as set forth in Pacific Power's Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures, Section B.1.a through j.

These Business Practices are independent of and unrelated to the interconnection and transmission services procedures maintained and administered by PacifiCorp Transmission Services. The generation interconnection process is a critical and often lengthy process that typically must be well underway before a PPA should be requested in order for the QF owner to understand and align the in-service date of interconnection with the proposed PPA. QF owners are strongly encouraged to gain a clear understanding of the transmission interconnection process and associated costs and timelines before requesting indicative pricing under the Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures or these Business Practices.

**QUALIFYING FACILITY PROCEDURES:**

1. **Request for Proposed Power Purchase Agreement.** A QF owner will have sixty (60) days following its receipt of the indicative pricing in accordance with the Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures, Section B.2, to request in writing



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that a draft PPA be prepared to serve as the basis for negotiations between the parties. Consistent with the Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures, Sections B.3 and B.4, such written request from the QF owner will not be deemed sufficient unless it includes (or PacifiCorp ESM has already been provided) the additional information described in Section B.3.a through f. of the Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures. If such written request is not timely submitted and compliant with Sections B.3 and B.4 of the Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures, the QF project will lose its status as a Pending QF Facility under these Business Practices and the indicative prices previously provided to the QF owner will no longer be valid.

2. **QF Owner's Initial Comments and Edits to Draft Power Purchase Agreement.** If a QF owner has not, in accordance with the Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures, Section B.5, prepared and provided to PacifiCorp ESM an initial set of written comments and proposals regarding the draft PPA within thirty (30) days of receiving the draft PPA, the QF project will lose its status as a Pending QF Facility under these Business Practices and the indicative prices previously provided to the QF owner will no longer be valid.
3. **Required Pricing Update.** The prices in the draft PPA provided by PacifiCorp ESM to the QF owner in accordance with the Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures, Section B.4, will be recalculated using the most recent available pricing inputs and methods approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission (Commission) if the QF owner and PacifiCorp ESM have not executed a PPA within six (6) months after indicative pricing was provided by PacifiCorp ESM under the Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures, Section B.2, except to the extent delays are caused by PacifiCorp ESM's actions or inactions, which may include delays in obtaining legal, credit or upper management approval by the Company.
4. **Removal from Status as Proposed QF.** If any of the following occurs with respect to a Pending QF Facility at any time during the process outlined in the Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures, Sections B.2 through B.5, the QF project will lose its status as a Pending QF Facility under these Business Practices and any associated indicative prices, proposed prices or proposed terms and conditions within the draft PPA will no longer be valid:
  - a) A material change in the point of interconnection;
  - b) A change in design capacity of 10% or more of the original specified design capacity;
  - c) A change in generation technology (i.e. solar, wind, thermal), including a change between fixed tilt and tracking solar projects, provided that changes in the quantity and timing of monthly power deliveries will not cause a QF project to lose its status as a Pending



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- QF Facility under these Business Practices) so long as the basic generation technology and design capacity have not changed;
- d) A change of more than three (3) months in the anticipated commercial operation date specified in the information provided by the QF owner under the Qualifying Facilities Contracting Procedures, Sections B.1.e or B.3, regardless of whether such change extends or advances the anticipated commercial operation date; or
  - e) A PPA has not been executed by both parties within five (5) months after the proposed PPA was provided by PacifiCorp ESM to the QF owner, except to the extent delays are caused by PacifiCorp ESM's actions or inactions.