

July 29, 2015

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Public Utility Commission of Oregon 201 High Street SE, Suite 100 Salem, OR 97301-1166

Attn: Filing Center

RE: UM 1742—PacifiCorp's Answer

PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power encloses for filing its Answer in the above-referenced docket.

If you have questions about this filing, please contact Erin Apperson, Manager Regulatory Affairs, at (503) 813-6642.

Sincerely,

R. Bryce Dalley

Vice President, Regulation

P. Bryce Dalley/Gow

Enclosure

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

UM 1742

SURPRISE VALLEY ELECTRIFICATION CORP., PACIFICORP'S ANSWER Complainant V. PACIFICORP d/b/a PACIFIC POWER, Respondent. Under Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 756.512 and in accordance with Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 860-001-0400, PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power (PacifiCorp) files this answer to the complaint filed on June 22, 2015 (Complaint), by Surprise Valley Electrification Corporation (Surprise Valley) against PacifiCorp alleging violations of various statutory provisions administered by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) and the regulations of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). INTRODUCTION In its complaint, Surprise Valley asks this Commission to order PacifiCorp to enter into a power purchase agreement (PPA) to purchase the full net output of the Paisley Project—an off-system Qualifying Facility (QF) that has not provided PacifiCorp with any legitimate wheeling arrangement to deliver QF power to PacifiCorp. Despite extensive negotiations, Surprise Valley has made no transmission arrangements that would entitle it to

a PURPA contract for sale of the net output of the off-system Paisley Project to PacifiCorp.

Neither has it articulated any other means by which it could verifiably deliver the Paisley

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1 Project's net output to PacifiCorp. Instead, Surprise Valley relies on a misapplication of

2 language in FERC Order No. 69¹ that would inappropriately burden PacifiCorp and its

3 customers with additional costs. For that reason, Surprise Valley's complaint should be

4 dismissed.

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5 PacifiCorp has been, and continues to be, willing to purchase all QF power that

6 Surprise Valley can deliver to PacifiCorp's system in a manner that PacifiCorp can verify.

7 PacifiCorp, however, is not willing to sign a long-term QF PPA at avoided cost prices for

(1) QF power used to serve Surprise Valley's load, or (2) where PacifiCorp cannot verify the

amount of QF power delivered to its system from an off-system QF. PacifiCorp has

participated in extensive negotiations in an effort to reach an agreement that addresses the

11 concerns above, but the fundamental issues remain.

Generally speaking, PURPA requires a utility to purchase any QF power made available either (1) directly to the utility, or (2) indirectly to the utility, in which case the QF power is transmitted across the intervening system to the purchasing utility's system.² The Paisley Project is an off-system QF that is interconnected to Surprise Valley's system, and thus is an indirectly connected, off-system QF.³ This Commission has approved a

17 Schedule 37 PPA that applies to off-system QFs like the Paisley Project. This off-system

¹ Small Power Production and Cogeneration Facilities; Regulations Implementing Section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, Order No. 69, 45 Fed. Reg. 12214, 12222 (1980).

² See, e.g., 18 CFR § 292.303 (2014); OAR 860-0029-0030.

³ Surprise Valley could have directly interconnected the Paisley Project to PacifiCorp's system, but chose not to.

1 PPA—consistent with PURPA and Commission precedent—requires an off-system QF to

2 make delivery arrangements for its power.⁴

Off-system QFs are required to enter into a transmission arrangement with the interconnected utility whereby the interconnected utility agrees to provide transmission service to transfer the QF power to the purchasing utility. This is also known as a wheeling arrangement. Surprise Valley, however, is unable to transmit the Paisley Project's net output to PacifiCorp's transmission facilities. Surprise Valley does not have an open access transmission tariff, wholesale distribution tariff, or any other method of tracking and transferring energy across its own distribution system. Without verifiable schedules, PacifiCorp has no way of determining the actual amount of QF energy received from an off-system resource like the Paisley Project.

Aside from the clear Commission precedent requiring a QF to make wheeling arrangements for indirect sales of power, Surprise Valley's lack of transmission arrangements is a serious problem from a customer protection perspective. If PacifiCorp were to sign a PPA with Surprise Valley to buy the full net output of the Paisley Project, the lack of verifiable delivery arrangements would make it impossible for PacifiCorp to

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⁴ See OAR 860-0029-0030(4) (allowing off-system QF to sell power indirectly to a utility so long as it makes wheeling arrangements to deliver that power to the indirectly connected utility); see also, e.g., Portland General Elec. Co. v. Oregon Energy Co., Docket No. UC 315, Order No. 98-238 (June 12, 1998) (confirming that a QF must obtain a wheeling agreement as a precondition to a utility's obligation to purchase power indirectly from a QF) .("OEC"). See also, Portland General Elec. Co. v. Oregon Energy Co., Docket No. UC 315, Order No. 98-055 (Feb. 17, 1998) (without a binding wheeling arrangement to make power available to a utility, an off-system QF is not considered ready, willing, or able to deliver that power to a utility).

⁵ Under the delivery arrangements required by PURPA, the QF and the transmitting utility handle all delivery issues, such as scheduling, outages, curtailments and imbalance. PacifiCorp simply verifies that the QF has generated a certain amount of power, and receives that power from the transmission provider at the specified point of delivery. The delivery of that power is verifiable under the transmitting utility's transmission tariff. Surprise Valley has not demonstrated that it can make such transmission arrangements. Surprise Valley cannot, for example, schedule transfer of the Paisley Project's net output using industry standard eTags, which would identify critical information, such as actual delivery amounts, as well as any curtailments or outages affecting the delivery of the off system generation.

determine precisely how much power its customers receive from Surprise Valley in each

2 hour.

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3 Despite these complications, PacifiCorp has been willing to purchase any amount of

4 power from the Paisley Project that can be verifiably transmitted and delivered to

5 PacifiCorp's system. Even though the Paisley Project is an off-system QF, PacifiCorp is

6 willing, for example, to install a meter that would allow it to measure any physical flow of

7 power from Surprise Valley's system to PacifiCorp's system, essentially treating the Paisley

Project as a type of on-system QF.⁶ PacifiCorp would then purchase the amount of power

that crosses the meter and is thereby delivered to PacifiCorp's system, up to the net output of

10 the Paisley Project.⁷

PacifiCorp believes this type of accommodation, though non-standard, would help the Paisley Project address its transmission delivery issues while at the same time protect PacifiCorp and its customers from paying for QF power that is used to serve Surprise Valley load. But this accommodation does not appear acceptable to Surprise Valley. As Surprise Valley explains in its complaint, it needs to sell the *full net output* of the Paisley Project to

As a result, the delay in negotiations has been driven primarily by: (1) Surprise

Valley's choice to interconnect the Paisley Project to its own system, making it an off-system

QF; (2) Surprise Valley's failure to provide clear transmission arrangements to provide

verifiable delivery of the Paisley Project's net output to PacifiCorp's system; (3) Surprise

protect its Tier 1 status with the Bonneville Power Administration (Bonneville).

⁶ While PacifiCorp is not certain this would strictly conform to the assumptions in the Commission's approved on-system Schedule 37 PPA (since the Paisley Project is actually an off-system QF), PacifiCorp suggested the "metered flow" method of measuring delivery—which treats the Paisley Project more like an on-system QF—in an effort to accommodate Surprise Valley's inability to make verifiable transmission arrangements for the Paisley Project's generation.

⁷ As noted above, however, power would likely flow to PacifiCorp's system only if Paisley generated more than Surprise Valley's load amount, because Surprise Valley's load would appear to devour nearly all of the resources available to Surprise Valley.

- 1 Valley's interpretation of language in FERC Order No. 69, which specifically allows
- 2 Surprise Valley to sell QF power to Bonneville without affecting Surprise Valley's all-
- 3 requirements contract with Bonneville; (4) misapplication of that same language to
- 4 PacifiCorp, which merely transfers energy across its system under a FERC-approved
- 5 transmission rate schedule; and (5) Surprise Valley's refusal to accept a template QF PPA for
- 6 the amount of power it can deliver directly to PacifiCorp's system.
- 7 Surprise Valley's failure to disclose these relevant facts to the Commission is telling
- 8 and reflects the difficulty PacifiCorp has experienced in the negotiations. While Surprise
- 9 Valley admits that the Paisley Project is an off-system geothermal QF that is not directly
- interconnected to PacifiCorp's system, Surprise Valley fails to acknowledge that it has no
- viable method (e.g., a wholesale distribution tariff) for verifiably transmitting the Paisley
- 12 Project's generation to PacifiCorp. Similarly, Surprise Valley admits that as an all-
- requirements customer of Bonneville, Surprise Valley needs to sell *all* of the Paisley
- 14 Project's net output to a purchaser or risk its Tier 1 pricing status with Bonneville. Surprise
- Valley, however, fails to disclose that it could require Bonneville to purchase the Paisley
- Project net output under PURPA, thereby maintaining Surprise Valley's Tier 1 pricing status
- in accord with the language in FERC Order No. 69.
- FERC's Order No. 69 adopted the regulations in 18 Code of Federal Regulations
- 19 (CFR) section 292.303(d). In the order, FERC recognized that certain situations require the
- 20 flexibility to move QF power in order to sell to another utility. FERC discussed two related
- 21 examples. First, a QF may interconnect to a utility that owns no generation and is an all-
- requirements wholesale customer of another utility (the Energy Supplying Utility). In that
- 23 situation, the QF purchase may conflict with the all-requirements contractual commitments

- between the utility and its Energy Supplying Utility. FERC responded to this concern by
- 2 finding that the utility, with the agreement of the QF, could wheel the QF power to the
- 3 utility's Energy Supplying Utility. FERC acknowledged that in most instances, the
- 4 transaction would take the form of the displacement of energy or capacity that would have
- 5 been provided under the all-requirements contract between the utility and Energy Supplying
- 6 Utility. In essence, the Energy Supplying Utility would displace (i.e., reduce) its energy
- 7 deliveries to the utility in an amount equal to the net output purchased from the QF.
- 8 The second example involved the inverse situation. There may be times when a QF
- 9 might not want the utility to which it interconnects to purchase the QF's power. One
- example is when the interconnected utility is a non-generating utility, purchasing its full
- requirements from another utility. In such situations, the QF can request that the utility (the
- 12 Transmitting Utility) transmit the QF power to another utility. If the utility to which the QF
- power is transmitted is also the Energy Supplying Utility for the Transmitting Utility, the
- purchase of QF power would again displace the power otherwise delivered to the
- 15 Transmitting Utility under its all-requirements contract.
- Neither of these situations applies to PacifiCorp. The language in FERC Order No.
- 17 69 explicitly discusses *energy* suppliers, not transmission or delivery providers. Surprise
- Valley's proposed application of the language is contrary to the entire discussion in the order
- and relies on the insertion of the tern "delivery" in place of the term "supply." This was
- 20 clearly not FERC's intent. The language in FERC Order No. 69 directly applies to the
- 21 relationship between Surprise Valley and Bonneville, not PacifiCorp.
- Ignoring the fact the Surprise Valley is both the QF and Transmitting Utility in the
- current situation, FERC's Order No. 69 states that an all-requirements utility (like Surprise

1 Valley) – can use OF power to serve its own load, displacing the energy that would have

been supplied by its all-requirements supplier (– like Bonneville). That all-requirements

3 supplier will be deemed to have purchased the QF power without receiving actual physical

4 delivery of QF power. In other words, applied here, FERC Order No. 69 means that Surprise

5 Valley can sell the Paisley Project's net output to Bonneville, thereby offsetting Bonneville's

power supply obligation to Surprise Valley; and Surprise Valley's requirements contract and

its Tier 1 status will remain unimpaired.

Surprise Valley's attempt to apply the language in FERC Order No. 69 to *PacifiCorp* instead of Bonneville is not addressed in the order and would result in increased costs for PacifiCorp and its customers. As a transmission provider, PacifiCorp does not supply energy to Surprise Valley; PacifiCorp merely transmits energy supplied by Bonneville. So there is no "energy to offset with the QF power." PacifiCorp merely delivers energy on behalf of Bonneville, Surprise Valley's full requirements energy supplier. Bonneville schedules the deliveries and either generates or purchases power to meet Surprise Valley's load every hour. Because PacifiCorp is merely the method of delivery, Surprise Valley's requested relief would expose PacifiCorp to unnecessary costs, including:

• If Bonneville under-schedules its deliveries to Surprise Valley, in relation to Surprise Valley's actual load, the net output from the Paisley Project would offset Surprise Valley's load requirements and not be available to PacifiCorp. Surprise Valley, however, has demanded that PacifiCorp pay for the full net output of the Paisley Project.

• If Bonneville over-schedules to Surprise Valley, under the General Transfer

2 Agreement (GTA)⁸ between Bonneville and PacifiCorp, PacifiCorp would have to

3 compensate Bonneville for any deliveries above the metered Surprise Valley load.

Under the GTA, Bonneville is only obligated to schedule for delivery energy

required to meet the load metered at specific locations identified in the contract.

The Paisley Project is not identified in the GTA, so its output would merely

7 reduce the load metered at the points identified in the GTA.

8 PacifiCorp has no control over Bonneville's schedules and cannot alter those schedules or

revise the energy supplied by Bonneville.

While PacifiCorp is sympathetic to Surprise Valley's interest in protecting its Tier 1

status with Bonneville, PacifiCorp submits that it is not legally obligated to enter into a

contract that harms its customers to protect an electric cooperative's right to Bonneville Tier

1 pricing status. To the contrary, PacifiCorp is obligated to protect its own customers and to

follow state and federal law.

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COMMUNICATIONS

Please address communications regarding this proceeding to:

Oregon Dockets Matthew McVee

PacifiCorp Assistant General Counsel

825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 PacifiCorp

Portland, OR 97232 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 1800

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Additionally, PacifiCorp requests that all data requests regarding this proceeding be

sent to the following:

⁸ PacifiCorp FERC Rate Schedule No. 237 (Bonneville Contract No. DE-MS79-82BP90049), originally dated Mary 4, 1982, most recent amendment filed with FERC on November 6, 2014 and accepted by FERC on December 30, 2014. *See* FERC Docket No. ER15-354-000.

By regular mail: Data Request Response Center PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232 1 Informal questions may be directed to Erin Apperson, Manager, State Regulatory 2 Affairs at 503-813-6642. 3 PacifiCorp admits, denies, alleges, and affirmatively defends as follows: 4 **IDENTITY OF THE PARTIES** 5 1. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 1 of the Complaint. 6 2. PacifiCorp does not have sufficient information to admit or deny the factual 7 allegations contained in paragraph 2 of the Complaint, but will stipulate to the assertion made 8 by Surprise Valley. 9 APPLICABLE STATUTES AND RULES 10 3. The allegations in paragraphs 3-4 of the Complaint contain legal conclusions 11 and no answer is required. PacifiCorp denies the allegations on this basis. 12 **JURISDICTION** 13 4. The allegations in paragraphs 5-6 of the Complaint contain legal conclusions 14 and no answer is required. PacifiCorp denies the allegations on this basis. 15 FACTUAL BACKGROUND 16 **Surprise Valley's Electrical Requirements** 5. 17 PacifiCorp does not have sufficient information to admit or deny the factual 18 allegation contained in paragraph 7 of the Complaint, however PacifiCorp will stipulate to 19 the allegation. PacifiCorp does not sell any energy, either on a wholesale or retail basis, to 20 Surprise Valley.

datarequest@pacificorp.com

By email (preferred):

- PacifiCorp does not have sufficient information to admit or deny the factual allegation contained in paragraph 8 of the Complaint, however PacifiCorp will stipulate to the allegation.
- 7. PacifiCorp admits to the allegations in paragraph 9 of the Complaint, but
 notes that Surprise Valley provided an incomplete list of substations to which PacifiCorp
 delivers Bonneville power to Surprise Valley under the GTA between Bonneville and
 PacifiCorp. The complete list of Surprise Valley points of delivery under the GTA includes
 the Malin, Alturas, Austin, Cedarville Junction, Davis Creek, and Lakeview substations. The
 Lakeview substation, which Surprise Valley does not list in its Complaint, is the relevant
 point of delivery for the area of Surprise Valley's system where Paisley chose to site its

Paisley Project

plant.

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- 13 8. PacifiCorp does not have sufficient information to admit or deny the factual 14 allegation contained in paragraph 10 of the Complaint.
 - 9. PacifiCorp admits to the allegation in paragraphs 11-12 of the Complaint.
- 16 10. PacifiCorp does not have sufficient information to admit or deny the factual allegation contained in paragraph 13 of the Complaint.
- 18 PacifiCorp admits to the allegation in paragraphs 14-15 of the Complaint.
- 12. PacifiCorp denies that PacifiCorp is willing and able to transmit the Paisley
 20 Project's "load" to PacifiCorp's transmission facilities. PacifiCorp believes that Surprise
 21 Valley meant to allege that Surprise Valley is "willing and able to transmit the Paisley
 22 Project's net output to PacifiCorp's transmission facilities." However, if that was the intent

of Surprise Valley, PacifiCorp admits that Surprise Valley is willing, but denies it is able to

- transmit the Paisley Project's net output to PacifiCorp's transmission facilities. Surprise
- 2 Valley does not have an open access transmission tariff, a wholesale distribution tariff, or any
- 3 other method of tracking and transferring energy across its own distribution system. It also
- 4 does not appear that Surprise Valley has the facilities available to ensure firm deliveries to
- 5 PacifiCorp. Without clear transmission arrangement with verifiable schedules, PacifiCorp
- 6 has no way of determining the actual amount of energy received from an off-system resource
- 7 such as the Paisley Project.
- 8 PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 17 of the Complaint. It is
- 9 important to note, however, the distinction between a Balancing Authority's operations and
- the provision of transmission service. A Balancing Authority's scope of operations relates
- solely to reliability of transmission services for the benefit of transmission customers and not
- 12 to the provision of energy or transmission services to retail or wholesale electricity customers
- on a commercial basis.⁹
- 14. PacifiCorp admits that the Paisley Project's net output, if put onto Surprise
- Valley's system as intended, would displace electricity that Surprise Valley would otherwise
- purchase from Bonneville under Surprise Valley's all-requirements contract with Bonneville,
- thereby reducing Bonneville's schedules for delivery of energy across PacifiCorp's
- transmission or distribution facilities to Surprise Valley under the GTA between Bonneville
- and PacifiCorp. As noted above, Surprise Valley is not a party to the GTA, which is simply
- a transmission agreement between Bonneville and PacifiCorp. The GTA provides for,
- among other things, the transfer of energy across PacifiCorp's transmission or distribution

⁹ See North American Electric Reliability Corporation Rules of Procedure Appendix 5B, Revision 5.2, available at http://www.nerc.com/FilingsOrders/us/RuleOfProcedureDL/Appendix_5B_RegistrationCriteria_20150319.pdf (defining Balancing Authority as the responsible entity that integrates resource plans ahead of time, maintains load-interchange-generation balance within a balancing authority area, and support interconnection frequency in real-time).

- 1 facilities to Bonneville's wholesale energy customers. Any "displacement" of Surprise
- 2 Valley's load by the Paisley Project would displace Surprise Valley's own load needs and
- 3 reduce Bonneville's obligation to supply energy to meet Surprise Valley's load requirements.
- 4 The only benefit to PacifiCorp is the potential additional availability of transmission capacity
- 5 due to reduced Bonneville transfers, at the expense of associated transmission revenue under
- 6 the GTA. Any "displacement" of Bonneville power by the Paisley Project's generation
- 7 would not, however, otherwise impact PacifiCorp's wholesale power sales, as PacifiCorp
- 8 does not sell power to Surprise Valley.
- 9 15. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 19-21 of the Complaint.
- 10 PacifiCorp does not have sufficient information to admit or deny the factual
- allegations contained in paragraphs 22-23 of the Complaint.

Transmission Service Request

- 13 PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 24-25 of the Complaint.
- 14 18. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 26 of the Complaint. OAR
- 15 860-082-0015(2) defines "Affected System" as "a transmission or distribution system, not
- owned or operated by the interconnecting public utility, which may experience an adverse
- 17 system impact from the interconnection of a small generator facility." Thus, PacifiCorp's
- Affected System classification is consistent with the fact that the Paisley Project is directly
- interconnected to Surprise Valley's system and an indirectly connected, off-system QF for
- 20 PacifiCorp. 10

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19. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 27 of the Complaint.

¹⁰ See Complaint at paragraph 14 ("The Paisley Project is interconnected with, and within, the service territory of Surprise Valley.").

- 1 20. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 28 of the Complaint as the term
- 2 Interconnection Notification is not defined. PacifiCorp admits that Surprise Valley sent a
- 3 letter to PacifiCorp Transmission notifying PacifiCorp as an affected system of the Paisley
- 4 Project interconnection to Surprise Valley's system.
- 5 21. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 29 of the Complaint as the term
- 6 Interconnection Notification is not defined. PacifiCorp admits that PacifiCorp Transmission
- 7 confirmed receipt of Surprise Valley's letter to PacifiCorp Transmission notifying PacifiCorp
- 8 as an affected system of the Paisley Project interconnection to Surprise Valley's system.
- 9 22. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 30-31 of the Complaint, with
- 10 the clarification that it was not a generator interconnection request, but a request to study the
- impacts of the Paisley Project's interconnection to Surprise Valley's system on PacifiCorp as
- 12 a neighboring, interconnected system.
- 13 23. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 32-40 of the Complaint.
- 14 24. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 41 of the Complaint. This is
- 15 consistent with PacifiCorp's obligation under PURPA to make firm transmission
- arrangements to deliver a QF's power. PacifiCorp typically makes these firm transmission
- 17 arrangements by designating the QF PPA as a network resource under the network
- transmission service agreement between PacifiCorp ESM and PacifiCorp Transmission.
- 19 25. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 42 of the Complaint.
- 26. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 43 of the Complaint. This
- 21 request was required to determine the costs associated with designating a Paisley Project
- 22 PPA as a network resource to serve PacifiCorp's load on PacifiCorp's system.

- PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 44 of the Complaint, with the
- 2 clarification that the request submitted to PacifiCorp Transmission was to designate the
- 3 Paisley Project PPA as a network resource under PacifiCorp's FERC-approved Open Access
- 4 Transmission Tariff to serve PacifiCorp's load on PacifiCorp's system.
- 5 28. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 45 of the Complaint, with the
- 6 clarification that the request submitted to PacifiCorp Transmission was to designate the
- 7 Paisley Project PPA to integrate the energy to serve PacifiCorp's load on PacifiCorp's
- 8 system. Neither the request to designate the Paisley Project PPA as a network resource nor
- 9 the system impact study addressed delivery of the net output of the Paisley Project to
- 10 PacifiCorp's system.
- 11 29. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 46 of the Complaint. However,
- the initial request to designate the Paisley Project PPA as a network resource was withdrawn
- at the direction of PacifiCorp Transmission because PacifiCorp ESM mistakenly identified
- the PPA as an on-system resource.
- 15 30. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 47 of the Complaint, PacifiCorp
- 16 ESM resubmitted its request to designate the Paisley Project PPA as an off-system network
- 17 resource located approximately 45 miles from PacifiCorp's Mile Hi substation, but metered
- for delivery as an on-system resource in an attempt to accommodate Surprise Valley's
- 19 proposal to sell the Paisley Project's net output to PacifiCorp without a transmission
- arrangement.
- 21 31. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 48 of the Complaint.
- 22 32. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 49 of the Complaint, with the
- clarification that this analysis addressed system constraints on PacifiCorp's facilities to

- transfer energy after it is delivered to PacifiCorp's system for transfer to PacifiCorp's retail load.
- 3 PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 50 of the Complaint.
- 4 34. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 51 of the Complaint, with the
- 5 clarification that this analysis addressed main grid, distribution, and sub-transmission
- 6 upgrades to PacifiCorp's facilities to transfer energy delivered to PacifiCorp's system for
- 7 transfer to PacifiCorp's load. When PacifiCorp purchases QF power under a PPA, it is
- 8 required to ensure that its system will allow PacifiCorp to actually deliver that power to its
- 9 retail customers.
- 10 35. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 52-56 of the Complaint, as
- they relate to PacifiCorp ESM's transmission service on PacifiCorp's system.
- 12 36. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 57 of the Complaint, but
- clarifies that by "interconnection agreement" Surprise Valley is referring to a generator
- 14 interconnection agreement. A generator interconnection agreement governs the
- interconnection of a generator with PacifiCorp's system. Here, a generator interconnection
- agreement would not be required because the Paisley Project is interconnected to the Surprise
- 17 Valley system, not PacifiCorp's. 11
- 18 37. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 58-59 of the Complaint.
- 19 38. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 60 of the Complaint that
- 20 PacifiCorp Transmission agreed that existing or interim metering is sufficient to allow the
- 21 Paisley Project to generate power until the completion of the transmission upgrades identified
- 22 in the Facilities Study are completed. PacifiCorp also admits that the existing or interim

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¹¹ See Complaint at paragraph 14 ("The Paisley Project is interconnected with, and within, the service territory of Surprise Valley.").

- 1 metering is sufficient to allow Surprise Valley to use the Paisley Project's net output to serve
- 2 Surprise Valley's retail load. PacifiCorp denies that the existing or interim metering is
- 3 sufficient to allow Surprise Valley to sell the Paisley Project's net output to PacifiCorp. The
- 4 treatment of the Paisley Project as a pseudo on-system resource was a settlement position
- 5 offered by PacifiCorp whereby PacifiCorp would meter physical flow of power from
- 6 Surprise Valley's system to PacifiCorp's system, essentially treating the Paisley Project as a
- 7 type of on-system QF providing direct delivery. Such physical flow, however, would require
- 8 the net output of the Paisley Project to exceed the retail load of Surprise Valley.

Power Purchase Agreement

- 10 39. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 61 of the Complaint.
- 11 40. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 62 of the Complaint regarding
- the filing and approval of a revised Schedule 37. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in
- paragraph 62 of the Complaint that the Schedule 37 effective on April 11, 2012, was the
- 14 Commission-approved rate schedule during most of the negotiations regarding a PURPA
- 15 PPA for the net output of the Paisley Project. Negotiations for a PURPA PPA for the net
- output of the Paisley Project are ongoing.
- 17 41. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 63 of the Complaint.
- 18 42. The allegations in paragraph 64 of the Complaint contain legal conclusions
- and no answer is required. PacifiCorp denies the allegations on this basis.
- 20 43. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 65 of the Complaint. PacifiCorp
- 21 provided informational documents and Schedule 37 to Surprise Valley.
- 22 44. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 66 of the Complaint.

- 1 45. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 67 of the Complaint. PacifiCorp
- 2 ESM provided Schedule 37 with the information documents provided to Surprise Valley.
- 3 Schedule 37 specifically states the avoided cost rates are not final until a PPA is executed.
- 4 46. PacifiCorp denies the allegations in paragraph 68 of the Complaint.
- 5 PacifiCorp ESM provided Schedule 37 with the information documents provided to Surprise
- 6 Valley. Schedule 37 specifically identifies a procedure for comments and edit to the
- 7 template PPA.
- 8 47. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 69 of the Complaint. Any
- 9 power used by Surprise Valley to offset energy supplied by Bonneville to Surprise Valley
- would be used to serve Surprise Valley load. Bonneville would reduce its all-requirements
- deliveries to Surprise Valley in an amount equal to the Paisley Project's net output, and there
- would be no power available for delivery to and purchase by any third party, such as
- PacifiCorp, unless the Paisley Project's net output exceeded Surprise Valley's load.
- PacifiCorp was under no obligation to provide a legal citation regarding this fact, which is
- supported by a basic mathematical analysis of Surprise Valley's loads and resources and the
- 16 commonly understood construct of an all-requirements contract. A utility has no obligation
- 17 to enter into a PPA for power that is unavailable for delivery to or purchase by the utility.
- 18 48. PacifiCorp admits that, in the context of attempting to find a method of
- verifying the Paisley Project's net output, it explored the possibility of treating Paisley as an
- 20 on-system QF. The Paisley Project is an off-system QF. The remaining allegations in
- 21 paragraph 70 of the Complaint contain legal conclusions and no answer is required.
- 22 PacifiCorp denies the allegations on this basis and the significant legal relevance to the

- additional requirements for an off-system QF to establishing a mandatory purchase
- 2 obligation.¹²
- PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 71 of the Complaint and notes
- 4 that Surprise Valley's failure to understand whether it is an on-system or off-system QF
- 5 contradicts paragraph 37 of the Complaint.
- 6 So. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 72-74 of the Complaint.
- 7 51. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 75 of the Complaint. Because
- 8 the Paisley Project is an off-system resource, PacifiCorp did not have accurate information
- 9 regarding the net amount of power to be delivered to PacifiCorp's electric system under any
- transmission arrangement or the status of any such requisite transmission arrangements, as
- 11 required under Section I.B.2 of Schedule 37¹³.
- 12 52. The allegations in paragraph 76 of the Complaint contain legal conclusions
- and no answer is required. PacifiCorp denies the allegations on this basis.
- 14 53. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 77 of the Complaint that
- 15 PacifiCorp provided a modified "on-system" PPA to Surprise Valley on February 10, 2014,
- based on PacifiCorp's proposal to accommodate Surprise Valley's request despite Surprise
- 17 Valley's failure to provide a transmission agreement to deliver the net output from an off-
- 18 system QF. PacifiCorp denies the allegation that the draft PPA was provided twenty-one
- business days after Surprise Valley provided all of the information required in Section I.B.2
- of Schedule 37 because Surprise Valley had not provided status of any requisite transmission
- 21 arrangements for delivery of the Paisley Project's net output to PacifiCorp facilities.
- 22 54. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 78 of the Complaint.

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¹² FERC Order No. 69; 18 CFR § 292.303; PacifiCorp Schedule 37; and OEC.

¹³ Schedule 37, page 8.

- 1 55. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 79 of the Complaint that
- 2 PacifiCorp did not provide the standard avoided cost prices or other optional pricing
- 3 mechanisms. PacifiCorp denies the allegation that it was required to provide the standard
- 4 avoided cost prices or other optional pricing mechanisms under Section I.B.2 of Schedule 37.
- 5 PacifiCorp also denies that is was required to provide such pricing information under Section
- I.B.3 of Scheduled 37¹⁴ because Surprise Valley had not provided the status of its 6
- 7 transmission arrangements as required under Section I.B.2(j) of Schedule 37.
- 8 56. The allegations in paragraph 80 of the Complaint contain legal conclusions
- 9 and no answer is required. PacifiCorp denies the allegations on this basis.
- 10 57. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 81-82 of the Complaint.
- 58. 11 The allegations in paragraph 83 of the Complaint contain legal conclusions
- 12 and no answer is required. PacifiCorp denies the allegations on this basis.
- 59. 13 PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 84 of the Complaint.
- 14 60. PacifiCorp denies the allegations in paragraph 85 of the Complaint. The
- 15 information is necessary for PacifiCorp to evaluate whether there is a legitimate offer from
- 16 the QF.
- 17 61. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 86 of the Complaint.
- 18 62. The allegations in paragraph 87 of the Complaint contain legal conclusions
- 19 and no answer is required. PacifiCorp denies the allegations on this basis.
- 63. 20 PacifiCorp denies the allegations in paragraph 88 of the Complaint. Surprise
- 21 Valley has not, to date, provided the requisite transmission arrangements for delivery of the
- 22 net output from the Paisley Project, an off-system resource, to PacifiCorp transmission

¹⁴ Schedule 37, page 8.

- 1 facilities in compliance with the requirements under PURPA, FERC regulations, FERC
- 2 Order 69, the Commission's regulations, and Schedule 37.
- 3 64. PacifiCorp denies the allegations in paragraph 89 of the Complaint.
- 4 PacifiCorp has repeatedly discussed the issue of delivery with Surprise Valley. Whether
- 5 those discussions were public or private is not legally relevant. PacifiCorp admits that it
- 6 stated that PacifiCorp is under no obligation to accept Surprise Valley's argument that energy
- 7 sourced from Bonneville power resources and transferred by Bonneville across PacifiCorp's
- 8 transmission facilities can be deemed to be the net output from the Paisley Project. This is a
- 9 separate issue from transmission service across PacifiCorp's facilities to service PacifiCorp
- 10 load. The issue is whether Surprise Valley can transfer the Paisley Project's net output
- across Surprise Valley's facilities to deliver the net output of the QF to PacifiCorp.
- 12 65. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 90 of the Complaint in that
- 13 Surprise Valley sent a draft PPA to PacifiCorp on May 20, 2014. PacifiCorp, however,
- denies that that draft was complete in that it did not address deliverability or transmission to
- 15 the PacifiCorp system.
- 16 PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 91 of the Complaint. Surprise
- 17 Valley expressed an unequivocal desire to sell the energy and capacity of the Paisley Project
- to PacifiCorp, but was not able to provide the means for delivery of the net output to
- 19 PacifiCorp.
- 20 67. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 92-93 of the Complaint.
- 21 68. The allegations in paragraph 94 of the Complaint contain legal conclusions
- and no answer is required. PacifiCorp denies the allegations on this basis, and the underlying

- 1 premise in the allegation that Surprise Valley had provided all of the information required by
- 2 Section I.B.2 of Schedule 37.
- 3 69. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 95-96 of the Complaint.
- 4 70. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 97 of the Complaint, but the
- 5 alleged statements were made based on the parties' ability to reach agreement on the terms of
- 6 a PPA and adequate delivery arrangements.
- 7 PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 98 of the Complaint regarding
- 8 the meeting, but the discussion addressed fundamental issues related to Surprise Valley's
- 9 ability to deliver the net output of the Paisley Project to PacifiCorp's system.
- 10 72. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 99 of the Complaint. Surprise
- Valley expressed an unequivocal desire to sell the energy and capacity of the Paisley Project
- 12 to PacifiCorp, but was not able to provide the means for delivery of the net output to
- 13 PacifiCorp.
- 73. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 100-102 of the Complaint.
- 15 74. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 103 of the Complaint. On
- July 22, 2014, Surprise Valley provided PacifiCorp ESM with a revised on-system draft PPA
- following the July 11, 2014 meeting. During the July 11, 2014 meeting, however, PacifiCorp
- raised fundamental issues related to Surprise Valley's ability to deliver the net output of the
- 19 Paisley Project to PacifiCorp's system.
- 20 75. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 104 of the Complaint. Surprise
- Valley expressed an unequivocal desire to sell the energy and capacity of the Paisley Project
- 22 to PacifiCorp, but was not able to provide the means for delivery of the net output to
- 23 PacifiCorp.

- PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 105-111 of the Complaint.
- PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 112 of the Complaint, but
- 3 PacifiCorp ESM also informed Surprise Valley that PacifiCorp had not agreed to the form of
- 4 delivery to PacifiCorp's system.
- 5 78. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 113 of the Complaint. On
- 6 August 26, 2014, PacifiCorp ESM stated that as currently proposed by Surprise Valley, the
- 7 Paisley Project's generation will be used by Surprise Valley load and will not physically
- 8 reach PacifiCorp's system during the majority of hours of the year and does not qualify as a
- 9 PURPA QF.
- 10 79. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 114 of the Complaint.
- 11 80. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 115 of the Complaint that the
- issue of physical delivery of power had been resolved because PacifiCorp Transmission
- worked out the metering issues. Metering is one aspect of the requirements to validate the
- delivery of net output to PacifiCorp's transmission facilities. The metering merely allowed
- PacifiCorp to measure actual power flows from Surprise Valley's system onto PacifiCorp's
- system. This, however, would only occur when Paisley Project net output was greater than
- 17 Surprise Valley's retail load. It did not otherwise address the need for transmission
- arrangements to deliver the entire net output of the Paisley Project to PacifiCorp, as
- 19 requested by Surprise Valley.
- 20 81. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 116-117 of the Complaint.
- 21 82. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 118 of the Complaint, but
- clarifies that a sale under Schedule 38 would be at Schedule 38 rates.
- 23 83. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 119-123 of the Complaint.

- 1 84. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 124 of the Complaint that on
- 2 April 16, 2015, PacifiCorp ESM informed Surprise Valley that the transmission upgrades
- 3 would allow Surprise Valley to offset its own load. However, the transmission upgrades
- 4 would only allow Surprise Valley to sell the net output in excess of Surprise Valley's retail
- 5 load to PacifiCorp as an Oregon Schedule 37 QF.
- 6 85. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraphs 125-127 of the Complaint.
- PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 128 of the Complaint;
- 8 however, that discussion was conducted during the course of settlement negotiations that
- 9 (1) assumed the parties would reach agreement on a PPA, and (2) that the parties mutually
- agreed would be remain confidential, as Surprise Valley admits in paragraph 126 of the
- 11 Complaint. Furthermore, the discussion on May 15, 2015, occurred after Surprise Valley's
- recognition that Bonneville was critical to any resolution.
- 13 87. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 129 of the Complaint.
- 14 88. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 130 of the Complaint. While
- 15 the specific discussions regarding assurances were part of confidential settlement
- negotiations, Surprise Valley admits that PacifiCorp was willing to provide assurances.¹⁵
- 17 89. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 131 of the Complaint.
- 18 90. PacifiCorp admits the allegations in paragraph 132 of the Complaint.
- 19 PacifiCorp notes, however, that the PPA was based on PacifiCorp's off-system QF template
- agreement, but Surprise Valley had not provided evidence of a transmission arrangement,
- 21 instead stating it would provide such evidence after execution of the PPA.
- 22 91. PacifiCorp does not have sufficient information to admit or deny the factual
- 23 allegations contained in paragraph 133 of the Complaint because, as noted, PacifiCorp is not

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¹⁵ Complaint, ¶ 128.

- 1 a party to the all-requirements contract between Bonneville and Surprise Valley and has not
- 2 been a party to any discussions regarding amendment of the same. PacifiCorp will
- 3 nevertheless stipulate to the assertion made by Surprise Valley.
- 4 92. PacifiCorp does not have sufficient information to admit or deny the factual
- allegations contained in paragraph 134 of the Complaint, but will stipulate to Surprise 5
- 6 Valley's assertion.

8

LEGAL CLAIMS 7

Answer to Complainant's First Claim for Relief

- 9 93. PacifiCorp incorporates its answers in paragraphs 1-92 above.
- 10 94. PacifiCorp admits the allegation in paragraph 136 of the Complaint that
- 11 PacifiCorp has an obligation to purchase a QF's net output that is directly or indirectly
- 12 delivered to PacifiCorp's system under 18 CFR § 292.303(a) and (d), ORS § 758.525(2)(b),
- 13 and FERC Order No. 69. PacifiCorp admits that other statutes and regulations, including
- 14 ORS § 758.535, OAR 860-0029-0030 and 18 CFR § 292.304 also articulate an obligation to
- 15 purchase a OF's net output, generally. However, this Commission has specifically found that
- 16 a QF must provide a wheeling agreement to obligate a utility to purchase power from an off-
- system QF.¹⁶ 17
- 95. 18 PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 137 of the Complaint that
- 19 Surprise Valley can make the net output of the Paisley Project "directly and/or indirectly
- 20 available to PacifiCorp." In particular, PacifiCorp takes issue with Surprise Valley's use of
- 21 the phrase "and/or" because it could be read to suggest that a hybrid direct/indirect
- 22 interconnection may be a possibility. As this Commission has specifically found, under a
- 23 plain reading of 18 CFR § 292.303, a QF may not require one utility to serve as both the

¹⁶ See, e.g., OEC at slip copy p. 6 (1998 WL 412484).

1	direct and the indirect	purchaser of th	e QF's net output. ¹⁷	With that clarification in mind
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- 2 PacifiCorp admits that the Paisley Project, an off-system QF, could make its net output
- 3 indirectly available to PacifiCorp via the requisite transmission/distribution delivery
- 4 arrangements—arrangements that serve as a precondition to creating a mandatory purchase
- 5 obligation on PacifiCorp. 18 Surprise Valley failed to allege that it has, and in fact has not,
- 6 provided PacifiCorp evidence of any such delivery arrangements. As an alternative,
- 7 PacifiCorp admits that the Paisley Project could have directly interconnected the Paisley
- 8 Project to PacifiCorp's system, but chose not to.
- 9 96. PacifiCorp denies the allegations and legal interpretation of FERC Order
- No. 69 in paragraph 138 of the Complaint. Power must either flow directly or indirectly via
- a transmission arrangement to PacifiCorp. It is not the responsibility of the utility to
- determine how an off-system QF will deliver its net output.
- Furthermore, as discussed above, Surprise Valley's interpretation of FERC Order
- No. 69 is fundamentally flawed. Quoting only a portion of the relevant Order No. 69
- discussion, Surprise Valley's paragraph 138 eliminates necessary context making it clear that
- 16 FERC was addressing a potential displacement between only two very specific types of
- entities: (1) a transmitting utility; and (2) the transmitting utility's all-requirements wholesale
- 18 energy supplier. 19 The full Order No. 69 passage is as follows, with Surprise Valley's quoted
- 19 language underlined:

The electric utility to which the electric energy is transmitted has the obligation to purchase the energy at a rate which reflects the costs that

¹⁷ Tumbleweed Energy II, LLC v. Idaho Power Co. (UM 1552) and Western Desert Energy, LLC v. Idaho Power Co. (UM 1553), Order No. 12-083 (March 13, 2012)("...under a plain reading of 18 CFR § 292.303, a [QF] may not require one utility to serve as both the direct and the indirect purchaser of the [QF's] output."). ¹⁸ See OEC.

¹⁹ The quoted passage also touches on the related issue of the impact of such a displacement on the avoided cost rate, given that the displacement would eliminate the losses normally factored in when energy is actually transmitted across the transmitting utility's system.

it can avoid as a result of making such a purchase. In cases in which electricity actually travels across the transmitting utility's system, the amount of energy delivered will be less than that transmitted, due to line losses. When this occurs, the rate for purchase can reflect losses. In other cases, the energy supplied by the qualifying facility will displace energy that would have been supplied by the purchasing utility to the transmitting utility. In those cases, a unit of energy supplied from the qualifying facility may replace a greater amount of energy from the purchasing utility. In that case, the rate for purchase should be increased to reflect the net gain. These provisions are also set forth in paragraph [292.303(d)].

set form in paragraph [292.303(d)].

As the full passage makes clear, this displacement narrowly applies when the QF delivers its power to the utility to which it is directly interconnected, or the "transmitting utility," and the indirectly interconnected "purchasing utility" uses the QF's net output to reduce the purchasing utility's obligation to sell power to the transmitting utility. This limited displacement exception does not apply here. Importantly, the indirectly interconnected purchasing utility—PacifiCorp—is under no existing obligation to sell power to the directly interconnected transmitting utility—Surprise Valley—so there is nothing against which to offset the QF power. Rather, the existing transmission agreement between PacifiCorp and Bonneville obligates PacifiCorp to merely deliver Bonneville's preference power to Surprise Valley's loads. Further, as Surprise Valley admits, the relevant allrequirements power sales contract under which Bonneville supplies this power to Surprise Valley is between Bonneville and Surprise Valley only. 20 PacifiCorp is not a party to that sales contract, nor does PacifiCorp take title to the Bonneville power it delivers under the GTA at any point. Thus, given these contractual arrangements between the relevant entities, under Surprise Valley's interpretation, the "savings" from offsetting PacifiCorp's deliveries to Surprise Valley would accrue to Bonneville as the energy supplier to Surprise Valley, and PacifiCorp would remain neutral.

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²⁰ Complaint, ¶ 7.

In addition to Surprise Valley's FERC Order No. 69 theory being flawed, its citations 2 supporting its claim that displacement is a form of physical delivery are also out of context 3 and, in fact, do not address energy displacement at all. First, Federal Power Comm'n v. Florida Power & Light Co., 404 U.S. 453, 457-63 (1972) ("Florida Power") addresses 4 5 whether the Federal Power Commission, now FERC, had jurisdiction over Florida Power & 6 Light. The test for jurisdiction under the Federal Power Act articulated in Section 201 is whether energy was used in interstate commerce.²¹ Fundamentally, Florida Power addressed 7 8 the statutory interpretation of the Federal Power Act, not PURPA. More importantly, the 9 discussion in Florida Power regarding displacement is a discussion of the physical properties 10 of electricity, not displacement as a form of transmission to deliver a QF's net output to a utility.²² 11 12 Likewise, Surprise Valley's citation to Pacific Power & Light Co., 36 FPC 706 13 (1996) ("PP&L") is flawed because it does not address displacement in the form argued by 14 Surprise Valley. In PP&L, the Federal Power Commission approved a proposed power sale 15 arrangement where PP&L would sell power to the British Columbia Hydro and Power 16 Authority through a complex set of energy exchange agreements, again under the Federal Power Act, not PURPA. The reference to "displacement" merely refers to the execution of 17 18 transmission arrangements that would provide energy to fulfill certain contractual obligations

²¹ 16 USC § 824(b)(the Federal Power Act grants FERC jurisdiction over "the transmission of electric energy in interstate commerce and...the sale of electric energy at wholesale in interstate commerce, but ...not [over] any other sale of electric energy....").

²² Florida Power 404 US 453 at 462 ("Power from any given source will not flow further along the line than loads of wattage cumulatively equal to the wattage of the power source. The distribution of entry lines and wattage loads on the Turner bus is said to demonstrate that all of the Florida Power's power will be exhausted by Corp's load lines before the point, further down the line, where Georgia's load intervenes. When power flows in the opposite directly...again the effect is one of displacement. Georgia's power goes to Corp's load lines before the point, further down the line, where Georgia's load intervenes. When power flows in the opposite direction...again the effect is one of displacement.").

- between the parties.²³ Surprise Valley, however, has not alleged, and in fact has not 1
- 2 provided, any transmission arrangements to support its assertion that PacifiCorp has an
- obligation to purchase the net output of the Paisley Project.²⁴ 3
- 4 97. PacifiCorp does not have sufficient information to admit or deny the factual
- 5 allegation contained in paragraph 139 of the Complaint. Surprise Valley's allegation,
- 6 however, is irrelevant to PacifiCorp's legal obligations in Oregon.
- 7 98. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 140 of the Complaint. As
- 8 discussed above, the FERC Order No. 69 displacement theory does not apply as between
- 9 Surprise Valley and PacifiCorp because there is no existing power sale (much less an all-
- 10 requirements contract) from PacifiCorp to Surprise Valley against which the Paisley
- 11 Project's net output can be displaced. Displacing electricity merely delivered by PacifiCorp
- 12 under its transmission contract with Bonneville would inappropriately force PacifiCorp's
- 13 customers to pay avoided costs rates for power PacifiCorp will never receive in any form,
- 14 contrary to PURPA, the Commission's rules and policies, FERC's rules and policies, and
- Schedule 37.²⁵ 15

²³ PP&L, 36 FPC 706 (1996) ("Applicant has completed transmission arrangements with Utah Power & Light Company and Idaho Power Company for displacement deliveries of any energy generated at Applicant's Wyoming steam-electric generating facilities. Those arrangements are reflected in Utah Power & Light Company's Rate Schedules FPC Nos. 102A and 102B, Idaho Power Company's Rate Schedules FPC Nos. 28 and 46, and Applicant's Rate Schedules FPC Nos. 69A and 69B. Applicant would deliver such energy from the Dave Johnston plant to Utah Power & Light Company which would then credit Idaho Power Company with these deliveries. Idaho Power Company would then deliver energy to Applicant's Oregon system.") (emphasis added). ²⁴ See OEC.

²⁵ One way power could, in theory, become available for PacifiCorp to purchase is if Bonneville over-scheduled its energy deliveries to Surprise Valley. Or, stated another way, if Bonneville ignored the metered load at the points of delivery identified in the GTA and terms of that agreement. However, if Bonneville were to do this, PacifiCorp's customers may end up paying twice for the net output of the Paisley Project: first under the QF PPA with Paisley, and second to compensate Bonneville for certain imbalance (over-delivery) charges incurred under GTA (PacifiCorp, as the "Transferor" under the GTA, supplies the imbalance energy to serve the load in the event of under-deliveries and compensates Bonneville in the event of over- deliveries.). The GTA is a PacifiCorp rate schedule on file with FERC, and PacifiCorp may not deviate from the terms of that agreement.

- 1 99. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 141 of the Complaint. Again,
- 2 the net output of the Paisley Project would displace electricity supplied by Bonneville to
- 3 Surprise Valley, not PacifiCorp. PacifiCorp admits that Surprise Valley's proposal to sell to
- 4 PacifiCorp creates complexities, and that those complexities have delayed negotiations, but
- 5 Surprise Valley has not alleged (nor could it allege) that it is PacifiCorp's responsibility to
- 6 identify the transmission arrangements necessary for an off-system QF to deliver its net
- 7 output to PacifiCorp's system.²⁶

8 Answer to Complainant's Second Claim for Relief

- 9 100. PacifiCorp incorporates its answers in paragraphs 1-99 above
- 10 PacifiCorp admits to the allegations in paragraph 143 of the Complaint.
- 11 102. PacifiCorp admits to the allegations in paragraph 144 of the Complaint in the
- allegation describes the physical nature of electricity.
- 13 PacifiCorp denies the allegations in paragraph 145 of the Complaint.
- 14 Schedule 747 does not articulate a simultaneous purchase and sale purchase. A simultaneous
- purchase and sale refers to a retail customer's ability to sell net output from a QF project to
- PacifiCorp, while receiving retail service from PacifiCorp for the entire amount of its station
- 17 service or other retail load. ²⁷
- 18 104. PacifiCorp denies the allegations in paragraph 146 of the Complaint as
- 19 discussed above.

²⁶ See OEC.

²⁷ See In re Investigation Relating to Electric Utility Purchases from Qualifying Facilities, Docket No. UM 1129, Order No. 07-360 at 31 (Aug. 20, 2007) (""Simultaneous purchase and sale"" assumes that the QF sells to the utility its entire net output, while simultaneously purchasing from the utility its full electrical requirements at tariff rates. One's reasonable expectation is that the QF would plan to sell its full output to the utility when the avoided cost price is greater than the retail rate, while selling only its surplus energy to the utility when the avoided cost price is lower than the retail rate and serving its on-site requirements with its own generation.") Here, of course, PacifiCorp is not selling any power to Surprise Valley at all; the example is completely inapposite.

1	1	105	PacifiCorn	denies the a	llegations in	naragraph 147	of the Complaint	as
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- 2 discussed above. It is an unsupported, illogical leap to claim that policies related to on-
- 3 system QFs owned by PacifiCorp's retail customers should be applied to off-system QFs.
- 4 Again, Surprise Valley confuses the physical nature of electricity (to serve the nearest load)
- 5 with the requirement for commercial arrangements to address delivery of off-system QFs.
- 6 Under Surprise Valley's interpretation, PacifiCorp could be required to purchase power from
- 7 a OF anywhere in the Western Interconnection because electrons, by their very nature, would
- 8 displace energy provided to PacifiCorp because of the interconnected nature of the electric
- 9 system. PURPA, FERC regulations, and the Commission's policies do not allow this.

Answer to Complainant's Third Claim for Relief

- 11 106. PacifiCorp incorporates its answers in paragraphs 1-105 above
- 12 107. PacifiCorp admits to the allegations in paragraph 149 of the Complaint in so 13 much as they discuss the general obligations of PacifiCorp under PURPA.
 - 108. PacifiCorp admits to the allegations in paragraph 150 of the Complaint in so much as they discuss the general obligations of PacifiCorp under PURPA.
 - 109. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 151 of the Complaint. As discussed in detail above, the Commission has found that a delivery arrangement is necessary to obligate a utility to purchase power from an off-system QF.²⁸ Such an arrangement is critical for PacifiCorp to be able to verify that it is indeed receiving an off-system QF's power on its system. Surprise Valley has yet to make any such delivery arrangements or otherwise address PacifiCorp's concern that PacifiCorp would only receive power if the Paisley Project generates more than Surprise Valley's load due to Surprise Valley's all-

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²⁸ OEC.

- 1 requirements contract with Bonneville. Accordingly, Surprise Valley has not "unequivocally
- 2 committed itself" to sell the net output of the Paisley Project to PacifiCorp.
- 3 110. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 152 of the Complaint for the
- 4 reasons stated above.
- 5 111. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 153 of the Complaint for the
- 6 reasons stated above.

7 Answer to Complainant's Fourth Claim for Relief

- 8 112. PacifiCorp incorporates its answers in paragraphs 1-111 above
- 9 113. PacifiCorp admits to the allegations in paragraphs 155-157 of the Complaint
- in that it states currently applicable requirements.
- 11 114. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 158 of the Complaint that it
- violated OAR § 860-029-0005(3) or provided information late. Surprise Valley had not
- provided status of any requisite transmission arrangements for delivery of the Paisley
- Project's net output to PacifiCorp facilities as required by Section I.B.2 of Schedule 37.
- 15 PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 159 of the Complaint that it
- violated Commission polices and Schedule 37 by not providing specific pricing information.
- 17 Surprise Valley had not provided status of any requisite transmission arrangements for
- delivery of the Paisley Project's net output to PacifiCorp facilities as required by Section
- 19 I.B.2 of the Schedule 37.
- 20 116. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 160 of the Complaint that it
- violated Commission policies and Schedule 37 or provided a project specific draft PPA late.
- 22 Surprise Valley had not provided status of any requisite transmission arrangements for

delivery of the Paisley Project's net output to PacifiCorp facilities as required by Section

2 I.B.2 of the Schedule 37.

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3 117. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 161 of the Complaint that it

4 violated Commission rules and policies, FERC's rules and policies, and Schedule 37 when it

5 did not provide a final draft PPA. Surprise Valley had not provided status of any requisite

6 transmission arrangements for delivery of the Paisley Project's net output to PacifiCorp

facilities as required by Section I.B.2 of the Schedule 37. Without clear transmission

8 arrangements from an off-system resource, PacifiCorp cannot provide a draft, let alone final,

PPA because the specifics related to delivery cannot be addressed.

Paisley Project across Surprise Valley's system to PacifiCorp.

118. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 162 of the Complaint that it violated Commission rules and policies, FERC's rules and policies, and Schedule 37 or delayed entering and refused to enter into a PPA because PacifiCorp Transmission had not approved a transmission service request. As discussed above, the transmission service request related to transmission service on PacifiCorp's system to serve PacifiCorp load. The issue between Surprise Valley and PacifiCorp is the deliverability of the net output from the

119. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 163 of the Complaint that it violated Commission policies and Schedule 37 by including a jury trial waiver provision in a draft PPA during negotiations with Surprise Valley.

120. PacifiCorp denies the allegations in paragraph 164 of the Complaint. As discussed above, the Commission has found that a wheeling agreement is necessary to obligate a utility to purchase power from an off-system QF.²⁹

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²⁹ See OEC.

Answer to Complainant's Fifth Claim for Relief

- 2 121. PacifiCorp incorporates its answers in paragraphs 1-120 above
- PacifiCorp admits to the allegations in paragraph 166 of the Complaint in that
- 4 it states currently applicable requirements.

- 5 PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 167 of the Complaint for the
- 6 reasons discussed above. Surprise Valley had not provided status of any requisite
- 7 transmission arrangements for delivery of the Paisley Project's net output to PacifiCorp
- 8 facilities as required by Section I.B.2 of the Schedule 37.
- 9 124. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 168 of the Complaint for the
- 10 reasons discussed above. Surprise Valley had not provided status of any requisite
- transmission arrangements for delivery of the Paisley Project's net output to PacifiCorp
- facilities as required by Section I.B.2 of the Schedule 37.
- 13 PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 169 of the Complaint for the
- 14 reasons stated above. The transmission service request related to transmission service on
- 15 PacifiCorp's system to serve PacifiCorp load. The issue between Surprise Valley and
- PacifiCorp is the deliverability of the net output from the Paisley Project across Surprise
- 17 Valley's system to PacifiCorp.
- 18 126. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 170 of the Complaint for the
- 19 reasons stated above.
- 20 127. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 171 of the Complaint for the
- 21 reasons stated above, and specifically in response to Surprise Valley's first claim for relief.
- 22 128. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 172 of the Complaint for the
- 23 reasons stated above.

- 1 129. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 173 of the Complaint for the 2 reasons stated above. These statements were part of ongoing negotiations.
- 3 130. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 174 of the Complaint for the
- 4 reasons stated above. Without knowledge of the specific transmission arrangement to deliver
- 5 the net output of the Paisley Project to PacifiCorp's system (e.g., firm, non-firm, conditional-
- 6 firm, etc.), PacifiCorp cannot sign a PPA.
- 7 131. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 175 of the Complaint. Surprise
- 8 Valley's failure to provide details or status of a valid transmission arrangement to deliver the
- 9 net output of the Paisley Project to PacifiCorp's system is the cause of the delay in the
- 10 contract completion process.
- 11 132. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 176 of the Complaint for the
- 12 reasons stated above. The transmission service request related to transmission service on
- 13 PacifiCorp's system to serve PacifiCorp load. The issue between Surprise Valley and
- PacifiCorp is the deliverability of the net output from the Paisley Project across Surprise
- Valley's system to PacifiCorp. It is Surprise Valley's responsibility, not PacifiCorp's, to
- secure transmission arrangements to deliver net output from a QF to PacifiCorp's system.³⁰
- 17 133. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 177 of the Complaint for the
- 18 reasons stated above.

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Answer to Complainant's Sixth Claim for Relief

- 20 134. PacifiCorp incorporates its answers in paragraphs 1-133 above
- 21 135. PacifiCorp admits to the allegations in paragraph 178 of the Complaint in that
- 22 it states currently applicable requirements.

³ See e.g. OEC.

- 1 136. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 179 of the Complaint.
- 2 PacifiCorp has not acted in bad faith. To the contrary, PacifiCorp has participated in
- 3 negotiations despite Surprise Valley's failure to submit required information critical to
- 4 PacifiCorp's ability to enter into a PPA with an off-system QF. To date, Surprise Valley has
- 5 ignored its obligations and the legitimate issues raised by PacifiCorp.
- 6 137. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 180 of the Complaint for the
- 7 reasons stated in paragraph 136 to this Answer.
- 8 138. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 181 of the Complaint for the
- 9 reasons stated in paragraph 136 to this Answer.
- 10 139. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 182 of the Complaint for the
- reasons stated in paragraph 136 to this Answer.
- 12 140. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 183 of the Complaint for the
- reasons stated in paragraph 136 to this Answer.
- 14 PacifiCorp does not have sufficient information to admit or deny the factual
- allegation contained in paragraph 184 of the Complaint.
- 16 PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 185 of the Complaint for the
- 17 reasons stated in paragraph 136 to this Answer.
- 18 143. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 186 of the Complaint. The
- transmission service request related to transmission service on PacifiCorp's system to serve
- 20 PacifiCorp load. The issue between Surprise Valley and PacifiCorp is the deliverability of
- 21 the net output from the Paisley Project across Surprise Valley's system to PacifiCorp. It is

- 1 Surprise Valley's responsibility, not PacifiCorp's, to secure transmission arrangements to
- delivery net output from a QF to PacifiCorp's system.³¹
- 3 144. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 187 of the Complaint for the
- 4 reasons stated in paragraph 143 to this Answer.
- 5 PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 188 of the Complaint for the
- 6 reasons stated in paragraph 143 to this Answer.
- 7 146. PacifiCorp denies the allegation in paragraph 189 of the Complaint for the
- 8 reasons stated in paragraph 143 to this Answer.

9 AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- 10 147. Surprise Valley has not alleged, and has not in fact provided, any legitimate
- transmission arrangements for transmitting the net output of the Paisley Project to
- 12 PacifiCorp, or provided any other verifiable form of delivery.
- 13 148. Surprise Valley does not provide wholesale transmission service, wholesale
- distribution service, or other wheeling to third parties, and does not have an open access
- transmission tariff or wholesale distribution service tariff.
- 16 Surprise Valley does not own or operate other generation on its system to
- 17 provide ancillary services to support whole transmission or wholesale distribution service to
- 18 third parties.³²
- 19 150. Surprise Valley cannot rely on negotiations between Surprise Valley and
- 20 PacifiCorp to accommodate an off-system resource when Surprise Valley failed to provide
- 21 evidence of any transmission arrangements required for delivery.

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³¹ See OEC

³² See e.g. Promoting Wholesale Competition Through Open Access Non-Discriminatory Transmission Services by Public Utilities Recovery of Stranded Costs by Public Utilities and Transmitting Utilities, 81 FERC ¶ 61,248 at page 35 (ancillary services are those services that must be offered with basic transmission service. They are needed to accomplish transmission service while maintaining reliability within the balancing authority area).

- 1 151. PacifiCorp has repeatedly stated that it only has an obligation to purchase the net output of the Paisley Project that could be delivered to PacifiCorp's system.
- 3 152. Surprise Valley's claims contradict Commission policy, generally, and specifically the policy articulated in *OEC*.
- 5 153. Surprise Valley's arguments that delivery of net output of the Paisley Project 6 can displace deliveries of energy from Bonneville would result in the Paisley Project's net 7 output being used to serve Surprise Valley load under the terms of the requirements contract 8 between Bonneville and Surprise Valley, unless Bonneville over-schedules its transmission 9 service to Surprise Valley. However, if Bonneville over-schedules its transmission service to 10 Surprise Valley, PacifiCorp's customers would pay twice for the net output of the Paisley 11 Project: first under the QF PPA with Paisley, and second to compensate Bonneville for the 12 over-delivery through imbalance true-ups under the GTA.
- 13 Surprise Valley has failed to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.
- 14 155. PacifiCorp reserves the right to assert additional affirmative defenses, as well as any necessary counterclaims.

16 **PROPOSED SCHEDULE**

PacifiCorp and Surprise Valley have agreed to the following schedule, and PacifiCorp respectfully requests that the Commission adopt this schedule to allow for expedited consideration of Surprise Valley's Complaint:

EVENT	DATE		
Parties File Stipulated Facts	August 7, 2015		
Simultaneous Opening Briefs	August 26, 2015		
Simultaneous Reply Briefs	September 8, 2015		
Target Decision Date	September 28, 2015		

- 20 The parties have agreed to file stipulated facts because the fundamental issues in the
- 21 proceeding are legal, not factual.

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- WHEREFORE, having fully answered Surprise Valley's Complaint, PacifiCorp
- 2 respectfully requests that the Commission:
- 3 A. Dismiss the Complaint;
- B. Deny all relief requested by Surprise Valley in the Complaint; and
- 5 C. Grant PacifiCorp such other relief as the Commission deems just and
- 6 reasonable.
- 7 D. Grant the proposed schedule in this proceeding.
- 8 DATED: July 29, 2015

Matthew D. McVee

Assistant General Counsel

PacifiCorp