BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

UM 1565

Energy Trust of Oregon

Cross-Answering Testimony of Steve Lacey

ETO EXHIBIT 200

I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

- Q. Please state your name and position.
- A. My name is Steve Lacey. I am Director of Operations of the Energy Trust of Oregon ("Energy Trust"). My witness qualification statement is part of Exhibit Staff – ETO/102, filed June 6, 2012.
- Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?
- A. To summarize how Energy Trust intends to modify its fuel-switching policy and manage its marketing pending any Commission order directing a different course.

II. ENERGY TRUST FUEL-SWITCHING POLICY

- Q. Staff and parties have suggested in this docket that Energy Trust clarify its fuel-switching policy. Do you agree, and if so how would you propose to revise the policy?
- A. Energy Trust staff agrees that the Energy Trust fuel-switching policy should be clarified. Currently, the policy is open to an interpretation that Energy Trust will not provide incentives to consumers who for their own reasons decide to switch fuels. Energy Trust staff will suggest to the Energy Trust Policy Committee and Board that the policy state more clearly that Energy Trust may provide incentives for high-efficiency equipment for whatever fuel the customer is considering.
- Q. Staff and parties have suggested that Energy Trust ensure that its messaging does not promote fuel-switching. Do you agree, and if so how would you propose to do that?

- A. Energy Trust will manage its website and marketing materials to make clear that fuel choice is a consumer decision and Energy Trust incentives are not intended to promote fuel-switching. Energy Trust will continue to provide consumers with clear and appropriate information about fuel choices, and will not manage its programs and incentives to encourage fuel-switching. Energy Trust with pay particular attention to ensuring that its heat-pump webpage and marketing materials convey this message clearly.
- Q. OPUC staff has suggested that utilities should scrub their mailing lists and take other steps to ensure that heat-pump marketing materials using ratepayer funds do not target gas customers. Would Energy Trust play a role in this?
- A. Energy Trust does not control utility marketing or mailing lists, but would be glad to assist utilities in these steps.
- Q. OPUC staff and parties have suggested that Energy Trust should ensure that its incentives are not offered in cases where fuel-switching would not be cost-effective. Do you agree?
- A. Energy Trust agrees that incentives should be offered for cost-effective measures. Energy Trust is not aware of any framework in current OPUC rules or orders regarding this principle insofar as it applies to fuel switching. Moreover, it is our understanding that this docket, or this phase of this docket, is not engaging this subject. If the OPUC adopted such a framework, Energy Trust may be required to play a much different role than it has in the past, assessing which fuel choice would be cost-effective for consumers, possibly studying a range of

variables -- fuel prices, the impact of new technology, differences in lifestyle, occupancy hours, number of people per family, condition of home, etc., against a range of futures. Depending on the OPUC framework, we might need to revisit these analyses as market conditions change, adjust incentives, and educate contractors about the changes. Obviously, this could be a much more complex model of program administration, and we would want to explore issues of cost, administrative efficiency, contractor and consumer confusion, and other implications in the context of a proceeding that is focused on these issues.

In the meantime, absent OPUC guidance on how energy conservation programs should encourage or discourage fuel-switching, Energy Trust would continue to leave fuel choice decisions to the consumer.

Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?

A. Yes.

DATED this 14th day of February, 2013.

Energy Trust of Oregon

Bv:

UM 1565 - CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, on February 14, 2013, I served the foregoing Cross-Answering Testimony of Steve Lacey upon each party listed in the UM 1565 PUC Service List, all of whom have waived paper service, by email, and by sending one original and five copies by U.S. mail, postage prepaid, to the Commission's Salem offices.

W=Waive Paper service

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Dated this 14th day of February, 2013, at Portland, Oregon.

John M. Volkman, Senior Counsel Energy Trust of Oregon