May 15, 2019

## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Public Utility Commission of Oregon
201 High Street SE, Suite 100
Salem, OR 97301-3398
Attn: Filing Center

## RE: UE 361—PacifiCorp's 2018 Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism

PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power encloses for electronic filing its 2018 Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism (PCAM) filing.

In Order No. 12-493, the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) approved a PCAM to allow PacifiCorp to recover the difference between actual net power costs (NPC) incurred to serve customers and the base NPC established in PacifiCorp's annual transition adjustment mechanism (TAM) filing. The amount recovered from or refunded to customers for a given year is subject to the following parameters:

- Asymmetrical Deadband. Any variance between negative $\$ 15$ million and positive $\$ 30$ million will be absorbed by the company.
- Sharing Band. Any variance above or below the deadband will be shared 90 percent by customers and 10 percent by the company.
- Earnings Test. If PacifiCorp's earned return on equity (ROE) is within plus or minus 100 basis points of the allowed ROE, there will be no recovery from or refund to customers.
- Amortization Cap. The amortization of deferred amounts are capped at six percent of the revenue for the preceding calendar year.

On an Oregon-allocated basis, actual PCAM costs were $\$ 19.1$ million more than base PCAM costs established in the 2018 TAM (docket UE 323). The application of the deadband results in no recovery for the 2018 PCAM. Because Schedule 206, the Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism, is currently set at zero cents per kilowatt hour for all schedules, no tariff change is required at this time.

In compliance with Order No. 17-524, PacifiCorp includes supporting direct testimony of Michael G. Wilding that includes a discussion of any unusual expenses incurred over the course of the 2018 PCAM year and large deviations of actual NPC from forecasted NPC. A differential worksheet indicating actual minus base power costs for each separate cost category in the PCAM on a gross cost and per MWh unit basis is included in the workpapers accompanying this filing.

Confidential material supporting this filing is provided under Order No. 19-171.

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Public Utility Commission of Oregon
May 15, 2019
Page 2
PacifiCorp respectfully requests that all communications related to this filing be addressed to:

Oregon Dockets<br>PacifiCorp<br>825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000<br>Portland, OR 97232<br>oregondockets@pacificorp.com

Ajay Kumar<br>State Regulatory Attorney<br>825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 1800<br>Portland, OR 97232<br>Ajay.kumar@pacificorp.com

Additionally, PacifiCorp requests that all formal information requests regarding this matter be addressed to:

By E-mail (preferred): datarequest@pacificorp.com
By regular mail: Data Request Response Center
PacifiCorp
825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000
Portland, OR 97232
Informal inquiries may be directed to Cathie Allen at (503) 813-5934.
Sincerely,

cc: $\quad$ Service List UE 263
Service List UE 344

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON 

## PACIFICORP

Direct Testimony of Michael G. Wilding

May 2019

## DIRECT TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL G. WILDING TABLE OF CONTENTS

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## ATTACHED EXHIBITS

Exhibit PAC/101-2018 PCAM Calculation
Q. Please state your name, business address, and present position with PacifiCorp, d/b/a Pacific Power.
A. My name is Michael G. Wilding. My business address is 825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600, Portland, Oregon 97232. My title is Director, Net Power Costs and Regulatory Policy.

## I. QUALIFICATIONS

## Q. Briefly describe your education and professional experience.

A. I received a Master of Accounting from Weber State University and a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from Utah State University. I am a Certified Public Accountant licensed in the state of Utah. During my tenure at the Company, I have worked on various regulatory projects including general rate cases, the multi-state protocol, and net power cost filings. I have been employed by the Company since 2014.
Q. Have you testified in previous regulatory proceedings?
A. Yes. I have filed testimony in proceedings before the public service commissions in Oregon, California, Washington, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming.

## II. PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY

Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?
A. My testimony presents and supports PacifiCorp's calculation of the Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism (PCAM) costs for the 12-month period of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 (Deferral Period). More specifically, I provide the following:

- Background on the PCAM and an accounting of how the PCAM balance was calculated for the Deferral Period;
- Discussion of the main differences between adjusted actual net power costs (Actual NPC) and net power costs in rates (Base NPC); and,
- Discussion about PacifiCorp's participation in the energy imbalance market (EIM) with the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) and the benefits from EIM that are passed through to customers.
Q. Are additional witnesses presenting testimony specifically for the PCAM and Rate Schedule 206 in this case?
A. No.
III. SUMMARY OF THE PCAM DEFERRAL CALCULATION
Q. Please briefly describe PacifiCorp's PCAM authorized by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission).
A. Commission Order No. 12-493 approved a PCAM to allow PacifiCorp to recover the difference between actual PCAM costs incurred to serve customers and the base PCAM costs established in PacifiCorp's annual transition adjustment mechanism (TAM) filing. ${ }^{1}$ PCAM costs include NPC, non-NPC EIM costs, other revenues, and Production Tax Credits (PTC).
Q. Please summarize the calculation of the PCAM deferral included in this filing.
A. For the Deferral Period, on an Oregon-allocated basis, actual PCAM costs are \$19.1 million more than base PCAM costs established in docket UE 323 (2018

[^0]TAM). The application of the deadband results in no recovery through the 2018 PCAM.
Q. Have you provided detailed support for the calculation of the PCAM balance with your testimony?
A. Yes. Exhibit PAC/101 is a summary of the calculation of PacifiCorp's 2018 PCAM deferral on a monthly basis. Detailed workpapers supporting Exhibit PAC/101 are provided separately. ${ }^{2}$

## IV. PCAM DEFERRAL CALCULATION

Q. Please describe the calculation of the PCAM deferral included in this filing.
A. The PCAM deferral is calculated on a monthly basis by comparing actual PCAM costs to base PCAM on a per-unit basis. The amount recovered from or refunded to customers for a given year is subject to the following parameters:

- Asymmetrical Deadband: Any PCAM difference between negative $\$ 15$ million and positive $\$ 30$ million will be absorbed by the company.
- Sharing Band: Any PCAM difference above or below the deadband will be shared 90 percent by customers and 10 percent by PacifiCorp.
- Earnings Test: If PacifiCorp's earned return on equity (ROE) is within plus or minus 100 basis points of the authorized ROE, there will be no recovery from or refund to customers.
- Amortization Cap: The amortization of deferred amounts are capped at six percent of the revenue for the preceding calendar year.

[^1]For the Deferral Period the PCAM differential was $\$ 19.1$ million before application of the deadband. Therefore, PacifiCorp is not requesting a rate change to Schedule 206. A summary of the deferral calculation is shown in Table 1.

Table 1
Summary of PCAM Account Balance

| Calendar Year 2018 PCAM Deferral |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Actual PCAM Costs (\$/MWh) | \$ | 27.60 |
| Base PCAM Costs (\$/MWh) |  | 25.90 |
| PCAM Cost Differential (\$/MWh) |  | 1.70 |
| Oregon Retail Load (MWh) |  | 12,867,233 |
| PCAM Differential* | \$ | 19,694,290 |
| Situs Resource True-Up* |  | $(621,364)$ |
| Total PCAM Differential* |  | 19,072,926 |
| Total Deferrable ABOVE Deadband |  | - |
| Total Deferrable BELOW Deadband |  | - |
| Oregon Deferral at 90\% Sharing |  | - |
| Oregon Deferral at 90\% Sharing after Earning Test |  | - |
| Interest Accrued through December 31, 2018 |  | - |
| Requested PCAM Recovery | \$ | - |
| * Calculated monthly |  |  |

## Q. How is the PCAM differential calculated on a monthly basis?

A. As previously noted, on a monthly basis, actual PCAM costs are compared to base PCAM on a per-unit basis. PCAM costs are established in the Oregon TAM and include NPC, EIM costs, Other Revenues, and PTCs. EIM benefits are included in NPC. Any differences in the system per-unit cost are multiplied by the actual megawatt hours of Oregon retail sales in that month to determine Oregon's share of any differential. The calculation uses the following formula:
$\left(\right.$ PCAMC $_{\mathrm{a}} \div$ Load $\left._{\mathrm{a}}\right)-\left(\right.$ PCAMC $_{\mathrm{b}} \div$ Load $\left._{\mathrm{b}}\right)=$ System PCAM Unit Cost Differential System PCAM Unit Cost Differential $\times \operatorname{Load}_{0}+\left(\mathrm{SR}_{\mathrm{a}}-\mathrm{SR}_{\mathrm{b}}\right)=$ PCAM Differential

Where:

| PCAMC ${ }_{\text {a }}$ | $=$ Total Company Adjusted Actual NPC (Excluding Situs |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | Resources) plus other costs/benefits reflected in Oregon TAM |
| Load $_{\text {a }}$ | = Actual System Retail Load |
| PCAMC ${ }_{\text {b }}$ | = Total Company Base NPC (Excluding Situs Resources) adjusted for Direct Access plus other costs/benefits reflected in Oregon TAM |
| Load $_{\text {b }}$ | = Base System Retail Load |
| $\mathrm{Load}_{\text {o }}$ | = Actual Oregon Retail Load |
| $\mathrm{SR}_{\mathrm{a}}$ | = Actual Situs Resource Value |
| $\mathrm{SR}_{\mathrm{b}}$ | = Forecasted Situs Resource Value |

The cumulative PCAM differential (under- or over-recovery) is first compared against the asymmetrical deadband. Cumulative PCAM differential amounts in excess of the asymmetrical deadband are then subject to the sharing band ( 90 percent customers, 10 percent company). Monthly balances accrue interest at PacifiCorp's authorized rate of return in Oregon for 2018. The final step is to apply, if necessary, the earnings test to determine if any amount is eligible for recovery from or refund to customers. To the extent earnings are within plus or minus 100 basis points of the authorized ROE, no recovery or refund is allowed under the approved PCAM design.

## Q. What were total-company adjusted Actual NPC for the Deferral Period and how were they determined?

A. The total-company adjusted Actual NPC in the Deferral Period were approximately $\$ 1.595$ billion. This amount captures all components of NPC as modeled by PacifiCorp's Generation and Regulation Initiative Decision Tool (GRID) model in the company's annual TAM filings. Specifically, it includes amounts booked to the following Federal Energy Regulatory Commission accounts:

Account 447 - Sales for resale, excluding on-system wholesale sales and other revenues that are not modeled in GRID

Account 501 - Fuel, steam generation; excluding fuel handling, start-up fuel (gas and diesel fuel, residual disposal) and other costs that are not modeled in GRID

Account 503 - Steam from other sources
Account 547 - Fuel, other generation
Account 555 - Purchased power, excluding the Bonneville Power
Administration (BPA) residential exchange credit pass-through if applicable

Account 565 - Transmission of electricity by others.

## Q. What adjustments are made to Actual NPC and why are they needed?

A. PacifiCorp adjusts Actual NPC to reflect the ratemaking treatment of several items, including:

- out of period accounting entries booked in the Deferral Period that relate to operations before implementation of the PCAM on January 1, 2013;
- buy-through of economic curtailment by interruptible industrial customers;
- revenue from a contract related to the Leaning Juniper wind resource;
- situs assignment of the generation from Oregon solar resources procured to satisfy Oregon Revised Statute 757.370 solar capacity standard;
- situs assignment of Oregon allocated excess amortization related to a prepaid wheeling expense;
- situs assignment of certain Utah resources;
- avian curtailment at specific wind farms;
- the exclusion of Rolling Hills wind farm from Oregon rates (consistent with docket UE 200);
- coal inventory adjustments to reflect coal costs in the correct period;
- reductions to coal costs for management overtime, 50 percent of management incentive compensation, and legal fees related to fines and citations; and,
- adjustments related to liquidated damages that occurred outside the Deferral Period (all liquidated damage fees per a coal supply agreement are booked in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles).


## Q. Please summarize the calculation of the Actual Non-NPC EIM Costs.

A. Non-NPC EIM costs are trued-up as part of the PCAM costs. These EIM costs include ongoing operations and maintenance expense and depreciation expense; the return on rate base is not included in the true-up per the 2016 PCAM Order. ${ }^{3}$ Actual non-NPC EIM costs were $\$ 1.2$ million lower than the EIM costs included in the 2018 TAM on a total-company basis. As described in more detail later on in my testimony, the EIM provides benefits to customers in the form of reduced Actual NPC.

## Q. Please summarize the calculation of Other Revenues.

A. Other Revenues, or Oregon Schedule 205, that are forecasted in the TAM are also included in the PCAM. On a total-company basis, actual Other Revenues were $\$ 0.6$ million lower than Other Revenues in the 2018 TAM.
Q. Please summarize the Direct Access included in the PCAM.
A. Each year Base NPC is set in the TAM. After Base NPC is determined certain

[^2]customers have the option to move to Direct Access (DA) and purchase energy from an Electricity Service Provider (ESS). In the PCAM, Base NPC is adjusted for the lost DA load.

## Q. Please summarize the PTCs included in the PCAM.

A. PTCs forecasted in the TAM are also included in the PCAM. In the 2018 TAM, PTC benefits were calculated using PacifiCorp's combined federal and state income tax rate that was effective in 2017. The Tax Cuts and Job Act was effective January 1, 2018, and decreased the corporate federal income tax rate to 21 percent, after the 2018 TAM finalized. The change in tax law decreased the value of the income tax credit received from the PTC and thus the PTC benefit in the 2018 TAM was overstated. An adjustment to capture the decrease in PTC benefit was included in PacifiCorp's tax deferral filing, UM 1985. As to not double count the change in PTC value due to the change in the federal income tax rate, the calendar year 2018 actual PTC value is calculated using the same combined federal and state income tax rate that was used for the 2018 TAM. Therefore the change in PTC value due to the change in tax law is captured in UM 1985 and the change in PTC value due to variance of wind generation is captured in the PCAM. On a total-company basis, actual PTCs were $\$ 1.4$ million higher than PTCs in the 2018 TAM due to generation variances.

## Q. Please describe the true-up of certain Oregon situs resources included in the PCAM.

A. The PCAM includes a true-up of the value of energy from solar facilities procured to satisfy the solar capacity standard in Oregon Revised Statute 757.370. Consistent
with the Commission-approved 2017 Inter-Jurisdictional Allocation Protocol, these resources are situs-assigned to Oregon. Base NPC established in the TAM includes a situs credit for the market value of the solar energy. In the PCAM, the actual market value of the solar energy is compared to the prior forecast, and the difference is included in the balancing account. This treatment is necessary to ensure 100 percent of the energy benefits are assigned to Oregon customers, rather than allocated systemwide.

The PCAM also includes a true-up for the amortization of a prepaid wheeling expense. The amortization of Mead-Phoenix wheeling expense was updated to reflect the Cholla Unit 4 Oregon depreciation schedule. Therefore, the incremental increase in amortization expense associated with Mead-Phoenix is situs-assigned to Oregon.

## Q. Is PacifiCorp requesting a rate change with this filing?

A. As described earlier, on an Oregon-allocated basis, actual PCAM costs were $\$ 19.1$ million higher than base PCAM costs. This amount does not exceed the established deadband. Accordingly, no recovery from or refund to customers is necessary. Because Schedule 206, the Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism, is currently set at zero cents per kilowatt hour for all schedules, no tariff change is required at this time.

## V. SUMMARY OF THE NPC DIFFERENCES

## Q. Please describe the Base NPC PacifiCorp used to calculate the NPC component of the PCAM deferral.

A. The Base NPC for the 2018 PCAM was set in Order No. 17-444 in docket UE 323. Base rates became effective January 1, 2018.
Q. Please describe Table 2 and the line items making up the difference between Actual NPC and Base NPC.
A. Table 2 displays the Base NPC approved by the Commission for the Deferral Period. The remainder of Table 2 is a breakout of the difference between Actual NPC and Base NPC, by cost category, on a total-company basis. The differences by category in Table 2 result from comparing Actual NPC to the Base NPC effective during the Deferral Period.

Table 2
Net Power Cost Reconciliation (\$millions)

| Base NPC | $\$$ | 1,483 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Increase/(Decrease) to NPC: |  |  |
| Wholesale Sales Revenue |  | 193 |
| Purchased Power Expense |  | 0 |
| Coal Fuel Expense | $(62)$ |  |
| Natural Gas Expense | $(11)$ |  |
| Wheeling and Other Expense | $(8)$ |  |
| Total Increase/(Decrease) | $\underline{\$ 112}$ |  |
| Adjusted Actual NPC |  |  |

Q. Please describe the differences between Actual NPC and Base NPC.
A. Actual NPC were $\$ 112$ million higher than Base NPC due to a $\$ 193$ million decrease in wholesale sales revenues. The reduction in wholesale sales revenue was partially offset by a $\$ 62$ million reduction in coal fuel expense, $\$ 11$ million reduction in natural gas expense, and an $\$ 8$ million reduction in wheeling and other expenses.
Q. Please explain the changes in wholesale sales revenue.
A. Wholesale sales revenue declined relative to Base NPC due to a reduction in wholesale sales volume of market transactions (represented in PacifiCorp's
production dispatch model (GRID) as short-term firm and system balancing sales). Actual wholesale market volumes were $6,441 \mathrm{GWh}$, or 46 percent, lower than Base NPC. The average price of actual market sales transactions was $\$ 0.69 / \mathrm{MWh}$, or two percent, lower than Base NPC.

## Q. Please explain the changes in coal fuel expense.

A. Coal fuel expense decreased because coal generation volume decreased $3,458 \mathrm{GWh}$, or nine percent, compared to Base NPC. The average cost of coal generation increased from $\$ 20.27 / \mathrm{MWh}$ in Base NPC to $\$ 20.47 / \mathrm{MWh}$ in the Deferral Period, however the lower generation results in an overall decrease of approximately $\$ 62$ million in coal fuel expense.
Q. Please explain the changes in natural gas fuel expense.
A. The total natural gas fuel expense in Actual NPC decreased by $\$ 11$ million compared to Base NPC mainly due to a lower average cost of natural gas generation from $\$ 23.64 / \mathrm{MWh}$ in Base NPC to $\$ 22.97 / \mathrm{MWh}$, or three percent, in the Deferral Period. Additionally, there was a slight decrease in natural gas generation volume of 151 GWh, or one percent, lower than Base NPC during the Deferral Period.

## Q. Please provide an overview of the Enbridge natural gas pipeline rupture and its impact on Company operations and costs.

A. On October 9, 2018, the Enbridge natural gas pipeline that transports natural gas produced in the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin to consumers in British Columbia (B.C.) and, through interconnecting pipelines, the Northwestern United States (U.S.), experienced a massive rupture. The pipeline was brought back into service in late October 2018; however, at a reduced capacity until testing of the many
segments of the pipeline can be completed. Currently the pipeline is operating at approximately 85 percent of capacity. Original estimates expected the pipeline to be back in full service sometime late spring 2019; however, revised forecasts are now calling for full service to be established sometime in September 2019. Spot natural gas prices at the Sumas B.C.-U.S. border trading point have traded as high as $\$ 159$ per million British thermal units (\$/MMBtu) on days of intense demand.

The pipeline rupture and reduced operating capacity has impacted electricity prices primarily at the Mid-Columbia power market hub, but electricity prices are increasing at other trading points where PacifiCorp transacts. Because of PacifiCorp's geographical and resource diversity, the impact to the Company was not as severe as other utilities and power producers that have a high reliance on Sumas natural gas supplies. PacifiCorp has one natural gas-fired generator-the Chehalis plant-that is sourced from the Sumas natural gas hub. Due to the pipeline rupture, at times the availability of natural gas flowing to the Sumas gas hub has been limited which can cause the price to run the Chehalis plant to be uneconomical or at times even unable to run. As a result, overall the natural gas constraint at Sumas has contributed to higher prices at Mid-Columbia, putting upward pressure on net power costs.

## Q. What is the current status of natural gas flow at the Sumas natural gas hub?

A. As of the date of this filing, natural gas flows to the Sumas gas hub continue to be restricted as pipeline repair and testing continues. Westcoast Pipeline, which operates the Enbridge pipeline, has indicated that flows to Sumas will be restricted through the
summer of 2019. These restrictions will cause increased price volatility and higher power prices this summer at Mid-Columbia.

## VI. IMPACT OF PARTICIPATING IN THE EIM

Q. Are the actual benefits from participating in the EIM with CAISO included in the PCAM deferral?
A. Yes. Participation in the EIM provides benefits to customers in the form of reduced Actual NPC. The EIM benefits are embedded in Actual NPC through lower fuel and purchased power costs. The Company is able to calculate the margin realized on its EIM imports and exports, the inter-regional benefit. The Company's EIM interregional benefit for the deferral period was approximately $\$ 57$ million.
Q. How does the Company calculate its actual EIM benefits?
A. Using actual information from the EIM, including five- and 15 -minute pricing, the Company identifies the incremental resource that could have facilitated the transfer to an adjacent EIM area or the CAISO in each five-minute interval. The benefit is then calculated as the difference between the revenue received less the expense of generation assumed to supply the transfer. In the event of an import, the benefit is equal to the cost of the import minus the avoided expense of the generation that would have otherwise been dispatched.

## Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?

A. Yes.

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON 

## PACIFICORP

Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Michael G. Wilding 2018 PCAM Calculation
Oregon Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism
January 1,2018 - December 31,2018
Exhibit/PAC 101 - Power Cost Adjustment Me
January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018
Exhibit/PAC 101 - Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism Calculation


## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I served a true and correct copy of PacifiCorp's 2018 Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism on the parties listed below via electronic mail in compliance with OAR 860-001-0180.

Service List
UE 263

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Dated May 15, 2019.


## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I served a true and correct copy of PacifiCorp's 2018 Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism on the parties listed below via electronic mail in compliance with OAR 860-0010180.

Service List
UE 344

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Dated May 15, 2019.



[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, Request for a General Rate Case, Docket No. UE 246, Order No. 12-493 (Dec. 20, 2012)(Order No. 12-493).

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ Confidential workpapers are provided to the Commission under OAR 860-01-0070.

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ Order No. 17-524.

