



August 13, 2012

**Via Electronic Filing and USPS**

Public Utility Commission of Oregon  
Attn: Filing Center  
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PO Box 2148  
Salem, OR 97308-2148

Re: OR Docket No. UE-246 - Sierra Club Surrebuttal Testimony and Exhibit of Jeremy Fisher

Please find enclosed the original and five (5) copies of Sierra Club's Surrebuttal Testimony and Exhibit of Jeremy Fisher in the above-referenced docket.

Confidential versions of the documents herein will be served in accordance with OAR 860-001-0070(3) upon all eligible party representatives on the official service list for this proceeding via U.S. Mail.

Please let me know if you require any additional documents or if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

/s/ Derek Nelson

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2012, I caused to be served the foregoing Sierra Club Surrebuttal Testimony of Jeremy Fisher on all party representatives on the official service list for this proceeding via electronic mail. I caused to be served confidential versions of the aforementioned documents on all eligible party representatives on the official service list for this proceeding via U.S. Mail.

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Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2012 at San Francisco, CA.

*/s/ Derek Nelson*

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STATE OF OREGON  
Public Utility Commission

In the Matter of PacifiCorp's Filing of  
Revised Tariff Schedules for Electric  
Service in Oregon

Docket No. UE 246

**Surrebuttal Testimony of  
Jeremy Fisher, Ph.D.**

**On Behalf of  
Sierra Club**

**Public Version**

**August 13, 2012**

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1        **INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY**

2        **Q        Please state your name, business address and position.**

3        **A        My name is Jeremy Fisher, and I am a scientist with Synapse Energy Economics**  
4                    (Synapse). My business address is 485 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 2,  
5                    Cambridge Massachusetts 02139.

6        **Q        Are you the same Jeremy Fisher who submitted direct testimony in this**  
7                    **proceeding on behalf of Sierra Club?**

8        **A        Yes.**

9        **Q        On whose behalf are you submitting this surrebuttal testimony?**

10       **A        I am testifying on behalf of Sierra Club.**

11       **Q        What is the purpose of your testimony?**

12       **A        The purpose of my testimony is to respond to points raised by PacifiCorp**  
13                    (“Company”) witnesses Mr. Chad Teply and Ms. Cathy Woolums.

14                    In this rebuttal testimony, I address my objections to retrofits at the Naughton  
15                    plant. I have had insufficient opportunity to review the Company’s new evidence  
16                    with regards to the Hunter plant. However, the concerns at the Hunter plant are of  
17                    a similar nature.

18       **Q        Which retrofits are you contesting at the Naughton plant?**

19       **A        In my direct testimony, I questioned the requirement and economic justification**  
20                    for five projects at Naughton for which the Company is requesting rate recovery.  
21                    These include flue gas desulfurization (FGD) at Naughton 1 & 2 for the control of  
22                    sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), low-NOx burners (LNB) at Naughton 1 & 2 for the control  
23                    of oxides of nitrogen (NOx), and an FGD reagent loadout facility. In total, these  
24                    projects would add approximately \$297 million to the Company’s rate base.

1    **Q     Please summarize the basis of your objection.**

2    **A**My objection is two-fold. First, the retrofits were permitted and implemented  
3           prematurely, prior to a legal requirement, and were ultimately insufficient to  
4           mitigate pollution at Naughton. Due to this premature action, the plant will  
5           continue to incur environmental obligations and costs that could have more  
6           appropriately been avoided through the retirement of the plant. Second, the  
7           economic justification performed for the retrofits at the plant were insufficient  
8           and erroneous. Finally, a reasonable Company would have reviewed the outcomes  
9           of a properly executed analysis and decided that the economic outcome was so  
10          dubious that the retrofits should be deferred, or the plant considered for retirement.

11         Mr. Teply and Ms. Woolums provided testimony regarding the regulatory  
12         requirements facing the Company. Generally, although the Company does, in fact,  
13         face numerous, complicated and overlapping environmental compliance  
14         obligations, most of the justification provided by Mr. Teply and Ms. Woolums  
15         appears to be backfill – *post-hoc* rationalizations to justify investments in  
16         environmental controls, some of which may be well founded, others that are not.  
17         In my direct testimony, I documented “that the Company decided to move  
18         forward on a number of capital investments without regard to particular  
19         regulatory requirements.”

20         The explanations provided by Ms. Woolums are complicated, but rebuttable. It  
21         has taken me the larger part of two years and three rate cases (Wyoming, Utah,  
22         and Oregon) to piece together how the Company’s actions related to known  
23         regulatory requirements, and I still do not have a complete story. The Company’s  
24         actions are, in some cases, simply inexplicable. Overall, however, the conclusion  
25         is the same. If the Company had worked through the regulatory process as  
26         intended and expected by the EPA and state regulatory mechanisms, negotiated  
27         openly , and had then invested in appropriate controls after rigorously (and  
28         preferably transparently) scrutinizing their own actions, this case would likely be  
29         uncontested. Instead, the Company made a series of ill-timed and unsupported  
30         investments that are ultimately insufficient to mitigate the harm caused by



1 pollution at their plants. At worst, the Company worked to preempt proper  
2 regulatory authority, invested just enough to meet only the most immediate  
3 regulatory requirements, and made piecemeal investments across the entire fleet.

4 **1. REQUIREMENT FOR RETROFITS**

5 **Q Did the Company provide a justification for the Naughton environmental**  
6 **retrofits?**

7 **A** Yes. In Company witness Chad Teply's direct testimony, he describes that the  
8 FGD are installed "to control emissions of criteria pollutants as required by  
9 NAAQS, the state of Wyoming's § 309 Implementation Plan, and the State of  
10 Wyoming's permit (MD-5156) dated May 2009." [PAC/500 Teply/41 at 16] In  
11 addition, the LNB are installed "in response to Regional Haze Rules, the state of  
12 Wyoming's § 309(g) Implementation Plan, and the State of Wyoming's BART  
13 review, decision and permit (MD-6042) dated December 2009, and the state of  
14 Wyoming's permit (MD-5156) dated May 2009." [PAC/500 Teply/41 at 23]

15 **Q Did you contest these regulatory requirements?**

16 **A** Yes. I stated that "at the time that the Company sought the attainment of the air  
17 and construction permits for the FGD retrofits at Naughton, there were no  
18 federally enforceable requirements compelling the installation of these controls."  
19 [Fisher Direct, page 19 at 4]. I further explained that:

- 20 • the Company had not shown that the SO<sub>2</sub> reductions at Naughton were  
21 necessary by 2012 to meet regional SO<sub>2</sub> milestones under the 309  
22 provisions of Wyoming's regional haze program; and
- 23 • the retrofits were implemented before BART (Best Available Retrofit  
24 Technology) provisions for the regional haze program in Wyoming were  
25 either established or finalized;
- 26 • there were no NAAQS violations on the federal record that would have  
27 impacted the Naughton unit directly for either SO<sub>2</sub> or NO<sub>x</sub>;
- 28 • the permit MD-5156 was apparently sought voluntarily by the Company;

- 1           •       the permit MD-6042 only directed the addition of NO<sub>x</sub> and PM emissions  
2                   controls, not the high-cost FGD.

3   **Q       Would you summarize the Company's rebuttal position on your**  
4           **explanation?**

5   **A**According to Company witness Ms. Cathy Woolums, given PacifiCorp's large  
6           contribution to western SO<sub>2</sub> emissions,

- 7           •       the Company was compelled to participate in the backstop trading  
8                   program to meet impending milestones,  
9           •       the BART retrofits needed to be installed as expeditiously as practicable,  
10                  and  
11          •       most disconcertingly, the FGD controls were "installed largely to address  
12                  nonattainment of the SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS."

13   **Q       Did the Company demonstrate that SO<sub>2</sub> reductions at Naughton were**  
14           **fundamental to the region not exceeding the SO<sub>2</sub> milestones under the 309**  
15           **provisions of Wyoming's regional haze program?**

16   **A**Critically, the Company did not provide any evidence that FGD at Naughton was  
17           in any way necessary to meet the milestones program, had it been in force in 2008  
18           or 2009. Amongst the Company's large fleet and significant contribution to  
19           western pollution, there may have been alternative economically optimal  
20           mechanisms to meet obligations, rather than simply installing nearly \$280 million  
21           dollars of new retrofits on some of the least viable units in the fleet. [See Fisher  
22           Direct, Table 16 on page 64]

23           Despite this lack of sound planning and lack of regulatory requirement, the  
24           Company had the intent to pursue an FGD at the Naughton unit prior to the  
25           release of the 2008 version of the SIP. Early contract work apparently began in

1 [REDACTED] with appropriation requests for early work on the SO<sub>2</sub> and particulate  
2 matter (PM) emissions controls.<sup>1</sup>

3 **Q Was the Company required to start implementing BART controls as soon as**  
4 **the state adopted its 2008 state implementation plan (SIP)?**

5 **A** No. Below I show that:

- 6 • First, around or before the time that the Company released contractors to  
7 work in May 2009, it would have known that the EPA was not prepared to  
8 accept the 2008 Wyoming BART SIP.
- 9 • Second, the Company had chosen which emissions controls it was going  
10 to install long before Wyoming issued its BART findings.
- 11 • Third, the Company successfully fought to ensure that the state's BART  
12 findings aligned largely with its predetermined direction.

13 It is worth noting that the SO<sub>2</sub> backstop trading program is only now, in 2012,  
14 proposed to be approved by the EPA as an acceptable mechanism of meeting  
15 regional haze goals, which means that up until today, there has been no formal  
16 federal recognition of the program. In fact, the 2008 § 309 SIP to which Ms.  
17 Woolums implies the Company had to respond was effectively withdrawn by the  
18 State of Wyoming about a year after it was issued and revised in January 2011.  
19 Just days after the Wyoming SIP was submitted to the EPA on May 22, 2008, the  
20 EPA commented that the SIP was likely insufficient and requested significant  
21 revisions.<sup>2</sup> Several months later, the EPA began discussions with WYDEQ about  
22 how the SIP could be improved and resubmitted for approval.<sup>3</sup>

1 [REDACTED]

<sup>2</sup> Letter from Callie Videtich at EPA Region 8 to David Finley, WDEQ dated May 29, 2008. "the WRAP recently indicated to us that no further changes would be made to its analysis or the Section 309 milestones in response to our remaining concerns. I am writing to bring these and two additional issues directly to your attention since they may preclude EPA's approval of your State's regional haze State Implementation Plan if not adequately addressed."

<sup>3</sup> Personal correspondence with Ms. Laurel Dygowski, Regional Haze Coordinator at US EPA Region 8, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012.

1 In my direct testimony, I provided evidence that the Company had chosen a set of  
2 emissions controls long before even BART applications were due in 2007. To  
3 reiterate, the Company developed a set of expected emission controls as early as  
4 2002 in response to perceived pressure from the EPA, not in development for  
5 regional haze compliance. Planning documents clearly show (a) justification for  
6 retrofits based on a [REDACTED] study from [REDACTED]<sup>4</sup> and (b) the start of  
7 investments presupposing Wyoming's BART findings in May 2009.<sup>5</sup>

8 Finally, once the Company had decided which pollution controls would be part of  
9 its portfolio, it fought to ensure that only these controls would be required by  
10 regulations. As I noted above, Wyoming submitted its regional haze SIP in 2008  
11 and again in 2011 after EPA suggested that the 2008 SIP regarding the SO<sub>2</sub>  
12 trading program might be rejected. However, there were other differences as well  
13 – the original BART findings in 2008 required Selective Catalytic Reduction  
14 (SCR) on many of PacifiCorp's units. The Company argued rigorously that SCR  
15 would be too expensive and pushed for a revision of the BART SIP, promising to  
16 install SCRs in later years. An affidavit from WYDEQ tells part of the story:

17 During the June or July, 2008 meeting, the Division informed Mr.  
18 Lawson [at PacifiCorp] that the preliminary BART determination  
19 for the PacifiCorp units was as follows: ... Naughton Units 1-3:  
20 LNB/OFA/SCR for all units... During the June or July, 2008  
21 meeting and subsequent meetings, I recall PacifiCorp discussing  
22 why it was not possible for them to install SCR during the BART  
23 period (5 years after EPA approval of SIP). The reasons given  
24 were costs, pollution control projects and not enough time to install

<sup>4</sup> For example, from APR 1003744 (N2 LNB 02/09/2010) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

<sup>5</sup> From APR 10003745. April 22, 2009.  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

controls. Given these issues and one of the factors in determining BART is cost of compliance, the Division discussed with Mr. Lawson the possibility of not requiring SCR as BART at Jim Bridger Units 1-4 if PacifiCorp would commit to install SCR as part of the long-term strategy...In hindsight, DEQ/AQD should have requested PacifiCorp to put their commitment in writing. [Docket 10-2801. August 6, 2010. Affidavit of Darla Potter, WYDEQ. Sections 13, 15, and 18]

**Q You state that it was “disconcerting” that Ms. Woolums indicates that the FGD controls were “installed largely to address nonattainment of the SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS.” Why?**

**A** There are two reasons Ms. Woolums’ statement is problematic.

First, Ms. Woolums contradicted almost all other Company documentation that indicates that the FGD controls were installed in anticipation of BART requirements. Sierra Club requested “any analyses... that address the need for any of the Environmental Retrofit Units.” [Sierra DR 1.5] Further, Sierra Club requested applications and technical documentation for permits and even correspondence between the Company and Wyoming DEQ regarding these permits. [Sierra DR 1.12] Sierra was provided BART applications, BART permits, PSD permits, and correspondence related to the BART and PSD permits, as well as more recent correspondence to WYDEQ. Intervenors were provided no documentation supporting the contention that the FGD controls were “installed largely to address nonattainment of the SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS.” We have, as of this writing, found no documentation from WYDEQ, EPA, or the company that supports this particular contention, nor has Sierra Club received any SO<sub>2</sub> modeling of Naughton.

Secondly, measured and verified nonattainment caused by an existing source such as Naughton in an area previously in attainment of air quality standards is potentially a serious violation. If it is true, as Ms. Woolums states, that the “results of modeling [in 2006] at Naughton Units 1 and 2 indicated that, when

1 unscrubbed, Naughton Units 1 and 2 individually exceeded the three-hour and 24-  
2 hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS in an area near the Kemmerer mine,”<sup>6</sup> then the Company  
3 would have knowingly violated air quality standards for nearly six years prior to  
4 the installation of the FGD. As of this writing, no such documentation had been  
5 provided to interveners or this commission suggesting that such a violation had  
6 occurred.

7 **Q So would an FGD have been required even if the Company had modeled a**  
8 **NAAQS violation?**

9 **A** No. If a violation is modeled during a permit application, the result would have  
10 been the rejection of the permit application or modification of permitted  
11 conditions.<sup>7</sup> Mrs. Woolums states that:

12 If the Company did not act to resolve the SO<sub>2</sub> nonattainment issue  
13 at Naughton Units 1 and 2, it would likely have been subject to a  
14 regulatory enforcement action or third party action such as a Clean  
15 Air Act citizens suit by the Sierra Club. [PAC/1400 Woolums/17  
16 at 20]

17 Enforcement action have historically required that an actual air monitor, placed in  
18 an area of nonattainment, record a violation, a process which unfortunately has  
19 taken a number of years to implement and then follow through. The results of an  
20 enforcement notice might be the requirement to then install a mitigation measure  
21 at the units.

22 **Q So if the FGD was not imminently required for BART and not immediately**  
23 **required by NAAQS, why did the Company move forward with this retrofit**  
24 **so quickly at Naughton?**

25 **A** An APR document requesting an appropriation for low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners at Naughton  
26 2 states it most succinctly:

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<sup>6</sup> PAC/1400 Woolums/17 at 5-12

<sup>7</sup> Personal correspondence with Mr. Christopher Razzazian at EPA Region 8 on August 8, 2012.

1 [REDACTED]  
2 [REDACTED]  
3 [REDACTED]  
4 [REDACTED]  
5 [REDACTED]  
6 [REDACTED]

7 [REDACTED] [APR 1003744 – N2 LNB  
8 02/09/2010]

9 Even if we assume that the Company had good reason to move forward quickly  
10 on the FGD at Naughton prior to regulatory certainty, the Company stumbled  
11 significantly on the economic justification, as I indicated in my direct testimony.  
12 The Company's revised analysis is still flawed, as well.

13 **2. TIMING OF ANALYSIS**

14 **Q Mr. Teply states that the analysis supporting the Naughton environmental**  
15 **retrofit was conducted at the appropriate time. Do you agree?**

16 **A** Presuming the FGD was actually necessary on the timeline put forth by the  
17 Company, the Naughton analysis was conducted at one of a number of  
18 appropriate milestones. Even using the Company's results from the original  
19 present value of revenue requirement differential (PVR(d)) analysis (provided in  
20 OPUC 220-4, "original Naughton analysis"), the Company should have  
21 determined that this project was marginal and risky in the very best of  
22 circumstances. Had the Company performed the analysis correctly, it would have  
23 seen, even at this milestone, that the project was a net liability. This discovery  
24 would have triggered a more comprehensive planning process to figure out how  
25 the Company would treat this non-economic resource.

26 Mr. Teply further implies that February 2009 was the last possible moment in  
27 which the Company could have reviewed the economics of the Naughton retrofits.

1 The Company's financial analysis for Naughton Units 1 and 2 was  
2 completed at an appropriate time, February 2009, within the  
3 project implementation timeline. Bids had been received,  
4 negotiations were ongoing with contractors, permit reviews were  
5 ongoing, and the contract was yet to be signed. The contract for the  
6 project work was ultimately signed in May 2009 and the contractor  
7 was released to begin work. [PAC/1500 Teply/13 at 22]

8 Given the marginal results of the Naughton analysis and given rapidly falling gas  
9 and market prices, the Company should have revisited the economics of this  
10 project – even after it had started production – and decided whether it made  
11 economic sense to continue investing in Naughton.

12 **Q Staff witness Mr. Erik Colville states that “PVRR(d) analyses updates since**  
13 **the time the decisions were made have been included in the Company’s**  
14 **annual business planning and integrated resource planning (IRP), and**  
15 **include proxy costs for CCR and 316b requirements.” [Staff/400 Colville/8 at**  
16 **17] Did the Company update the PVRR(d) analysis from Naughton 1 and 2**  
17 **at any time after February, 2009?**

18 **A** No. The Company has verified that the workbooks provided to Staff in OPUC  
19 220-1 through 220-4 represent the workbooks as used in original condition, and  
20 that these are the final workbooks used in February, 2009. [Sierra DR 2.2]  
21 Further, we received verification that “the Company has not updated the final  
22 economic analyses utilized for decision-making since the versions supplied in the  
23 Company’s responses to OPUC Data Requests 220 and Sierra Club Data Requests  
24 2.3.” [Sierra DR 3.1a] The fact that the Company started to look at the economic  
25 merit of their coal fleet for the 2011 IRP is immaterial to the decisions made by  
26 the Company in 2009. Finally, the Company confirms that they have not updated  
27 the PVRR(d) analyses as part of the annual business planning process. [Sierra DR  
28 3.1f]

29 **Q Mr. Colville also states that the “PVRR(d) analyses...have included proxy**  
30 **costs for CCR and 316(b) requirements...the effect of possible CO2**  
31 **regulatory cost, and variation in fuel and electricity cost.” [Staff/400**



1 **Colville/13 13-17]. Did the Naughton PVRR(d) analyses include proxy costs**  
2 **for CCR and 316(b) requirements or variation in fuel or electricity cost?**

3 **A** No. The PVRR(d) analysis for Naughton 3 would have been performed around  
4 the time that CCR regulation was first being considered by the EPA,<sup>8</sup> but was not  
5 included as a monetary risk in the PVRR(d) analysis. The PVRR(d) analysis does  
6 not address the potential costs for cooling water intake structures (316(b)  
7 requirements), although I would not expect a significant cost implication for this  
8 ruling at Naughton. The Naughton PVRR(d) analysis did include a toggle to  
9 evaluate high and low market electricity costs at +/-20%, but there is no indication  
10 that the results of this toggle were evaluated or made an impact on analytical  
11 outcome.

12 **3. REVISED COMPANY NAUGHTON ANALYSIS IS ERRONEOUS**

13 **Q** **Has Mr. Teply changed the Company's analysis in light of material you**  
14 **brought forward in direct testimony?**

15 **A** Yes. Mr. Teply filed revised workpapers with his reply testimony that concede  
16 two points. I will refer to this revised analysis as the "revised Company Naughton  
17 analysis". These two points are responsive to a set of critiques I raised in my  
18 direct testimony.

19 First, I pointed out that the execution of the original Naughton analysis, showing  
20 that "The model erroneously assumes that a market replacement would occur at  
21 the start of the analysis period, in 2009, rather than when a regulation would  
22 require either action or retirement, in the 2013-2018 timeframe." (Fisher Direct  
23 p39 at 1). The revised Company Naughton analysis reviews the forward-going  
24 economics of the Naughton units from 2014 through 2029, instead of 2009  
25 through 2029. This change reduces the net benefit of the Naughton retrofits.

26 Second, I demonstrated that the timing of the original Naughton analysis, noting  
27 that the electricity market prices used in the analysis were out of date by the time

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<sup>8</sup> See, for example Bloomberg, December 31, 2008. "Coal-Ash Spill May Cost Utilities Billions in Rules." Alex Nussbaum, Christopher Martin, and Daniel Whitten.

1 the analysis should have been performed, just prior to having signed the contract  
2 to begin work in May 2009. The revised Company Naughton analysis uses March  
3 2009 market prices instead of December 2008 market prices.<sup>9</sup> This change  
4 increases the net benefit of the Naughton retrofits.

5 **Q What is the outcome of the revised Company Naughton analysis?**

6 **A** In a table on page 18 of his rebuttal testimony, Mr. Teply shows that the revised  
7 Company Naughton analysis reduces the already marginal benefit, also called the  
8 “present value revenue requirement differential” or PVRR(d), of the Naughton 1  
9 unit by about 25% (from [REDACTED] million<sup>10</sup> to [REDACTED] million) and reduces the  
10 marginal benefit of the Naughton 2 unit by about 33% (from [REDACTED] million to  
11 [REDACTED] million).

12 **Q In providing the revised Company Naughton analysis, did Mr. Teply**  
13 **sufficiently address your concerns regarding the original Naughton analysis?**

14 **A** No. I raised several other concerns for which Mr. Teply has provided neither  
15 rebuttal nor explanation including: additional capital costs not contemplated in the  
16 analysis, the parasitic load of the retrofits, degradation of unit availability, and the  
17 use of a low carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) price forecast.

18 However, these concerns aside, the revised Company Naughton analysis  
19 supported in Mr. Teply’s rebuttal testimony contains at least one significant error  
20 and two areas of significant disagreement between Mr. Teply’s analysis and my  
21 own.

- 22 • Firstly, the new analysis erroneously shifts the cost of the air initiative  
23 costs (FGD and LNB) to the year 2014, rather than leaving them between  
24 2009 and 2012, as incurred.

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<sup>9</sup> On page 18 of Mr. Teply’s rebuttal testimony, a table erroneously shows the market price date for Naughton 2 as 12/31/2005, rather than 12/31/2008.

<sup>10</sup> This table erroneously lists the values shown as “\$ millions”. The dollar values shown are in thousands of dollars.

- Secondly, Mr. Teply claims that the Company anticipated a 2013 BART compliance timeframe, instead of the 2015 compliance deadline shown by Sierra Club and CUB.
- Thirdly, the new analysis assumes that the retirement would be a surprise to both the Company and Commission. If the Company were planning for a near-term retirement, it seems likely that they would seek to accelerate depreciation and reduce the level of capital expenditures incurred just prior to the unit's retirement.

**Q What is the effect of shifting the cost of the air initiatives to 2014 rather than from 2009 to 2012?**

**A** This time shift makes the retrofits look less expensive from a present value perspective, and thus biases the results towards a favorable outcome for the Naughton units. In addition, the shift reduces the total amount of depreciation expense and taxes incurred on the retrofits, thus also inappropriately lowering the perceived cost in the model.

To fix this error, I simply undid a few formulae put in place in Mr. Teply's revised workbook. I allowed capital air initiative (CAI) costs to be incurred from 2009-2012 as originally modeled, and changed the "in service" date back to 2009 to allow expenses to be capitalized as incurred.

**Q To what extent does this timing error impact the outcome of Mr. Teply's revised NPVRR(d) analysis for Naughton?**

**A** Leaving all other questions aside, simply undoing this error erodes the very slight positive PVRR(d) values and turns Naughton 1 into a liability by the Company's own basis. Relative to Mr. Teply's revised workpapers, Naughton 1 shifts from [REDACTED] million to a liability of [REDACTED] million, and Naughton 2 shifts from [REDACTED] million to [REDACTED] million.

1 **Q Is Mr. Teply correct that 2013 would have been a reasonable BART**  
2 **compliance timeframe?**

3 **A** No. As both Mr. Teply and Mrs. Woolums both state, the Regional Haze Rule  
4 requires that “that each source subject to BART be required to install and operate  
5 BART as expeditiously as practicable, but in no event later than 5 years after  
6 approval of the implementation plan revision.” [40 CFR 51.308(e)(1)(iv)] The  
7 relevant question here is what date would the unit otherwise have to shut down if  
8 it did not choose to install controls? While certainly the Company could push to  
9 install controls where clearly economically justified “as expeditiously as  
10 practicable”, it would not generally be economically sound to rush to shutter a  
11 plant years before the first large compliance deadline.

12 Mr. Teply defines the compliance deadline as the end of 2013:

13 Under the Regional Haze Rules, Wyoming’s Regional Haze SIP  
14 was due in 2008 and EPA was expected to review the Wyoming  
15 SIP within a six-month period. If this had occurred, the installation  
16 of all control projects would have been required by the end of  
17 2013; within five years of the reasonably expected EPA action.  
18 [PAC/1500 Teply/4 at 21]

19 However, Mr. Teply misstates a reasonable expectation for EPA action. The EPA  
20 often takes two or more years to act on state implementation plans (SIPs). In the  
21 case of Regional Haze, the EPA has two years to disapprove a SIP and  
22 promulgate a federal implementation plan (FIP),<sup>11</sup> as it has now done in  
23 Wyoming and Utah. Seven years<sup>12</sup> from Wyoming’s first haze SIP submission in  
24 May 2008 would require compliance by the Company in 2015. Indeed, in  
25 modeling the cost of implementing the haze rule, the EPA assumed that controls  
26 and requirements would be in place in 2015. [70 FR 39145]

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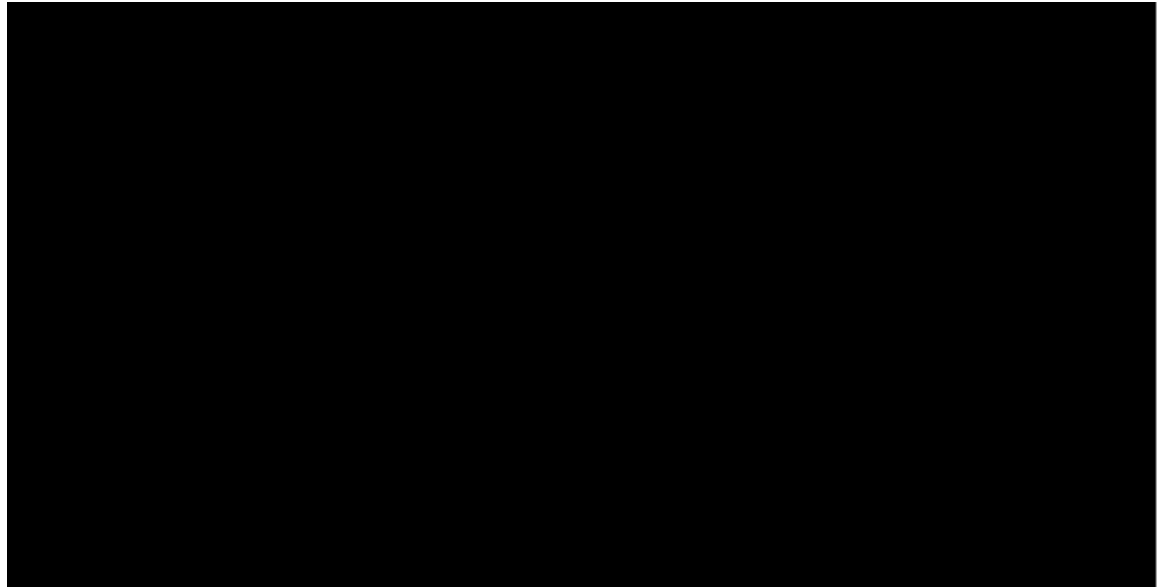
<sup>11</sup> 64 FedReg 35747

<sup>12</sup> Two years of consideration and five years of implementation.

1 **Q To what extent does the assumed retirement year impact the outcome of Mr.**  
2 **Teply's revised NPVRR(d) analysis for Naughton?**

3 **A** Leaving Mr. Teply's model structure intact, but shifting CAI investments back to  
4 2009-2012 and moving the assumed replacement date up to January 2016 erodes  
5 the PVRR(d) of the retrofits. Relative to Mr. Teply's revised workpapers,  
6 Naughton 1 shifts from [REDACTED] million to a liability of [REDACTED] million, and  
7 Naughton 2 shifts from [REDACTED] million to [REDACTED] million.

8 I show the impact of these corrections on the PVRR(d) values for Naughton 1 &  
9 2 graphically in Figure 1, below.



10  
11 **Figure 1. Present value revenue requirement differential (PVRR(d)) of retrofits at**  
12 **Naughton 1 & 2 in initial analysis ("as filed"), in Teply response testimony, with**  
13 **corrected CAI expenditure timing, and with Jan 2016 replacement date,**  
14 **respectively.**

15 **Q Why does the later replacement date appear to slightly increase the PVRR(d)**  
16 **of Naughton 2?**

17 **A** In the Company's stream of anticipated non-environmental capital expenditures,  
18 Naughton 2 has a very high expected capital expenditure of [REDACTED] million in  
19 2015, the second highest ongoing capital expenditure over the remaining 30 years  
20 of life from 2009. By moving the anticipated replacement date from January 2014  
21 to January 2016, we exclude this high cost from the remaining life of the unit,

1       thus decreasing the apparent cost of keeping this unit online relative to retiring the  
2       unit in 2016. The net impact is to make a retirement in 2016 look more expensive  
3       because of the high cost incurred in the last year of the unit's life.

4       **Q       Would you expect the Company to sink significant capital into a unit that**  
5       **would be closed a year later?**

6       **A       No.**

7       **Q       How does the revised Company Naughton analysis assume that the**  
8       **retirement would be a “surprise” to both the Company and Commission?**

9       **A       I expect that if the Company knew that a unit needed to be retired in just a few**  
10       years, the Company would (a) probably seek some form of accelerated  
11       depreciation for new capital investments, such as they are doing for the Carbon  
12       plant, anticipated to be retired in April of 2015 [see PAC/1100 Dalley/12 at 6-14]  
13       and (b) invest only the bare minimum required to get the optimal amount of  
14       energy out of the unit at the lowest price.

15       The revised Company Naughton analysis starts in full at the year 2014 and  
16       compares the cost of ongoing capital expenses, CAI, fuel, and a carbon cost  
17       against the cost of market energy. Essentially, this analysis assumes that  
18       everything that is incurred prior to 2014 would be no different should the plant  
19       continue operation or retire. By ignoring all capital costs incurred from the  
20       analysis date in 2009 through 2014, the Company makes an implicit assumption  
21       that all capital during that time regardless of whether the unit is retired and that  
22       the Company will recover all new capital expenses over a 15-20 year period.

23       By implementing this assumption, the Company overestimated the expected cost  
24       of the retirement scenario by both (a) assigning long-run depreciation and tax  
25       expenses to short-term investments and (b) assigning high ongoing capital  
26       expenditures to the retiring unit in its last few years of life.

1 **Q Did you correct the Company's assumption that new capital expenses would**  
2 **be subject to accelerated depreciation?**

3 **A** Yes. In my re-analysis of the Company's initial filing, submitted in my direct  
4 testimony, I used an assumption fully consistent with the Company's model. The  
5 PVRR(d) model includes a toggle for the end of the depreciable life of the plant.<sup>13</sup>  
6 I set up my model differently than Mr. Teply. As I described in my direct  
7 testimony, rather than use a single run of the spreadsheet to calculate a PVRR(d)  
8 value, I used two versions of the spreadsheet with two different scenarios. [Fisher  
9 direct, page 44 at 21 through page 45 at 5] The first scenario ("Run to 2029")  
10 simply adds up the total present value revenue requirement (PVRR) of operating a  
11 unit from the analysis date (2008) the end of its depreciable life (2029). The  
12 second scenario ("Retire in 2015") adds up the total present value cost of  
13 operating a unit from the analysis date to the retirement date (2015) plus the cost  
14 of replacement market power from 2016 through 2029. To calculate the  
15 "differential", I simply take the difference between the total PVRR of the Run to  
16 2029 scenario and the Retire in 2015 scenario.

17 The mechanism I describe above and in my direct testimony captures the  
18 difference between the likely requirement for accelerated depreciation in the  
19 Retire in 2015 scenario and the Run to 2029 scenario. My depreciation  
20 assumption is fully consistent with the Company's PVRR(d) modeling<sup>14</sup> and  
21 request for accelerated depreciation on the Carbon plant. Mr. Teply's rebuttal  
22 testimony and the revised Company Naughton analysis are inconsistent with the  
23 Company's PVRR(d) modeling framework.

<sup>13</sup> In OPUC 220-4, this toggle is labeled "Plant Calendar End Year" on the "Data" tab (cells L60:61).

<sup>14</sup> The PVRR(d) analyses supplied by the Company effectively require accelerated depreciation for late-stage investments at generators. For example, while an expense incurred at Naughton in 2010 is depreciated over 19 years to the end of the unit's life in 2029, expenses incurred in 2027 are depreciated over two years. Thus, if the unit is to be retired in 2015, we would expect that according to the model, expenses would be depreciated over a shorter span of time.