## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of	)	
PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power,	)	Docket No. UE-352
2019 Renewable Adjustment	)	
Clause	)	

## Rebuttal Testimony of Kevin C. Higgins

on behalf of

**Calpine Energy Solutions, LLC** 

June 3, 2019

1		REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF KEVIN C. HIGGINS			
2					
3	Intro	<u>oduction</u>			
4	Q.	Please state your name and business address.			
5	A.	My name is Kevin C. Higgins. My business address is 215 South State			
6		Street, Suite 200, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84111.			
7	Q.	Are you the same Kevin C. Higgins who previously filed Opening Testimony			
8		in this docket on behalf of Calpine Energy Solutions, LLC ("Calpine			
9		Solutions")?			
10	A.	Yes, I am.			
11	Q.	What is the purpose of your Rebuttal Testimony?			
12	A.	My testimony responds to the Reply testimony of PacifiCorp's witness			
13		Etta P. Lockey, who responded to the recommendations I made regarding the			
14		Company's proposal to expand the Renewable Adjustment Clause ("RAC") to			
15		include direct access customers going forward.			
16					
17	7 Response to PacifiCorp				
18	Q.	By way of background, please restate the primary recommendations in your			
19		Opening Testimony.			
20	A.	I offered three recommendations:			
21		(1) I recommended that the RAC charges should not apply to those			
22		customers who began taking direct access service in the five-year opt-out program			
23		prior to January 1, 2019, because the production tax credit ("PTC") benefits that			

will result from the projects that PacifiCorp proposes to include in the RAC in this proceeding were not included in the transition adjustment established for those customers.

- (2) I further recommended that absent demonstrable evidence that PacifiCorp included the projected *increases* in PTC benefits from repowered or new wind projects that are expected to occur after 2019 in the Schedule 296 transition adjustment for the 2019 TAM, five-year opt-out customers that may become subject to the RAC as a result of this proceeding (e.g., customers taking opt-out service effective January 1, 2019) should <u>not</u> be subject to any *increases* in the RAC after the initial RAC is adopted.
- (3) Finally, I recommended that for those direct access customers participating in the Company's five-year opt-out program that may become subject to the RAC charges as a result of this proceeding, the RAC charges should no longer apply once the customer has reached the end of its five-year transition period, as opt-out customers should not be subject to incremental costs associated with new PacifiCorp generation assets after the customer's transition period is completed.

## Q. What was PacifiCorp's response to your recommendations?

19 A. PacifiCorp responded positively. The Company agreed with my first and
20 third recommendations above and offered a reasonable alternative to the second. 
21 Regarding my second recommendation, Ms. Lockey stated:
22 PacifiCorp's position is that direct access customers in the five-year opt-out
23 program should be subject to rate changes in the RAC during the five-year opt-out

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Reply Testimony of Etta P. Lockey, pp. 25-27.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8		period, in the same manner that they are subject to changes in Schedule 200. However, PacifiCorp recognizes that the costs and PTC benefits of resource included in a future RAC should be matched for the direct access customers in the five-year opt-out program. To the extent direct access customers in the five-year opt-out program are subject to a rate increase in a RAC, a tariff rider could be used to reflect the incremental PTC benefits for the direct access customers in the five-year opt-out program. <sup>2</sup>
9	Q.	What is your assessment of the Company's alternative to your second
10		recommendation?
11	A.	This alternative approach is reasonable because it would ensure that rate
12		increases passed through to direct access customers in the five-year opt-out
13		program through the RAC would be synchronized with PTC benefits passed
14		through to those same customers during the transition period. This approach
15		substantively responds to the issue I was addressing in my second
16		recommendation.
17	Q.	What is your recommendation to the Commission?
18	A.	I recommend that the Commission approve the first and third
19		recommendations I presented above and that the Commission also approve
20		PacifiCorp's alternative to my second recommendation.
21	Q.	Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?

22

A.

Yes, it does.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Id.*, p. 27.