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May 5, 2006

Via Electronic and US Mail

Public Utility Commission Attn: Filing Center 550 Capitol St. NE #215 P.O. Box 2148 Salem OR 97308-2148

> Re: In the Matter of PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON Staff's Investigation Related to Electric Utility Purchases from Qualifying Facilities. Docket No. UM 1129

Dear Filing Center:

Enclosed please find an original and five copies of the Errata Page to the Rebuttal Testimony of R. Thomas Beach on behalf of Weyerhaeuser Company and the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities in the above-captioned docket. The page is provided both in redline and clean formats.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Christian Griffen Christian W. Griffen

Enclosures cc: Service List

## **REVISED 05/05/2006**

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under new financial accounting rules; or (2) debt rating agencies impute debt to a utility's capital structure as a consequence of its QF power purchase agreements.<sup>18/</sup>

3 Mr. Stuver testifies that a QF contract will be analyzed as a lease if: (a) the contract allows the purchaser the right to operate the plant; (b) the contract gives the 4 5 purchaser physical control over the plant; or (c) it is unlikely that other purchasers will buy more than a minor amount (10% or less) of the plant's output.<sup>19/</sup> None of these are 6 7 likely to occur in typical QF contracts with CHP projects. I am not aware of any CHP QFs in the western U.S. whose projects are physically operated or controlled by the 8 9 purchasing utility. Furthermore, even CHP projects that just barely meet the FERC QF 10 efficiency standard of 42.5% must, under FERC rules, sell more than 15% of their Btu output in the form of useful thermal energy. $\frac{20}{}$  Thermal energy is not sold to the electric 11 12 utility, and most CHP QFs also sell or provide a portion of their electric production to 13 their on-site host. Thus, it is extremely unlikely that a CHP QF's sales to the utility will 14 amount to more than 90% of its output. Accordingly, based on the criteria that Mr. 15 Stuver presents, it is highly unlikely that a QF contract will be treated as a lease for 16 accounting purposes.

17I have the following observations on Mr. Shah's testimony on how Standard &18Poors ("S&P") imputes debt to QF contracts:

19 20 • PacifiCorp's cost of capital is impacted by the opinions of a number of ratings agencies, not just by S&P, whose debt imputation methodology PacifiCorp cites

<sup>18/</sup> PPL/404, Shah/1-2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19/</sup> PPL/700, Stuver/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20/</sup> <u>See</u> 18 CFR § 292.205(a)(2).

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under new financial accounting rules; or (2) debt rating agencies impute debt to a utility's capital structure as a consequence of its QF power purchase agreements.  $\frac{18}{}$ 

Mr. Stuver testifies that a QF contract will be analyzed as a lease if: (a) the 3 4 contract allows the purchaser the right to operate the plant; (b) the contract gives the 5 purchaser physical control over the plant; or (c) it is unlikely that other purchasers will buy more than a minor amount (10% or less) of the plant's output.<sup>19/</sup> None of these are 6 7 likely to occur in typical QF contracts with CHP projects. I am not aware of any CHP QFs in the western U.S. whose projects are physically operated or controlled by the 8 9 purchasing utility. Furthermore, even CHP projects that just barely meet the FERC QF 10 efficiency standard of 42.5% must, under FERC rules, sell more than 15% of their Btu output in the form of useful thermal energy. $\frac{20}{}$  Thermal energy is not sold to the electric 11 12 utility, and most CHP QFs also sell or provide a portion of their electric production to their on-site host. Thus, it is extremely unlikely that a CHP QF's sales to the utility will 13 14 amount to more than 90% of its output. Accordingly, based on the criteria that Mr. 15 Stuver presents, it is highly unlikely that a QF contract will be treated as a lease for 16 accounting purposes.

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I have the following observations on Mr. Shah's testimony on how Standard & Poors ("S&P") imputes debt to OF contracts:

PacifiCorp's cost of capital is impacted by the opinions of a number of ratings agencies, not just by S&P, whose debt imputation methodology PacifiCorp cites

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>18</u>/ PPL/404, Shah/1-2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>19</u>/ PPL/700, Stuver/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>20</u>/ See 18 CFR § 292.205(a)(2).

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have this day served the Errata Page to the

Rebuttal Testimony of R. Thomas Beach on behalf of Weyerhaeuser Company and the

Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities upon the parties, shown below, on the official

service list by causing the foregoing document to be deposited, postage-prepaid, in the

U.S. Mail, or by service via electronic mail to those parties who waived paper service.

DATED at Portland, Oregon, this 5th day of May, 2006.

DAVISON VAN CLEVE, P.C.

## <u>/s/ Christian Griffen</u> Christian W. Griffen

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