

REDACTED

Docket No. UE 434

Exhibit PAC/100

Witness: Ramon J. Mitchell

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

PACIFICORP

REDACTED
Direct Testimony of Ramon J. Mitchell

February 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS	1
II.	PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY.....	1
III.	SUMMARY OF THE COMPANY’S 2025 TAM FILING	2
IV.	NPC VALIDATION.....	7
V.	DISCUSSION OF NPC CHANGES IN THE TAM	9
VI.	MODELING IMPROVEMENTS.....	11
	A. Hedging Requirements.....	11
	B. Unspecified Purchased Power.....	14
	C. Non-Precedential Modeling Improvements.....	18
VII.	ROUTINE UPDATES	20
	A. Incomplete Source Data.....	20
VIII.	COMPLIANCE WITH TAM ORDERS	24
IX.	PRODUCTION TAX CREDITS.....	27
X.	COMPANY SUPPLY SERVICE ACCESS CHARGE	28
XI.	COMPLIANCE WITH TAM GUIDELINES	29

ATTACHED EXHIBITS

Exhibit PAC/101—Oregon-Allocated Net Power Costs

Exhibit PAC/102—Net Power Costs Report

Confidential Exhibit PAC/103—Update to Renewable Energy Production Tax Credits

Exhibit PAC/104—Net Power Costs Step Log

Exhibit PAC/105—January 12, 2024 Notice Letter

Confidential Exhibit PAC/106—2020 Benchmark Report

Confidential Exhibit PAC/107—DA/RT and Market Caps

Exhibit PAC/108—Non-Precedential Step Log

1 **I. INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

2 **Q. Please state your name, business address, and present position with PacifiCorp**
3 **d/b/a Pacific Power (PacifiCorp or Company).**

4 A. My name is Ramon J. Mitchell, and my business address is 825 NE Multnomah Street,
5 Suite 600, Portland, Oregon 97232. My title is Manager, Net Power Costs.

6 **Q. Please describe your education and professional experience.**

7 A. I received a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of
8 Portland and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Reed College. I was first
9 employed by the Company in 2015 and during my time at the Company I have held
10 various positions in the regulation, merchant, and transmission departments. After a
11 brief departure from the Company, in 2022 I returned to the Company and now serve
12 as Manager, Net Power Costs. In my current role I am responsible for leading and
13 overseeing various efforts associated with the Company's net power costs (NPC)
14 filings.

15 **Q. Have you testified in previous regulatory proceedings?**

16 A. Yes. I have previously provided testimony to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon
17 (Commission), as well as commissions in California, Washington, and Wyoming.

18 **II. PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY**

19 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?**

20 A. I present the Company's proposed 2025 Transition Adjustment Mechanism (TAM)
21 NPC. Specifically, my testimony:

- 22 • Defines NPC and summarizes the content of the filing;

- 1 • Describes the NPC forecast in the 2025 TAM compared to actual NPC in calendar
2 year 2023;
- 3 • Describes changes the Company is proposing in this TAM filing; and
- 4 • Provides an update on provisions from prior Commission orders.

5 **Q. Please identify the other Company witnesses supporting the 2025 TAM.**

6 A. Two additional Company witnesses provide testimony supporting the Company's
7 filing. James Owen, Vice President, Environmental, Fuels and Mining, provides
8 testimony supporting the coal fuel costs and supply included in the 2025 TAM. Judith
9 M. Ridenour, Regulatory Specialist, Pricing & Cost of Service, presents the
10 Company's proposed prices and tariffs and provides a comparison of existing and
11 estimated customer rates.

12 **III. SUMMARY OF THE COMPANY'S 2025 TAM FILING**

13 **Q. Please explain NPC.**

14 A. NPC are the sum of fuel expenses, wholesale purchase power expenses, and wheeling
15 expenses, less wholesale sales revenue.

16 **Q. How does the TAM relate to NPC?**

17 A. In the 2017 TAM Order, the Commission described the TAM and its purpose as
18 follows:

19 PacifiCorp's TAM is an annual filing in which PacifiCorp projects
20 the amount of [NPC] to be reflected in customer rates for the
21 following year, as well as to set transition charges for customers
22 electing to move to direct access. The TAM effectively removes
23 regulatory lag for the company because the forecasts are used to
24 adjust rates. For that reason, the accuracy of the forecasts is of
25 significant importance to setting fair, just and reasonable rates. Our

1 goal, therefore, is to achieve an accurate forecast of PacifiCorp's
2 [NPC] for the upcoming year.¹

3 **Q. Please explain how the Company calculates NPC.**

4 A. The Company calculates NPC for a future test period based on a forecast using
5 Aurora, which is a production cost model. Aurora simulates the operation of the
6 Company's power system on an hourly basis and provides an hourly forecast of NPC
7 for the future test period.

8 **Q. Which version of Aurora was used to prepare this initial filing?**

9 A. The Aurora version used to prepare this initial filing was version 15.0.1005.² No other
10 version of Aurora is assured to be able to identically reproduce the NPC proposal in
11 this initial filing.

12 **Q. Has the Company proposed any modeling changes in the 2025 TAM?**

13 A. Yes. The Company proposed the following modeling changes in addition to modeling
14 changes proposed in the 2023 and 2024 TAM:

- 15 • The NPC forecast will simulate power hedging transactions in order to maintain
16 compliance with PacifiCorp's current Energy Risk Management Policy.
- 17 • Multi-stage gas generators (combined cycle gas turbine resources) will further
18 differentiate between operating configurations.
- 19 • Emergency purchases will satisfy all system obligation deficits.

20 **Q. Did the Company provide advance notice to the parties regarding the modeling
21 changes proposed in this case?**

22 A. Yes. In compliance with the TAM Guidelines, the Company provided notice of

¹ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp, d/b/a Pacific Power, 2017 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 307, Order No. 16-482 at 2-3 (Dec. 20, 2016).

² Specifically, Aurora version 15.0.1005.8825 released on December 22, 2023.

1 changes to the Company's modeling of NPC in the 2025 TAM. This notice was
2 provided on January 12, 2024, and is included as Exhibit PAC/105.

3 **Q. Has the Company implemented all modeling changes referenced in Exhibit**
4 **PAC/105?**

5 A. No. The 'multi-stage gas generators' modeling change was not able to be developed
6 and implemented in time for this TAM's filing deadline.

7 **Q. What non-precedential changes were raised as issues in the 2024 TAM?³**

8 A. The following non-precedential changes were raised as issues in the 2024 TAM:

- 9 • Modeling improvement: wholesale sales market capacity limits (market caps)
10 were based on the four-year historical average of short-term firm balancing and
11 spot sales, differentiated by on and off-peak hours. This was completed consistent
12 with the Commission's continued review of this issue as identified in Order No.
13 21-379;⁴
- 14 • Modeling improvement: the day-ahead/real-time (DA/RT) price component was
15 changed to a percentage of market prices;
- Correction: the day-ahead/real-time (DA/RT) volume component was corrected to
remove artificial arbitrage revenue and associated erroneous results.

16 **Q. Are those changes from the 2024 TAM, referenced above, implemented in this**
17 **filing?**

18 A. Yes. As an initial matter, all changes proposed in the 2023 and 2024 TAM are
19 implemented in this filing. More specifically, those changes from the 2024 TAM,

³ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power 2024 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 420, Order No. 23-404, Appendix A at 20 (Oct. 27, 2023).

⁴ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power 2022 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 390, Order No. 21-379 at 28 (Nov. 1, 2021).

1 referenced above, have been implemented in this year's filing. Please refer to Exhibit
2 PAC/107 for support of those changes and please refer to Exhibit PAC/108 for the
3 NPC impact of those changes.

4 **Q. What inputs were updated for this filing?**

5 A. The Company updated all inputs to the 2025 TAM, including system load, wholesale
6 sales and purchase contracts for electricity, natural gas and wheeling, the official
7 forward price curve (OFPC) market prices for electricity and natural gas, fuel
8 expenses, and the characteristics and availability of the Company's generation
9 facilities.

10 **Q. What is the date of the OFPC the Company used in this filing?**

11 A. The Company's filing uses the OFPC dated December 29, 2023.

12 **Q. Will the Company continue to update the OFPC through the pendency of this
13 proceeding?**

14 A. Yes. In accordance with the current TAM Guidelines, the Company's reply update
15 will incorporate the most recent OFPC that is available at the time the update is
16 prepared. The November indicative update will incorporate an OFPC from within
17 nine days of the filing, and the November final update will incorporate an OFPC from
18 within seven days of the filing. This ensures that the most up-to-date market
19 information is used in the forecast, providing a more accurate estimate of NPC for the
20 test period.

21 **Q. Please provide background on the Company's 2025 TAM filing.**

22 A. The TAM is an annual filing that the Company makes to update its NPC in rates and
23 to set the transition adjustments for direct access customers. Along with the forecast

1 NPC, the 2025 TAM also includes test period forecasts for: (1) incremental benefits
2 and costs related to the Company's participation in the western energy imbalance
3 market (WEIM) with the California Independent System Operator (CAISO); and
4 (2) renewable energy production tax credits (PTCs).

5 **Q. What is the total-Company NPC in the TAM for calendar year 2025?**

6 A. The forecast total-Company NPC for calendar year 2025 is approximately
7 \$2.533 billion.⁵ This is approximately \$55 million lower than the total-Company
8 2024 NPC forecast of approximately \$2.588 billion in the 2024 TAM and
9 approximately \$100 million lower than the total-Company 2024 NPC forecast before
10 application of the unspecified monetary adjustment in the 2024 TAM.⁶ Further details
11 on the total-Company NPC forecast for 2025 are provided in Exhibit PAC/102.

12 **Q. What is the increase to the Oregon-allocated NPC and the impact to Oregon**
13 **rates?**

14 A. As shown in Exhibit PAC/101, there is a decrease to Oregon-allocated NPC of
15 approximately \$66 million and an increase in PTCs (decrease to rates) of
16 approximately \$7.6 million. After adjusting for the variance from loads, the 2025
17 TAM results in a decrease to Oregon rates of approximately \$18 million. Unless
18 otherwise specified, references to NPC throughout my testimony are expressed on an
19 Oregon-allocated basis. As explained in the testimony of Company witness Ridenour,
20 the 2025 TAM results in an overall average rate decrease of approximately
21 1.0 percent.

⁵ Exhibit PAC/101, Mitchell/1, line 35.

⁶ Order No. 23-404, Appendix A at 18.

1 **Q. Does the proposed rate decrease for the 2025 TAM reflect changes in Oregon**
2 **load since the 2024 TAM?**

3 A. Yes. The 2025 load forecast used in the Company's calculation of NPC reflects a
4 decrease in Oregon load compared to the 2024 forecast loads in the 2024 TAM. Due
5 to the decrease in Oregon load, the Company anticipates it will collect approximately
6 \$56 million less than what was approved in the 2024 TAM, decreasing the overall
7 requested rate decrease.

8 **Q. Please explain how the WEIM inter-regional transfer benefits and greenhouse**
9 **gas benefits are treated in the 2025 TAM.**

10 A. The Company's initial filing includes a forecast of both the inter-regional transfer
11 benefits and greenhouse gas (GHG) benefits from participation in the WEIM. The
12 expected incremental inter-regional WEIM transfer benefits relative to the optimized
13 NPC modeled by Aurora are reflected as a reduction to the NPC forecast. The total-
14 Company inter-regional WEIM transfer benefits included in the 2025 TAM are
15 [REDACTED], a [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] from the 2024 TAM. The WEIM GHG
16 benefits are [REDACTED], a [REDACTED] from the 2024 TAM.

17 IV. NPC VALIDATION

18 **Q. Is \$2.533 billion a reasonably accurate forecast for total-Company NPC?**

19 A. Yes. Preliminary data indicates that 2023 Actual NPC is \$2.552 billion. In 2025, as
20 compared to 2023:

21 (1) For comparison purposes, 2025 Forecast NPC with the inclusion of the
22 Washington Cap and Invest Program is \$2.592 billion, or \$38.95/megawatt-
23 hour (MWh). 2023 Actual NPC with the inclusion of the Washington Cap

1 and Invest Program is \$2.552 billion, or \$41.30/MWh;

2 (2) 2025 Pacific Northwest summer and winter peak power prices **increase** by
3 23 percent and Desert Southwest summer and winter peak power prices
4 **increase** by 25 percent;

5 (3) 2025 Pacific Northwest summer and winter natural gas prices **increase** by
6 41 percent and Rocky Mountain region summer and winter natural gas
7 prices **increase** by 13 percent (both calculations excluding the anomalous
8 January 2023 price excursion);⁷ and

9 (4) New Company-owned wind is estimated to increase total-Company wind
10 generation by 1.7 million MWh, as compared to 2023. However, load
11 increases by 4.8 million MWh at the total-Company level, as compared to
12 2023. This increase in load completely absorbs the increased wind
13 generation. After subtracting the wind generation increase from the load
14 increase, the remaining load increase is 3.1 million MWh.

15 These fundamentals indicate that 2025 total-Company NPC will be higher than 2023
16 total-Company NPC. All else equal, the remaining load increase valued at the average
17 NPC of \$38.95/MWh suggests that 2025 NPC should be an increase of \$121 million
18 relative to 2023 NPC; far more than the \$40 million increase implied in this TAM.

19 **Q. Why are summer and winter prices particularly critical when comparing prices?**

20 A. Summer and winter peak periods are periods of high customer demand and stressed
21 system conditions. Higher power prices in those periods will produce NPC that is

⁷ The Company excluded the outlier data from January 2023 because inclusion of that anomalous price spike skews the comparison of 2023 to 2025 data. However, in the interest of complete analysis for the record, from 2023 to 2025, *January* natural gas prices in the Pacific Northwest and in the Rocky Mountain region decreased by 35 percent and 59 percent respectively.

1 substantially higher relative to any decrease in NPC that may result from lowered
 2 prices in spring and fall months, which have light load and relatively mild system
 3 conditions.

4 **V. DISCUSSION OF NPC CHANGES IN THE TAM**

5 **Q. Please generally describe the changes in this 2025 NPC forecast compared to**
 6 **2023 Actual NPC.**

7 A. The increase in 2025 Forecast NPC relative to 2023 Actual NPC is driven by
 8 increased purchased power expense, increased natural gas fuel expense, and increased
 9 wheeling and other expense. This is partially offset by a reduction in coal fuel
 10 expense and an increase in wholesale sales revenue (*which continues to be severely*
 11 *over-estimated*).⁸ Table 2 for dollars and Table 3 for energy illustrate the changes in
 12 total-Company NPC by category from the 2023 Actual NPC to the 2025 Forecast
 13 NPC.

14 **Table 1: NPC Reconciliation Dollars**

Net Power Cost Reconciliation		
	(\$ millions)	\$/MWh
2023 Preliminary Actual NPC	2,552	41.30
Increase/(Decrease) to NPC:		
Wholesale Sales Revenue	(169.2)	
Purchased Power Expense	101.5	
Coal Fuel Expense	(27.2)	
Natural Gas Fuel Expense	74.7	
Wheeling and Other Expense	1.5	
Total Change to NPC	(18.7)	
OR 2025 TAM Forecast	<u>2,533</u>	38.06

⁸ Please refer to Confidential Figure 2 and Exhibit PAC/107.

1

Table 2: NPC Reconciliation Energy

Net Power Cost Reconciliation		
	MWh	\$/MWh
2023 Preliminary Actual NPC	61,781,764	41.30
Change to Net System Load:		
Wholesale Sales Increase	(1,728,399)	
Purchased Power Increase	5,579,727	
Coal Generation Decrease	(3,165,956)	
Natural Gas Generation Increase	2,713,506	
Other Generation Increase	<u>1,365,947</u>	
Total Change to Net System Load	4,764,824	
OR 2025 TAM Forecast	<u>66,546,588</u>	38.06

2 **Q. Please explain the increase in purchased power expense and the increase in**
 3 **wholesale sales revenue.**

4 A. The purchased power expense increases in tandem with new power purchase
 5 agreements and increased load relative to 2023, offset by the removal of costs related
 6 to the Washington Cap and Invest Program. For wholesale sales revenue, Aurora
 7 produces unrealistically high wholesale sales revenue,⁹ and the increase in wholesale
 8 sales revenues reflect this difference between recent 2023 actuals and the current
 9 2025 NPC forecast.

10 **Q. Please explain the decrease in coal fuel expense and the increase in natural gas**
 11 **fuel expense.**

12 A. The gas conversion of Jim Bridger units 1 and 2 removes two generating units out of
 13 the coal fuel expense category and therefore, the expense decreases. Inversely, natural
 14 gas expense increases due to: (1) the gas conversion of Jim Bridger units 1 and 2

⁹ Please refer to Confidential Figure 2 and Exhibit PAC/107.

1 which adds two generating units into the natural gas fuel expense category; and (2)
2 increased load relative to 2023.

3 **Q. Please explain the increase in wheeling and other expense.**

4 A. Wheeling expenses reflect historical wheeling expenses supporting recent actual
5 purchased power volumes, which have increased over time.

6 **VI. MODELING IMPROVEMENTS**

7 **Q. In addition to the modeling improvements proposed in the 2023 TAM and the**
8 **2024 TAM, has the Company incorporated any additional modeling**
9 **improvements into this year's TAM?**

10 A. Yes. The Company is proposing the following modeling improvements:

- 11 • The NPC forecast will simulate power hedging transactions in order to maintain
12 compliance with PacifiCorp's current Energy Risk Management Policy.
- 13 • Emergency purchases will satisfy all system obligation deficits.

14 A. **Hedging Requirements**

15 **Q. Please briefly provide an overview of the Company's power hedging**
16 **requirements.**

17 A. The Company revised its risk management policy in 2021 with the specific and stated
18 goal of guiding the front office (energy supply management) to purchase increasing
19 amounts of power in periods with short positions. This is intended to limit the
20 possibility of being short during periods of peak demand and peak pricing. This
21 revised policy imposes power hedge percentage limits that are applied independently
22 to each side of the system,¹⁰ varying by quarter, and escalating as the time to delivery

¹⁰ PacifiCorp West and PacifiCorp East.

1 of power approaches. The most relevant requirement in relation to the Company's
2 NPC forecast is the requirement that positions be hedged at a level where, on average,
3 a minimum of 75 percent of each month's peak hour is hedged in the first quarter of
4 the future (e.g., in December 2024 this would apply to the first quarter of 2025).

5 **Q. In its original form, is the NPC forecast in compliance with the Company's**
6 **power hedging requirements?**

7 A. No. Aurora has no knowledge of the Company's hedging requirements or how they
8 evolve over time. While some quarters may be in compliance without this modeling
9 improvement, that is coincidental, not an indication that the model intentionally
10 satisfies the requirements imposed by the Company's risk management policy.

11 **Q. What change was made to align the NPC forecast with the Company's power**
12 **hedging requirements?**

13 A. To reflect the fact that the Company will eventually need to hedge each quarter at a
14 minimum average of 75 percent, additional short-term firm transactions are
15 calculated, in quarterly 25 megawatt (MW) energy blocks of heavy or light load hour
16 products, and loaded into the model to ensure that the quarterly average hedge ratio in
17 the peak hour of each month satisfies the policy-dictated minimum requirements for
18 the first quarter. In that way, the inputs to the model are created in a manner which
19 recognizes that all four quarters in the test period will eventually be the first quarter in
20 actual operations and the Company will need to execute forward transactions to
21 satisfy its hedging policy requirements.

22 **Q. Does this change conform to the realities of actual operations?**

23 A. Yes. As noted above, each month in the test period will eventually be part of a quarter

1 that needs to be hedged at a minimum average of 75 percent in actual operations, as
2 measured against the peak hour load, by side of system.

3 **Q. Are these simulated hedge volumes subject to the DA/RT price component?**

4 A. No. The prices used in the DA/RT price component are created in recognition of the
5 fact that, in actual operations, the Company purchases at prices above the OFPC and
6 sells at prices below the OFPC *in the spot market*; and Aurora's optimization is
7 fundamentally a spot market simulation. Because this modeling update is intended to
8 simulate forward transactions, the prices for the simulated hedges are added to the
9 model with no price adjustment. This is reflective of the Company's transaction
10 history, which indicates that forward hedges are executed at or about the prevailing
11 market price at the time of execution, on average.

12 **Q. Why was no change made to the NPC forecast for the Company's gas hedging
13 requirements?**

14 A. Because such a change would have no impact to the NPC forecast. Aurora does not
15 physically balance the gas system, and the impact of gas hedges consists entirely of
16 the mark-to-market (MTM) value of those hedges. Were the Company to simulate gas
17 hedge transactions at expected market prices (i.e., the OFPC), they would show—by
18 definition—no MTM impact and additionally, the associated gas volumes are not
19 modeled in Aurora, so there would be no change to the NPC forecast.

20 **Q. Please quantify the impact of this modeling improvement.**

21 A. On an isolated basis, the NPC impact is a \$6.3 million increase to Oregon-allocated
22 NPC; \$23.2 million total-Company.

1 **B. Unspecified Purchased Power**

2 **Q. What is unspecified purchased power within the Company's NPC forecast?**

3 A. Unspecified purchased power is a simulation of regular firm purchased power, with
4 the caveat that no modeled transmission is required to move the purchased power to
5 the point of delivery.

6 **Q. How is unspecified purchased power related to the longstanding concept of
7 emergency purchases within the NPC forecast?**

8 A. Whereas emergency purchases were a modeling technique primarily designed to
9 remedy energy deficits with modeled firm purchased power, unspecified purchased
10 power expands and renames the concept of emergency purchases to remedy energy
11 deficits, ramp capability deficits and capacity deficits with modeled firm purchased
12 power.

13 **Q. Why are there energy deficits in the NPC forecast that require the longstanding
14 usage of emergency purchases as remedy?**

15 A. The test period short-term transmission capacity modeled in the NPC forecast is
16 based on a four-year average of historical short-term transmission capacity. However,
17 the load and generation in the NPC forecast is based on actual test period expectations
18 (example, includes upcoming new wind and solar resources).

19 This creates a mismatched scenario wherein there can be more load or
20 generation than there is transmission to fully satisfy the needs of that load or
21 generation. This mismatch occurs because the short-term transmission capacity
22 required in 2025 will be more than the four-year average of historical short-term

1 transmission capacity after accounting for year-over-year growth in load and
2 generation.

3 **Q. Why does this renamed unspecified purchased power need to incorporate ramp**
4 **capability deficits and capacity deficits in addition to energy deficits?**

5 A. The need for up-dispatchable capacity resources to regulate the supply/demand
6 balance is substantially increased as additional amounts of load, wind resources and
7 solar resources are integrated into the Company's system. Increased energy from firm
8 purchased power is required to free up ramp and capacity on existing up-dispatchable
9 capacity resources to integrate that additional load, wind or solar. However, the
10 modeled short-term transmission capacity lags behind reasonable expectations of test
11 period short-term transmission capacity needs due to the usage of four-year historical
12 averages.

13 In prior NPC forecasts, the forecast capacity deficits were within reason.
14 However, in this 2025 NPC forecast, these capacity deficits have become
15 unreasonable large and indicative of an unreliable NPC forecast. The use of
16 unspecified purchased power to free up ramp and capacity on existing up-
17 dispatchable capacity resources remedies this problem in this TAM and
18 simultaneously resolves the issue wherein the modeled short term transmission
19 capacity is not reflective of test period expectations in this TAM.

20 **Q. Is this a new modeling improvement?**

21 A. No. In the 2023 TAM, emergency purchases were used to satisfy energy deficits,
22 ramp capability deficits and capacity deficits. In the 2024 TAM, emergency
23 purchases were inadvertently deactivated as it relates to the satisfaction of ramp

1 capability deficits and capacity deficits. Since the feature is reactivated in the 2025
2 TAM, the Company discusses it here in the interest of transparency.

3 **Q. In the 2023 TAM, please describe the amount of emergency purchases, in dollars**
4 **and in MWh, along with any energy or capacity deficits.**

5 A. At the total-Company level, emergency purchases in the 2023 TAM were \$74 million
6 total-Company (3.76 percent of NPC) or 0.24 million MWh (0.39 percent of load).
7 Energy obligations were 100 percent satisfied and capacity obligations were
8 [REDACTED].

9 **Q. In the 2024 TAM, please describe the amount of emergency purchases, in dollars**
10 **and in MWh, along with any energy or capacity deficits.**

11 A. At the total-Company level, emergency purchases in the 2024 TAM were
12 \$6.9 million total-Company (0.27 percent of NPC) or 0.023 million MWh
13 (0.034 percent of load). Energy obligations were 100 percent satisfied and capacity
14 obligations were [REDACTED].

15 **Q. In this 2025 TAM, please describe the amount of unspecified purchased power**
16 **(emergency purchases), in dollars and in MWh, along with any energy or**
17 **capacity deficits.**

18 A. At the total-company level, unspecified purchased power in this 2025 TAM is
19 \$43 million total-Company (1.7 percent of NPC) or 0.18 million MWh (0.26 percent
20 of load). Energy obligations were 100 percent satisfied and capacity obligations were
21 [REDACTED].

1 **Q. Without using unspecified purchased power to satisfy capacity deficits in this**
2 **2025 TAM what would the amount of unspecified purchased power be, in dollars**
3 **and in MWh, along with any energy or capacity deficits?**

4 A. Without using unspecified purchased power to satisfy capacity deficits in this 2025
5 TAM, at the total-Company level, unspecified purchased power would be
6 \$3.3 million total-Company (0.13 percent of NPC) or 0.014 million MWh
7 (0.020 percent of load). Energy obligations would be 100 percent satisfied and
8 capacity obligations would be [REDACTED].

9 **Q. Below what threshold are capacity obligation percentages considered unreliable?**

10 A. [REDACTED]
11 [REDACTED], then
12 the threshold of reliability has been breached in the unfavorable direction, and the
13 forecasted system should no longer be considered reliable.

14 **Q. From the information provided, what conclusions can be drawn from the use of**
15 **unspecified purchased power to resolve capacity deficits?**

16 A. It enables a reliable NPC forecast. Without the use of unspecified purchased power to
17 resolve capacity deficits, the capacity obligations are [REDACTED] which is
18 [REDACTED].

11 [REDACTED]

1 **Q. Have you renamed all ‘emergency purchases’ references in the NPC forecast,**
2 **replacing those references with ‘unspecified purchased power’?**

3 A. No. The naming convention of emergency purchases remains the same within the
4 NPC forecast and supporting workpapers. The renaming to unspecified purchased
5 power is for the purpose of clarity in this testimony.

6 **Q. What is the NPC impact of allowing unspecified purchased power to satisfy**
7 **ramp capability deficits and capacity deficits in this 2025 TAM, like it did in the**
8 **2023 TAM?**

9 A. On an isolated basis, the NPC impact is a \$1.2 million increase to Oregon-allocated
10 NPC; \$4.3 million total-Company.

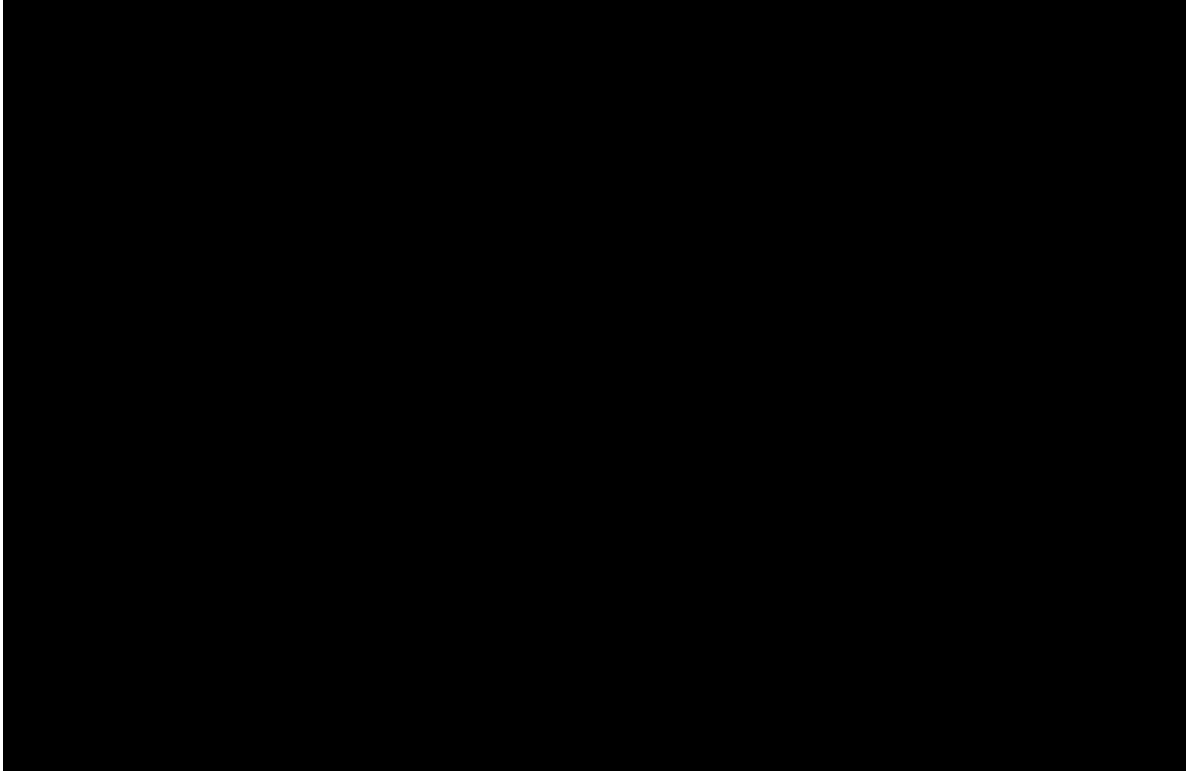
11 **C. Non-Precedential Modeling Improvements**

12 **Q. In Confidential Exhibit PAC/107 you present prior testimony from the 2024 TAM**
13 **supporting the use of the DA/RT percentile adder and the average of averages**
14 **market caps methodology. Are there any updates to that testimony?**

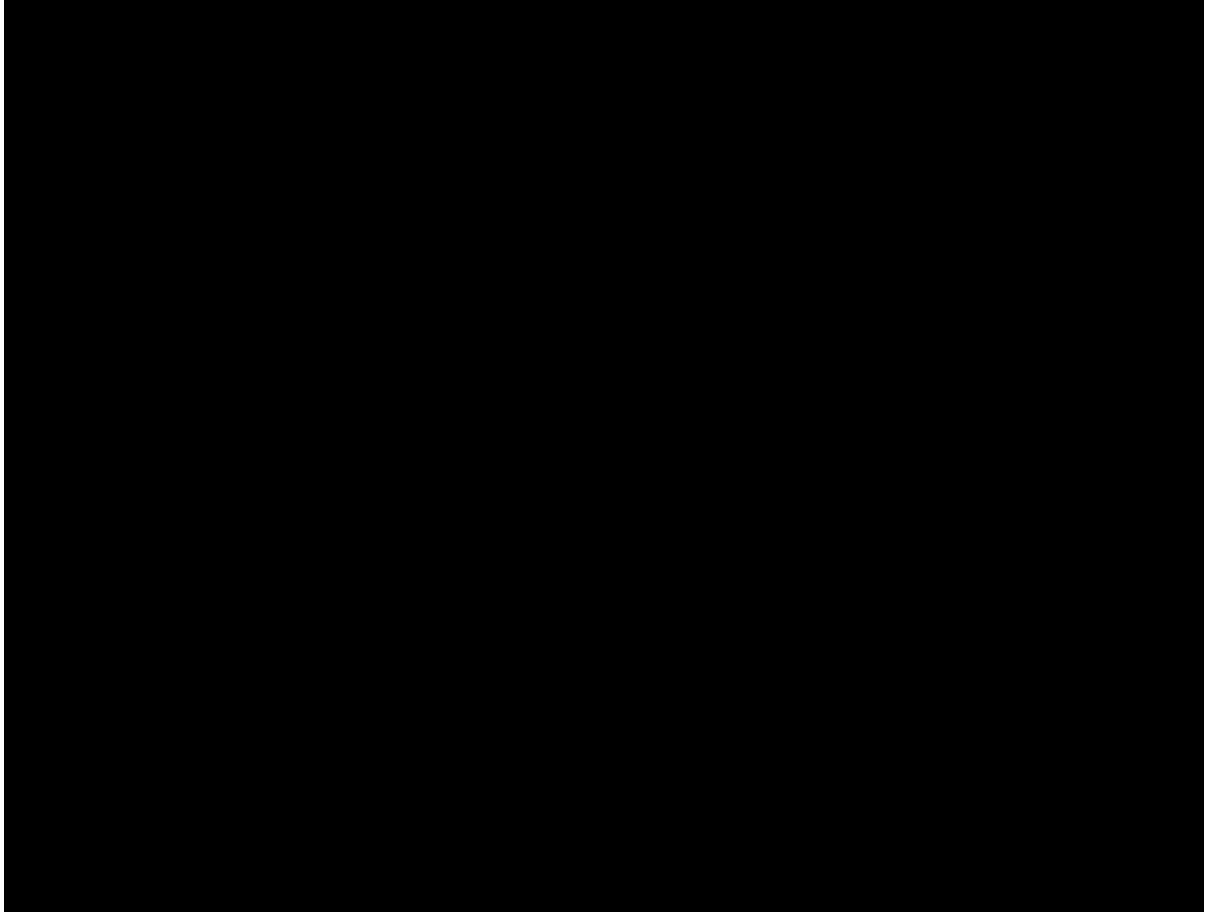
15 A. Yes. First, Confidential Figure 6 in Confidential Exhibit PAC/107 is updated below
16 as Confidential Figure 1 and illustrates the actual historical DA/RT price component
17 contrasted with a hypothetical flat adder, showing that the data supports the percentile
18 adder as accurate. Second, Confidential Figure 11 in Confidential Exhibit PAC/107 is
19 updated below as Confidential Figure 2 and illustrates the 2025 forecast sales as
20 compared to historical actual sales, showing that the data supports the use of a
21 **minimum** of averages approach and does not support a third quartile of averages
22 approach; especially when considering that coal supply shortages are continuing from

1 2023 into 2025. Please refer to Confidential Exhibit PAC/107 for further evidentiary
2 detail on these issues.

3 **Confidential Figure 1: DA/RT Percentile Adder**



1

Confidential Figure 2: Market Capacity

2

VII. ROUTINE UPDATES3 **A. Incomplete Source Data**4 **Q. What inputs were updated for this filing?**5 A. The Company updated all inputs to the 2025 TAM, including wholesale sales and
6 purchase contracts for electricity and natural gas.7 **Q. How do wholesale sales and purchase contracts for electricity and natural gas
8 flow into the NPC forecast?**9 A. First, the Company's commodity management software records all wholesale sales
10 and purchase contracts for electricity and natural gas that are executed in actual
11 operations. This source data then flows into the NPC forecast for calculation of

1 physical power hedges (physical power transactions), physical gas hedges (physical
2 gas transactions), financial gas hedges (financial gas transactions), market capacity
3 limits (physical power sale transactions), and day-ahead / real-time transactions (spot
4 market physical power transactions).

5 **Q. How does the NPC forecast account for physical power transactions within the**
6 **production cost models?**

7 A. Regarding physical power transactions, the Company executes these transactions
8 across many different trading points in the West (western interconnection). These
9 trading points can be categorized as minor trading points or major trading points. For
10 modeling convenience, the NPC forecast models only the major trading points¹² and
11 then maps all transactions at minor trading points to those major trading points. For
12 example, from an electronic tagging (E-Tag) perspective, the energy associated with a
13 physical power hedge transacted with the Bonneville Power Administration may be
14 received at the minor trading point known as the Bonneville/PacifiCorp transmission
15 interface (BPAT.PACW). Since the NPC forecast only models major trading hubs,
16 this particular hedge would be mapped to the Mid-Columbia major trading hub.

17 **Q. Why is this mapping process necessary?**

18 A. For accuracy of the NPC forecast all physical power transactions must be accounted
19 for. However, for simplicity of modeling, all trading points across the West are not
20 accounted for in the Company's production cost model. Therefore, all physical power
21 transactions are mapped to one of the major trading points and all major trading
22 points are modeled in the NPC forecast. This ensures that purchases and sales of

¹² Mid-Columbia, California Oregon Border (COB), Nevada Oregon Border (NOB), Mona, Mead, Four Corners, Palo Verde.

1 physical power are fully accounted for in the model, across the historical and future
2 data.

3 **Q. What inconsistencies were observed during the TAM update process?**

4 A. All physical power hedges and all market capacity limits map all physical power
5 transactions to one of the major trading hubs. However, the day-ahead / real-time
6 transaction mapping was incomplete and did not map a substantial portion of the
7 Company's physical power transactions to one of the major trading hubs.

8 **Q. How does this inconsistency impact the NPC forecast?**

9 A. Either the market capacity limits are calculated on too many transactions or the day-
10 ahead / real-time transactions are calculated on too few transactions since there can
11 only be one consistent set of transaction data supporting the NPC forecast. Across
12 both scenarios, the Company's commodity records (source data) for power
13 transactions would effectively reflect two separate official record sources in the same
14 NPC forecast and therefore this would create a known inaccuracy in that NPC
15 forecast.

16 **Q. What is the remedy for this inaccuracy?**

17 A. All elements of the NPC forecast must calculate from the same set of source data.
18 Therefore, either all power transactions are mapped to major trading points, or only a
19 defined portion of power transactions are mapped to major trading points. The
20 immediate implication is that power hedges and market capacity limits should use
21 only a portion of the Company's power transactions to calculate, or the day-ahead /
22 real-time transactions should use all of the Company's power transactions to
23 calculate.

1 **Q. How did the Company remedy this inaccuracy in this initial filing?**

2 A. The day-ahead / real-time transactions were updated to all of the Company's power
3 transactions.

4 **Q. What is the NPC impact of updating the day-ahead / real-time transactions to all
5 of the Company's power transactions?**

6 A. On an isolated basis, the NPC impact is a \$4.9 million increase to Oregon-allocated
7 NPC; \$18.2 million total-Company.

8 **Q. What would be the NPC impact of updating the power hedges and market
9 capacity limits to only a portion of the Company's power transactions?**

10 A. On an isolated basis, the NPC impact would be a \$4.8 million increase to Oregon-
11 allocated NPC; \$17.7 million total-Company.

12 **Q. The accuracy of the forecasts is of significant importance to setting fair, just and
13 reasonable rates.¹³ Which mapping process is more accurate?**

14 A. Using all power transactions in all the NPC forecast calculations and mapping all
15 minor trading points to the major trading points, for all calculations, is the only
16 accurate process when considering that the NPC forecast simulates and attempts to
17 replicate the actual operations of the Company's system as if only major trading
18 points existed and this contrasts with actual operations which has both major and
19 minor trading points. Without mapping all power transactions to the major trading
20 points in the NPC model, the NPC forecast will not accurately replicate the actual
21 operation of the Company's system.

¹³ Docket No. UE 307, Order No. 16-482 at 2-3 (Dec. 20, 2016).

1 **Q. How does the 2020 Benchmark Study¹⁴ relate to this mapping process?**

2 A. The results of the 2020 Benchmark Study shows Aurora producing 2020 NPC that is
3 \$58.7 million total-company (or 3.9 percent) less than 2020 Actual NPC. This
4 benchmark study uses all power transactions in all the NPC forecast calculations and
5 maps all minor trading points to the major trading points for all calculations. When
6 the 2020 Benchmark Study uses only a portion of the Company's power transactions
7 for day-ahead / real-time transactions, (discussed above as the inaccurate method), the
8 2020 Benchmark Study shows Aurora producing 2020 NPC that is \$72.2 million
9 total-company (or 4.8 percent) less than 2020 Actual NPC. This is a worsening of the
10 2020 Benchmark under-forecast by \$13.6 million.

11 **VIII. COMPLIANCE WITH TAM ORDERS**

12 **Q. The 2021 TAM Order describes certain actions that need to be taken prior to the**
13 **2025 TAM filing. What are those actions?**

14 A. In Order No. 20-392, the Commission adopted a stipulation reached between the
15 parties.¹⁵ PacifiCorp agreed to the following:

- 16 • Performing an informational model run that removes any operational constraints
17 related to the minimum take provisions in the coal supply agreements and uses an
18 average coal price for purposes of dispatching coal plants (to be provided in 15-
19 day workpapers).

¹⁴ Exhibit PAC/106.

¹⁵ See *In the matter of PacifiCorp dba Pacific Power's 2021 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 375, Order No. 20-392 (Oct. 30, 2020).

1 **Q. Has the Company performed this informational model run?**

2 A. Yes. The informational model run will be provided with the 15-day workpapers for
3 this filing.

4 **Q. The 2023 TAM Order describes certain actions that need to be taken prior to the
5 2025 TAM filing. What are those actions?**

6 A. In Order No. 22-389, the Commission adopted a stipulation reached between the
7 parties.¹⁶ PacifiCorp agreed to the following:

- 8 • PacifiCorp will make best efforts to provide to parties a benchmarking study that
9 uses inputs from 2020 actuals on February 1, 2024.

10 **Q. Did the Company provide the benchmarking study on February 1, 2024, as
11 requested in the 2023 TAM Order?**

12 A. Yes. The study was provided and is also attached to this testimony as Exhibit
13 PAC/106. The relevant workpapers are also provided concurrently with this filing.

14 **Q. The 2024 TAM stipulation had a provision related to a new methodology based
15 around the inclusion of the DA/RT price component in the calculation of
16 Transition Adjustments and Consumer Opt-Out Charges. Is the Company
17 proposing to continue the use of that methodology in this filing?**

18 A. No, the Company is proposing to use the methodology that was prior to the filing of
19 the 2024 TAM, and in the final 2023 TAM. After discussions with Calpine, it became
20 apparent that there was disagreement on how to interpret the language from the 2024
21 TAM stipulation. As a result, the Company is proposing to revert to the old method in
22 this TAM and to raise the proposed changes to the calculation of Transition

¹⁶ See *In the matter of PacifiCorp dba Pacific Power's 2023 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 400, Order No. 22-389 (Oct. 25, 2022).

1 Adjustments and Consumer Opt-Out Charges in the ongoing Direct Access
2 Investigation, docket UM 2024.

3 **Q. Were there other items that needed to be followed-up on from prior TAM**
4 **Orders?**

5 A. Yes. The following Table 3 lists the information that was ordered or agreed to in prior
6 TAM Orders and describes where it has been provided:

Table 3: Information Requested in Prior Orders	
Order/Stipulation Requirement	Details
The Commission has disallowed Washington Climate Commitment Act (CCA) costs as a state-specific initiative that is properly allocated to Washington under PacifiCorp's Multi-State Process.	Washington CCA costs are removed from the NPC forecast.
PacifiCorp affirms that the Schedule 296 calculations used to calculate the Consumer Opt-Out Charge, including all supporting work papers, will be provided consistent with the TAM guidelines, 30 days after filing the TAM.	Will be provided in the 30-day workpapers for this filing.
As long as there are coal-fired Jim Bridger units in Oregon rates and they are fueled with coal from Bridger Coal Company, PacifiCorp will provide a copy of the updated annual Bridger Coal Company mine plan along with any alternatives that were also evaluated for PacifiCorp in future TAM filings.	These are provided in PacifiCorp's workpapers associated with this filing.
PacifiCorp to hold a workshop with Staff and parties regarding coal supply agreements at the Hunter Plant.	As discussed in Company witness Owen's testimony, this workshop will be held before April 1, 2024.
Technical Workshops to cover how the following topics are modeled in Aurora: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coal Contracting • Coal Dispatch • Day-Ahead and Real-Time (DA/RT) Adjustment • Wind Forecasting • Short-Term Transmission • Extended Day-Ahead Market/EIM 	PacifiCorp held these workshops on January 22, 2024, and February 2, 2024.

1 **IX. PRODUCTION TAX CREDITS**

2 **Q. Please describe the treatment of renewable energy PTCs in the 2025 TAM.**

3 A. The 2025 TAM includes changes in projected levels of PTCs. Exhibit PAC/103
4 shows the forecast level of PTCs for 2025 compared to the level of PTCs established
5 in the 2024 TAM. The forecast value of Oregon-allocated PTCs for the 2025 test
6 period is approximately \$86.5 million, which is higher than the \$78.8 million
7 included in the 2024 TAM, resulting in a decrease to the 2025 TAM of \$7.6 million.

8 **Q. How are PTCs calculated for the 2025 TAM?**

9 A. The PTC provides a federal income tax credit for the first 10 years of a renewable
10 energy facility's operation. The PTC is calculated by multiplying the qualifying
11 generation by the current PTC rate of 3.0 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh), and then
12 grossing-up for taxes.

13 **Q. Please describe the capacity, capacity factors, generation and PTCs for the wind**
14 **projects in the 2025 TAM.**

15 A. As seen in Confidential Table 4 below, on a total-Company basis, the Company-
16 owned wind capacity is 2,585 MW and total forecast generation is 7,977,942 MWh.
17 The total tax-adjusted PTCs on an Oregon-allocated basis are \$86.5 million.

1 **Confidential Table 4: Company-Owned Wind Projects Generation and PTC Data**

Plant Name	Total Company				Oregon Allocated		
	PTC Value	LGIA Capacity (MW)	LGIA Capacity Factor	Generation (MWH)	Factors CY 2025	CY 2025 Initial Filing	Revenue Requirement
							<i>(See Note 1)</i>
Glenrock I		99.0			26.884%		
Glenrock III		39.0			26.884%		
Goodnoe Hills		94.0			26.884%		
High Plains		99.0			26.884%		
Leaning Juniper		100.5			26.884%		
Marengo I		156.0			26.884%		
Marengo II		78.0			26.884%		
McFadden Ridge		28.5			26.884%		
Seven Mile Hill I		99.0			26.884%		
Seven Mile Hill II		19.5			26.884%		
Dunlap		111.0			26.884%		
Foote Creek I		41.4			26.884%		
TB Flats Wind		247.3			26.884%		
Cedar Springs II Wind		200.0			26.884%		
Ekola Flats Wind		250.0			26.884%		
Pryor Mountain Wind		239.8			26.884%		
Foote Creek II Wind		1.8			26.884%		
Foote Creek III Wind		24.8			26.884%		
Foote Creek IV Wind		16.8			26.884%		
Rock Creek I Wind		190.0			26.884%		
Rock Creek II Wind		400.0			26.884%		
Rock River I Wind		50.0			26.884%		
Total Production Tax Credit	\$ 242,529,590	2,585.4		7,977,942		\$ 65,202,036	\$ 86,459,483

Note 1 - Revenue Requirement represents the PTC amount grossed up for the tax rate.

2 **X. COMPANY SUPPLY SERVICE ACCESS CHARGE**

3 **Q. What is the Company Supply Service Access Charge?**

4 A. If a new customer elects new load direct access and then subsequently switches to
5 standard offer or cost-based service, resulting in an increase to rates for existing cost-
6 of-service customers of more than 0.5 percent, the consumer electing to switch to
7 standard offer service or cost-based service will be subject to a four-year forward
8 looking rate adder, the Company Supply Service Access Charge. The 0.5 percent
9 assessment is a reasonable threshold for the Company Supply Service Access Charge

1 that represents a material and significant impact to customers and was acknowledged
2 by the Commission at a public meeting on February 26, 2019.¹⁷

3 **Q. How is the Company Supply Service Access Charge calculated?**

4 A. The Company Supply Service Access Charge is calculated as the incremental
5 difference between the four-year levelized cost of capacity that is calculated for
6 avoided cost and the fixed generation costs, Schedule 200. This calculation fairly
7 assigns the new load direct access consumer that is switching to cost-of-service the
8 additional fixed cost associated with the Company's obligation to serve that consumer
9 less the additional recovery that will be received from that consumer for existing
10 fixed generation in rates. The levelized cost of capacity for the upcoming four years is
11 currently less than the fixed generation costs contained in Schedule 200 and therefore
12 the Company Supply Service Access Charge is \$0/MWh.

13 **XI. COMPLIANCE WITH TAM GUIDELINES**

14 **Q. Did the Company prepare this filing in accordance with the TAM Guidelines**
15 **adopted by Order No. 09-274, as clarified and amended in later orders?**

16 A. Yes. The Company has complied with the TAM Guidelines applicable to the initial
17 filing in a TAM.

18 **Q. Does this filing include updates to all NPC components identified in Attachment**
19 **A to the TAM Guidelines?**

20 A. Yes.

¹⁷ *PacifiCorp Schedule 193 New Large Load Direct Access Program*, Docket No. ADV-900, Advice No. 18-010, acknowledged Feb. 26, 2019.

1 **Q. What workpapers did the Company provide with this filing?**

2 A. In compliance with Attachment B to the TAM Guidelines, the Company provided
3 access to the Aurora model and workpapers concurrently with this initial filing.
4 Specifically, the Company provided the NPC report workbook and the Aurora
5 project.

6 **Q. Did the Company provide a step log of model and input changes describing**
7 **changes to the Company's modeling or inputs that are not considered a standard**
8 **annual update?**

9 A. Yes. The Company has provided step logs as Exhibit PAC/104 and Exhibit PAC/108.

10 **Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

11 A. Yes.

Docket No. UE 434
Exhibit PAC/101
Witness: Ramon J. Mitchell

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

PACIFICORP

Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Ramon J. Mitchell

Oregon-Allocated Net Power Costs

February 2024

Docket No. UE 434
Exhibit PAC/102
Witness: Ramon J. Mitchell

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

PACIFICORP

Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Ramon J. Mitchell

Net Power Costs Report

February 2024

Purchased Power & Net Interchange													
Long Term Firm Purchases													
Appaloosa 1A Solar	\$ 10,292,182	\$ 559,723	\$ 593,465	\$ 906,325	\$ 978,713	\$ 1,146,027	\$ 1,210,510	\$ 1,060,453	\$ 1,033,174	\$ 874,493	\$ 775,447	\$ 576,254	\$ 477,599
Appaloosa 1B Solar	\$ 6,861,455	\$ 373,148	\$ 385,643	\$ 604,217	\$ 652,475	\$ 764,018	\$ 807,006	\$ 706,969	\$ 686,783	\$ 649,666	\$ 516,964	\$ 384,170	\$ 318,359
Castle Solar JoU	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Castle Solar IHC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cedar Springs Wind	\$ 11,723,272	\$ 1,348,848	\$ 1,095,201	\$ 1,032,244	\$ 1,016,035	\$ 830,825	\$ 743,881	\$ 742,782	\$ 585,990	\$ 827,498	\$ 1,090,534	\$ 1,068,343	\$ 1,341,093
Cedar Springs Wind III	\$ 8,908,094	\$ 1,025,293	\$ 832,068	\$ 784,236	\$ 772,111	\$ 631,271	\$ 565,347	\$ 564,366	\$ 445,199	\$ 628,829	\$ 828,668	\$ 811,823	\$ 1,018,881
Cedar Springs Wind IV	\$ 35,181,067	\$ 4,332,908	\$ 3,096,960	\$ 2,854,190	\$ 2,509,530	\$ 2,311,613	\$ 2,072,340	\$ 2,005,125	\$ 2,086,972	\$ 2,345,721	\$ 3,189,306	\$ 3,831,121	\$ 4,545,280
Combine Hills Wind	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cove Mountain Solar	\$ 3,802,638	\$ 182,379	\$ 191,610	\$ 333,997	\$ 363,597	\$ 418,499	\$ 450,080	\$ 436,591	\$ 413,105	\$ 354,252	\$ 285,173	\$ 204,900	\$ 168,457
Cove Mountain Solar II	\$ 9,387,257	\$ 450,472	\$ 473,272	\$ 824,965	\$ 898,077	\$ 1,033,683	\$ 1,111,688	\$ 1,078,370	\$ 1,020,362	\$ 874,994	\$ 704,370	\$ 503,256	\$ 413,748
Deseret Purchase	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Eagle Mountain - UAMPS/UMPA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Elektron Solar 20yr	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Elektron Solar 25yr	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Gemstate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Graphite Solar	\$ 6,197,453	\$ 310,012	\$ 351,184	\$ 554,615	\$ 608,658	\$ 682,657	\$ 700,495	\$ 683,227	\$ 639,131	\$ 572,798	\$ 477,596	\$ 353,010	\$ 284,071
Hermiston Purchase	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Horseshoe Solar	\$ 6,072,682	\$ 266,686	\$ 331,075	\$ 499,533	\$ 565,742	\$ 674,491	\$ 748,804	\$ 734,022	\$ 695,525	\$ 578,539	\$ 464,831	\$ 287,300	\$ 228,139
Hunter Solar	\$ 6,980,641	\$ 367,456	\$ 416,574	\$ 634,629	\$ 662,343	\$ 755,267	\$ 781,559	\$ 743,007	\$ 698,452	\$ 651,256	\$ 555,766	\$ 394,179	\$ 320,154
Hurricane Purchase	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MagCorp Buythrough	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MagCorp Reserves	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Milcan Solar	\$ 2,973,753	\$ 98,000	\$ 149,553	\$ 229,015	\$ 288,259	\$ 342,133	\$ 372,405	\$ 419,382	\$ 370,578	\$ 299,239	\$ 195,281	\$ 125,077	\$ 85,830
Milford Solar	\$ 6,870,872	\$ 347,985	\$ 400,729	\$ 591,100	\$ 657,488	\$ 772,977	\$ 814,984	\$ 725,777	\$ 698,695	\$ 651,754	\$ 525,630	\$ 382,415	\$ 301,336
Nucor	\$ 7,129,800	\$ 594,150	\$ 594,150	\$ 594,150	\$ 594,150	\$ 594,150	\$ 594,150	\$ 594,150	\$ 594,150	\$ 594,150	\$ 594,150	\$ 594,150	\$ 594,150
Old Mill Solar	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Monsanto Reserves	\$ 20,600,000	\$ 1,716,667	\$ 1,716,667	\$ 1,716,667	\$ 1,716,667	\$ 1,716,667	\$ 1,716,667	\$ 1,716,667	\$ 1,716,667	\$ 1,716,667	\$ 1,716,667	\$ 1,716,667	\$ 1,716,667
Pavant III Solar	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
POE Cove	\$ 164,065	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672
Prineville Solar	\$ 1,981,228	\$ 67,243	\$ 102,616	\$ 152,164	\$ 191,528	\$ 227,324	\$ 247,437	\$ 278,650	\$ 246,223	\$ 198,159	\$ 129,751	\$ 83,105	\$ 57,028
Rocket Solar	\$ 6,473,420	\$ 294,299	\$ 354,922	\$ 535,304	\$ 606,639	\$ 708,931	\$ 796,698	\$ 816,692	\$ 738,987	\$ 621,305	\$ 472,470	\$ 288,647	\$ 238,526
Sigurd Solar	\$ 5,858,273	\$ 306,467	\$ 342,172	\$ 504,657	\$ 550,996	\$ 633,287	\$ 696,030	\$ 647,114	\$ 593,204	\$ 553,821	\$ 449,403	\$ 315,824	\$ 265,298
Small Purchases east	\$ 15,358	\$ 1,275	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,246	\$ 1,247	\$ 1,305	\$ 1,315	\$ 1,327	\$ 1,306	\$ 1,267	\$ 1,261	\$ 1,282	\$ 1,277
Small Purchases west	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Soda Lake Geotherma	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Three Buttes Wind	\$ 20,609,802	\$ 2,791,462	\$ 1,807,438	\$ 2,137,611	\$ 1,616,596	\$ 1,426,833	\$ 1,201,939	\$ 808,784	\$ 951,391	\$ 1,185,538	\$ 1,736,755	\$ 2,352,258	\$ 2,593,195
Top of the World Wind	\$ 36,087,543	\$ 3,064,969	\$ 2,768,359	\$ 3,064,969	\$ 2,966,099	\$ 3,064,969	\$ 2,966,099	\$ 3,064,969	\$ 3,064,969	\$ 2,966,099	\$ 3,064,969	\$ 2,966,099	\$ 3,064,969
Wolverine Creek Winc	\$ 10,693,967	\$ 793,962	\$ 927,710	\$ 1,182,235	\$ 1,086,394	\$ 822,360	\$ 882,132	\$ 698,003	\$ 667,573	\$ 785,474	\$ 866,299	\$ 1,002,522	\$ 1,079,281
Faraday B Solar	\$ 7,312,704	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 176,512	\$ 3,317,436	\$ 2,124,238	\$ 1,694,518
Homshadow I Solar	\$ 4,743,533	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,191	\$ 1,067,525	\$ 980,187	\$ 900,194	\$ 771,362	\$ 539,991
Homshadow II Solar	\$ 9,487,066	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 72,382	\$ 2,135,050	\$ 1,960,374	\$ 1,800,388	\$ 1,542,724	\$ 1,079,981	\$ 896,167
Green River Energy Cente	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Anticline Wind	\$ 17,957,893	\$ 2,163,887	\$ 1,666,478	\$ 1,559,965	\$ 1,331,510	\$ 1,135,050	\$ 1,085,959	\$ 1,032,757	\$ 1,092,044	\$ 1,208,912	\$ 1,590,032	\$ 1,906,748	\$ 2,184,552
Boswell Springs Wind	\$ 33,509,492	\$ 3,612,555	\$ 3,273,801	\$ 3,165,874	\$ 2,914,066	\$ 2,654,216	\$ 2,240,134	\$ 1,878,535	\$ 1,811,646	\$ 2,082,505	\$ 2,949,428	\$ 3,157,338	\$ 3,769,394
Two River Wind LLC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cedar Creek	\$ 20,759,802	\$ 1,898,940	\$ 1,671,841	\$ 2,588,474	\$ 1,751,554	\$ 1,837,879	\$ 1,203,586	\$ 1,378,214	\$ 1,091,693	\$ 1,311,073	\$ 2,183,871	\$ 2,128,399	\$ 1,714,280
OR Schedule 126 CSP	\$ 4,237,671	\$ 182,871	\$ 260,795	\$ 249,327	\$ 288,399	\$ 314,166	\$ 447,804	\$ 559,671	\$ 728,663	\$ 380,041	\$ 380,656	\$ 263,121	\$ 182,157
UT Schedule Adjustment	\$ (46,985,993)	\$ (1,931,736)	\$ (2,177,607)	\$ (3,602,354)	\$ (3,988,685)	\$ (4,687,204)	\$ (4,616,034)	\$ (4,321,032)	\$ (4,057,260)	\$ (3,691,139)	\$ (6,407,647)	\$ (4,192,906)	\$ (3,312,389)
Long Term Firm Purchases Total	\$ 275,886,992	\$ 25,233,613	\$ 21,651,600	\$ 23,713,026	\$ 21,613,861	\$ 20,827,066	\$ 19,963,261	\$ 22,270,821	\$ 21,571,456	\$ 22,212,676	\$ 24,982,826	\$ 25,262,981	\$ 26,583,806

Storage & Exchange																										
Rush Lake BESS	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-												
Fremont Solar BESS	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-												
Green River Energy Center BESS	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-												
Faraday Solar BESS	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-												
Umpqua Storage Placeholder	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-												
Cowlitz Swift	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-												
EWEB FC I	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-												
PSCo Exchange	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-												
PSCo FC III	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-												
SCL State Line	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-												
Total Storage & Exchange	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-												
Short Term Firm Purchases																										
COB	\$	16,126,400	\$	1,934,400	\$	1,785,600	\$	1,934,400	\$	-	\$	-	\$	3,536,000	\$	3,536,000	\$	3,400,000	\$	-	\$	-				
Colorado	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
Four Corners	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
Idaho	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
Mead	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
Mid Columbia	\$	13,299,800	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	4,484,900	\$	4,484,900	\$	4,330,000	\$	-				
Mona	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
NOB	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
Palo Verde	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
SP15	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
Utah	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
Washington	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
West Main	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
Wyoming	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
#REF!	\$	320,769,133	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	21,843,844	\$	21,309,799	\$	21,329,713	\$	43,140,199	\$	54,364,125	\$	43,481,816	\$	35,764,598	\$	35,204,906	\$	44,330,133
Total Short Term Firm Purchases	\$	350,195,333	\$	1,934,400	\$	1,785,600	\$	1,934,400	\$	21,843,844	\$	21,309,799	\$	21,329,713	\$	51,161,099	\$	62,385,025	\$	51,211,816	\$	35,764,598	\$	35,204,906	\$	44,330,133
System Balancing Purchases																										
COB	\$	48,311,221	\$	1,028,750	\$	5,663,631	\$	253,671	\$	1,926,350	\$	1,585,632	\$	2,888,777	\$	7,875,538	\$	11,299,755	\$	4,782,369	\$	2,458,867	\$	3,193,716	\$	5,334,165
Four Corners	\$	44,826,709	\$	5,353,834	\$	3,403,343	\$	2,169,135	\$	2,255,737	\$	997,058	\$	2,366,995	\$	7,281,940	\$	4,477,428	\$	4,608,527	\$	2,712,561	\$	4,078,022	\$	5,124,124
Mead	\$	691,468	\$	48,172	\$	79,275	\$	45,824	\$	78,494	\$	92,534	\$	(70,589)	\$	92,534	\$	(9,520)	\$	(1,594)	\$	311,781	\$	92,534	\$	(67,978)
Mid Columbia	\$	288,739,647	\$	46,981,358	\$	14,833,732	\$	11,379,015	\$	17,443,798	\$	10,849,562	\$	15,115,058	\$	43,421,706	\$	52,078,596	\$	11,191,703	\$	18,330,978	\$	18,924,475	\$	28,189,666
Mona	\$	40,490,446	\$	2,966,735	\$	1,492,713	\$	1,767,620	\$	4,613,761	\$	3,738,366	\$	4,127,803	\$	3,818,465	\$	4,500,688	\$	2,142,296	\$	3,999,265	\$	2,591,257	\$	4,731,478
NOB	\$	105,870,586	\$	8,586,674	\$	7,969,204	\$	4,507,244	\$	5,560,745	\$	5,946,376	\$	6,070,548	\$	16,846,783	\$	17,923,609	\$	9,159,724	\$	5,984,875	\$	8,731,227	\$	8,583,577
Palo Verde	\$	21,740,200	\$	5,176,153	\$	5,167,777	\$	27,850	\$	1,634,211	\$	1,542,256	\$	2,132,916	\$	550,555	\$	3,885,758	\$	2,239,518	\$	2,239,518	\$	1,924,528	\$	2,291,400
EIM Imports/Exports	\$	(105,006,963)	\$	(10,063,058)	\$	(7,929,860)	\$	(7,468,004)	\$	(6,703,505)	\$	(6,232,768)	\$	(6,205,000)	\$	(11,430,019)	\$	(12,526,199)	\$	(10,605,732)	\$	(6,726,058)	\$	(7,557,592)	\$	(10,958,173)
Emergency Purchases	\$	43,337,363	\$	10,993	\$	-	\$	-	\$	837,739	\$	52,123	\$	1,291,757	\$	17,025,962	\$	24,064,530	\$	54,259	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total System Balancing Purchases	\$	489,000,677	\$	59,489,614	\$	25,583,714	\$	12,682,356	\$	27,647,331	\$	18,571,141	\$	27,718,269	\$	85,483,464	\$	105,694,643	\$	21,614,930	\$	29,311,787	\$	31,976,167	\$	43,227,259
Total Purchased Power & Net Interchange	\$	1,540,688,854	\$	117,087,650	\$	80,975,377	\$	74,183,233	\$	107,640,139	\$	98,537,604	\$	108,615,310	\$	201,669,154	\$	230,728,878	\$	131,353,456	\$	123,585,299	\$	123,044,814	\$	143,267,941
Wheeling & U. of F. Expense																										
Firm Wheeling	\$	165,317,427	\$	13,668,800	\$	12,958,778	\$	12,832,513	\$	13,316,321	\$	13,180,802	\$	14,318,878	\$	14,339,393	\$	14,526,152	\$	14,289,448	\$	13,531,405	\$	13,560,532	\$	14,795,406
C&T EIM Admin fee	\$	2,739,646	\$	230,970	\$	222,455	\$	285,739	\$	237,139	\$	241,142	\$	256,561	\$	238,944	\$	221,226	\$	240,569	\$	181,475	\$	188,935	\$	194,490
ST Firm & Non-Firm	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	
Total Wheeling & U. of F. Expense	\$	168,057,073	\$	13,899,770	\$	13,181,233	\$	13,118,252	\$	13,553,461	\$	13,421,943	\$	14,575,438	\$	14,578,337	\$	14,746,379	\$	14,530,017	\$	13,712,880	\$	13,749,467	\$	14,989,896
Coal Fuel Burn Expense																										
Colstrip	\$	19,768,554	\$	1,872,244	\$	1,820,230	\$	1,896,598	\$	1,319,568	\$	548,679	\$	757,338	\$	2,109,197	\$	2,225,861	\$	1,755,863	\$	1,834,799	\$	1,749,095	\$	1,879,083
Craig	\$	19,102,358	\$	1,588,586	\$	1,402,458	\$	1,594,428	\$	1,361,278	\$	1,536,934	\$	1,711,009	\$	1,707,776	\$	1,853,184	\$	1,833,124	\$	1,705,421	\$	1,241,603	\$	1,566,558
Dave Johnston	\$	56,028,158	\$	4,666,117	\$	4,399,188	\$	4,681,110	\$	3,129,652	\$	5,315,874	\$	4,694,156	\$	5,393,586	\$	5,390,788	\$	5,883,541	\$	4,260,464	\$	3,985,376	\$	3,985,376
Hayden	\$	10,375,880	\$	884,381	\$	784,662	\$	855,071	\$	825,351	\$	832,259	\$	871,403	\$	961,196	\$	960,736	\$	850,723	\$	550,638	\$	781,636	\$	1,217,824
Hunter	\$	162,928,319	\$	20,208,111	\$	18,632,452	\$	9,376,421	\$	6,641,223	\$	10,703,012	\$	10,367,139	\$	17,191,404	\$	15,910,726	\$	10,129,640	\$	10,025,753	\$	14,983,350	\$	16,759,087
Huntington	\$	82,216,000	\$	10,732,157	\$	10,327,313	\$	5,706,649	\$	3,170,262	\$	4,837,571	\$	4,654,372	\$	6,847,575	\$	8,590,988	\$	5,335,508	\$	3,493,115	\$	7,868,804	\$	6,653,685
Jim Bridger	\$	118,964,269	\$	11,432,875	\$	10,141,591	\$	12,168,032	\$	7,168,414	\$	5,117,989	\$	9,187,408	\$	14,471,218	\$	14,507,487	\$	11,153,588	\$	8,372,194	\$	6,404,484	\$	6,829,189
Naughton	\$	36,164,475	\$	4,206,928	\$	3,694,431	\$	2,633,765	\$	1,405,978	\$	3,202,983	\$	3,451,832	\$	3,606,795	\$	4,103,564	\$	2,601,932	\$	1,897,765	\$	2,134,134	\$	3,134,370
Wyodak	\$	24,341,915	\$	2,152,541	\$	2,094,836	\$	2,467,389	\$	2,021,466	\$	1,863,777	\$	1,986,750	\$	2,377,864	\$	1,812,862	\$	2,308,083	\$	1,568,268	\$	1,602,943	\$	2,073,136
Total Coal Fuel Burn Expense	\$	529,881,928	\$	57,743,739	\$	53,297,162	\$	41,379,463	\$	27,043,101	\$	33,959,078	\$	37,693,407	\$	56,666,612	\$	55,356,196	\$	41,852,002	\$	33,708,419	\$	43,084,443	\$	48,098,307
Gas Fuel Burn Expense																										
Chehalis	\$	98,926,957	\$	16,690,972	\$	14,814,758	\$	8,002,201	\$	4,717,871	\$	4,175,687	\$	2,610,725	\$	6,872,558	\$	7,495,618	\$	7,578,352	\$	7,196,647	\$	5,675,972	\$	13,095,598
Currant Creek	\$	71,432,588	\$	9,797,208	\$	7,172,550	\$	6,522,651	\$	4,284,211	\$	-	\$	5,779,609	\$	6,320,580	\$	6,475,239	\$	5,904,418	\$	1,476,099	\$	7,155,094	\$	10,544,940
Gadsby	\$	25,127,336	\$	3,087,244	\$	2,838,279	\$	1,745,691	\$	1,581,291	\$	1,527,986	\$	1,473,479	\$	2,403,885	\$	2,380,451	\$	1,296,238	\$	1,814,154	\$	1,818,025	\$	3,158,613
Gadsby CT	\$	15,687,041	\$	2,089,032	\$	1,819,153	\$	961,357	\$	1,053,750	\$	1,055,987	\$	1,028,987	\$	1,365,392	\$	1,215,421	\$	868,997	\$	1,152,021	\$	1,216,331	\$	1,615,883
Hemiston	\$	36,017,802	\$	5,013,244	\$																					

REDACTED

Docket No. UE 434

Exhibit PAC/103

Witness: Ramon J. Mitchell

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

PACIFICORP

REDACTED

Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Ramon J. Mitchell

Update to Renewable Energy Production Tax Credits

February 2024

**THIS EXHIBIT IS CONFIDENTIAL IN ITS
ENTIRETY AND IS PROVIDED UNDER
SEPARATE COVER**

Docket No. UE 434
Exhibit PAC/104
Witness: Ramon J. Mitchell

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

PACIFICORP

Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Ramon J. Mitchell

Net Power Costs Step Log

February 2024

Oregon TAM 2025 (February Initial Filing)		Impact (\$)	Impact (\$)	NPC (\$)
		Total Company	Oregon-Allocated	Total Company
Steps				
S00	Aurora v14.2.1059 to v15.0.1005	(632,578)	(170,063)	
S01	Incomplete Source Data	18,221,710	4,898,753	
S02	Unspecified Purchased Power	4,360,065	1,172,167	
S03	Hedging Requirements	23,283,747	6,259,639	
	2025 TAM NPC Proposal			2,532,838,052
			\$/MWh =	38.06

Docket No. UE 434
Exhibit PAC/105
Witness: Ramon J. Mitchell

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

PACIFICORP

Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Ramon J. Mitchell

January 12, 2024 Notice Letter

February 2024

January 12, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Attn: Parties to Docket UE 420

RE: 2025 Transition Adjustment Mechanism – PacifiCorp’s Notice of Methodology Changes

Under the Transition Adjustment Mechanism (TAM) Guidelines, PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power (PacifiCorp or Company) provides this Notice of Methodology Changes for the 2025 TAM. This notice complies with an amendment to the TAM Guidelines adopted by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) in Order No. 09-432. This amendment provides that “[t]he Company will provide notice of substantial changes to the methodologies used to calculate the cost elements and other inputs to the Aurora model or to the logic of the Aurora model by March 1st of the year of a stand-alone TAM filing.”¹ PacifiCorp anticipates filing the TAM mid-February 2024. As a result, the Company is providing this notice to comply with the pre-filing review requirement and the methodology change notice requirement on January 12, 2024.

PacifiCorp provides notice of the following planned changes to the 2025 TAM:

- The base net power costs forecast will simulate power hedging transactions in order to maintain compliance with PacifiCorp’s current Energy Risk Management Policy.
- Multi-stage gas generators (combined cycle gas turbine resources) will further differentiate between operating configurations.
- Emergency purchases will satisfy all system obligation deficits.

PacifiCorp is carrying forward the changes supported in testimony in the 2023 and 2024 TAM (dockets UE 400 and UE 420, respectively) and described as non-precedential in one or more of the settlements to those proceedings. See Order No. 22-389, Appendix A at 27 and Order No. 23-404, Appendix A at 20. Since those changes were described in-depth in those proceedings, they are not included in this letter.

Please direct any questions regarding this notice to Cathie Allen, regulatory affairs manager at 503-813-5934.

Sincerely,



Matthew McVee
Vice President, Regulatory Policy and Operations

¹ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power 2010 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket UE 207, Order No. 09-432, Appendix A at 4-5 (Oct. 30, 2009).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I delivered a true and correct copy of PacifiCorp's **2025 Transition Adjustment Mechanism – PacifiCorp's Notice of Methodology Changes** on the parties listed below via electronic mail in compliance with OAR 860-001-0180.

Service List UE 420

AWEC	
TYLER C PEPPE (C) (HC) DAVISON VAN CLEVE, PC 1750 SW HARBOR WAY STE 450 PORTLAND OR 97201 tcp@dvclaw.com	BRENT COLEMAN (C) (HC) DAVISON VAN CLEVE, PC 1750 SW HARBOR WAY STE 450 PORTLAND OR 97201 blc@dvclaw.com
JESSE O GORSUCH (C) (HC) DAVISON VAN CLEVE 1750 SW HARBOR WAY STE 450 PORTLAND OR 97201 jog@dvclaw.com	
CALPINE SOLUTIONS	
GREGORY M. ADAMS (C) (HC) RICHARDSON ADAMS, PLLC 515 N 27 th ST BOISE ID 83702 greg@richardsonadams.com	GREG BASS CALPINE ENERGY SOLUTIONS, LLC 401 WEST A ST, STE 500 SAN DIEGO CA 92101 greg.bass@calpinesolutions.com
KEVIN HIGGINS (C) ENERGY STRATEGIES LLC 215 STATE ST - STE 200 SALT LAKE CITY UT 84111-2322 khiggins@energystrat.com	
OREGON CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD	
OREGON CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD 610 SW BROADWAY, STE 400 PORTLAND, OR 97205 dockets@oregoncub.org	MICHAEL GOETZ (C) (HC) OREGON CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD 610 SW BROADWAY STE 400 PORTLAND, OR 97205 mike@oregoncub.org
ROBERT JENKS (C) (HC) OREGON CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD 610 SW BROADWAY, STE 400 PORTLAND, OR 97205 bob@oregoncub.org	

KWUA	
KWUA KLAMATH WATER USER ASSOCIATION KLAMATH BASIN WATER USER PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION 2312 SOUTH SIXTH ST, STE A KLAMATH FALLS, OR 97601 assist@kwua.org	PAUL S SIMMONS (C) (HC) SOMACH SIMMONS & DUNN 500 CAPITOL MALL STE 1000 SACRAMENTO CA 95814 psimmons@somachlaw.com
PACIFICORP	
PACIFICORP, DBA PACIFIC POWER 825 NE MULTNOMAH ST, STE 2000 PORTLAND, OR 97232 oregondockets@pacificorp.com	AJAY KUMAR (C) (HC) PACIFICORP 825 NE MULTNOMAH ST STE 2000 PORTLAND, OR 97232 ajay.kumar@pacificorp.com
SIERRA CLUB	
LEAH BAHRAMIPOUR (C) (HC) SIERRA CLUB 2101 WEBSTER STREET SUITE 1300 OAKLAND CA 94612 Leah.bahramipour@sierraclub.org	ROSE MONAHAN (C) (HC) SIERRA LCU 2101 WEBSTER ST STE 1300 OAKLAND CA 94612 rose.monahan@sierraclub.org
STAFF	
STEPHANIE S ANDRUS (C) (HC) PUC STAFF - DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 1162 COURT ST NE SALEM, OR 97301 stephanie.andrus@doj.state.or.us	
VITESSE LLC	
KYLE MOORE META PLATFORMS INC 1 HACKER WAY MENLO PARK CA 94025 kyletmoore@meta.com	JONI L SLIGER (C) (HC) SANGER LAW PC META PLATFORMS INC 1 HACKER WAY MENLO PARK CA 94025 joni@sanger-law.com
IRION SANGER (C) (HC) SANGER LAW PC 4031 SE HAWTHORNE BLVD PORTLAND OR 97214 irion@sanger-law.com	

Dated this 12th day of January, 2024.


Santiago Gutierrez
Coordinator, Regulatory Operations

REDACTED

Docket No. UE 434

Exhibit PAC/106

Witness: Ramon J. Mitchell

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

PACIFICORP

REDACTED
Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Ramon J. Mitchell

2020 Benchmark Report

February 2024



825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000
Portland, Oregon 97232

February 1, 2024

Re: UE 400—Benchmarking Study

In Order No. 22-389, the Commission adopted an all-party stipulation which commits the Company to “make best efforts to provide a second benchmarking study that uses inputs from 2020 actuals on February 1, 2024”¹

Results of the Benchmarking Study

The results of the benchmarking study show that Aurora simulated 2020 historical net power costs (NPC) at \$58.7 million less than actual NPC. Aurora estimated total company 2020 NPC to be \$1,453 million compared to actual 2020 costs of \$1,511 million, an under-forecast of 3.9 percent.

Confidential Table 1 illustrates a detailed comparison between the benchmarking study and 2020 Actual NPC. Long-term firm sales and long-term firm purchase dollars and megawatt-hours (MWh) are based on actual transactions. Hydroelectric generation and solar generation are based on actual generation. The variance between short-term firm and system balancing sales and purchases is driven by the fact that Aurora balances the system differently than the Company does in actual operations. More specifically, Aurora faces a different set of operational constraints compared to what the Company faces in real time. For example, market liquidity in the benchmarking study is predetermined based on market capacity limits that allow more sales transactions than the Company’s historical experience.

It is important to note that the NPC forecast is designed with hourly average inputs. Given a certain set of hourly average input variables, Aurora applies its system balancing logic to meet load and wholesale obligations under the operational constraints assumed in the model. In actual operations, the Company faces a different set of real (moment-to-moment) system constraints, many of which are not able to be fully reflected in Aurora’s modeling assumptions. Furthermore, Aurora is not able to forecast thermal dispatch in the same way that PacifiCorp dispatches its thermal plants in real time and Aurora’s optimization of the system is perfect which means that after the optimization is complete no net savings can be further achieved by backing down one unit and ramping up another unit.

In actual operations, as a matter of prudence, PacifiCorp seeks to optimize the system. However, in reality, PacifiCorp faces a different set of constraints resulting from actual market conditions, and in real time, system dispatch will choose to balance the system using coal plants, gas plants and system balancing purchases and sales in an order that is feasible to current market conditions. The order of selection of coal plants, gas plants and system balancing purchase and sales results in differences in each resource category compared to the benchmarking study

¹ In the Matter of PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power, 2023 Transition Adjustment Mechanism, Docket No. UE-400, Order No. 22-389, Appendix A at 6 (October 25, 2022).

results. Consequently, and as shown in **Confidential Table 1** below, the coal and natural gas dispatch (on a MWh basis) in Aurora was approximately one percent more and two percent less than actuals, respectively.

Confidential Table 1 – Net Power Cost Differential Summary – Benchmark

[CONFIDENTIAL BEGINS]



[CONFIDENTIAL ENDS]

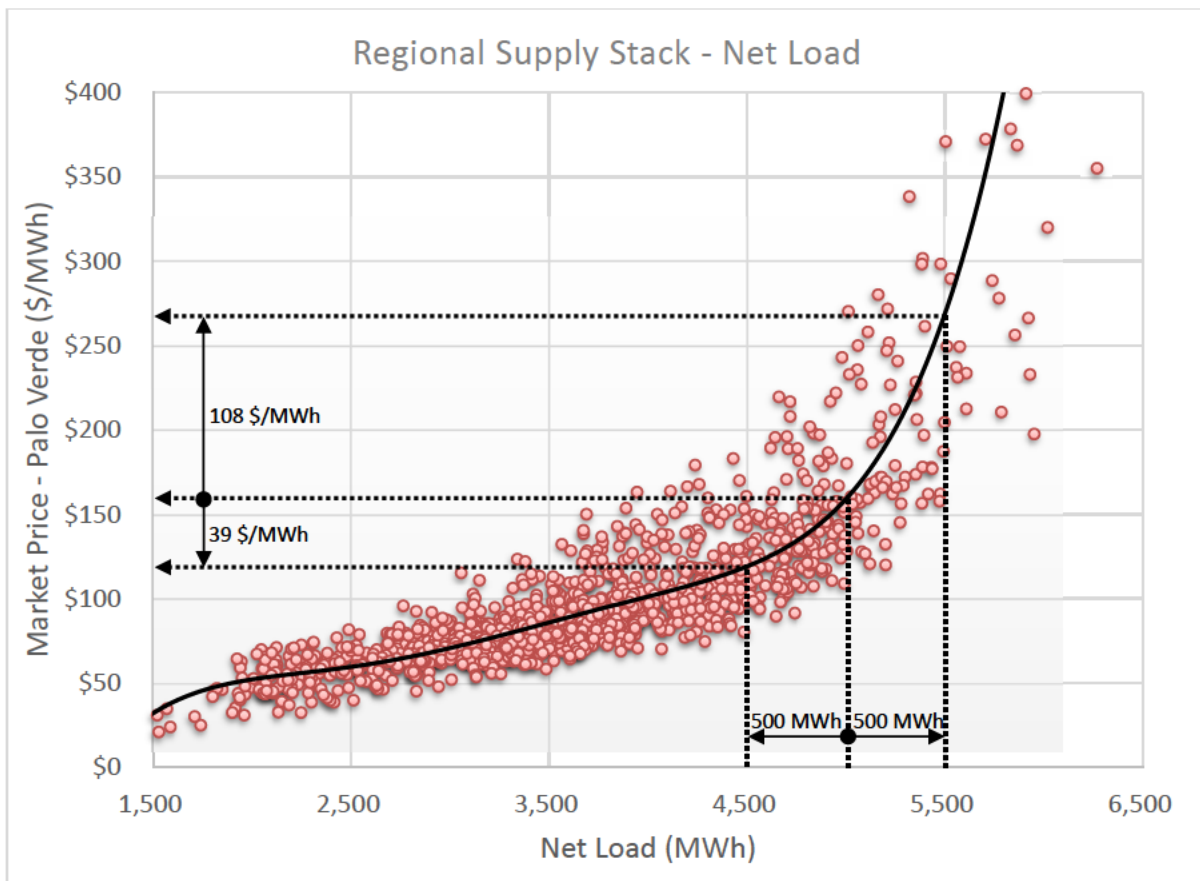
Conclusions

When actual data is used as inputs, Aurora produces 2020 NPC below the actual 2020 NPC and this is to be expected.

First, Aurora applies its system balancing logic with perfect foresight and perfect execution. That is to say, Aurora knows the future and operates the system with perfect efficiency in every hour. In reality, the future is uncertain, humans cannot know exactly at what level variable resources will be producing in a future hour and there will always be some inefficiency within a grouping of individuals (people). In the context of NPC, this reality of the human experience deviates from the perfection inherent in Aurora and the associated perfectly-low Aurora NPC.

Second, there is an asymmetry in the response of market prices to changes in load and generation. As an illustrative example, **Figure 1** below shows a proxy supply/demand curve (with inelastic demand) based on actual load, wind, and solar data within the region. It is observed that because of the asymmetry of market price response, a 500 MWh increase in net load (load less wind less solar) results in a \$108 dollar per MWh (\$/MWh) increase in market price, whereas an identical 500 MWh decrease in net load results in only a \$39/MWh decrease to market price.

Figure 1



This asymmetrical response impacts actual operations because the net load forecasts, in reality, are uncertain (i.e., there is no perfect foresight). This uncertainty results in an equal chance of net load being higher or lower than forecasted. However, the impact to NPC is an asymmetric

Public Utility Commission of Oregon

February 1, 2024

Page 4

response wherein the actual NPC has a greater chance of being higher than the forecast NPC and consequently the forecast NPC is biased downwards relative to the actual NPC. This result is observed in this benchmarking study.

Confidential information is designated as Protected Information under Order No. 16-128 and may only be disclosed to qualified persons as defined in that order.

REDACTED

Docket No. UE 434

Exhibit PAC/107

Witness: Ramon J. Mitchell

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

PACIFICORP

REDACTED

Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Ramon J. Mitchell

DA/RT and Market Caps

February 2024

1 The Company then included the DA/RT adjustment in the 2019, 2020, 2021,
2 and 2022 TAMs without modification.

3 In the 2023 TAM, the Company proposed a refinement to the *price*
4 *component* of the DA/RT adjustment to change it from a flat value to a percentage of
5 market price, which results in a DA/RT adjustment that is more reflective of actual
6 operations. The 2023 TAM was resolved by a settlement that allowed the Company
7 to implement the refined DA/RT adjustment on a non-precedential basis.¹³

8 **Q. Please explain how the *price component* of the DA/RT adjustment operates.**

9 A. The price component of the DA/RT adjustment addresses the costs incurred by the
10 Company as a result of multiple variables within a dynamic system in which the
11 Company has historically bought more during higher-than-average price periods and
12 sold more during lower-than-average price periods.

13 To better reflect the market prices available to the Company when it transacts
14 in the real-time market, PacifiCorp includes separate prices for forecast system
15 balancing sales and purchases in Aurora. Aurora is the Company's current production
16 cost model. These prices account for the historical price differences between the
17 Company's purchases and sales compared to the monthly average market-indexed
18 prices. Previously these prices were calculated by adding or subtracting a flat dollar
19 amount to the hourly scaled prices from the OFPC.

¹³ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 400, Order No. 22-389, App'x A at 8 (Oct. 25, 2022).

1 **Q. Please describe the *volume component* of the DA/RT adjustment.**

2 A. The Company reflects additional volumes to account for the use of monthly, daily,
3 and hourly products. In actual operations, the Company continually balances its
4 market position—first with monthly products, then with daily products, and finally
5 with hourly products. The products used to balance the Company’s forward position
6 in the wholesale market are available in flat 25 megawatt (MW) blocks. The
7 Company’s load and resource balance, however, varies continuously each hour in
8 quantities that may vary widely from a flat 25 MW block. Thus, in real world
9 operations, the Company must continuously purchase or sell additional volumes to
10 keep the system in balance.

11 In contrast, Aurora has perfect foresight and can model wholesale market
12 transactions at whatever volume is necessary to balance the system. Because of
13 Aurora’s perfect foresight, it can balance the system with far fewer transactions. The
14 DA/RT adjustment adds additional volumes and associated cost to NPC to more
15 accurately model the transactions necessary to balance the Company’s system.

16 **Q. Has the Company proposed a refinement to the *price component* of the DA/RT in
17 this case?**

18 A. Yes. The Company proposes to maintain the refinement that was implemented in the
19 2023 TAM on a non-precedential basis. This refinement changes the DA/RT
20 adjustment’s price component from a flat value to a percentage of market price.

1 **Q. Please explain how changing the DA/RT adjustment's price component from a**
2 **flat value to a percentage of market price results in a DA/RT adjustment that is**
3 **more reflective of actual operations.**

4 A. Changing the price calculation to a percentage of the market prices aids in accounting
5 for the volatility caused by prices and system conditions not captured in day-ahead
6 transactions. Take, for example, a \$5 price adder in an hour when the market price is
7 \$25. This resolves to a 20 percent price adder. But using the \$5 price adder when
8 market prices are \$75 would fail to account for the system and market conditions
9 during that hour. Using a 20 percent price adder during hours when market price is
10 \$75 would yield in a \$15 price adder, which is more reflective of the system
11 conditions. A key benefit of using a percentage adder is that it allows the modeling to
12 capture intra-monthly variability. Subsequently, this is a significantly more accurate
13 representation of real operating conditions experienced by the Company.

14 **Q. Why has the transition to Aurora not resolved the need for a DA/RT price**
15 **component?**

16 A. As noted above, the basis of the DA/RT price component is founded in the historical
17 price differences between the Company's purchases and sales as compared to the
18 monthly average market prices. The fact that there are historical price differences
19 between the Company's purchases and sales as compared to the monthly average
20 market prices is agnostic to the model used to forecast Company purchases and sales.
21 Therefore, the transition to Aurora has not resolved the basis for the DA/RT price
22 component.

1 **A. Reply to Staff**

2 **Q. Does Staff recommend modifications to the DA/RT price component in this case?**

3 A. Yes. Staff recommends that the Commission reject the Company's proposed
4 refinement to the DA/RT price component because there is not enough information in
5 the record that the proposed changes better reflect intra-month market volatility.¹⁴

6 **Q. How does a percentage adjustment better capture intra-month price variability
7 as compared to a flat dollar adjustment?**

8 A. In the testimony below, I provide analysis on the drivers of the DA/RT price
9 component, including a discussion of historical hourly scaled monthly average market
10 prices as compared to historical hourly scaled Company purchases and associated
11 purchase prices across four years of historical data from 2019 to 2022. This analysis
12 shows that the refinement proposed by the Company more accurately accounts for
13 intra-month price variability in the context of the historical data.

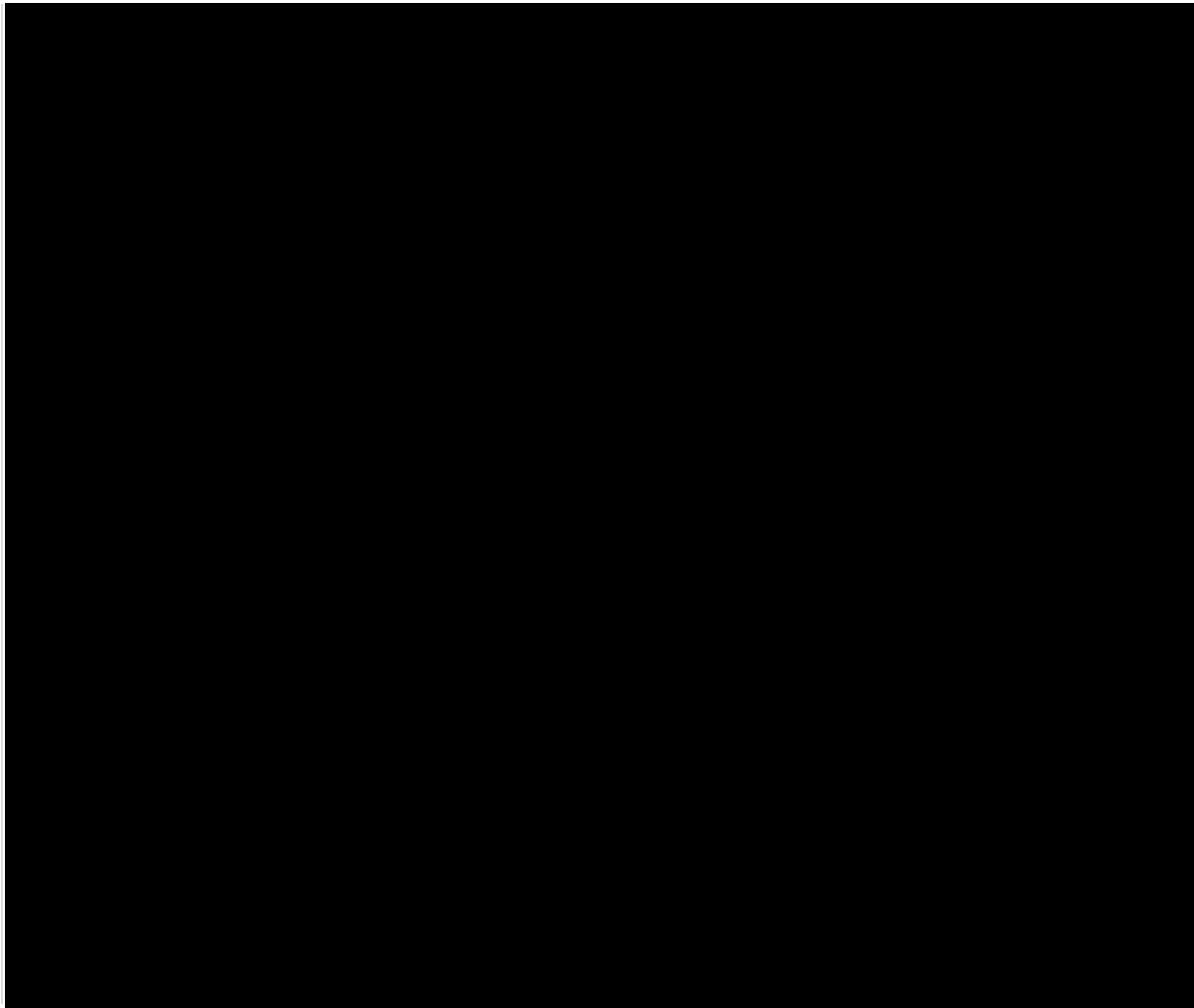
14 **Q. Why is it important to focus on Company purchases instead of Company sales?**

15 A. Across the historical period, the total net peak expense incurred from Company
16 purchases is approximately 5.8 times greater than the total net peak revenues gained
17 from Company sales. Confidential Figure 4 provides an illustration of this along with
18 the average four-year historical hourly shape of purchase volumes, sales volumes,
19 purchase expenses and sales revenues. This data, along with the observation that
20 throughout the historical period the Company is a net purchaser (importer) on a dollar
21 and volume basis and that Aurora has no market caps on purchases highlights the
22 outsized importance of purchased power and its attendant costs.

¹⁴ Staff/200, Jent/8.

1

Confidential Figure 4



2 **Q. What does the historical data show when comparing market prices to the**
3 **Company's purchases?**

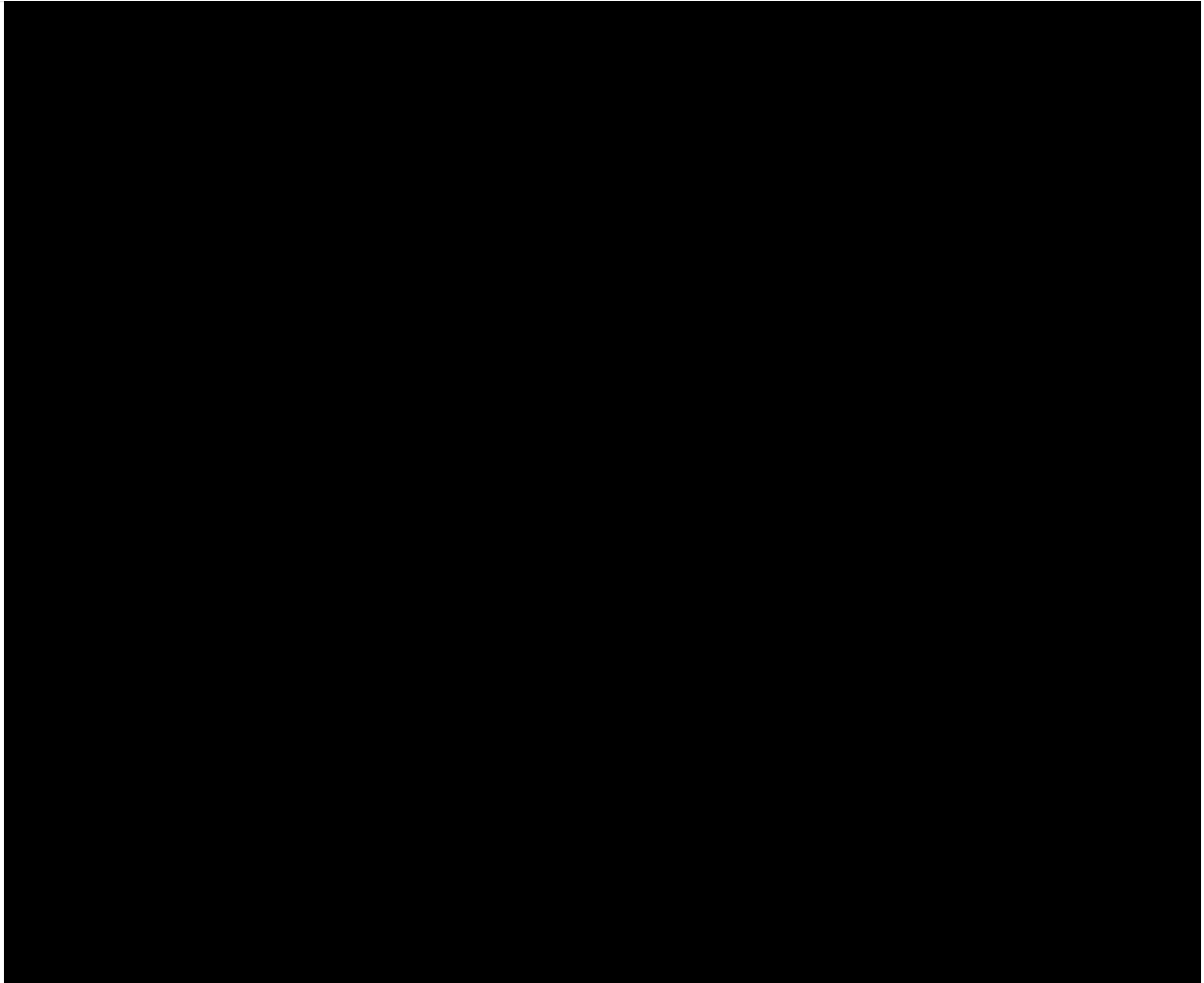
4 A. Confidential Figure 5 uses data from 2019 to 2022 to create two curves—one
5 illustrating hourly scaled average market-indexed prices and one illustrating hourly
6 scaled average Company purchase prices. The difference between the curves is an
7 illustration of the DA/RT price component. The concept of intra-month price
8 variability is exhibited by the change in price levels across the day for the hourly
9 scaled average market-indexed prices as compared to the hourly scaled average

REDACTED

PAC/400
Mitchell/26

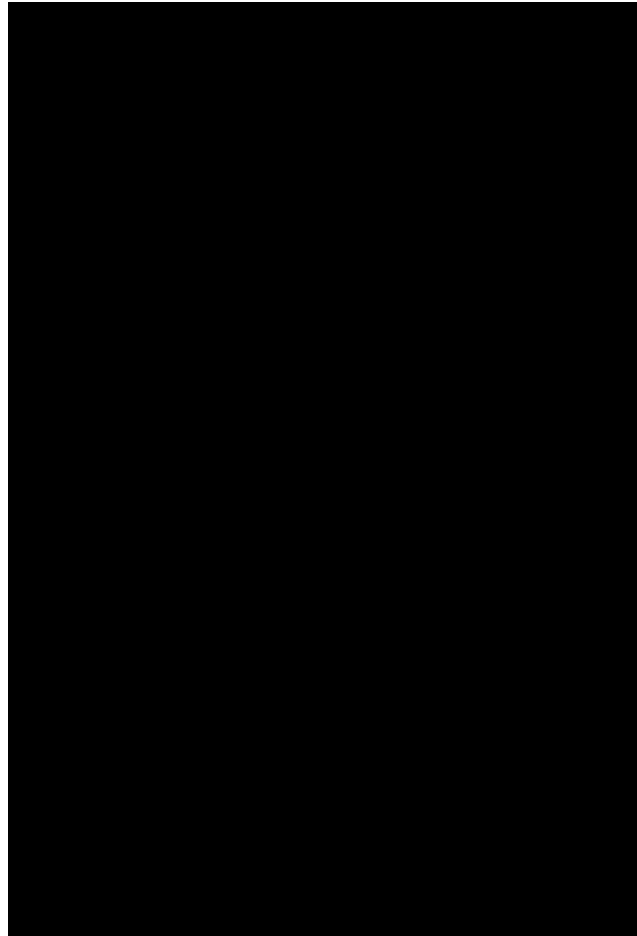
1 Company purchase prices. This price variability is set forth numerically in
2 Confidential Table 4, which shows the numeric difference between the two curves.

3 **Confidential Figure 5**



1

Confidential Table 4



2 **Q. Why do you refer to the variability as “intra-month” when the data appears to**
3 **focus on variability within a day?**

4 A. It is important to recall that the OFPC uses monthly prices, which are then scaled
5 down to hourly prices. So intra-month price variability is exhibited as hourly price
6 variability within each day of the month. In my testimony above and as illustrated in
7 Confidential Figure 5, this intra-month price variability is presented as average hourly
8 price variability across the four-year historical period for the average day.

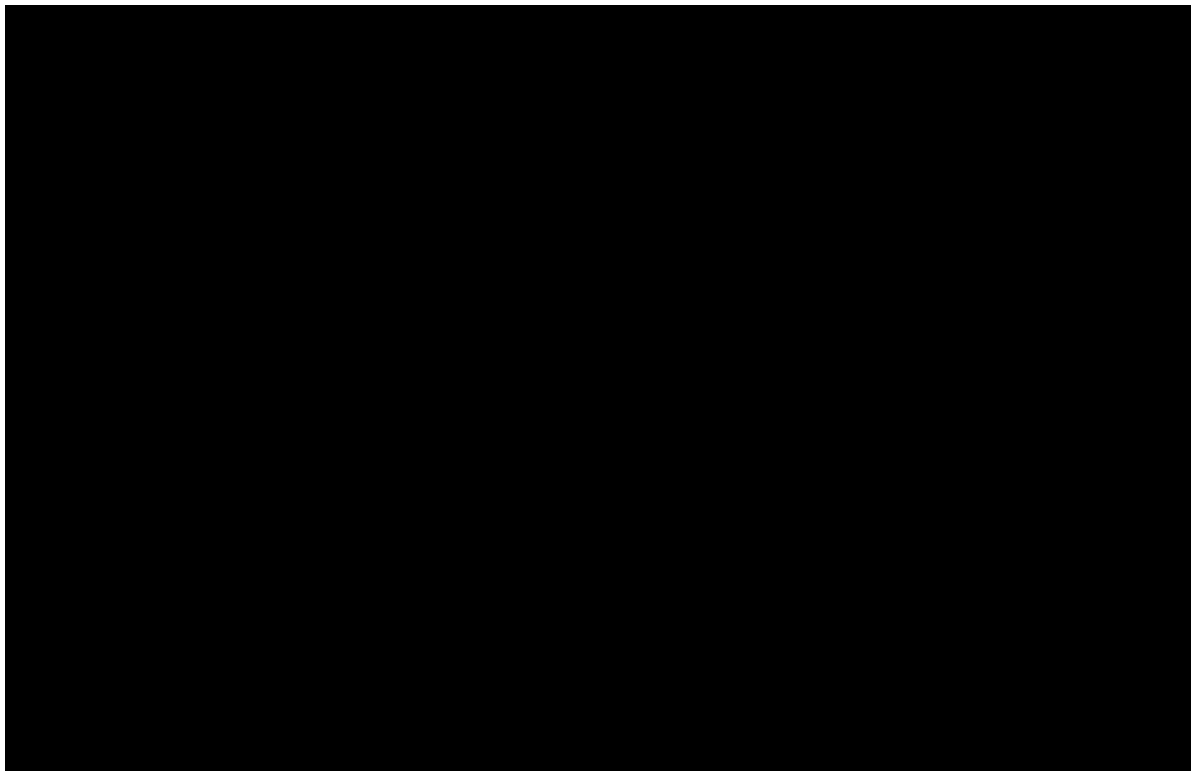
1 **Q. The DA/RT price component has historically been a flat dollar amount applied**
2 **to the purchase and sales price. Does the historical data support this approach?**

3 A. No. The historical data in Confidential Figure 5 and Confidential Table 4 shows
4 intra-month variability in the DA/RT price component (i.e., the variability between
5 the hourly scaled average market-indexed prices and the hourly scaled average
6 Company purchase prices) is not constant across the day; the difference is generally
7 greater as the price increases. If historical market prices supported the DA/RT price
8 component as a flat dollar amount, then the historical values in Confidential Table 4
9 would not exhibit variability across the day but rather show consistency.

10 Confidential Figure 6 illustrates this variability in the actual historical DA/RT
11 price component as compared to an illustration of a flat adder.

12

Confidential Figure 6



1 **Q. Is Confidential Figure 6 a visual of historical market price curves in comparison**
2 **to a flat DA/RT price component?**

3 A. No. Confidential Figure 6 is a visual of what the historical DA/RT price component
4 is, based solely on the historical relationship between actual market prices and actual
5 Company purchases along with a comparison to a hypothetical flat adder that is
6 separated into high load hour (HLH) and low load hour (LLH) components. That is
7 to say, Confidential Figure 6 is a visual of Confidential Table 4 along with a
8 comparison to a hypothetical flat adder that is separated into HLH and LLH
9 components. Confidential Figure 6 is not a visual of a market price curve, even
10 though it looks similar.

11 **Q. Does the historical data support the usage of a percentage adder to more**
12 **accurately account for intra-month price variability?**

13 A. Yes. As illustrated in Confidential Figure 5 and in Confidential Figure 6, as the
14 historical average market-indexed price increases, the spread between the historical
15 average market-indexed price and the historical average buy price increases as well.
16 This suggests that a percentage adder is more suitable for capturing the historical
17 interplay between monthly average market prices and Company purchase prices. As
18 illustrated in Confidential Table 4, the historical data definitively does not suggest
19 that a flat adder is appropriate for capturing this intra-month dynamic. This means
20 that the Company's refinement to the DA/RT price component is a more accurate
21 representation of the difference between average market prices and the Company's
22 transaction prices. Because the purpose of the DA/RT price component is to reflect
23 this difference, the Company's refinement is consistent with the Commission's

1 rationale for adopting the DA/RT adjustment in the 2016 TAM and repeatedly
2 approving its use in the TAM forecast during the last seven years.

3 **Q. Does Staff include any other recommendations related to the DA/RT**
4 **adjustment?**

5 A. Yes. Staff recommends that the “inherent issues with the DA/RT be addressed
6 holistically with the Company’s perceived shortcomings of its market cap
7 methodology[.]”¹⁵ The “inherent issues” Staff identifies relate to the price component
8 of the DA/RT adjustment.

9 **Q What is the basis for Staff’s recommendation that both the DA/RT adjustment**
10 **and market caps be addressed together?**

11 A. Staff claims that both refinements relate to “market hub activity” so it is “intuitive
12 that these two adjustments should be viewed together rather than analyzing them
13 individually.”¹⁶

14 **Q. How do you respond to Staff’s recommendation?**

15 A. First, the Company disagrees that there are “inherent issues with the DA/RT” price
16 component. The price component has worked well since it was adopted by the
17 Commission nearly ten years ago and appropriately includes costs in the NPC
18 forecast that were previously excluded. Although the adjustment is not perfect and
19 has been refined over time, it has no inherent flaws, as I discuss in more detail below.

¹⁵ Staff/200, Jent/9.

¹⁶ Staff/300, Dlouhy/10.

1 Second, there is no relevant connection between the DA/RT adjustment and
2 market caps that supports Staff’s proposal to address both together because all cost
3 components of the NPC forecast¹⁷ relate to each other.

4 **Q. What is Staff’s “inherent issue” with the DA/RT adjustment?**

5 A. Staff claims that the DA/RT price component is an “ad hoc adjustment that distorts
6 market prices by making sales prices lower and purchase prices higher in the model
7 than the Company faces in reality” and therefore the DA/RT price component
8 improperly creates “artificial losses” for the Company that are then used to increase
9 forecast NPC.¹⁸

10 **Q. Does Staff’s testimony consider both the *price* and the *volume* component of the
11 DA/RT adjustment?**

12 A. No. Staff does not consider that the DA/RT adjustment has two components—a *price*
13 *component* and a *volume component*. Staff’s testimony focuses solely on the *price*
14 *component* in their discussion on “artificial losses” without reconciling Staff’s
15 recommendation with how the entirety of the DA/RT adjustment operates.
16 Specifically, by design the DA/RT *volume component* used since the 2016 TAM adds
17 into the NPC forecast a measure of historical arbitrage revenue to offset the impact of
18 using a single price adjustment in the DA/RT *price component* when the sales price
19 exceeds the purchase price (which is the single price adjustment that Staff
20 characterizes as “making sales prices lower and purchase prices higher in the model
21 than the Company faces in reality.”). I discuss this *volume component* in more detail

¹⁷ ‘Wholesale Sales Revenue’, ‘Purchased Power Expense’, ‘Fuel Expense’ and ‘Wheeling and Other Expense’.

¹⁸ Staff/300, Dlouhy/9.

1 below and demonstrate that when viewed holistically, the DA/RT adjustment operates
2 as intended and does not create the “artificial losses” Staff describes.

3 **Q. Does Staff explain how the DA/RT adjustment creates the “artificial losses”?**

4 A. No. Staff instead points to testimony it filed in the 2023 TAM.¹⁹ In that case, Staff
5 explained, “if PAC’s buy price is lower than its sale price, [the DA/RT price
6 component] calculates an amount that creates an artificial loss for the Company.”²⁰
7 This happens because the DA/RT price component increases the purchase price and
8 decreases the sales price thereby increasing overall NPC by increasing costs to
9 purchase and decreasing revenues from sales. Staff calls this increase an “artificial
10 loss,” which Staff claims is an inherent flaw in the DA/RT price component.

11 **Q. Has Staff raised this same concern before?**

12 A. Yes. In the 2017 TAM, Staff objected to the DA/RT adjustment for the exact same
13 reason:

14 For some periods, PacifiCorp applies a different Price Adder
15 than that suggested by the four-year history. Actual historic data
16 indicates that in some months, purchases are on average less
17 expensive than sales. This would result in a GRID purchase
18 price below the GRID sale price within a single trading hub. At
19 these prices, GRID would optimize by arbitraging within the
20 same trading hub, maximizing both sales and purchases within
21 the hub. PacifiCorp prevents GRID from performing this
22 arbitrage by overriding the Price Adder calculation formula for
23 these specific occurrences.²¹

¹⁹ Staff/200, Jent/10.

²⁰ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 400, Staff/200, Cohen/11.

²¹ *In re of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, 2017 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 307, Staff/200, Kaufman/6 (Jul. 8, 2016).

1 **Q. How did the Commission resolve Staff's identical objection to the DA/RT**
2 **adjustment in the 2017 TAM?**

3 A. As noted above, the Commission affirmed the DA/RT adjustment and rejected Staff's
4 argument.

5 **Q. Do you agree that the DA/RT price component improperly creates artificial**
6 **losses?**

7 A. No. The feature of the DA/RT price component Staff disputes has been a critical
8 component of the DA/RT since it was first adopted by the Commission in the 2016
9 TAM. Without the adjustment that Staff disputes, the DA/RT price component could
10 result in a scenario where the buy price at a particular hub is lower than the sales
11 price at the same hub. If the inputs to Aurora for a single market showed a purchase
12 price that was less than the sales price, then Aurora would buy and sell arbitrarily
13 (arbitrage) large volumes of power under this situation, but in reality, the volumes in
14 question would be very limited. In the event that this rare situation occurred in
15 reality, all rational market participants would take advantage of this free profit
16 arbitrage opportunity until market prices reached equilibrium and the purchase price
17 was greater than or equal to the sales price. Within the Aurora model no equilibrium
18 can ever be reached, as increasing demand does not impact price.

19 Given the Aurora model's inability to handle this circumstance, when the
20 average monthly sales price exceeds the monthly purchase price in the same market, a
21 single price adjustment is used for both sales and purchases based on the volume-
22 weighted average of the historical sales and purchases. This ensures the modeled
23 price component of the DA/RT adjustment better reflects market reality.

1 **Q. Can you provide a quantitative example demonstrating why the adjustment**
2 **Staff disputes is necessary?**

3 A. Yes. For simplicity, assume that the DA/RT adjusted Mid-Columbia sales price is
4 \$2.00 per MWh and the DA/RT-adjusted purchase price at Mid-Columbia is \$1.00
5 per MWh for the same time period. If these are the price inputs in Aurora, then the
6 model will purchase energy at Mid-Columbia for \$1.00 and sell that same energy at
7 Mid-Columbia for \$2.00 creating a \$1.00 profit per MWh bought and sold. Because
8 the model would require no generation to support its ability to arbitrage in this way, it
9 would make this simultaneous purchase and sale repeatedly until it hit the market
10 capacity on sales (market caps). This cycle of repeated arbitrage behavior does not
11 reflect market realities and would lead to absurd results.

12 **Q. How does the DA/RT adjustment address the fact that it reduces the purchase**
13 **price to prevent excessive and unrealistic arbitrage in the model?**

14 A. The NPC increase from the DA/RT *price component's* adder resulting from an
15 adjustment to reduce artificial arbitrage is remedied in the DA/RT *volume component*,
16 which re-introduces revenue into the NPC forecast to offset that price component's
17 decrease to revenues. In this case, the volume component added in historically
18 supported arbitrage revenue of \$7.4 million, total-company. When the DA/RT
19 adjustment is viewed holistically, both price component and volume component
20 together, there are no artificial losses that result from the price component's adders.

21 **Q. How does the volume component re-introduce the revenue that is lost when the**
22 **price component's sales price is reduced to equal the purchase price?**

23 A. The volume component of the DA/RT adjustment includes historical arbitrage

1 revenues, which are the revenues that Staff claims are artificially removed by the
2 price component of the DA/RT adjustment.

3 **Q. Has the Commission previously recognized that the DA/RT adjustment**
4 **appropriately includes arbitrage revenues?**

5 A. Yes. In the 2017 TAM where Staff raised the same issue around the so-called
6 “artificial losses,” Staff argued that the “DART price adders eliminate the value
7 of arbitrage transactions.”²² The Commission rejected Staff’s argument and found
8 PacifiCorp’s explanation persuasive that because arbitrage transactions are included
9 in the historic DA/RT data, the benefits from arbitrage are incorporated into the
10 volume component of the adjustment.²³ In that case, the Commission affirmed the
11 DA/RT adjustment, which it had approved the previous year.

12 **Q. Did Staff resurrect its argument that the DA/RT adjustment improperly**
13 **excludes arbitrage revenues in any other TAMs?**

14 A. Yes. In the 2018 TAM, Staff again argued that the DA/RT adjustment improperly
15 excluded arbitrage revenues but focused on arbitrage across two market hubs, rather
16 than arbitrage at a single hub.²⁴ Nonetheless, the Commission again affirmed the
17 DA/RT adjustment and rejected Staff’s argument that the adjustment improperly
18 excluded arbitrage revenue.

²² Order No. 16-482, at 12.

²³ Order No. 16-482 at 12 (“PacifiCorp respond[ed] that the adjustment properly includes arbitrage transactions.”); *see also In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, 2017 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 307, PAC/400, Dickman/32 (Aug. 1, 2016).

²⁴ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, 2018 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 323, Staff/200, Kaufman/12 (Jun. 9, 2017).

1 **Q. Turning back to the relationship between the DA/RT price component and**
2 **market caps, Staff claims that the “artificial losses” created by the DA/RT price**
3 **component has an opposite effect “on the same general subcategory of the total**
4 **TAM forecast” as the market caps and therefore “Staff believes that they can be**
5 **paired together to help the AURORA model match up better to reality.”²⁵ Do**
6 **you agree?**

7 A. No. The fact that both adjustments impact market sales does not mean that they can
8 be paired together and addressed holistically—particularly because the supposed flaw
9 in the DA/RT price component underlying Staff’s recommendation does not actually
10 exist. That is, because the DA/RT adjustment includes historical arbitrage revenues
11 in the volume component, there is no flaw that needs to be offset by an increase in
12 market caps.

13 **Q. Has the Commission previously addressed the relationship between the DA/RT**
14 **adjustment and market caps?**

15 A. Yes. When PacifiCorp first introduced the DA/RT adjustment in the 2016 TAM,
16 AWEC witness Mullins, on behalf of ICNU, recommended that the Commission
17 eliminate market caps if it approved the DA/RT adjustment.²⁶ The Commission
18 rejected ICNU’s adjustment in that case.

19 **B. Reply to Vitesse**

20 **Q. Please describe Vitesse’s position on the DA/RT adjustment.**

21 A. Vitesse recommends that the Commission not adopt the Company’s proposed

²⁵ Staff/200, Jent/10.

²⁶ Order No. 15-394 at 3.

1 refinement to the DA/RT price component on a precedential basis in this case to
2 allow the parties additional time to review the adjustment.²⁷ Vitesse also identifies
3 two concerns and proposed changes to the DA/RT price component.²⁸ However,
4 Vitesse does not recommend that the Commission approve Vitesse’s proposed
5 modifications in this case, consistent with its primary recommendation that the
6 Commission make no change to the DA/RT price component in this case to allow the
7 parties additional time to review.²⁹

8 **Q. How do you respond to Vitesse’s overall recommendation to defer adopting of**
9 **the percentage price adder to allow additional time for review?**

10 A. The Company disagrees that the parties require additional time to review the
11 Company’s refinement to the price component of the DA/RT adjustment. The
12 Company first proposed and implemented the refinement in the 2023 TAM, so the
13 parties have had more than a year to review. Moreover, when the Company first
14 proposed the DA/RT adjustment in the 2016 TAM, Staff’s primary objection was that
15 there was insufficient time to review, similar to Vitesse’s position here. The
16 Commission rejected that argument, concluding that “[p]arties have had sufficient
17 time and opportunity to review and assess the proposal.”³⁰ Given that the parties here
18 have had even more time to review the refinement here and the fact that the
19 refinement is limited in scope, there is no basis to delay approval pending additional
20 review.

²⁷ Vitesse/100, Johnson/7.

²⁸ Vitesse/100, Johnson/7–8.

²⁹ Vitesse/100, Johnson/7–8.

³⁰ Order No. 15-394 at 4.

1 **Q. Please describe Vitesse’s first recommended modification to the price component**
2 **of the DA/RT adjustment.**

3 A. Vitesse recommends that the calculation of the percent price adders be volume
4 weighted by the volume of balancing purchases made each month.³¹

5 **Q. How do you respond to Vitesse’s recommendation?**

6 A. The Company agrees that Vitesse’s recommendation is reasonable and proposes to
7 adopt this recommendation.

8 **Q. Please describe Vitesse’s second recommended modification to the DA/RT price**
9 **component.**

10 A. Vitesse describes the same “artificial losses” scenario identified by Staff and
11 explained above.³² Vitesse acknowledges that Aurora cannot function when the
12 purchase price is lower than the sales price and therefore some adjustment is
13 necessary but claims that the use of a flattened price artificially decreases the volume
14 of purchases and sales modeled in Aurora.³³ Vitesse proposed no “long-term”
15 solution to this issue but instead provides an interim recommendation—when
16 calculating the dollar impact of the DA/RT price component, Vitesse recommends
17 that the Company make an out-of-model adjustment that multiplies the volume of
18 purchases and sales made in Aurora by the purchase and sales price, rather than by
19 the flattened average of the two. Although Vitesse does not recommend that the
20 Commission implement this modification in this case, Vitesse has roughly estimated

³¹ Vitesse/100, Johnson/11.

³² Vitesse/100, Johnson/12–13.

³³ Vitesse/100, Johnson/14–15.

1 the impact as a decrease to NPC of approximately \$10 million total-company.³⁴

2 However, as I explain above, this is a double count of the \$7.4 million total-company
3 decrease to the NPC forecast through the DA/RT volume component's introduction
4 of historical arbitrage revenue.

5 **Q. How do you respond to Vitesse's second recommendation?**

6 A. Vitesse's recommendation should be rejected. As an initial matter, and as discussed
7 above in response to Staff, the issue of "artificial losses" identified by Vitesse and the
8 attendant remedy in the DA/RT volume component has been a part of the DA/RT
9 adjustment since it was first approved in the 2016 TAM. There is nothing new about
10 these elements of the DA/RT adjustment. More importantly, as discussed above, the
11 increased NPC resulting from the use of an average purchase and sales price when
12 those prices are inverted is offset by the volume component of the DA/RT
13 adjustment, which decreases NPC to account for historical arbitrage revenues.
14 Vitesse's adjustment here is therefore double-counting arbitrage revenues.

15 **Q. Vitesse is also concerned that the data set used to calculate the DA/RT**
16 **adjustment includes trading hubs with very small volumes of system balancing**
17 **transactions.³⁵ How do you respond?**

18 A. As an initial matter Vitesse does not identify these "trading hubs with very small
19 volume" or quantify the volume of transactions that Vitesse considers small.

20 However, from the data set in the Initial Filing, the total annual dollars transacted at
21 individual trading hubs range from \$2.42 million to \$75.7 million total-company.

³⁴ This \$9.96 million total-company also includes the impact of Vitesse's volume weighted adjustment. See Vitesse/100, Johnson/16.

³⁵ Vitesse/100, Johnson/17.

1 The Company does not find these values to be small and parties have contested the
2 TAM NPC forecast over far less.

3 **Q. Finally, Vitesse is concerned that because the DA/RT adjustment is based on**
4 **historical price and volume data, it “embeds” historical forecasting performance**
5 **in future rates.³⁶ How do you respond?**

6 A. As an initial matter, it is important to clarify the type of forecasting Vitesse discusses
7 to avoid confusion. Vitesse claims that the Company is embedding its “historic
8 forecasting performance in future rates” and then goes on to express concern about
9 the Company not demonstrating that its “forecasting is reasonably accurate or to
10 improve its forecasts.”³⁷ However Vitesse is not referring to the prior NPC forecasts.
11 Rather, Vitesse is referring to the reality of load service in actual operations where,
12 for example, in the day-ahead horizon the Company must forecast the amount of
13 customer load needing to be served on the next day.

14 Vitesse is concerned that the Company has not demonstrated that its forecasts
15 made in actual operations are accurate and therefore it is concerning to Vitesse that
16 the Company’s NPC forecast is based on historical data that is partly based on those
17 forecasts made in actual operations.³⁸

18 **Q. Does Vitesse’s concern have merit?**

19 A. No, not in its context. Vitesse’s concern is not specifically related to the DA/RT
20 price component. Vitesse’s concern is related to the fundamental nature of power
21 costs forecasts in the TAM and their use in ratemaking. Within the power cost

³⁶ Vitesse/100, Johnson/17.

³⁷ Vitesse/100, Johnson/17.

³⁸ Vitesse/100, Johnson/17.

1 forecasting mechanism itself, Vitesse is essentially arguing that the volatility in prices
2 and other system conditions are increasing and then Vitesse uses that argument to
3 have a discussion on holding the utility accountable for its forecasts in actual
4 operations. This discussion has no immediate relevance to the merit of the DA/RT
5 price component.

6 **C. Reply to AWEC**

7 **Q. Please describe AWEC's position on the DA/RT adjustment.**

8 A. AWEC recommends that the Company eliminate the price component of the DA/RT
9 adjustment but retain the volume component of the DA/RT adjustment.³⁹

10 **Q. As an initial matter, AWEC claims that the DA/RT adjustment in its entirety is**
11 **unnecessary now that the Company is using Aurora instead of GRID.⁴⁰ Do you**
12 **agree?**

13 A. No. The *price component* modifies the OFPC, which is an input to Aurora, just like
14 the OFPC was an input to GRID. The DA/RT adjustment's price component exists
15 because the OFPC is a single price but: (1) the Company faces different prices when
16 purchasing energy as compared to when selling energy; and (2) those prices are on
17 average unfavorable relative to the OFPC as the Company typically purchases at
18 prices above the OFPC and sells at prices below the OFPC. Because neither GRID
19 nor Aurora internally account for the historical differences between purchase and
20 sales prices, the DA/RT adjustment's price component is critical to ensuring a more

³⁹ AWEC/100, Mullins/9.

⁴⁰ AWEC/100, Mullins/8.

1 accurate NPC forecast and agnostic to the production cost model used to create the
2 NPC forecast.

3 The DA/RT adjustment's *volume component* exists because there are multiple
4 time horizons in actual operations (month-ahead, day-ahead, hour-ahead, etc.) and
5 energy is traded in multi-hour blocks in many of these horizons. Aurora, however, is
6 a single stage model that simulates hourly dispatch all at once, with no segregation of
7 time horizons, and executes transactions to within a fraction of a MW. The DA/RT
8 adjustment's volume component introduces the inefficiencies and associated costs
9 that come with these multiple time horizons and multi-hour block products into the
10 NPC forecast.

11 **Q. AWEC claims that the DA/RT adjustment is unnecessary because Aurora and**
12 **GRID use “entirely different approaches to calculate dispatch” and Aurora’s**
13 **dispatch is not as optimized as GRID.⁴¹ Do you agree?**

14 A. No. Limitations in GRID were primarily a lack of co-optimization between energy
15 and ancillary services, unit commitment logic that was decades out of date, an
16 inability to constrain fuel usage on thermal resources, and no concept of storage
17 resources or GHG emissions. Aurora improves on all these aspects. Aurora
18 calculates a transmission-constrained, least-cost dispatch using effectively
19 simultaneous unit commitment and economic dispatch processes, which are driven by
20 an advanced hourly mixed integer program and linear program, respectively.
21 Furthermore, Aurora co-optimizes both energy and ancillary services as opposed to
22 the inefficient sequential optimization employed by GRID, and additionally, allows

⁴¹ AWEC/100, Mullins/8.

1 for the application of a myriad of constraints inclusive of ramp rate constraints, GHG
2 emissions constraints and fuel constraints, all of which were either not present in
3 GRID, or of limited functionality.

4 AWEC's description of Aurora is incorrect and provides no basis to reject the
5 DA/RT price component.

6 **Q. Was AWEC able to provide any documentation from Aurora verifying its**
7 **description of Aurora's optimization?**

8 A. No. It appears that AWEC's only basis for claiming that Aurora may not produce a
9 least-cost optimization is the result of AWEC's own Aurora modeling that removed a
10 small amount of short-term firm transmission from the model and resulted in an
11 increase in overall NPC of roughly 0.0017 percent.⁴² Based on this result, AWEC
12 claims Aurora is not a least-cost optimized model. However, as I explain below in
13 Section XV of my testimony, the 0.0017 percent variance is: (1) based on flawed
14 analysis; (2) lacking recognition of the difference between NPC in the TAM as
15 compared to *all* variable power costs; and (3) "noise" in the model and in no way
16 suggests that Aurora does not produce an optimized dispatch.

17 **Q. Is AWEC's criticism of Aurora's imperfect optimization contrary to AWEC**
18 **witness Mullins' prior testimony?**

19 A. Yes. In the 2022 TAM, AWEC testified that the "AURORA model contains a more
20 sophisticated commitment and dispatch logic than the GRID model, which better
21 mimics the actual operation of PacifiCorp's gas plants."⁴³ This prior testimony

⁴² This percentage was calculated based on an NPC increase of approximately \$45,000 total-company relative to an overall NPC of \$2.642 billion total-company in the Initial Filing. See AWEC/100, Mullins/8-9.

⁴³ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, 2022 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 390, AWEC/200, Mullins/4 (Aug. 26, 2021).

1 cannot be squared with AWEC’s current claim that Aurora has less optimized
2 dispatch than GRID.

3 **Q. AWEC further claims that using the DA/RT adjustment in Aurora is producing**
4 **the opposite effect that it did with GRID.⁴⁴ What is the basis for this claim?**

5 A. AWEC ran Aurora with and without the DA/RT price component and concluded that
6 the DA/RT adjustment from the Aurora run without the price component is closer to
7 the historical DA/RT adjustment.⁴⁵ From this comparison AWEC concludes that
8 eliminating the DA/RT price component produces a more accurate forecast because it
9 is closer to the historical averages. However, AWEC’s simplistic comparison is
10 merely observing that there is a substantial increase (a paradigm shift) in reliance on
11 purchased power in the Initial Filing’s NPC forecast resulting from the combination
12 of coal supply limitations, the OTR, the Jim Bridger gas conversion, the removal of
13 the Klamath dams, and the Washington Cap and Invest Program. AWEC conflates
14 the purpose of the two components of the DA/RT adjustment and AWEC’s
15 conclusions stem from this misunderstanding that I explain in more detail below.

16 **Q. Turning to AWEC’s specific recommendation, why does AWEC recommend**
17 **removing only the price component of the DA/RT adjustment?**

18 A. AWEC claims that volume component of the DA/RT adjustment renders the price
19 component “perfunctory, except to the extent that [the price component] modified the
20 way thermal plants were dispatched.”⁴⁶

⁴⁴ AWEC/100, Mullins/8.

⁴⁵ AWEC/100, Mullins/8.

⁴⁶ AWEC/100, Mullins/7.

1 **Q. Do you agree?**

2 A. No. AWEC mischaracterizes the two components of the DA/RT adjustment. As
3 discussed above, the purpose of the DA/RT adjustment is to more accurately capture
4 the true cost of balancing the Company's system in the short-term markets by: (1)
5 adjusting forward market prices (the OFPC) to reflect historical variations between
6 the average market-indexed prices over each month and actual realized prices for the
7 Company's day-ahead and real-time transactions in that month (*price component*);
8 and (2) adjusting system balancing transaction volumes to reflect the inefficiencies
9 and associated costs of the operational practice of transacting on a monthly basis
10 using, as an example, standard 25 MW increment, 16-hour block products,
11 rebalancing on a daily basis using standard 25 MW increment eight-hour block
12 products, and finally closing the remaining position on an hourly basis in real-time
13 markets (*volume component*). These two steps are designed to accomplish two
14 different tasks and accounting for the inefficiencies associated with trading in multi-
15 hour block products in actual operations (i.e., a MWh (volume) trading inefficiency)
16 does nothing to change the persistent deviation between an indexed market price and
17 the Company's real market prices faced in actual operations (i.e., a \$/MWh (price)
18 inefficiency).

19 **Q. Is AWEC's testimony here consistent with its prior positions on the DA/RT?**

20 A. No. Just last year in the 2023 TAM, AWEC witness Mullins testified that the DA/RT
21 *volumes* are "a perfunctory feature of the DA/RT adjustment, and have zero impact

1 on NPC.”⁴⁷ In other words, this year, the price component is “perfunctory” while last
2 year the volume component was “perfunctory.”

3 **Q. Has the Commission ever addressed recommendations to eliminate only one**
4 **component of the DA/RT adjustment?**

5 A. Yes. In the 2017 TAM and 2018 TAM, Staff argued the opposite of AWEC and
6 recommended that the Commission eliminate the volume component of the DA/RT
7 adjustment.⁴⁸ In the 2018 TAM, AWEC witness Mullins made the same argument he
8 makes here:

9 The Company characterizes the DA/RT adjustment as having
10 two components: 1) a price component; and 2) a volume
11 component. I, however, disagree that it is appropriate to
12 characterize the adjustment in such a manner. Based on the way
13 that the adjustment is calculated, the complicated mechanics
14 underlying the price and volume components are irrelevant. As
15 a final step in the Company’s implementation of the DA/RT
16 adjustment, the Company applies a plug, outside of the GRID
17 model, to force the total impact of the DA/RT adjustment to tie
18 to the historical average, which in this case the Company has
19 proposed as the 60 months ending in June 2016. Accordingly,
20 it is more appropriate to view the Company’s adjustment as a
21 single adjustment based solely on the historical averages, rather
22 than viewing it as two, largely arbitrary, components.⁴⁹

23 In both the 2017 and 2018 TAMs (and in all others where it was litigated), the
24 Commission retained both components of the DA/RT adjustment, recognizing that
25 they work together to reflect costs that are incurred in actual operations but that are
26 not inherently present within the Company’s production cost model.⁵⁰

⁴⁷ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, 2023 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 400, AWEC/100, Mullins/17 (May 25, 2022).

⁴⁸ Order No. 16-482 at 12; Order No. 17-444 at 6.

⁴⁹ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, 2018 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 323, ICNU/100, Mullins/9–10 (Jun. 9, 2017).

⁵⁰ Order No. 16-482, at 13–14.

1 **Q. Did AWEC's recommendation cause the Company to further investigate the**
2 **modeling of the DA/RT adjustment in this year's TAM?**

3 A. Yes. AWEC's recommendation raised a concern because in this case the price
4 component of the DA/RT adjustment increases NPC, while the volume component
5 reflected in the Initial Filing decreases NPC. So AWEC's recommendation
6 effectively cherry-picked the benefits of the DA/RT adjustment without having
7 accounted for the attendant costs.

8 However, on further investigation spurred by AWEC's testimony, the
9 Company discovered that the volume component of the DA/RT adjustment was not
10 functioning as the Commission intended when the adjustment was approved. In this
11 TAM, the volume component was substantially *decreasing* NPC (by \$97 million
12 total-company in the Initial Filing), even though the volume component is designed to
13 capture inefficiencies and attendant *costs* in actual operations that are not captured in
14 Aurora, as discussed above. Real-world inefficiencies in trading cannot produce such
15 substantial revenue (lowers NPC) when compared to Aurora's perfectly efficient
16 optimized system dispatch.

17 **Q. How is the DA/RT adjustment's volume component implemented in Aurora?**

18 A. Identical to the prior implementation in GRID approved by the Commission, the
19 volumetric component of system balancing transactions within the NPC forecast is
20 increased, as an out of model adjustment, to account for the use of multi-hour block
21 products in actual operations. System balancing purchase volumes are increased by
22 an equal and offsetting amount to system balancing sales volumes so that the net
23 volumetric position of the NPC forecast is unchanged.

1 **Q. How does the increase in system balancing volumes impact revenues and costs**
2 **within the context of the NPC forecast?**

3 A. Because the volumes of Aurora's system balancing transactions are increased, the
4 incremental volumes must be associated with prices otherwise they would represent
5 free energy (i.e., no revenues received or costs incurred for market sales or
6 purchases). These volumes are priced by comparing historical system balancing
7 transactions to forecast system balancing transactions using 48 months of historical
8 transaction history as a proxy for the increased costs associated with the operational
9 practice of trading in multi-hour block products.

10 **Q. With this background in mind, why is the DA/RT adjustment's volume**
11 **component functioning incorrectly?**

12 A. As the incremental increase in sale volumes is identical to the incremental increase in
13 purchase volumes, the revenues from the sales volume was allowed to be greater than
14 the costs from the purchase volumes producing artificial arbitrage within the NPC
15 forecast. Specifically, the DA/RT volume component bought a certain volume of
16 energy at a low price and then sold the same volume of energy at a high price in the
17 same time period. Because the DA/RT adjustment is meant to mimic actual
18 operations, this result meant the use of inefficient multi-hour block products in actual
19 operations created substantial efficiencies within the NPC forecast that lowered NPC,
20 contrary to the impacts of these multi-hour block products in actual operations, which
21 increase NPC, as explained here and in prior TAM testimony and Commission orders.

1 **Q. Has the Company accounted for this artificial arbitrage so that the DA/RT**
2 **adjustment functions properly?**

3 A. Yes. Whenever the monthly sales revenue from an incremental volume adjustment at
4 a trading hub exceeds the monthly purchase cost for the same amount of volume in
5 the same time period: 1) a single price adjustment is made such that both the monthly
6 sales revenue and the monthly purchase cost offset for no net impact to the NPC
7 forecast; and 2) the monthly sales revenue is adjusted upwards to re-introduce
8 arbitrage revenues from the historical data into the NPC forecast. This averaging to
9 create a single price adjustment for both sales and purchases to remove *artificial*
10 arbitrage opportunity is identical to the adjustment calculated in the DA/RT price
11 component since its inception in the 2016 TAM as explained in further detail above in
12 my testimony. Furthermore, this single price adjustment retains the arbitrage
13 revenues that offset losses in the DA/RT price component.

14 **Q. Does the DA/RT volume component still include historical arbitrage revenues?**

15 A. Yes. Within the 48-month historical average that supports the pricing of the
16 incremental DA/RT volumes, the Company continues with the DA/RT adjustment
17 volume component's precedent of including historical arbitrage transactions.
18 Furthermore, within the error correction these arbitrage benefits are explicitly
19 retained. This reduces the cost of the DA/RT volume component and is realistic
20 because it reflects the historical availability of such opportunities. The removal of
21 artificial arbitrage discussed above is a correction for the artificial arbitrage *created*
22 *by* the DA/RT volume component within the 2024 TAM NPC forecast and separate
23 from the real historical arbitrages that are normalized into the NPC forecast.

1 **Q. Does the corrected DA/RT volume component now accurately reflect the**
2 **Company’s actual operations?**

3 A. Yes. Arbitrage opportunities are no longer *artificially* created in the NPC forecast.
4 This is true for both the volume component as well as the price component.

5 **VI. MARKET CAPACITY LIMITS**

6 **Q. As background, please explain why Aurora requires market caps.**

7 A. Like GRID, Aurora operates with perfect foresight and assumes unlimited market
8 depth and full liquidity for the markets in which PacifiCorp makes off-system sales,
9 unless informed otherwise. Aurora would therefore allow unlimited off-system sales
10 at every market at any time of the day or night—an assumption that is very different
11 from PacifiCorp’s actual, historical experience.

12 To more realistically model actual market conditions, PacifiCorp has included
13 market caps for sales since it introduced the GRID model in 2002.⁵¹

14 **Q. How were market caps first implemented in GRID?**

15 A. PacifiCorp originally modeled market caps in graveyard hours only. In the 2012
16 TAM, docket UE 227, PacifiCorp refined its market caps to specify market depth for
17 sales during all hours based on historical average sales from the most recent
18 48-month period for each trading hub, each month, segregated by HLH and LLH
19 periods.⁵² This refined approach, known as the “average of averages” method,
20 allowed for additional sales and reduced NPC compared to PacifiCorp’s original
21 graveyard market caps. At PacifiCorp’s suggestion, the Commission adopted the

⁵¹ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp dba Pacific Power, 2013 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 245, Order No. 12-409 at 3–4 (Oct. 29, 2012).

⁵² *In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, 2012 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 227, Order No. 11-435 at 21 (Nov. 4, 2011).

1 average-of-averages approach in docket UE 227 on a non-precedential basis to allow
2 an opportunity for additional review.⁵³

3 In the 2013 TAM, docket UE 245, ICNU and Staff argued for elimination of
4 market caps, a position the Commission rejected.⁵⁴

5 As Pacific Power observes, market caps have always been part of
6 GRID and neither Staff nor ICNU persuasively argue that GRID, as
7 it currently exists, no longer needs market caps. Based upon the
8 evidence presented in this proceeding, we conclude that some form
9 of market caps continue to be needed in GRID as it is now
10 constructed.⁵⁵

11 At the same time, the Commission accepted Staff's and ICNU's argument that
12 the average-of-averages market cap methodology "overstates expected NPC."⁵⁶

13 Thus, the Commission adopted Staff's "alternative recommendation that essentially
14 split the difference between the company's approach and Staff's recommended no
15 cap approach."⁵⁷ This alternative methodology, referred to as the "maximum-of-
16 averages" approach, sets "market caps on the highest of the four most recently
17 available relevant averages for each trading hub, each month, and differentiated by
18 on- and off-peak hours."⁵⁸

19 Under the maximum-of-averages approach, the Company had to use the most
20 extreme outlier cap value supported by the historical record for every other market
21 hub, resulting in sales that consistently exceed historical averages. This approach

⁵³ Order No. 11-435 at 23.

⁵⁴ Order No. 12-409 at 5–8.

⁵⁵ Order No. 12-409 at 7.

⁵⁶ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, 2013 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 245, Order No. 13-008 at 1–2 (Jan. 15, 2013) (denying motion for reconsideration).

⁵⁷ Order No. 13-008 at 1.

⁵⁸ Order No. 12-409 at 7–8.

1 contrasts with the average-of-averages method, which includes extreme outlier values
2 in the four-year average but does not rely on them exclusively to set the market cap.

3 **Q. What prompted PacifiCorp to recommend a change to market caps in the 2022**
4 **TAM?**

5 A. In every Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism (PCAM) filing since 2012, when it was
6 first adopted, the Company’s actual NPC data demonstrated that the Company has
7 persistently under-recovered its NPC in Oregon rates, which indicated that an average
8 of averages market caps would not overstate expected NPC. In PacifiCorp’s 2020
9 General Rate Case, docket UE 374, PacifiCorp sought changes to its PCAM. In
10 response, Staff filed testimony analyzing PacifiCorp’s NPC under-recovery between
11 2017–2019, relying on PacifiCorp’s past PCAM filings.⁵⁹ Referring to two market
12 transaction types, purchases and sales, Staff concluded that only one—sales—was
13 “largely inaccurate in the forecast.”⁶⁰ Staff testified that a “gross over-estimation of
14 the sales benefit” was “apparent in both the dollar and MWh metrics.”⁶¹

15 In its final order in docket UE 374, the Commission invited PacifiCorp to
16 propose modeling changes in the TAM to increase its NPC forecast accuracy
17 specifically concerning off-system sales:

18 The TAM is an annual filing and PacifiCorp has an annual
19 opportunity to improve its forecast, just as it did in the 2016 TAM
20 when it introduced the DA/RT mechanism to increase the volume
21 and modeled cost of balancing transactions to increase GRID’s
22 balancing costs. PacifiCorp does not necessarily need to develop a
23 complex new adjustment, but may be able to improve its forecast
24 accuracy with straightforward inputs or limits. For example, Staff
25 shows that PacifiCorp’s sales to market (also referred to as off-

⁵⁹ *In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, Request for a General Rate Revision*, Docket No. UE 374, Staff/2400, Gibbens/19–22 (Jul. 24, 2020).

⁶⁰ Docket No. UE 374, Staff/2400, Gibbens/22.

⁶¹ Docket No. UE 374, Staff/2400, Gibbens/22.

1 system sales) are being over-forecast, finding a “gross over-
2 estimation of the sales benefit.” PacifiCorp did not address the
3 feasibility of reducing this component of its forecast and it is
4 something that may be considered in the TAM.⁶²

5 **Q. Did the Commission modify the market caps in the 2022 TAM?**

6 A. Yes. In the 2022 TAM, PacifiCorp requested that the Commission modify the market
7 caps to revert to the average of averages methodology. The Commission did not
8 adopt the Company’s recommendation but did modify the market caps using a Staff
9 proposal that set the caps using the “third quartile of averages” method, which
10 averages the two highest values of the four highest monthly sales at each hub.⁶³ This
11 modification reduced the market caps relative to the maximum of averages
12 methodology.

13 **Q. Did the Commission make any specific findings in its 2022 TAM order?**

14 A. Yes. Most importantly, the Commission found that the record “support[ed]
15 PacifiCorp’s position that GRID does over forecast off-system sales with the
16 maximum of averages market caps” and that the “data alone supports PacifiCorp[’s]
17 argument that from a rate-setting perspective, the average of averages is reasonable as
18 it most closely approximates the historical average over the last four years.”⁶⁴ But the
19 Commission also noted that the data from 2021 and 2022 showed that “GRID
20 produced a lower volume of sales even with the maximum of averages market cap,
21 and it is too soon to know if that adjustment will bring the forecast closer to
22 actuals.”⁶⁵

⁶² *In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power Request for a General Rate Revision*, Docket No. UE 374, Order No. 20-473 at 130 (Dec. 18, 2020) (footnotes omitted).

⁶³ Order No. 21-379 at 26.

⁶⁴ Order No. 21-379 at 27–28.

⁶⁵ Order No. 21-379 at 28.

1 The Commission also acknowledged the transition away from GRID and to
2 Aurora and therefore clearly stated that its “findings on market caps [were limited] to
3 the 2022 TAM only.”⁶⁶

4 **Q. Did PacifiCorp propose a modification to market caps in the 2023 TAM?**

5 A. Yes. The Company recommended using the average of averages methodology for
6 calculated market caps in Aurora. The case was settled, and the final NPC modeling
7 included the average of averages market caps on a non-precedential basis.

8 **Q. Please explain why PacifiCorp has again recommended use of the average of**
9 **averages methodology for calculating the market caps in Aurora.**

10 A. As noted above, Aurora is functionally the same as GRID in that it will transact in the
11 market at unrealistic levels without a constraint, like market caps. Therefore, the
12 Company has again recommended that the market caps be set using the average of
13 averages approach.

14 **Q. Is the average of averages methodology used to set the market caps used in**
15 **PacifiCorp’s other states?**

16 A. Yes. Oregon is the only state that has adopted higher market caps and therefore using
17 the average of averages market cap methodology will align the Company’s NPC
18 forecast in each jurisdiction.

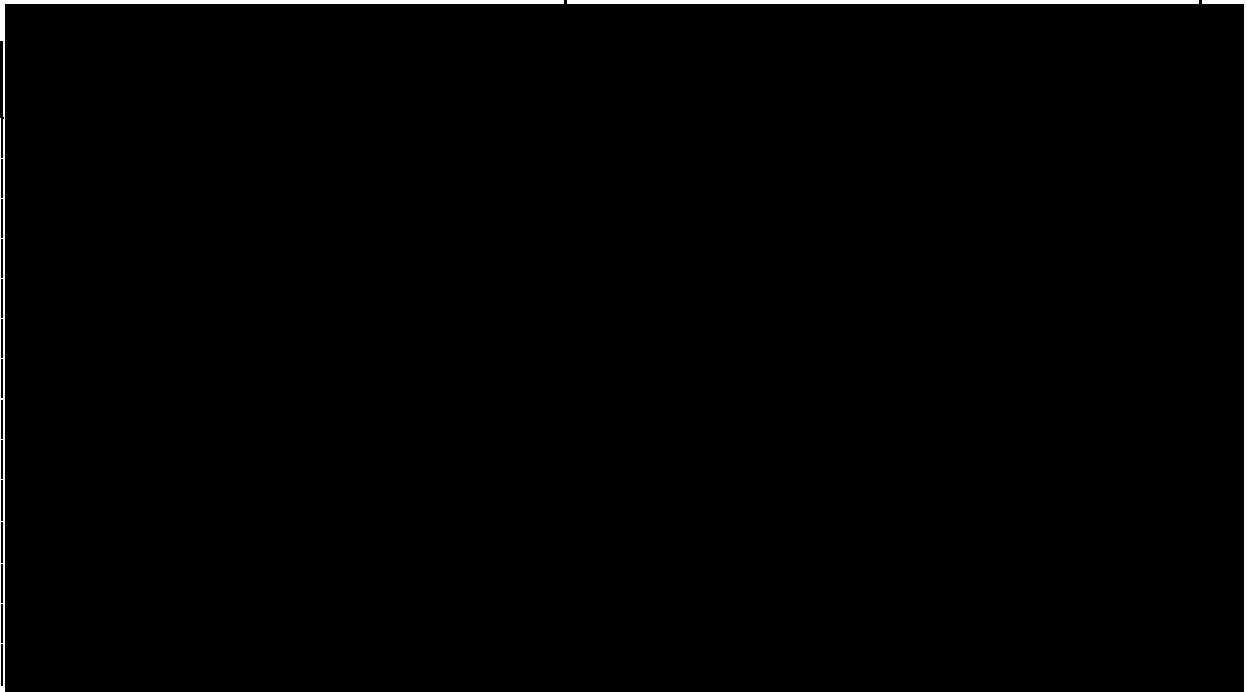
19 **Q. Have forecast off-system sales continued to exceed actual off-system sales?**

20 A. Yes. Below, in Confidential Table 5, is an updated table that the Company provided
21 in response to Bench Request 4 in the 2022 TAM and that the Commission included
22 in Order No. 21-379.

⁶⁶ Order No. 21-379 at 27.

1

Confidential Table 5



Note: The actual values in Confidential Table 5 are net of bookouts, which are not included in the forecast.

2 **Q. What additional information is shown in Confidential Table 5, relative to the**
3 **data included in the record of the 2022 TAM when the Commission approved**
4 **the third quartile of averages methodology?**

5 A. First, forecast off-system sales for 2021—which used the **maximum** of averages
6 methodology—were *nearly double* the actual off-system sales.

7 Second, forecast off-system sales for 2022—which used the **third** quartile of
8 averages methodology—were *more than double* the actual off-system sales.

9 Third, using the **third** quartile of averages methodology for the 2024 forecast
10 produces forecast off-system sales that are higher than actual off-system sales for
11 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

REDACTED

PAC/400
Mitchell/56

1 Fourth, even using the **average** of averages methodology for the 2024 forecast
2 produces forecast off-system sales that are higher than actual off-system sales for
3 2021 and 2022. As discussed in more detail below, this fact is particularly critical
4 given that trends show a definitive decrease in market transactions.

5 **Q. If the 2024 TAM NPC forecast were to show reasonable levels of historical sales**
6 **volumes under a certain market cap methodology, does that render the**
7 **methodology unnecessary?**

8 A. No. Market caps are analogous to guardrails on a road bridge. In this guardrail
9 analogy, an observation of no vehicle accidents within a year does not imply that the
10 guardrails serve no function, and it would be imprudent to remove those guardrails.
11 Similarly, in the NPC forecast if sales volumes are considered reasonable (I discuss
12 below why the 2024 forecast sales volumes are not), a reasonable market caps
13 methodology would still be needed to ensure that forecast sales volumes stay within
14 reasonable levels.

15 **Q. Does the third quartile of averages methodology show reasonable levels of**
16 **historical sales volumes?**

17 A. No. **Even with** limited generation availability due to new operating and policy
18 conditions such as coal supply limitations, the OTR, the Jim Bridger gas conversion,
19 the removal of the Klamath dams, and the Washington Cap and Invest Program: (1)
20 the third quartile of averages methodology shows forecast 2024 sales volumes of
21 [REDACTED] which are **still higher** than the actual 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022
22 sales volumes; (2) the average of averages methodology shows forecast 2024 sales
23 volumes of [REDACTED] which are **still higher** than the actual 2021 and 2022

1 sales volumes; and (3) both of these methodologies produces sales volumes that are
2 well in excess of the clear downward trend in actual market sales discussed in detail
3 below. This means that even with the myriad of restrictions on generation availability
4 in the 2024 TAM NPC forecast, the third quartile of averages market caps
5 methodology is still over-forecasting sales volumes.

6 **Q. Has the excessive forecast of off-system sales in prior dockets contributed to the**
7 **Company's under-recovery of NPC in Oregon?**

8 A. Yes. Indeed, in PacifiCorp's last general rate case, both Staff and the Commission
9 concluded that the over-forecast of off-system sales has contributed to the Company's
10 under-recovery of NPC in Oregon.⁶⁷ Furthermore, one of the drivers of the TAM
11 NPC under-forecasts that triggered the PCAM in calendar years 2021 and 2022 is the
12 market caps methodologies, which were the maximum of averages and the third
13 quartile of averages respectively.

14 **A. Reply to Staff**

15 **Q. Please describe Staff's recommendation.**

16 A. Staff recommends that the Commission require the use of the third quartile of
17 averages methodology on a non-precedential basis.⁶⁸ Staff argues: (1) the third
18 quartile of averages methodology better aligns with the operational realities of
19 transacting in the open market; (2) there is insufficient evidence that the average of
20 averages methodology produces a more accurate forecast than the third quartile of
21 averages methodology; and (3) even if the third quartile of averages methodology

⁶⁷ Order No. 20-473 at 130.

⁶⁸ Staff/300, Dlouhy/6.

1 over-forecasts off-system sales, that over-forecast effectively offsets the under-
2 forecast of off-system sales resulting from the DA/RT adjustments' creation of
3 "artificial losses" (discussed above in Section V of my testimony).⁶⁹

4 **Q. As an initial matter, did Staff acknowledge that Aurora over-forecasts sales?**

5 A. Yes. Staff analyzed the Company's benchmark study that used 2019 actual data to
6 validate the accuracy of Aurora. In the context of the benchmark study, Staff testifies
7 that Aurora over-forecasts sales, noting that the "model is essentially saying that
8 PacifiCorp will generate more than twice as much as they actually do."⁷⁰

9 **Q. Turning to Staff's first argument, do you agree that the third quartile of
10 averages methodology better aligns with operational realities?**

11 A. No. Staff claims that "there is no true cap to the amount of energy that the Company
12 can sell to or buy from the market hubs."⁷¹ This is untrue. In fact, the Company
13 faces market capacity limits at all its trading hubs. To be clear, market capacity limits
14 refer to the amount of energy that other market counterparties are willing to purchase
15 in aggregate from PacifiCorp. More specifically, market capacity limits represent a
16 threshold above which no one else can be found in the bilateral electricity markets to
17 take the Company's energy at or above the Company's cost of producing that energy.
18 In reality there are practical limits to the ability or willingness of counterparties to
19 purchase energy in the bilateral markets across all entities inclusive of PacifiCorp.

⁶⁹ Staff/300, Dlouhy/6-7.

⁷⁰ Staff/200, Jent/30.

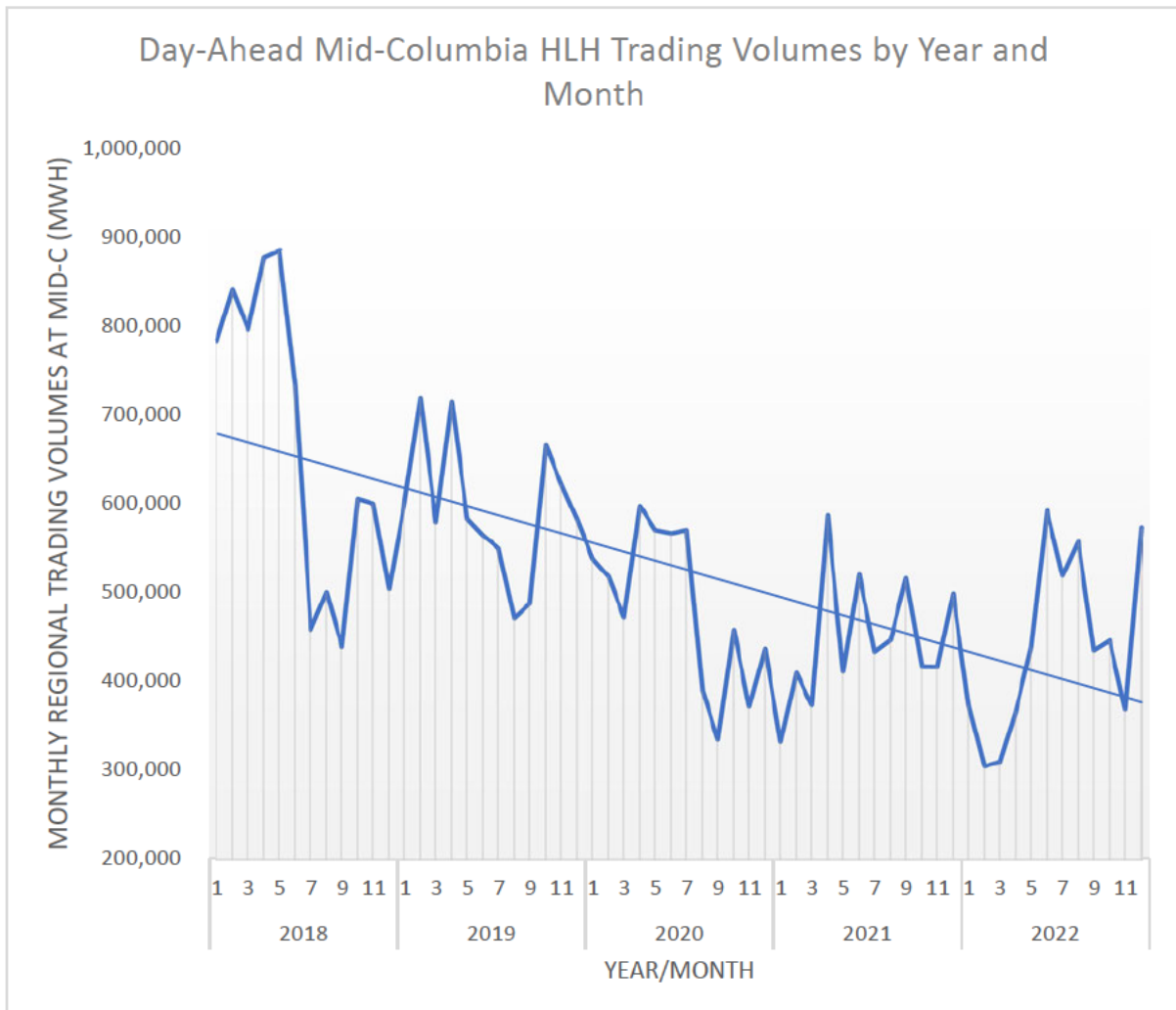
⁷¹ Staff/300, Dlouhy/7.

1 **Q. Is there empirical evidence that there are market capacity limits that impact**
2 **PacifiCorp’s ability to make off-systems sales?**

3 A. Yes. The volume of transactions in regional wholesale markets has been steadily
4 declining in recent years, which supports a lower market cap. This decline is evident
5 by examining data from the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE), which is the primary
6 platform used to trade energy on a day-ahead basis in the western interconnection.
7 Data from ICE at the Mid-Columbia trading hub over the HLH show that trading
8 volumes have been consistently trending downwards over the past five years, from
9 2018 to 2022. Because a trade requires two counterparties, a buyer and a seller, a
10 decrease in trading volumes year over year implies lower market sales volumes year
11 over year across the Mid-Columbia region. [REDACTED]
12 [REDACTED]. This ICE data is
13 illustrated in Figure 7.

1

Figure 7

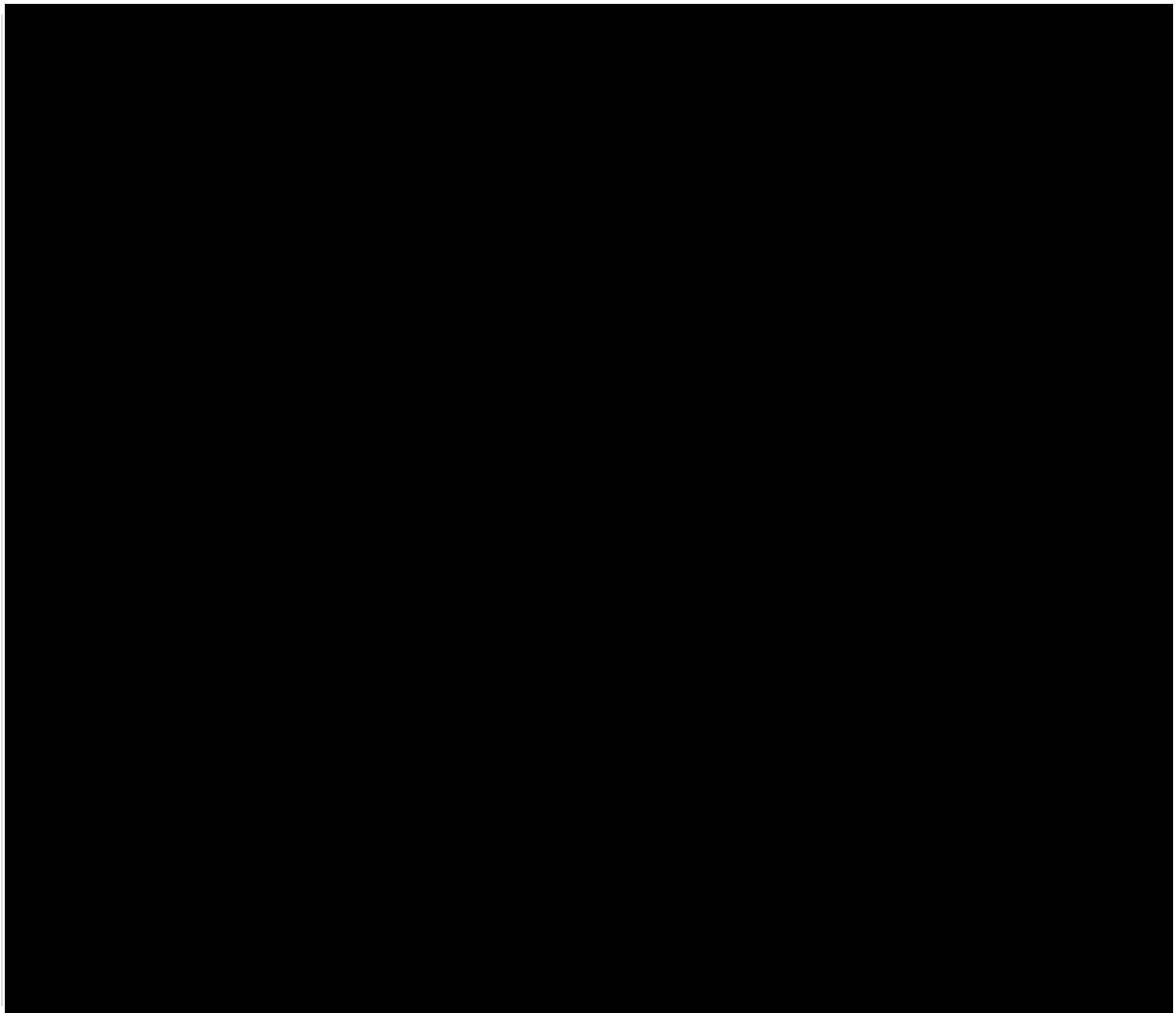


2 **Q. How do the lower year-over-year sales volumes across the region compared to**
 3 **the Company’s year-over-year sales volumes?**

4 A. The Company’s year-over-year sales volumes in the day-ahead bilateral markets
 5 exhibit the same diminishing trend. This trend is illustrated in Confidential Figure 8,
 6 which shows total-company sales data, as used to directly calculate the market caps in
 7 this TAM and in prior TAMs.

1

Confidential Figure 8



2 **Q. How do the market caps relate to the Company's historical sale volumes?**

3 A. They are the same thing, expressed in different units and averaged over time.

4 Whereas Confidential Figure 8 shows a measure of total sales volume by month for
5 the past four years, the market cap methodology derives more detailed granularity
6 from the same total sales volume data by first calculating the average hourly sales
7 volume by month,⁷² trading hub and HLH/LLH for the past four years and then, to

⁷² The market caps methodology calculates a total sales volume by month and then normalizes that value over each hour of the month to derive an hourly limit.

1 derive the monthly market cap for 2024, averaging the four average hourly sales
2 volumes by month (average of averages), or averaging the largest two average hourly
3 sales volume by month (third quartile of averages). Therefore, Confidential Figure 8
4 shows the actual historical market caps, albeit at a different scale and aggregated. It
5 is important to note that the MWh sales data underlying Confidential Figure 8 is the
6 actual data used to calculate market caps in this TAM and in prior TAMs.

7 **Q. Why have sales volumes been decreasing across the region, and similarly at the**
8 **Company, in the day-ahead timeframe?**

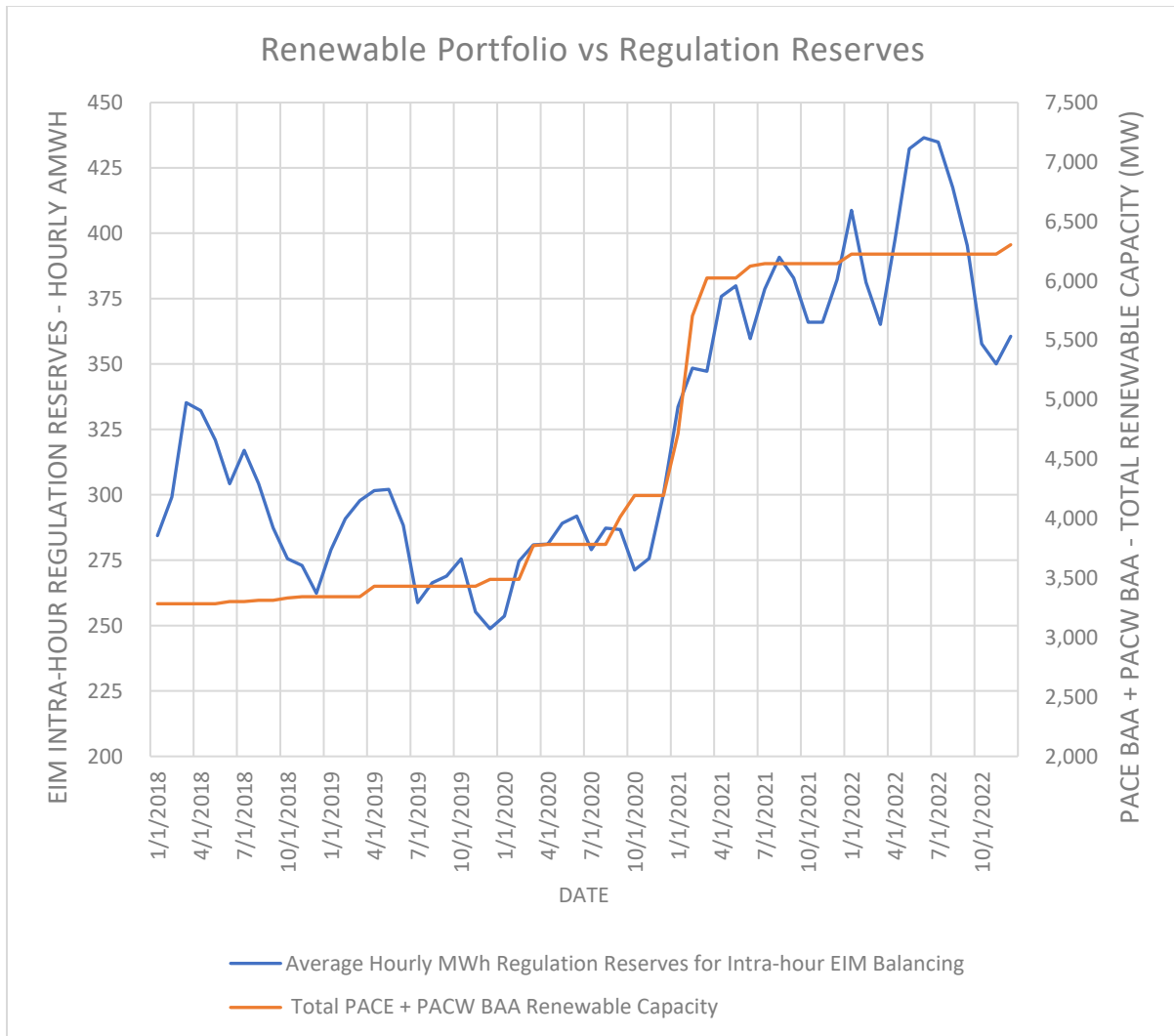
9 A. Market sales are supported by excess supply, and excess supply in this context is
10 defined as the generation capacity remaining after all load and reserve obligations
11 have been served. As excess supply decreases, market sales decrease. Diminishing
12 excess supply in the region and in the Company is attributable to increased regulation
13 reserves and the EIM.

14 **Q. How do regulation reserves contribute to diminishing excess supply?**

15 A. As entities across the region integrate ever increasing numbers of variable renewable
16 resources into their portfolio, their regulation reserve obligations increase. This
17 relationship is illustrated in Figure 9. As these reserve obligations increase, excess
18 supply is diminished. This reduction in excess supply will naturally result in lower
19 market sales in the day-ahead timeframe. The trend whereby variable renewable
20 resources occupy a larger portion of entities' portfolios over time is one that will
21 continue to increase well into and past 2024 due to various federal and state
22 regulations.

1

Figure 9



2 **Q. Are the regulation reserve numbers in Figure 9 representative of PacifiCorp’s**
 3 **regulation reserve requirements?**

4 A. No. These numbers are the EIM’s calculation of regulation reserves using errors in
 5 load, wind and solar forecasts made approximately 45 minutes before the operating
 6 moment (real-time) as compared to forecasts made approximately 10 minutes before
 7 real-time. PacifiCorp’s regulation reserve requirements, subject to NERC standards,
 8 are calculated from errors in load, wind, solar and other non-dispatchable generation

1 forecasts made approximately 107 minutes before real-time as compared to actuals
2 (i.e., 0 minutes before real-time). As such, the trend is comparable but not the
3 magnitude.

4 **Q. How does the EIM contribute to diminishing excess supply?**

5 A. With the emergence of the EIM, which now serves nearly 80 percent⁷³ of the demand
6 for electricity in the western interconnection, EIM entities face additional opportunity
7 costs that must be contemplated in the day-ahead timeframe. If an EIM entity finds
8 itself with excess supply and the expected price in the EIM is greater than the
9 prevailing price in the day-ahead time frame, then the entity may forego selling their
10 excess supply into the day-ahead markets and instead set that excess supply aside for
11 sale in the EIM. This naturally reduces market sales in the day-ahead timeframe.

12 **Q. What about the hour-ahead bilateral market?**

13 A. As it concerns regulation reserves, the associated obligation exists in the day-ahead
14 timeframe as well as in the hour-ahead timeframe. Regulation reserve obligations
15 diminish excess supply in both timeframes. Regarding the EIM, in a counterfactual
16 world absent the EIM, the opportunity costs associated with selling into the hour-
17 ahead bilateral markets are still present. The EIM simply adds an additional market
18 in which to sell excess supply and consequently, reduces both day-ahead and hour-
19 ahead sales as compared to that counterfactual world absent the EIM.

⁷³ California Independent System Operator, News Release detailing *New entities expand WEIM's reach to a total of 11 Western states*, at 1 (April 5, 2023), available at <https://www.westerneim.com/Documents/new-entities-expand-weims-reach-to-a-total-of-11-western-states.pdf>.

1 **Q. Do regulation reserve requirements capture the entire impact of variable**
2 **renewable resources on day-ahead market sales?**

3 A. No. Regulation reserve requirements as currently calculated by PacifiCorp only
4 reflect uncertainty for the upcoming hour, i.e., hour-ahead forecast error. The
5 regulation reserve requirement calculations do not yet account for day-ahead forecast
6 error and the associated uncertainty. On a day-ahead basis, there is additional
7 uncertainty in the forecast levels of variable renewable resources that is not captured
8 by the regulation reserve requirement. As opportunities to transact on an hour-ahead
9 basis decline, there are fewer opportunities to compensate for changes in forecast
10 variable renewable resource output using external resources, so utilities must
11 maintain an additional supply of dispatchable resources (excess supply) in the day-
12 ahead timeframe, above and beyond the hour-ahead regulation reserve requirements,
13 in order to be assured of maintaining their load and resource balance and to meet EIM
14 requirements. This additional day-ahead uncertainty further reduces the ability and
15 willingness of PacifiCorp and other utilities to make day-ahead sales, impacting
16 volumes (excess supply) available in that timeframe.

17 **Q. Will the proposed EDAM reduce the barriers to transactions between utilities on**
18 **a day-ahead and hour-ahead basis?**

19 A. Not in the 2024 test period relevant to this proceeding; the EDAM will not be
20 implemented until 2025. In addition, while the EDAM could significantly enhance
21 market liquidity relative to current operations, absent the application of constraints
22 like market caps and the DA/RT adjustment, the Aurora model with perfect foresight

1 would reflect greater market liquidity and less market volume respectively than
2 operations in the EDAM would reflect.

3 **Q. What are the implications to market caps given that market sales have been**
4 **diminishing year over year and are expected to continue diminishing into 2024?**

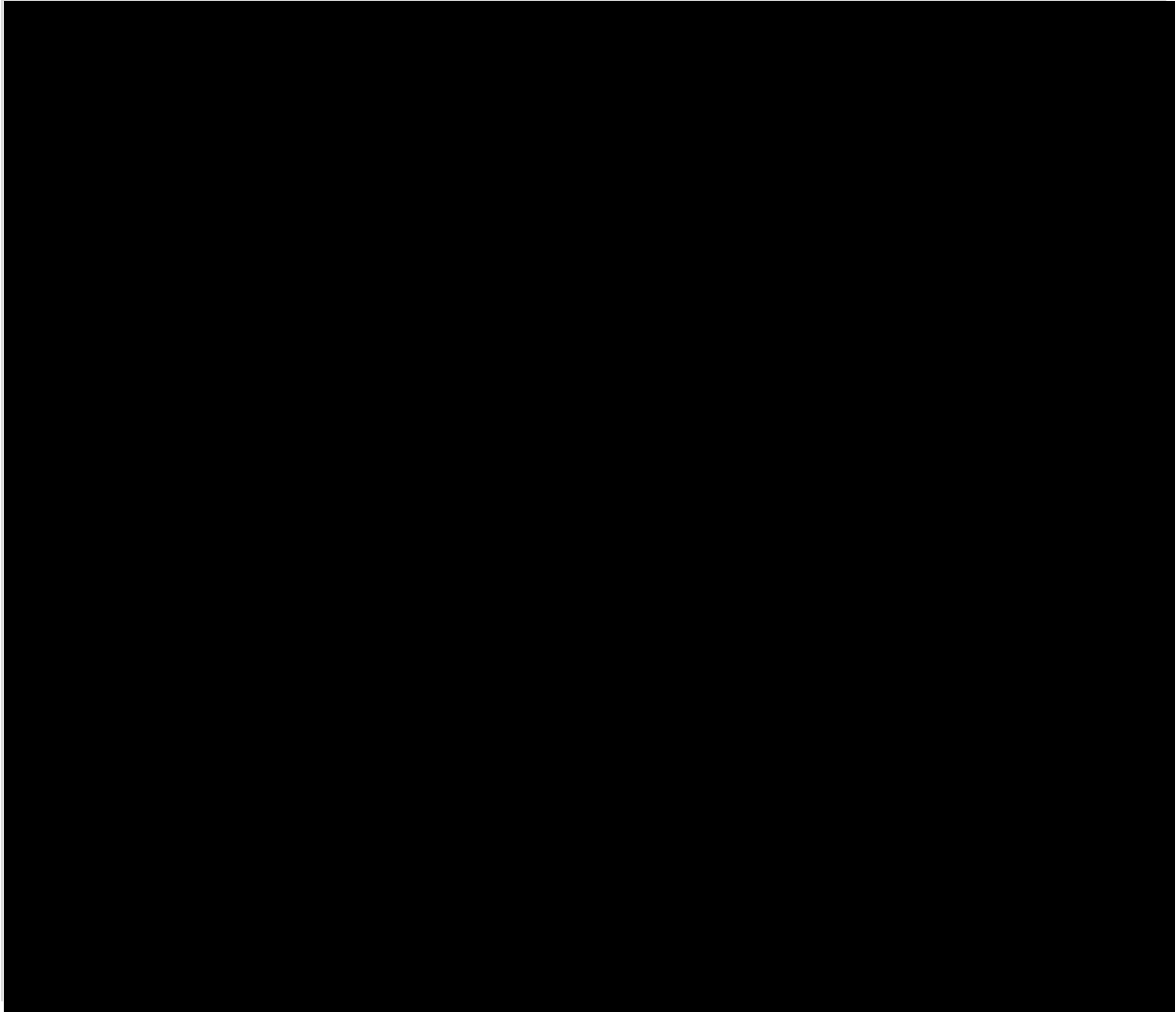
5 A. Given the historical trend of diminishing market sales and given the market
6 fundamentals that support the trend continuing into 2024 (variable renewable
7 resource integration and growing EIM operational experience on the part of new
8 entrants) it is expected that market sales will be lower in 2024 than they have been
9 from 2019 to 2022. Setting aside the fact that this diminishing market sales trend
10 implies that a **minimum** of averages methodology would be the most appropriate,
11 there is certainly an overabundance of justification for use of an average of averages
12 methodology. The third quartile of averages methodology is fundamentally flawed as
13 it presupposes that the trend in market sales will reverse course and increase over
14 time. This is not supported by the data.

15 **Q. How do the 2024 market caps methodologies visually compare to the historical**
16 **data?**

17 A. Please refer to Confidential Figure 10, which shows that the market caps under either
18 the average of averages or the third quartile of averages approach far exceed the
19 implications of the trend in the Company's historical off-system sales volumes as
20 illustrated in Confidential Figure 8 and are contrary to the wider markets' clear trend
21 of declining bilateral transactions as illustrated in Figure 7.

1

Confidential Figure 10



2 **Q. What interplay exists between market sales in Aurora and market sales in the**
3 **EIM?**

4 A. Because Aurora is an hourly model and does not contemplate the EIM, if market caps
5 are not adjusted downwards to accommodate the market sales volumes implicit in the
6 2024 TAM NPC EIM benefits line item forecast, then, on a fundamental level Aurora
7 will sell the same excess supply twice and double count benefits. The excess supply
8 will first be sold during system balancing within the model (Aurora) and then the
9 excess supply will again be sold within the outboard EIM benefits forecast model,

1 which does not add sales or purchases volume into the NPC forecast (only dollars).
2 Not only will the excess supply be sold twice and double counted, but on a more
3 basic level, the transmission that accommodates the market sales in Aurora will no
4 longer be available for donation to the EIM for that hour, and again, EIM export
5 benefits will not be possible.

6 **Q. Why is this interplay between the EIM benefits forecast model and the Aurora**
7 **model relevant to NPC forecast in the 2024 TAM?**

8 A. On a net basis, generation can only be sold once. Additionally, transmission used in
9 Aurora for market sales is transmission unavailable for use in the forecast of EIM
10 benefits. If the market caps are not adjusted downwards to conform with the existing
11 diminishing market sales' trends, then either the EIM benefits forecast must be
12 substantially reduced or the NPC forecast will, by definition, consist of a known and
13 unresolved inaccuracy.

14 **Q. Staff also claims that “the Company often sells far more power into these**
15 **markets than the market caps allow.”⁷⁴ Is this statement true?**

16 A. It is misleading. By design, at the aggregate monthly level across the trading
17 horizons that the market caps represent, the Company does not sell “far more power
18 into these markets than the market caps allow” because the historical actual market
19 caps are the sum of all monthly market sales in the day-ahead and real-time bilateral
20 markets. Specifically, the historical market caps that are used in the calculation of the
21 2024 TAM NPC forecast's market cap limits are in and of themselves the total actual
22 market sales. It is true that the Company sold more power in 2019 than the average

⁷⁴ Staff/300, Dlouhy/7.

1 of averages method allows for in 2024, but this is reasonable and expected given that
2 market caps are on a consistently declining trend across the four years of history used
3 to develop the limits. It is also true that in 2024 in a specific LLH or HLH of the day
4 the Company could sell more power in actual operations than the market caps allow
5 for in the NPC forecast, but that is the result of using a monthly total LLH or HLH
6 sales volume to derive a normalized hourly limit. However, Staff does not appear to
7 be taking a position on the use of normalization in the NPC forecasts and that is a
8 separate discussion that involves far more impactful modeling inputs, such as the
9 solar generation forecast, hydroelectric generation forecast, load forecast, etc. What
10 is true is that in 2022, the Company has sold *far less* total annual power than in the
11 2024 NPC forecast using the **average** of averages method (let alone Staff's proposed
12 **third quartile** of averages method, which allows for even greater sales). As set forth
13 above, both the third quartile of averages method **and** the average of averages method
14 produce market sales volumes that exceed the historical trend of declining sales
15 volumes and therefore produce revenues that do not correspond to market realities.

16 Staff's position here—which increases market caps to drive down NPC—is
17 particularly unreasonable given that there is little dispute that the overall NPC
18 forecast has been significantly below actuals for years and Staff's own testimony
19 acknowledges that the benchmark Aurora study significantly over-forecasts off-
20 system sales. Indeed, the significant under-recovery of NPC in the 2022 PCAM is
21 driven in substantial part by a discrepancy between the forecast of 2022 market sales
22 and the actual 2022 market sales.

1 **Q. How do the actual results from 2022 demonstrate the flaw in using excessive**
2 **market caps set using the third quartile of averages methodology?**

3 A. From a volume perspective, the 2022 TAM forecast [REDACTED] of market sales
4 using the third quartile of averages market cap methodology. The 2022 actual market
5 sales were only [REDACTED]. Had the Company used the average of averages
6 methodology in the 2022 TAM, the forecast would have been more accurate and the
7 requested recovery in the PCAM would be less.

8 **Q. Staff's second argument in opposition to the Company's proposal is based on**
9 **Staff's claim that there is insufficient evidence to determine whether the third**
10 **quartile of averages or average of averages methodology produces a more**
11 **accurate forecast in Aurora.⁷⁵ Do you agree?**

12 A. No. As an initial matter, the market caps themselves are agnostic to the model used
13 to forecast NPC because market caps reflect actual operations and represent the
14 ability or willingness of entities to purchase power from PacifiCorp. Because Aurora
15 has no internal market cap limits, just like GRID, the transition to Aurora has not
16 diminished the need to impose realistic limits.

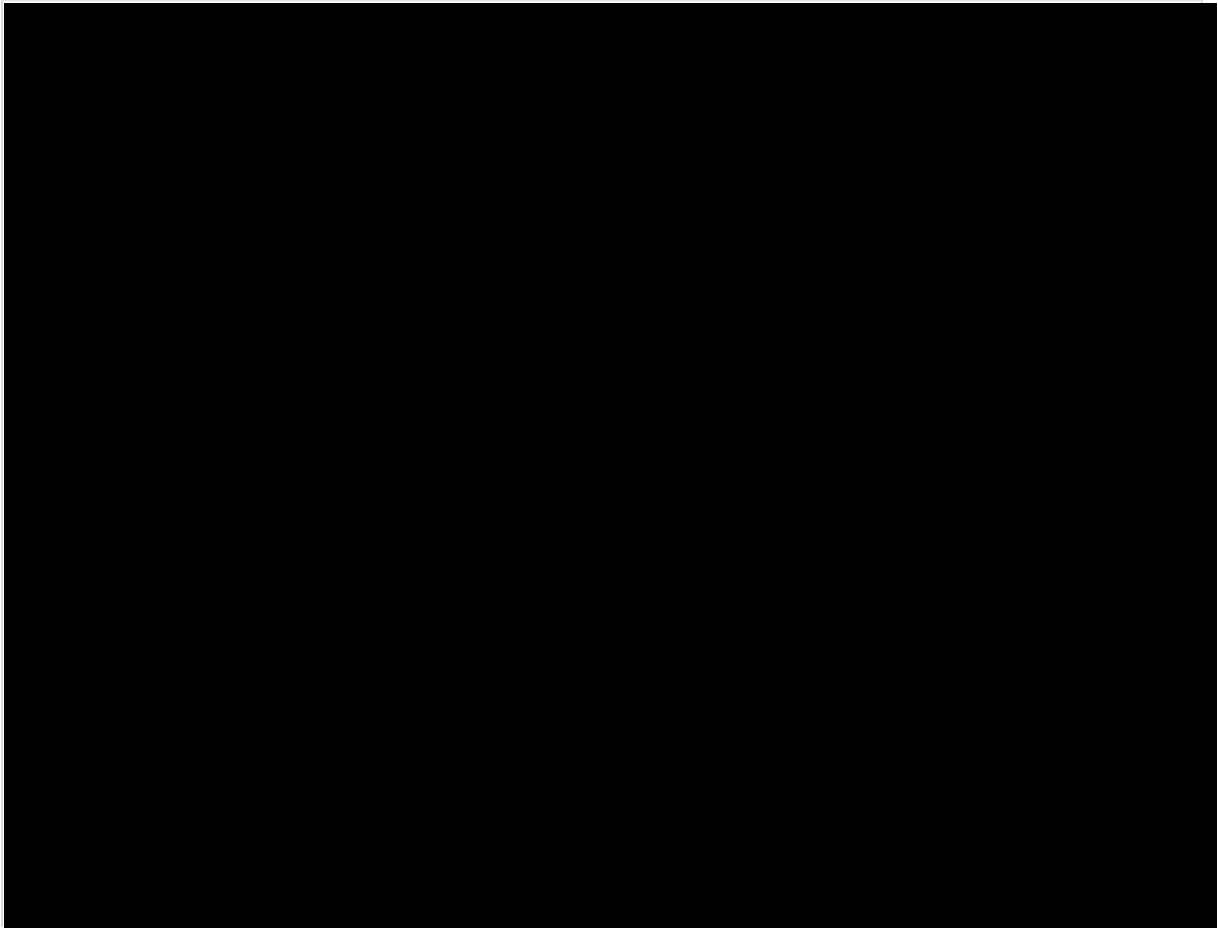
17 Moreover, there is significant evidence showing that the average of averages
18 methodology is superior. The most straightforward way to assess the reasonableness
19 of a market cap is to compare the historical market sales volume with the forecast
20 market sales volume. If one model reduces or increases market sales volume relative
21 to another, then that is a reflection on the performance of the model and irrelevant to

⁷⁵ Staff/300, Dlouhy/8.

1 the fact that the forecast market sales volume are reasonable or unreasonable with
2 respect to the historical volumes.

3 As illustrated in Confidential Figure 11, which is a visualization of
4 Confidential Table 5, the 2024 forecast of market sales volumes under both the third
5 quartile of averages **and** the average of averages is above the trend demonstrated in
6 the Company's historical sales volume; that same trend which is demonstrated at the
7 regional level among all market participants.

8 **Confidential Figure 11**



1 **Q. Staff's third argument relates to the purported relationship between the market**
2 **caps and DA/RT price component.⁷⁶ How do you respond?**

3 A. Staff's argument has no merit. Staff concedes that even if its market cap
4 methodology overstates off-system sales revenues, the DA/RT price component
5 understates off-system sales revenues and therefore the two adjustments are
6 offsetting. As discussed above, Staff's argument that the DA/RT price component
7 understates revenue ignores the arbitrage revenue that is added back into the NPC
8 forecast through the volume component of the DA/RT adjustment. When the DA/RT
9 adjustment is viewed holistically, both price component and volume component
10 together, there are no artificial losses that result from the price component's adders.
11 This fact was recognized by the Commission explicitly when it rejected Staff's
12 similar argument in the 2017 TAM and Staff has presented nothing here to show that
13 the DA/RT adjustment has changed in any relevant way since its argument was
14 rejected seven years ago.

15 **B. Reply to AWEC**

16 **Q. Please summarize AWEC's recommendation related to market caps.**

17 A. AWEC recommends that the Commission require the use of the third quartile of
18 averages methodology.⁷⁷ In addition, AWEC recommends that the next TAM should
19 include a holistic examination of market caps, including an evaluation of calculating
20 the caps using hourly data, instead of monthly data.⁷⁸

⁷⁶ Staff/300, Dlouhy/ 9.

⁷⁷ AWEC/100, Mullins/6.

⁷⁸ AWEC/100, Mullins/6-7.

1 **Q. As an initial matter, AWEC claims that Aurora, unlike GRID, does not have a**
2 **specific model parameter limiting the volume of off-system sales and that**
3 **Aurora “lacks capability to evaluate off-system sales altogether.”⁷⁹ Is this true?**

4 **A.** No. The functionality that enabled GRID to evaluate off-system sales is identical in
5 concept to the functionality that enables Aurora to evaluate off-system sales. The
6 difference between the two models is that GRID’s functionality was hidden in black-
7 box code, whereas Aurora’s functionality is modeled by the Company and visible to
8 the parties.

9 Furthermore, Aurora offers more flexibility to evaluate off-system sales
10 because, unlike GRID, Aurora’s functionality is editable by the user through a
11 graphical user interface.

12 Finally, the Company disagrees with AWEC’s characterization of the method
13 by which Aurora evaluates off-system sales, which AWEC describes as “modeling
14 workarounds” because it is: (1) a modeling technique (not workaround); and (2) an
15 accurate representation of how the market is perceived by the Company. From the
16 Company’s perspective, an electricity market *sale* at a trading hub is mostly a large
17 pool of unspecified load which is served when the Company’s generation displaces
18 another unspecified utility’s generation. That is to say, for the majority of market
19 *sales* made by the Company, the load(s) that those market sales serve and the
20 corresponding generator that the Company displaces is unknown at the moment of
21 transaction. What AWEC dismissively refers to as “displacement of fictionalized

⁷⁹ AWEC/100, Mullins/4.

1 loads”⁸⁰ is more accurately described as “displacement of unknown load” and is
2 precisely what’s modeled in Aurora and is appropriate. Similarly, from the
3 Company’s perspective, an electricity market *purchase* at a trading hub is essentially
4 a large pool of unspecified generation from unknown utilities that serve the
5 Company’s load by displacing the Company’s own generators. That is to say, for the
6 majority of market purchases made by the Company, the generators from which those
7 market purchases are sourced are unknown at the moment of transaction.

8 **Q. AWEC also claims that Aurora “was designed to simulate a regional dispatch,**
9 **not a closed system dispatch.”⁸¹ Is this true?**

10 A. No. Aurora was designed to simulate a “closed system” regional dispatch (entities in
11 the West often use it to simulate the “closed system” of the western interconnection).

12 **Q. AWEC argues against market caps at Mid-Columbia and Palo Verde because it**
13 **claims those hubs are highly liquid.⁸² Do you agree?**

14 A. No. Highly liquid hubs no longer exist for an electric utility that is the Company’s
15 size at the Mid-Columbia and Palo Verde markets. As demonstrated in Figure 7, the
16 volume of transactions at the Mid-Columbia trading hub have declined, and energy
17 shortfalls have increased across the region.⁸³ This exacerbation of energy shortfalls is
18 demonstrated by the increased frequency of NERC reliability flags. The average
19 duration of the highest level of energy emergency alerts (EEA 3) in 2022 was more

⁸⁰ AWEC/100, Mullins/4.

⁸¹ AWEC/100, Mullins/4.

⁸² AWEC/100, Mullins/5.

⁸³ North American Electric Reliability Corporation, 2022 Long-Term Reliability Assessment, at 11 (Dec. 2022), available at https://www.nerc.com/pa/RAPA/ra/Reliability%20Assessments%20DL/NERC_LTRA_2022.pdf.

1 than 200 minutes, exceeding the average duration for EEA alerts in previous years by
2 almost double.⁸⁴

3 The same trend of declining transactions is observed at Palo Verde where,
4 interestingly enough, AWEC believes that the Company has no transmission access to
5 in 2024. I discuss AWEC's flawed assumptions on the Company's Palo Verde
6 transmission in Section XV of my testimony.

7 **Q. AWEC claims, "Using an average to set a maximum level of sales has the**
8 **inherent result of producing a sales value that is less than the historical average.**
9 **This is the main problem with PacifiCorp's use of average market caps."⁸⁵ Is**
10 **this an accurate representation of the average of averages methodology?**

11 A. No, it is misdirection. As demonstrated above in Section VI(A), it is appropriate that
12 the 2024 forecast of sales volumes is less than the historical average because the
13 Company's sales volumes have been declining year-over-year for the past five years.
14 It is demonstrated with data and irrefutable analysis that this trend in declining sales
15 volume is both factual and driven by underlying market fundamentals that will persist
16 into calendar year 2024. There is no upcoming change in the regional markets
17 between now and the end of calendar year 2024 that suggests any other alternative
18 than that the Company's **actual** operational sales volume will be less than the
19 historical average. Attempting to produce a different result that shows higher than
20 average sales volumes in this TAM NPC forecast of 2024 operations will be

⁸⁴ Western Electricity Coordinating Council, State of the Interconnection 2023, at 5 (Mar. 24, 2023), *available at* - <https://www.wecc.org/Administrative/State%20of%20the%20Interconnection.pdf>.

⁸⁵ AWEC/100, Mullins/6.

Docket No. UE 434
Exhibit PAC/108
Witness: Ramon J. Mitchell

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

PACIFICORP

Exhibit Accompanying Direct Testimony of Ramon J. Mitchell

Non-Precedential Step Log

February 2024

Oregon TAM 2025 (February Initial Filing)		Impact (\$)	Impact (\$)	NPC (\$)
		Total Company	Oregon-Allocated	Total Company
Steps				
S01	DA/RT Percentile Adder	9,117,381	2,451,131	
S02	Average of Averages Market Caps	36,892,796	9,918,317	
S03	DA/RT Volume Component Correction	(184,149)	(49,507)	
	2025 TAM NPC Proposal			2,532,838,052
			\$/MWh =	38.06