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BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
   WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
    TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,
 3
                                   DOCKET NO. UE-940728
                   Complainant, )
 4
          vs.
 5
                                     VOLUME 2
    PUGET SOUND POWER &
 6
   LIGHT COMPANY,
                                    PAGES 31 - 133
 7
                  Respondent.
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 9
               A hearing in the above matter was held on
   July 20, 1994, at 9:30 a.m., at 1300 South Evergreen
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11
   Park Drive Southwest, Olympia, Washington, before
12
   Chairman SHARON NELSON, Commissioner RICHARD HEMSTAD
   and Administrative Law Judge ALICE HAENLE.
13
14
               The parties were present as follows:
               THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
15
    COMMISSION STAFF, by SALLY JOHNSTON, Assistant
16
   Attorney General, 1400 South Evergreen Park Drive
    Southwest, Olympia, Washington.
17
               FOR THE PUBLIC, ROBERT MANIFOLD, Assistant
    Attorney General, 900 Fourth Avenue, Suite
18
    2000, Seattle, Washington 98164.
19
               PUGET SOUND POWER & LIGHT COMPANY, by JAMES
    VAN NOSTRAND, Attorney at Law, 411 - 108th Avenue
20
   Northeast, Bellevue, Washington 98004.
21
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23
24 Cheryl Macdonald
25 Court Reporter
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1			IND	EX				
2	WITNESS: R. LAUCKHART	D 35	C 38		RD	RC	EXAM	
3	D. HOFF	56	58					
4	M. SMITH	64	66					
5	J. STORY	99	101				130	
6								
7	EXHIBITS:			MARKED		ADMITTED		
8	T-1, 2 through T-9					37 65		
9	T-12, 13 throu T-18, 19 throu				101 58			
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1 PROCEEDINGS

- 2 JUDGE HAENLE: The hearing will come to
- 3 order. This is a second day of hearing in the Puget
- 4 PRAM 4 which is docket No. UE 940728. The hearing
- 5 is taking place on July 20, 1994 at Olympia before the
- 6 commissioners. Today we will be taking direct and
- 7 cross-examination of the company's witnesses according
- 8 to the notice of hearing of June 30, 1994. I would
- 9 like to take appearances. Just give your client's
- 10 name if you've already given your address.
- MR. VAN NOSTRAND: For respondent, James M.
- 12 Van Nostrand.
- JUDGE HAENLE: For the Commission?
- MS. JOHNSTON: Sally Johnston, assistant
- 15 attorney general representing Commission staff.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Mr. Manifold.
- 17 MR. MANIFOLD: Robert F. Manifold,
- 18 assistant attorney general, public counsel.
- 19 JUDGE HAENLE: Do we have anyone here from
- 20 the intervenors? I have no response there. In the
- 21 way of preliminary matters we have a company motion
- 22 that was filed yesterday afternoon for protective
- 23 order. Do I understand that you all have discussed
- 24 this, Mr. Van Nostrand, and that you've been providing
- 25 information on the agreements of the parties to act as

- 1 if they are bound by the protective order?
- 2 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: At least it's been
- 3 discussed with Commission staff and Commission staff
- 4 data requests that led to the -- I can't say that I've
- 5 discussed it directly with Mr. Manifold.
- 6 JUDGE HAENLE: Why was this not filed until
- 7 yesterday?
- 8 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: It didn't arise until
- 9 the last week in a data request, and at the time of
- 10 the pre-hearing conference there wasn't any need for
- 11 the protective order but as the discovery requests
- 12 came in, the need arose.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Excellent. Let's go off the
- 14 record and figure out how to hook up the mikes.
- 15 (Discussion off the record.)
- 16 JUDGE HAENLE: So the company has filed a
- 17 request based on recent data requests, and you, Ms.
- 18 Johnston, is that all right with you?
- 19 MS. JOHNSTON: Yes, that's fine. Staff
- 20 asked the data requests and the company's response
- 21 was, subject to the entry of protective order, we're
- 22 not going to provide the information, so Mr. Van
- 23 Nostrand and I agreed that staff members would sign
- 24 the confidentiality agreement and we would exchange
- 25 the information. That's what was done so we have

- 1 no objection to entry of the protective order in the
- 2 case.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Fine. Mr. Manifold.
- 4 MR. MANIFOLD: We have no objection either.
- 5 We did receive it, we have not discussed it, and
- 6 we'd be happy to be bound by it.
- 7 JUDGE HAENLE: The Commission would be
- 8 pleased to issue a protective order and we appreciate
- 9 your cooperation. It will take a day or to. I'll try
- 10 to have it out by the end of the week subject to
- 11 getting the proper signature on it. Anything else in
- 12 the way of preliminary or procedural matters? Anyone?
- 13 If you want to call your first witness, Mr.
- 14 Van Nostrand.
- MR. VAN NOSTRAND: Company calls Mr.
- 16 Lauckhart.
- 17 Whereupon,
- 18 RICHARD LAUCKHART,
- 19 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness
- 20 herein and was examined and testified as follows:
- 21
- 22 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. VAN NOSTRAND:
- Q. Could you state your name and spell it for
- 25 the record, please?

- 1 A. Richard Lauckhart, L A U C K H A R T.
- 2 Q. And do you have before you what's been
- 3 marked for identification as Exhibit T-1?
- 4 A. Yes, I do.
- 5 Q. And do you recognize that document as your
- 6 prefiled direct testimony in this case?
- 7 A. Yes, I do.
- 8 Q. And do you have any additions or
- 9 corrections to make to Exhibit T-1 other than as set
- 10 forth in the errata sheet which was circulated on July
- 11 11?
- 12 A. Yes. I have one additional correction.
- 13 That's on page 2 of Exhibit T-1. The very last line
- 14 there's a number there that's 0.9 percent. That
- 15 should be 0.2 percent.
- 16 Q. Does that complete your corrections?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And as corrected this morning and as
- 19 reflected in the errata sheet, if I asked you the
- 20 questions as set forth in Exhibit T-1 today, would you
- 21 give the answers as set forth in that exhibit?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And you also have before you what's been
- 24 marked for identification as Exhibits 2 through 8?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And does that include a revised Exhibit 4
- 2 and a revised Exhibit 6 which were circulated on and
- 3 indicated that they were revised on July 11?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And were these exhibits prepared under your
- 6 direction and supervision?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Do you have any additions or corrections to
- 9 make to those exhibits at this time?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. Now, are these exhibits true and correct to
- 12 the best of your knowledge?
- 13 A. Yes, they are.
- MR. VAN NOSTRAND: Your Honor, I move the
- 15 admission of Exhibit T-1 and Exhibits 2 through 8 and
- 16 Mr. Lauckhart is available for cross-examination.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection to the entry
- 18 of the documents?
- MR. MANIFOLD: No.
- 20 MS. JOHNSTON: No objection.
- 21 JUDGE HAENLE: Exhibits T-1 and 2 through 8
- 22 will be entered into the record.
- 23 (Admitted Exhibits T-1 and 2 through 8.)
- JUDGE HAENLE: Go ahead, Ms. Johnston.
- MS. JOHNSTON: Thank you.

2 CROSS-EXAMINATION

- 3 BY MS. JOHNSTON:
- 4 Q. Morning.
- 5 A. Morning.
- 6 Q. Is it true that on July 12 you filed
- 7 certain revisions to your filing in this case with the
- 8 end result reducing your rate request from 66.8
- 9 million to 60.6 million?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And it's also true, isn't it, that these
- 12 revisions contained corrections of errors made by the
- 13 company?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And could you briefly describe for us in
- 16 general terms what these errors were?
- 17 A. Yes. There was actually one major error
- 18 here; if it wasn't for that we probably wouldn't have
- 19 refiled. It had to do with the removal of the
- 20 Skagit, Hanford and Creston amortizations from the
- 21 costs that are allowed in this case. And although we
- 22 had removed those in our initial filing, the tax
- 23 implications of those removals had not been correctly
- 24 included in that removal. And so this filing, the
- 25 bulk of the change was a correction of that tax

- 1 calculation. There were some minor changes in the
- 2 amount of dollars under this PRAM that should be
- 3 properly allocable to the wholesale customers. I
- 4 think that was in the neighborhood of \$100,000, and
- 5 there was another minor change. I can't remember it
- 6 right off the top of my head. If you want that
- 7 detail, probably Dave Hoff could give you that.
- 8 Q. Now, when you filed this case in June, it's
- 9 correct, isn't it, that the company issued a press
- 10 release describing the \$66 million dollar rate
- 11 increase proposal by the company?
- 12 A. I believe we did.
- 13 Q. And to your knowledge, has the company
- 14 issued a press release about the reduced rate increase
- 15 proposal and the reason why the company has reduced
- 16 the magnitude of its proposal?
- 17 A. I believe we did issue a release that
- 18 indicated we had reduced the request.
- 19 MS. JOHNSTON: I would like a record
- 20 requisition, Your Honor.
- JUDGE HAENLE: That will be 1.
- 22 (Record requisition 1.)
- Q. What action has the company taken to inform
- 24 its shareholders about this reduced rate increase
- 25 request other than the press release, to your

- 1 knowledge?
- 2 A. I don't know what specific action. Of
- 3 course it was, I think, widely reported that we had
- 4 reduced our rate request.
- 5 Q. Would you please turn now to your testimony
- 6 at page 3.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. There you discuss the breakdown of your
- 9 requested increase. Is it true that the \$35 million
- 10 dollars increase attributable to the projected
- 11 increase in power costs and conservation investment is
- 12 composed of these elements: 23.6 million due to net
- 13 Tenaska costs, 1.7 million due to wheeling and 10
- 14 million due to conservation?
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. As of the end of September of 1994, is it
- 17 true that the burden is on the ratepayers in
- 18 connection with the abandoned generating projects,
- 19 i.e., Skagit, Hanford and Creston?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. So during the PRAM 4 period, the company's
- 22 revenue requirement would be reduced by the revenue
- 23 requirement of these projects. Is that true?
- 24 A. That's correct.
- 25 Q. Would you accept subject to check that the

- 1 combined revenue requirement of Skagit, Hanford and
- 2 Creston included in the last general case is
- 3 approximately 16.7 million?
- 4 A. I would accept that subject to check.
- 5 Q. You would agree, would you not, that this
- 6 is a fairly significant sum of money that's going to
- 7 go away in PRAM 4 and off into the future?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And that fact isn't mentioned anywhere in
- 10 your testimony, is it?
- 11 A. I don't believe so.
- 12 Q. Please turn to page 10, line 19.
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. At that place you revised downward the
- 15 allowance per customer from \$484.61 to \$476.96. I
- 16 can't find anything in your testimony explaining this
- 17 particular revision so could you do that for me now?
- 18 A. Yes. That in fact is the correction of the
- 19 tax implications of the removal of the Skagit, Hanford
- 20 and Creston amortizations.
- 21 Q. Is it true that the company's intention is
- 22 to reflect in rates the full revenue requirement
- 23 reduction associated with the Skagit, Hanford and
- 24 Creston projects beginning in PRAM 4? And that
- 25 treatment would be similar to the recognition of

- 1 Pebble Springs amortization completion in PRAM 2?
- 2 A. Yes. I believe that's correct.
- Q. And it's true, isn't it, that the
- 4 Commission in its order in the last general rate case,
- 5 the 11th supplemental order, the Commission adopted
- 6 the staff's position to move the costs associated with
- 7 Creston and Skagit, Hanford, among other items, to the
- 8 resource cost category?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And is it correct that the base costs is
- 11 affected by your reduction of the allowance per
- 12 customer because not all associated costs were moved
- 13 to the resource category?
- 14 A. Well, the tax implications of these
- 15 amortizations, it's not clear to me whether anybody
- 16 intended those to be in the base or the resource. I
- 17 think they've come out here as the Commission
- 18 suggested on whether they should have been all in one
- 19 side or all in the other, and they should have come
- 20 all out, therefore all out of one side or the other.
- 21 I don't think that has any material impact on this
- 22 request we've made here.
- 23 Q. Now, the magnitude of the amount not moved
- 24 to the resource category is \$7.65 per customer. Would
- 25 you agree or can you accept that subject to check?

- 1 A. Yes, I will accept that subject to check.
- Q. Please turn to your Exhibit 8. Is it
- 3 correct that the costs productions contained in this
- 4 exhibit are to be reviewed and approved by the
- 5 Commission in response to BPA's requests?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 O. And is it true that these costs under the
- 8 PRAM are classified as base category?
- 9 A. I believe that's true.
- 10 JUDGE HAENLE: You have handed me a
- 11 multi-page document. At the top it says Staff Data
- 12 Request No. 30. I will mark this as Exhibit 22 for
- 13 identification.
- 14 (Marked Exhibit 22.)
- 15 Q. Mr. Lauckhart, do you recognize this as
- 16 your response to staff data request No. 30?
- 17 A. Yes.
- MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, I move the
- 19 admission of Exhibit 22.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection, Mr. Van
- 21 Nostrand?
- MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No, Your Honor.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Mr. Manifold?
- MR. MANIFOLD: No.
- JUDGE HAENLE: 22 will be entered into the

- 1 record.
- 2 (Admitted Exhibit 22.)
- 3 MS. JOHNSTON: No further questions.
- 4 JUDGE HAENLE: Mr. Manifold.

- 6 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 7 BY MR. MANIFOLD:
- 8 Q. Morning.
- 9 A. Morning, Mr. Manifold.
- 10 Q. Would you accept subject to your check that
- 11 in the 11th supplemental order in the company's last
- 12 general rate case the Commission at page 14 regarding
- 13 emergency backup power and second subsidiary sales
- 14 said, "emergency backup power costs are not to be
- 15 included in the calculation of actual secondary
- 16 purchase rates."
- 17 A. Gee, I don't recall them saying that in
- 18 that order but I guess I can check that.
- 19 Q. Would you like to see a copy?
- 20 A. I will accept that subject to check.
- 21 Q. So you don't recall that in the order?
- 22 A. No, I don't.
- 23 MR. MANIFOLD: Your Honor, I would like to
- 24 have a document marked as an exhibit.
- JUDGE HAENLE: All right. You have given

- 1 me a one-page document. At the top it says "No. 219.
- 2 I will mark this as Exhibit 23 for identification.
- 3 (Marked Exhibit 23.)
- 4 Q. Mr. Lauckhart, do you recognize what's been
- 5 marked as Exhibit 23 as the company's response to the
- 6 indicated data request?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And do you recognize this data request from
- 9 you indicates that the emergency backup power was
- 10 included, not excluded, from the secondary purchase
- 11 rate?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Do you know what effect this would have had
- 14 if this had been treated the way it was ordered in the
- 15 Commission's last order?
- 16 A. Well, if it was not included it would have
- 17 had very minor impact.
- 18 Q. De minimus impact in this particular case?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. At page 5 of your testimony you discuss
- 21 what you describe as escalating costs under Puget
- 22 Power's contracts for power from the mid Columbia dams
- 23 and from Grays Harbor PUD; is that correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And as I understand it, you're concerned

- 1 about this escalation in costs because under the PRAM
- 2 these costs are in the category of expenses that are
- 3 not trued up between general rate cases; is that
- 4 correct?
- 5 A. Yes. And in fact to clarify that a little
- 6 bit, there are sort of three categories of costs that
- 7 we reduced several years ago. One was a category that
- 8 we would fix in a general rate case, and we would not
- 9 even reforecast or update for a forecast purpose in a
- 10 PRAM period. Then there was a second category of
- 11 costs where we updated the forecast every PRAM period
- 12 but we never trued those up to actuals, and then there
- 13 was a third category of costs that got trued up all to
- 14 actuals sort of as they come in through the deferral
- 15 accounting process. So this is the first category of
- 16 costs and we're concerned because they are going up in
- 17 this and this proceeding to date has not allowed us to
- 18 adjust those.
- 19 Q. Are you proposing in this case that the
- 20 Commission modify how those costs are treated in the
- 21 PRAM?
- 22 A. We haven't proposed that in my direct
- 23 testimony, but we wouldn't be against that.
- 24 Q. Are you planning on proposing that in your
- 25 rebuttal testimony?

- 1 A. As I said here, we've had some discussion
- 2 with some members of the collaborative. We would like
- 3 to get to a point where we could propose it with the
- 4 agreement of the members of that collaborative.
- 5 Whether we get there or not, I don't know.
- 6 Q. To date that hasn't been the result from
- 7 the collaborative?
- 8 A. That's right.
- 9 JUDGE HAENLE: If you do not reach an
- 10 agreement by the members of the collaborative, do you
- 11 intend to propose this on rebuttal?
- 12 THE WITNESS: I think that would depend on
- 13 -- there are a number of members in that
- 14 collaborative. I mean, if there was a huge fight
- 15 against this we probably wouldn't in this case. If
- 16 there was quite a bit of support, we might.
- 17 JUDGE HAENLE: Thank you. Go ahead, Mr.
- 18 Manifold.
- 19 Q. Would you agree that there are other costs
- 20 that are incurred by Puget that are also not trued up
- 21 between general rate cases?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Is the base revenue cost -- base cost
- 24 revenue requirement of approximately \$371 million not
- 25 trued up between general rate cases?

- 1 A. Well, I wouldn't say that exactly.
- Q. With the exception of the abandoned plant
- 3 matter upon which you've already testified this
- 4 morning?
- 5 A. Even with that exception, I wouldn't agree
- 6 to that characterization. Here's the reason why. In
- 7 the base costs, of course, those are costs that are
- 8 probably going to have some inflation in them. We
- 9 increase the amount of base revenue dollars, we get to
- 10 recovery if we have growth in number of customers, so
- 11 we do have increasing levels of revenues to cover
- 12 increasing costs in that sense. On these power cost
- 13 issues we don't have that kind of increase allowed in
- 14 revenues to help cover increased costs.
- 15 Q. Would you agree that advertising costs is
- 16 one of the items that is not trued up in the PRAM?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Would you agree that in the last general
- 19 rate case the Commission set a proforma expense level
- 20 for conservation advertising at 2.1 million dollars
- 21 per year?
- 22 A. I don't know what was established in the
- 23 last rate case.
- Q. Would you accept that subject to check?
- 25 A. Subject to check, yes.

- 1 Q. And the source is the 11th supplemental
- 2 order, page 88.
- 3 A. Okay.
- 4 Q. Do you know what Puget's conservation
- 5 advertising expenses, whether they have been more or
- 6 less than that in 1993 and 1994?
- 7 A. I would sort of hope they would have been
- 8 less. We've had some troubles, as you know, from what
- 9 the company has been having to do internally
- 10 controlling our costs so that we can get close to
- 11 earning our allowed returns, and there are a number of
- 12 costs that are not as controllable as others.
- 13 Conservation is one area where we have some
- 14 flexibility.
- 15 Q. Would you accept subject to your check that
- 16 Puget's budget for conservation advertising in 1993
- 17 was 2.644 million per record requisition 521 in a
- 18 general case?
- 19 A. I will accept that subject to check.
- 20 Q. And would you accept subject to your check
- 21 that Puget actually stopped its conservation
- 22 advertising campaign in May of 1993 per Marie Smith's
- 23 response to data request No. 36 of the staff in this
- 24 case?
- 25 A. Maybe you should ask Marie Smith that

- 1 question.
- 2 Q. You didn't get a nod from her. I would
- 3 like to ask you some questions on projected power
- 4 costs and dispatchability, a subject you touched on in
- 5 your testimony. Referring to Exhibit 5, your Exhibit
- 6 5, does this exhibit show how Puget calculated the
- 7 projected resource cost revenue requirement for the
- 8 PRAM 4 period?
- 9 A. Yes. Pages 1 through 8 include those
- 10 calculations.
- 11 Q. Is it correct that in this PRAM case your
- 12 projections assume some cost savings due to the
- 13 partial displacement of several of the purchased power
- 14 contracts?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And is it correct that the purchase power
- 17 contracts that you're assuming will be displaced
- 18 during the upcoming year are March Point 1, March
- 19 Point 2, Sumas, Encogen and Tenaska?
- 20 A. I will accept that subject to check.
- 21 Q. In the projected displacement work papers,
- 22 does IGR stand for incremental generation rate of the
- 23 cogeneration project?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And does RPG stand for replacement power

- 1 costs to Puget?
- 2 A. Yes, that's RPC.
- 3 Q. And that is what it stands for?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. What's the source of your projections of
- 6 the cogenerator's incremental generation rates?
- 7 A. I believe we essentially looked at what
- 8 they told us last year or recently and for this
- 9 purpose, and this is something that we estimate and
- 10 then we true up. This is one of those true-ups in
- 11 this PRAM. We just assumed, I believe, that this next
- 12 year would have the same as as last year.
- Q. So what's the source of your projection of
- 14 Puget's replacement power cost? Is that the simple
- 15 dispatch model?
- 16 A. Well, in all cases we need to forecast the
- 17 secondary rate. Secondary rate is another one that's
- 18 difficult to forecast, and we made that forecast based
- 19 off of sort of an average of the last four years of
- 20 secondary rates, I believe. So we made a forecast of
- 21 secondary rates. This is another item that will be
- 22 trued up in this PRAM and we used it in the simple
- 23 dispatch model and we used it for purposes of this
- 24 estimate of displacement.
- 25 Q. Are you projecting displacements of these

- 1 cogeneration contracts whenever the cogenerator's
- 2 incremental generation rate in a particular month is
- 3 greater than Puget Power's replacement power costs in
- 4 that month?
- 5 A. I believe so.
- 6 Q. Overall, do you know what percentage of
- 7 energy from these projects are expected to be
- 8 displaced during the PRAM 4 year?
- 9 A. It's a small percentage.
- 10 Q. Would you accept subject to your check that
- 11 it's the following percentages for each plant, March
- 12 Point 1, 14 percent; March Point 2, 25 percent; Sumas,
- 13 8 percent; Tenaska 18 percent; and Encogen 18 percent?
- 14 A. I will accept that subject to check.
- 15 Q. You're going to be busy. Is it correct
- 16 that you're projecting that all five of these projects
- 17 will be displaced at least in part during June of
- 18 next year, June of 1995?
- 19 A. That's very likely.
- Q. It's likely that that's what you're
- 21 projecting or it's likely that they will be?
- 22 A. Both.
- 23 Q. Would you accept subject to your check that
- 24 that's what's in your projections?
- 25 A. I will accept that subject to check. June

- 1 of course is a month where the fish flush and a lot of
- 2 extra power generally and the loads in the region were
- 3 down, so it tends to be a month where displacement is
- 4 going to happen if it's going to happen.
- 5 Q. What is the effect on projected power
- 6 costs of these assumed displacements and would you
- 7 accept subject to your check that it's about 1.8
- 8 million dollars in reduced power expenses during the
- 9 PRAM 4 period?
- 10 A. I will accept that subject to check.
- 11 Q. If the projection turns out to be
- 12 inaccurate, this is, as you said, one of these items
- 13 that will be trued up in the next PRAM?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Do you know in the general rate case last
- 16 year what level of displacement you were projecting
- 17 for these specific projects?
- 18 A. I don't know that we forecast any
- 19 displacement. I don't recall. For the first few
- 20 years we didn't forecast any, which was the reason
- 21 that I think it was Jim Lazar that was very anxious in
- 22 having this as a true-up item, and I don't know when
- 23 we started forecasting some of these displacements.
- Q. What caused you to change from not
- 25 forecasting any displacement to the current forecast

- 1 of displacement of these projects?
- 2 A. Our experience with operating with the
- 3 cogenerators. We began to get from them what their
- 4 incremental generation rates were, so based on that we
- 5 could look at what we thought might happen.
- 6 JUDGE HAENLE: Did you intend to move the
- 7 entry of 23 for identification while you're at it?
- 8 MR. MANIFOLD: I sure do. Thank you.
- 9 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection, anyone?
- 10 Exhibit 23 will be entered into the record.
- 11 (Admitted Exhibit 23.)
- MR. MANIFOLD: I have no other questions.
- JUDGE HAENLE: No other questions? You've
- 14 got some minutes to fill up still.
- 15 MR. MANIFOLD: I used to know how to tap
- 16 dance.
- 17 JUDGE HAENLE: Commissioners, do you have
- 18 questions?
- 19 CHAIRMAN NELSON: No.
- 20 COMMISSIONER HEMSTAD: I don't have any
- 21 question.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Have you redirect?
- MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Anything else?
- MS. JOHNSTON: No.

- 1 JUDGE HAENLE: Thank you, you may step
- 2 down. Let's go off the record to change witnesses,
- 3 please.
- 4 (Discussion off the record.)
- 5 JUDGE HAENLE: Let's be back on the record.
- 6 During the time we were off the record a new witness
- 7 assumed the stand.
- 8 Whereupon,
- 9 DAVID HOFF,
- 10 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness
- 11 herein and was examined and testified as follows:
- 12 JUDGE HAENLE: You also distributed a new
- 13 document while we were off the record, Mr. Van
- 14 Nostrand. Up in the upper right-hand corner it says
- 15 Exhibit No. 19 DWH-2 revised 7-20-94. You've also
- 16 distributed another part of a document. Would you
- 17 explain what these are and what is to happen to them,
- 18 please.
- 19 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: Yes, Your Honor. That
- 20 new Exhibit 19 should replace the existing Exhibit 19.
- 21 This has been updated in response to a request from
- 22 BPA at the pre-hearing conference. The second
- 23 document is simply a red line version just to indicate
- 24 for everybody's convenience the limited changes that
- 25 were made from the original Exhibit 19 to the one

- 1 that's been provided this morning.
- 2 JUDGE HAENLE: Thank you. Your witness has
- 3 been sworn.

- 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 6 BY MR. VAN NOSTRAND:
- 7 Q. Could you state your name and spell it for
- 8 the record, please.
- 9 A. It's David Hoff, H O F F.
- 10 Q. And you have before you what's been marked
- 11 for identification as Exhibit T-18?
- 12 A. Yes, I do.
- 13 Q. Do you recognize that document as your
- 14 prefiled direct testimony in this case?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And do you have any revisions or
- 17 corrections to make to that exhibit other than as set
- 18 forth in the errata sheet circulated on July 11?
- 19 A. Yes, one small change. On page 5, at line
- 20 14, it says, "in accordance with the 12th supplemental
- 21 order," and it should read, "in accordance with the
- 22 15th supplemental order."
- Q. Do you have any other additions or
- 24 corrections to make to Exhibit T-18?
- 25 A. No, I do not.

- 1 Q. As corrected, are the corrections you've
- 2 given this morning and as indicated on the errata
- 3 sheet, if I asked you the questions as set forth in
- 4 Exhibit T-18, would you give the answers as set forth
- 5 in your testimony?
- 6 A. Yes, I would.
- 7 Q. You also have before you what's been marked
- 8 for identification as Exhibit 19, 20 and 21?
- 9 A. Yes, I do.
- 10 Q. Is it correct that Exhibit 21 was replaced
- 11 in revisions circulated on July 11?
- 12 A. Yes, it was.
- 13 Q. And Exhibit 19 to which you're referring is
- 14 the one which you calculated this morning which
- 15 indicates a revision date of July 20; is that right?
- 16 A. Yes, sir.
- 17 Q. Were these exhibits prepared under your
- 18 direction and supervision?
- 19 A. Yes, they were.
- 20 Q. Do you have any other additions or
- 21 contributions to make to these exhibits?
- 22 A. No, I do not.
- 23 Q. Are these exhibit true and correct to the
- 24 best of your knowledge?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: Your Honor, move the admission of Exhibit T-18 and Exhibits 19 through 21 2 and Mr. Hoff is available for cross-examination. 3 4 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection? 5 MR. MANIFOLD: No. 6 JUDGE HAENLE: All right. T-18, 19, 20, and 21 will be entered into the record. Ms. Johnston 7 8 (Admitted Exhibits T-18, 19, 20 and 21.) 9 JUDGE HAENLE: You've handed me two I've marked them for identification as 10 documents. 11 follows: Exhibit 24 for identification, a one-page 12 document entitled Explanation of Rate Spread Changes 13 to PRAM 4. 25 for identification a multi-page 14 document entitled Revenue Requirement for Base and 15 Resource Costs Worksheet 1 is what it says on the 16 first page. There are seven pages. That's 25 for 17 identification. (Marked Exhibits 24 and 25.) 18 19 20 CROSS-EXAMINATION 21 BY MS. JOHNSTON: 22 Mr. Hoff, do you recognize what's been Q. 23 marked for identification as Exhibit 24 as your explanation of rate spread changes of the revisions 24 made in the calculation of estimated revenues and 25

- 1 allocation of rates?
- 2 A. Yes, I do.
- 3 Q. And it was provided this morning?
- 4 A. Yes, it was.
- 5 MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, move the
- 6 admission of Exhibit 24, please.
- 7 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- 8 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No, Your Honor.
- 9 MR. MANIFOLD: No.
- 10 JUDGE HAENLE: 24 then will be entered into
- 11 the record.
- 12 (Admitted Exhibit 24.)
- 13 Q. Mr. Hoff, this document was updated to
- 14 incorporate the revisions associated with Skagit,
- 15 Hanford and Creston; is that right?
- 16 A. Yes, it was.
- 17 Q. Would you please turn now to Exhibit 25 for
- 18 identification. Do you recognize this seven-page
- 19 exhibit as part of your revised rate design work
- 20 papers?
- 21 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Page 1 contains the split of your requested
- 23 increase into base/resource categories which are
- 24 shown on line 17 and 18; is that right?
- 25 A. Yes, that's true.

- 1 Q. Now, pages 4 and 5 contain the allocations
- 2 to the various schedules for the deferral portion; is
- 3 that correct?
- 4 A. That's correct.
- 5 Q. Now, looking at page 4, excuse me, could
- 6 you please explain how the amounts on line 1 and 2 for
- 7 base and resource cost referrals were determined?
- 8 A. The amount on line 1, the 53 million
- 9 dollars is the amount of deferral, that's the total
- 10 amount of deferral that we have, and the amount on
- 11 line 2 is the amount that we estimate that is included
- 12 in existing rates to collect that amount.
- Q. Mr. Hoff, are you on page 4?
- 14 A. I'm sorry, I'm on page 1. I guess we need
- 15 to get on the same page.
- 16 Q. I think that might be helpful. Let's start
- 17 with page 4.
- 18 A. Okay. So, the question is where do I get
- 19 lines 1 and lines 2?
- 20 Q. Correct.
- 21 A. Line 1 is basically from our books that
- 22 when we calculate the amount of deferral under books,
- 23 we calculate how much is base and how much is
- 24 resource, and that's the total amount on our books
- 25 that is base costs, and actually line 2 is also from

- 1 the books but it also can be calculated. The
- 2 reference there needs to be updated. It should be
- 3 worksheet 1, line 1, instead of line 3, and worksheet
- 4 3, line 1, is an alternative way of calculating that,
- 5 so you can either get it directly from books or you
- 6 can get it from that calculation.
- 7 Q. Looking at the allocation factors used,
- 8 could you please explain why revenue allocators
- 9 excluding deferral are different from the allocators
- 10 used for deferral amortization; that is, schedule 7 on
- 11 page 2, the allocator used on line 2 is 52.974 percent
- 12 while on page 4 the equivalent allocator used is 53.26
- 13 percent?
- 14 A. Yes. The reason is if you look on the firm
- 15 resale on page 2 there's a number .536 percent and on
- 16 page 4 there's a number of zero, the deferral is less
- 17 the exclusion of firm resale and so since firm
- 18 resale has already been taken out of the deferral as
- 19 we booked it, it's not there so we can't allocate any
- 20 amount to that, and so that's basically why those two
- 21 numbers are different.
- Q. Please turn to page 7. This page depicts
- 23 the class revenues at present and proposed rates and
- 24 the increase of 60.6 million spread to the different
- 25 classes. Is that true?

- 1 A. Yes, that's true.
- MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, move the
- 3 admission of Exhibit 25, please.
- 4 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objections?
- 5 MR. MANIFOLD: No.
- 6 JUDGE HAENLE: All right. 25 then will be
- 7 entered into the record.
- 8 (Admitted Exhibit 25.)
- 9 MS. JOHNSTON: Mr. Hoff, I have no further
- 10 questions.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Mr. Manifold.
- MR. MANIFOLD: No questions.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Commissioners, questions?
- 14 CHAIRMAN NELSON: No.
- 15 COMMISSIONER HEMSTAD: No.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Any redirect?
- MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No, Your Honor.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Thank you, sir. You may
- 19 step down. Let's go off the record to change
- 20 witnesses.
- 21 (Discussion off the record.)
- JUDGE HAENLE: Let's be back on the record.
- 23 During the time we were off the record a new witness
- 24 assumed the stand. Would you raise your right hand,
- 25 please.

- 1 JUDGE HAENLE: This witnesses had a number
- 2 of documents premarked for identification at the
- 3 pre-hearing conference, and as I understand, some of
- 4 those are going to be withdrawn. Could you explain
- 5 what you are proposing, please.
- 6 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: Yes, Your Honor. Given
- 7 that a separate docket has been commenced to litigate
- 8 any issues regarding the recovery of conservation
- 9 incentives, that's docket UE 910689, the parties have
- 10 essentially reached agreement that we will not
- 11 litigate those issues in this proceeding, and
- 12 therefore the company will be withdrawing Exhibits 10
- 13 and 11 sponsored by Ms. Smith, and as to her
- 14 testimony, Exhibit T-9, we will withdraw everything in
- 15 that document except page 1, lines 1 through 9 and 20
- 16 to 24 and page 2, lines 1 through 7, and I think as
- 17 has been reflected in the order on pre-hearing
- 18 conference in this case and in the other docket, if
- 19 the parties reach settlement on the recovery of
- 20 conservation incentives we will present whatever
- 21 portion of this testimony is necessary to support that
- 22 settlement as part of either -- part of the company's
- 23 rebuttal case or as part of staff or public counsel's
- 24 case in this proceeding. If we don't reach a
- 25 settlement, this testimony will be cross-examined in

- 1 the other docket, but in any event we reached
- 2 agreement that we will not cross-examine this
- 3 testimony in this proceeding given the other docket.
- 4 JUDGE HAENLE: But that there are going to
- 5 be some other questions; is that right?
- 6 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: Yes. There have been a
- 7 number of data requests to the company directed
- 8 regarding conservation. She is most qualified to
- 9 answer those data requests and so we're making her
- 10 available with this limited excerpt from her testimony
- 11 in order that she answers questions and sponsor those
- 12 exhibits.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Is that your understanding
- 14 of the procedure and you agree to the procedure, Ms.
- 15 Johnston?
- MS. JOHNSTON: Yes.
- 17 JUDGE HAENLE: Mr. Manifold?
- MR. MANIFOLD: Yes.
- 19 JUDGE HAENLE: Thank you all for working
- 20 this out. That's very efficient. Go ahead.

- 22 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. VAN NOSTRAND:
- Q. State your name for the record, please.
- 25 A. Marie Smith.

- 1 Q. And spelling is probably unnecessary.
- 2 A. I've been asked before.
- 3 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: There's no E on the end.
- 4 I guess I would move the admission of the remaining
- 5 portion -- I guess I will lay the foundation for that
- 6 first.
- 7 Q. Do you recognize Exhibit T-9 as your direct
- 8 prefiled testimony in this case?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. If I asked you the questions as set forth
- 11 in that exhibit, would you give the answers as set
- 12 forth therein?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Do you have any other revisions or
- 15 corrections to make to that to Exhibit T-9?
- 16 A. As it's currently --
- 17 O. What's left of it.
- 18 A. No.
- 19 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: Your Honor, I would move
- 20 the admission of the remaining portion of Exhibit T-9.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- 22 All right. The remaining portion then of
- 23 Exhibit T-9 will be entered into the record.
- 24 (Admitted Exhibit T-9.)
- 25 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: And Ms. Smith is

- 1 available to take cross-examination on that and to
- 2 answer any other questions that have been referred.

- 4 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 5 BY MS. JOHNSTON:
- 6 O. Morning, Ms. Smith. What was the overall
- 7 target for program DSM acquisition for the calendar
- 8 year 1993 expressed in average megawatts?
- 9 A. I believe the target was 25.2 average
- 10 megawatts which included some competitive bidding as
- 11 well as the company's programs. The bulk of it was
- 12 the company's programs.
- 13 Q. And how many average megawatts were
- 14 actually acquired in 1993?
- 15 A. I believe it was 29 point something --
- 16 close to 30 megawatts, average megawatts.
- 17 Q. So the company exceeded its 1993 target by
- 18 approximately five average megawatts?
- 19 A. That's correct.
- Q. What is the 1994 target for DSM?
- 21 A. 1994 target is -- I believe it's 25.2
- 22 average megawatts as well.
- 23 THE WITNESS: Is that right?
- Q. Is the company presently on target for
- 25 achieving this goal?

- 1 A. Yes.
- JUDGE HAENLE: You've given me a three-page
- 3 document. The caption at the top is WUTC request No.
- 4 12. I will mark this as Exhibit 26 for
- 5 identification.
- 6 (Marked Exhibit 26.)
- 7 Q. Ms. Smith, do you recognize this as your
- 8 response to staff data request No. 12?
- 9 A. Yes.
- MS. JOHNSTON: Move the admission of 26,
- 11 please.
- 12 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- MR. MANIFOLD: No.
- 14 JUDGE HAENLE: All right.
- 15 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: This is a portion of the
- 16 response, right?
- 17 MS. JOHNSTON: That's correct.
- 18 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: Okay. As long as it's
- 19 clear that it's a portion of the response.
- 20 JUDGE HAENLE: Thank you. 26 will then be
- 21 entered into the record.
- 22 (Admitted Exhibit 26.)
- Q. Now, these are selected pages from the
- 24 global report which details the expenditures for the
- 25 account 1860330. Was this the account number used in

- 1 1993 for conservation advertising?
- 2 A. Would you repeat the number?
- 3 Q. 1860330.
- 4 A. That's correct. In 1993 that was the
- 5 number used.
- 6 Q. And on page 28, in the middle of the page
- 7 it shows an accrual of --
- 8 A. Excuse me, I need the entire backup.
- 9 Q. It's the second sheet.
- 10 JUDGE HAENLE: Page number you're referring
- 11 to is in the upper right-hand corner.
- 12 Q. Direct your attention to the middle of the
- 13 page there. It shows an accrual of \$313,335, an
- 14 invoice to O'Neill & Company for \$12,705 and other
- 15 charges for August and September 1993. If you could
- 16 turn the page to this excerpted page 33.
- 17 A. I don't see any charges for August. Just
- 18 September on this page.
- 19 Q. You're correct. Thank you. And on page 33
- 20 we can see the accrual of \$313,000 was spent mostly
- 21 for Hinton and Steele, Incorporated, and for O'Neill
- 22 & Company where we see three invoices exceeding
- 23 \$20,000. Can you please explain what these charges
- 24 are.
- 25 A. Regarding the accrual and deferral, I will

- 1 have to refer that to Mr. Story in terms of how that
- 2 accounting works. The question of whether that total
- 3 -- I do not believe is intended to total the O'Neill
- 4 and Hinton and Steele amounts.
- 5 Q. Could you look over at the far right column
- 6 under the heading dollar amount?
- 7 A. That's correct. I see it.
- 8 Q. Those do indicate totals, don't they?
- 9 A. The subtotal, the lines indicating subtotal
- 10 show subtotals for the periods. Each entry is a
- 11 separate entry so the 313 does not relate to other
- 12 entries in that section necessarily.
- Q. Could you please tell me what these charges
- 14 are for, then, for these entries for O'Neill & Company
- 15 and these various amounts?
- 16 A. Yes. We've also provided data responses on
- 17 this data response No. 72 which the staff requested
- 18 all payments to O'Neill & Company and data response
- 19 No. 96 in which the staff requested all payments to
- 20 Hinton and Steele.
- 21 Q. Yes, but we want to know what these
- 22 specifics amounts are for rather than what they are.
- 23 A. I would have to go back and review the
- 24 invoices for these specific amounts. O'Neill &
- 25 Company and Hinton and Steele were both working for

- 1 the company doing advertising. Much of it had to do
- 2 with the conservation campaign. There was some other
- 3 charges for some other work they were doing so I would
- 4 have to look at the specific invoices to know that.
- 5 Q. Do you believe that these charges are for
- 6 advertising then?
- 7 A. Yes. The indication on these pages are
- 8 that they're charged to 186CO miscellaneous code 30
- 9 which does indicate the company's corporate
- 10 advertising charge to conservation.
- 11 Q. Now, in fact between May of 1993 and
- 12 September of 1993, there were many charges to this
- 13 conservation advertising; isn't that true?
- 14 A. I don't know whether I would use the word
- 15 many but yes, there were charges.
- 16 Q. Would you accept subject to check that the
- 17 total is approximately is \$577,481?
- 18 A. Subject to check. I haven't done that
- 19 calculation. What you're referring to in this data
- 20 response are journal entries. Some of those may have
- 21 reflected costs incurred in different periods. These
- 22 are not necessarily timed with the period in which the
- 23 work was done, and given the Commission order in the
- 24 last general case, there were a number of reversals in
- 25 later periods which may have affected these charges as

- 1 well.
- Q. But these are costs in the PRAM 4
- 3 conservation layer, are they not?
- 4 A. I can't tell from this response. These are
- 5 just the list of ledger entries. Some of these may
- 6 have been reversed out given the accounting that had
- 7 to go on after the Commission order last fall.
- 8 Q. I will represent to you that they are
- 9 included and ask you to accept that subject to check,
- 10 please.
- 11 A. That which costs are included then?
- 12 Q. That these costs that we've justified
- 13 discussed, meaning the Hinton and Steele and O'Neill
- 14 costs?
- 15 Q. Yes.
- 16 A. Subject to check.
- 17 Q. \$577,000 we just talked about.
- 18 A. Subject to check that would be okay.
- 19 Q. Now, Mr. Manifold asked Mr. Lauckhart a
- 20 couple of questions about conservation advertising but
- 21 I sort of want to cover some of this again. Now, this
- 22 conservation layer for PRAM 3 includes dollars for
- 23 conservation advertising. Is that true?
- A. The conservation layer for PRAM 3 or 4?
- 25 Q. 3.

- 1 A. For PRAM 3 included dollars for
- 2 conservation advertising, yes.
- 3 Q. And those advertising dollars amounted to
- 4 in excess of 2.8 million. Is that true?
- 5 A. I am not familiar with that number. I
- 6 would have to defer.
- 7 Q. Would you accept that subject to check?
- 8 A. I would subject to check, yes.
- 9 JUDGE HAENLE: You have handed me a
- 10 four-page document. The caption at the top is Data
- 11 Request WUTC No. 36. I will mark this as 27 for
- 12 identification.
- 13 (Marked Exhibit 27.)
- Q. Do you recognize this as your response to
- 15 staff data request No. 36?
- 16 A. I do.
- MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, move the
- 18 admission of Exhibit 27.
- 19 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- 20 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No objection just as
- 21 long as the record reflects it's not the complete
- 22 response.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Okay, portion only.
- MR. MANIFOLD: No objection.
- 25 JUDGE HAENLE: All right. Exhibit 27 then

- 1 will be entered into the record.
- 2 (Admitted Exhibit 27.)
- 3 Q. Now, in this response you state that there
- 4 has been no TV or print advertising since May of 1993.
- 5 Is that accurate?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. So it was specifically on May 9, 1993 that
- 8 you terminated this program?
- 9 A. No, I would not characterize that we
- 10 terminated this program. I would characterize that we
- 11 did not run any newspaper or radio, and I believe I
- 12 can say the same for TV, after that date. That does
- 13 not constitute terminating the campaign. This
- 14 campaign was designed to have advertising run at
- 15 selected periods of time and those tended to be fall
- 16 and spring campaigns. This date simply shows you the
- 17 end of the spring campaign. Has nothing to do with
- 18 the overall decision of the campaign.
- 19 Q. Well, since that time has the company run
- 20 any other ads?
- 21 A. No, no. There were plans for a fall
- 22 campaign which were not carried out.
- JUDGE HAENLE: You've handed me two
- 24 documents. The first is a four-page document headed
- 25 WUTC Request No. 31. I will mark this as 28 for

- 1 identification. The second is a three-page document
- 2 headed WUTC Request No. 70. I will mark this as 29
- 3 for identification.
- 4 (Marked Exhibits 28 and 29.)
- 5 Q. Do you recognize what's been marked for
- 6 identification as Exhibit 28 as your response to staff
- 7 data request 31?
- 8 A. Yes, I do.
- 9 Q. And do you recognize what's been marked for
- 10 identification as Exhibit 29 as your response to staff
- 11 data request No. 70?
- 12 A. Yes, I do.
- 13 Q. Thank you.
- MS. JOHNSTON: Move the admission of
- 15 Exhibit 28 and 29, please.
- 16 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection, Counsel?
- 17 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No objection.
- 18 JUDGE HAENLE: All right. 28 and 29 will
- 19 be entered into the record.
- 20 (Admitted Exhibits 28 and 29.)
- 21 Q. Thank you. Like to start first with
- 22 Exhibit 28. This document shows the accounting codes
- 23 for conservation activities. Would you please explain
- 24 how these codes are used?
- 25 A. Yes. All of the conservation is charged to

- 1 account 182, and we have, for our internal tracking
- 2 purposes of sorting out what charges go to what
- 3 programs, assigned these letter codes that you see for
- 4 the various programs or parts of programs that we want
- 5 to identify costs to. So, for example, 182 WE, it
- 6 would represent anybody charging to the residential
- 7 weatherization program or any charges that get
- 8 collected for the residential weatherization program.
- 9 182 LI are all charges associated with the low income
- 10 program. All admin, adgrant charges could be
- 11 collected under these activities.
- 12 Q. If you could turn to the last page of this
- 13 DR response. You can see 182-CE school presentations,
- 14 and 182 EI empowerment instruction.
- 15 A. I apologize. I didn't put these letters on
- 16 so I have to sort of think which ones are which here.
- 17 Q. They're right in the center of the page.
- 18 A. I got them.
- 19 Q. The description reads, "the above activity
- 20 codes are utilized to capture costs of conservation
- 21 programs activities delivered to secondary school age
- 22 students, particularly grades 8 through 10 in the
- 23 service territory."
- JUDGE HAENLE: Would you swing the
- 25 microphone around so you're speaking into it to be

- 1 sure everyone can hear you.
- 2 MS. JOHNSTON: How is this?
- JUDGE HAENLE: Perfect.
- 4 Q. Could you please describe for us what
- 5 conservation measures are delivered to these students?
- 6 For example, do you give them shower heads or water
- 7 heater insulation kits?
- 8 A. This program is called In Concert With The
- 9 Environment, which is a program that provides training
- 10 and questionnaires and the ability for these students
- 11 to go home and inventory their energy use, and gives
- 12 them energy savings tips to adopt and report on what
- 13 they have accomplished in their homes in terms of
- 14 conservation, and also there's a report that's
- 15 produced that looks at these particular homes before
- 16 and after the students have gone through these
- 17 activities.
- 18 There are no measures in the sense of what
- 19 the company delivers on its other programs associated
- 20 with these programs. There are no savings claimed for
- 21 the activities and the charges with these programs.
- 22 However, there is a strong education component and
- 23 hitting kids at a young age we feel is a good way of
- 24 getting conservation installed in our service
- 25 territory. This is a particularly interesting

- 1 program. We've opted to cofund this -- we've gone out
- 2 and solicited cofunding on this program. Washington
- 3 Natural Gas is joining us and a number of our large
- 4 industrial customers, including Boeing and ARCO, are
- 5 also helping to cofund this program in schools
- 6 throughout our service territory.
- JUDGE HAENLE: If you've got a number of
- 8 documents to describe, perhaps this would be a good
- 9 time to take our morning recess.
- 10 MS. JOHNSTON: That's fine.
- 11 JUDGE HAENLE: Take 15 minutes and be back
- 12 at five minutes to and continue with the
- 13 cross-examination.
- 14 (Recess.)
- 15 JUDGE HAENLE: Let's be back on the record
- 16 after our morning recess. During the break apparently
- 17 you discovered, Ms. Johnston, that what has now been
- 18 entered as Exhibit 28, the heading should not have
- 19 been WUTC request No. 31 but should have been headed
- 20 request No. 9.
- MS. JOHNSTON: That's correct.
- JUDGE HAENLE: And so, just everybody take
- 23 Exhibit 28, change that 31 to a 9. We'll be all set.
- 24 You also distributed an additional document
- 25 which I have marked for identification as Exhibit 30

- 1 for identification. At the top it says WUTC No. 73.
- 2 (Marked Exhibit 30.)
- 3 Q. Ms. Smith, do you recognize what's been
- 4 marked for identification as your response to staff
- 5 data request No. 73?
- 6 A. Yes, I do.
- 7 MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, move the
- 8 admission of Exhibit 30.
- 9 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- 10 All right. 30 will be entered into the
- 11 record.
- 12 (Admitted Exhibit 30.)
- 13 Q. Now, this document details the expenditures
- 14 for school presentations. Is it accurate that the
- 15 company has spent \$147,000 on these activities in the
- 16 PRAM 4 period?
- 17 JUDGE HAENLE: I'm sorry, what was the
- 18 figure?
- MS. JOHNSTON: Approximately \$147,000.
- 20 Q. I don't expect you to perform the
- 21 calculation right now but if you could accept that
- 22 figure subject to check?
- 23 A. Yeah. I don't have a good estimate of what
- 24 that figure would be. Subject to check. The number
- 25 was 147?

- 1 Q. Yes.
- 2 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: Clarify that. Is that
- 3 expenditures incurred during the PRAM period or
- 4 activities performed during the PRAM period because
- 5 there might be a difference in timing.
- 6 MS. JOHNSTON: Expenditures being requested
- 7 and added to the PRAM 4 layer.
- 8 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: How much of that
- 9 consists of these activities, okay.
- 10 Q. I would just direct your attention to page
- 11 10 of the first section and page 13 of the second.
- 12 Would you please turn to the next to the
- 13 last page of Exhibit 28.
- 14 A. I'm sorry. You're on Exhibit 28 on the
- 15 next to last page.
- Q. Do you see the two codes in the third set,
- 17 182-CC commercial energy code and 182-UC utility code
- 18 group?
- 19 A. Yes, I do.
- 20 O. These codes are used to collect the costs
- 21 related to the nonresidential energy code. Is that
- 22 true?
- 23 A. Yes, that's true.
- JUDGE HAENLE: You've handed me a
- 25 multi-page document. At the top the caption says WUTC

- 1 Request No. 81. I will mark this as 31 for
- 2 identification.
- 3 (Marked Exhibit 31.)
- 4 Q. Do you recognize this as your response to
- 5 staff data request 81?
- 6 A. Yes, I do.
- 7 MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, the move the
- 8 admission of Exhibit 31.
- 9 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- 10 31 then will be entered into the record.
- 11 (Admitted Exhibit 31.)
- 12 Q. Now, would you agree that the company has
- 13 spent just over \$300,000 on this program during the
- 14 PRAM 4 period or can you accept that subject to check?
- 15 A. I will have to accept that subject to
- 16 check.
- 17 Q. What is the utility code group?
- 18 A. Utility code group was a group of utilities
- 19 that were -- that was formed to assist with the
- 20 implementation of the newly adopted Washington state
- 21 commercial or nonresidential, as it's referred to,
- 22 energy code. Utilities are helping to fund this code
- 23 in the early years through permit fee reimbursements,
- 24 and this is a group of utilities in Washington state
- 25 who are doing some work to develop how to implement

- 1 that, how to develop permit fee schedules, how to work
- 2 with the jurisdictions, large number of jurisdictions
- 3 to get consistent application of this code, how to
- 4 insure that the utility dollars in essence are being
- 5 well spent.
- 6 0. Has the Commission made a determination
- 7 regarding the inclusion of these expenditures under
- 8 the company's conservation tariffs, schedule 83?
- 9 A. The company has before the Commission in a
- 10 separate proceeding a filing for revisions to schedule
- 11 83 which do include this program.
- 12 Q. And that was suspended on July 13 of this
- 13 year?
- 14 A. That was suspended with the provision that
- 15 it would be rediscussed in the next month or so. It's
- 16 to be -- it's to be relooked at, yes.
- 17 Q. But the fact of the matter is no
- 18 determination has been made yet?
- 19 A. No determination has been made at this
- 20 time. However, we worked very closely with a number
- 21 of parties throughout the state, with other utilities,
- 22 and certainly have worked with our technical
- 23 collaborative group and those folks are well apprised
- 24 of what's been involved with these activities and the
- 25 importance of getting this code in place for long

- 1 term, very cost effective energy savings from this
- 2 sector for the utilities.
- 3 Q. Would you refer again to Exhibit 28,
- 4 please. In the second set of codes we see 182-EC,
- 5 energy code implementation. How does this differ from
- 6 the other energy code activities?
- 7 A. 182 EC represents cost for the residential
- 8 energy code. 182 CC represents costs for commercial
- 9 energy code, otherwise known as the nonresidential
- 10 energy code. There are two codes in place. One went
- 11 into effect for residential, new construction in 1991.
- 12 The one for nonresidential or commercial went into
- 13 effect April of this year 1984. Both of them involved
- 14 utility reimbursements during the early years of code
- 15 implementation.
- JUDGE HAENLE: You've handed me two
- 17 documents which I have marked for identification as
- 18 follows: Marked as 32 for identification a two-page
- 19 document. The title at the top is WUTC Request No. 72
- 20 and marked as Exhibit 33 for identification a
- 21 multi-page document. At the top it is entitled WUTC
- 22 request No. 102.
- 23 (Marked Exhibits 32 and 33.)
- 24 Q. Do you recognize what's been marked for
- 25 identification as Exhibits 32 and 33 as your responses

- 1 to staff data requests 72 and 102 respectively?
- 2 A. Yes, I do.
- 3 MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, move the
- 4 admission of Exhibit 32 and Exhibit 33.
- 5 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- 6 All right. 32 and 33 will be entered into
- 7 the record.
- 8 (Admitted Exhibit 32 and 33.)
- 9 Q. Take a look at 32. This document depicts
- 10 the amounts paid to O'Neill & Company. Account 186
- 11 CO sort of see that in the middle of the page there,
- 12 has over \$150,000 for services relating to, "the
- 13 company's conservation communications campaign."
- 14 Would you please explain and describe this campaign?
- 15 A. Yes. This campaign, I think, was very
- 16 thoroughly discussed in PRAM 3 and it also was
- 17 described in a response to a staff data request No.
- 18 36. This was the corporate communications plan for
- 19 which we did -- which we used Ms. O'Neill for doing
- 20 much of the research in the development and the design
- 21 and the follow-up tracking studies and surveys to
- 22 determine the effectiveness of the campaign. The
- 23 campaign itself was a combination of newspaper, radio,
- 24 TV advertising to develop customer understanding of
- 25 why the company does conservation and to call them to

- 1 action to not only participate in the company's
- 2 programs but to achieve conservation on their own.
- 3 The \$150,000 you're referring to is for a two-year
- 4 period.
- 5 Q. This Ms. O'Neill that you're referring to
- 6 is the same Ms. O'Neill that testified on behalf of
- 7 the company in the general rate case?
- 8 A. That's correct. She was an expert witness
- 9 on the effectiveness of the campaign having done this
- 10 research.
- 11 Q. Are any expenses related to her testimony
- 12 included in conservation costs?
- 13 A. Yes. On data requests -- the Exhibit 32,
- 14 the top activity code there, 18611, the description
- 15 reads, "services for research and preparation of rate
- 16 case testimony in UE 921262." I am not sure. Mr.
- 17 Story may know this answer, but I don't believe 18611
- 18 is a conservation account. 18603 is charged to
- 19 conservation. 18611 is not charged to conservation.
- 20 It is charges, however, that Ms. O'Neill did incur for
- 21 the preparation of that rate case testimony. Again,
- 22 they were not charged to conservation.
- Q. So it's not a conservation cost, to
- 24 clarify?
- 25 A. That's correct, it's not.

- 1 Q. Please turn to Exhibit 33. The company has
- 2 booked two expenditures to conservation planning, one
- 3 for \$50,000 to the Electric Power Research Institute
- 4 and another for \$495 to the association of DSM
- 5 professionals. Is that true?
- 6 A. Yes, that's true.
- 7 Q. In this response you describe a payment to
- 8 EPRI as supporting research of horizontal access
- 9 washing machines. Does Puget currently provide
- 10 rebates or subsidize these types of washing machines?
- 11 A. We have plans to do that. There are none
- 12 that we have subsidized at this point in time. This
- 13 is a product that is commercially available, although
- 14 if you've checked your neighborhood stores, it's a
- 15 very expensive device. These are widely used in
- 16 Europe but not widely used in the United States and
- 17 there's a lot of interest because of the large
- 18 potential energy savings from these washing machines
- 19 which you have to load from a front door instead of a
- 20 top load. There's a wide potential for energy savings
- 21 because they use significantly less water to do a
- 22 cycle of washing and what we hope to do is to be able
- 23 to provide reimbursements either later this year or
- 24 next year for this measure.
- 25 Q. So the answer to my question is no?

- 1 A. At this time, no, right.
- 2 Q. Are kilowatt hour savings from washing
- 3 machines currently counted in Puget's conservation
- 4 programs?
- 5 A. They are identified in our conservation
- 6 supply curves. They are not counted because we
- 7 haven't provided any rebates in our conservation
- 8 programs.
- JUDGE HAENLE: You've handed me a
- 10 three-page document. The heading at the top is WUTC
- 11 Request No. 13. I will mark this as Exhibit 34 for
- 12 identification.
- 13 (Marked Exhibit 34.)
- Q. You can tell that this is a portion of a
- 15 response to the data request?
- 16 A. It's all the response. It's a portion of
- 17 the question.
- 18 O. That's correct. So what I will do is read
- 19 the request subpart A into the record and I assume you
- 20 have the full request with you?
- 21 A. Yes, I do.
- 22 Q. Subpart A reads, "Please provide detailed
- 23 monthly general ledger entries for conservation
- 24 three-year verification costs. (1823341 or
- 25 equivalent) by month for the periods from May 1992

- 1 through April 1993 and May 1993 through April 1994."
- 2 Do you recognize Exhibit 34 as your
- 3 response to staff data request No. 13 in part?
- 4 A. Yes. I stand corrected. It is part of the
- 5 answer. It is part of the exhibit.
- 6 MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, move the
- 7 admission of Exhibit 34, please.
- 8 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objections? 34 then
- 9 will be entered into the record.
- 10 (Admitted Exhibit 34.)
- 11 Q. Now, these sheets show the total amounts
- 12 charged to conservation for the three-year
- 13 verification plan. Is that true?
- 14 A. Yes. That is true.
- 15 Q. Now, adding the "all transaction total"
- 16 from the second and third pages with the amounts in
- 17 part C of the response shows a total cost for the
- 18 three-year verification plan of approximately
- 19 \$142,900. Would you accept that subject to check?
- 20 A. Subject to check that sounds about right.
- 21 Q. Now, as you stated at the beginning of your
- 22 testimony, your prefiled direct testimony, regarding
- 23 the three-year incentive associated with DSM was
- 24 withdrawn, so the company is not presently seeking
- 25 recovery of the three-year incentive in PRAM 4. Is

- 1 that a fair statement?
- 2 A. I don't think that the decision of whether
- 3 to seek recovery in PRAM 4 has been made yet. That's
- 4 based upon some work with the parties to come up to
- 5 some amount, and a settlement or an amount may appear
- 6 in PRAM 4.
- 7 O. And it follows then that if the settlement
- 8 is not reached among the parties that you will not be
- 9 seeking recovery of the three-year verification in
- 10 this PRAM. Is that true?
- 11 A. That's my understanding of the agreement at
- 12 this time, yes. I should add that these costs are
- 13 incurred for conducting the research associated with
- 14 the activities in the three-year verification project
- 15 which includes a fine for incentives. There's a lot
- 16 of information that the company has gained from this
- 17 work regarding the performance of conservation
- 18 measures three years after the fact of them having
- 19 been installed, so there's a lot of valuable
- 20 information in terms of evaluation and us being able
- 21 to provide feedback and better designs for our
- 22 programs in the future, as well as the incentive with
- 23 these costs.
- Q. And the company has not received Commission
- 25 approval of the verification plan and sliding scale

- 1 associated with the three-year incentive. Is that
- 2 true?
- 3 A. The company has worked real hard with the
- 4 parties.
- 5 Q. Excuse me. Just answer the question first.
- 6 A. We have not received -- no. We have not
- 7 received approval for the plan. We have worked very
- 8 hard with the collaborative. I think we've spent a
- 9 significant amount of time over the last couple of
- 10 years, and particularly in the last six months, in
- 11 collaborative meetings on this subject with hopes of
- 12 getting this plan approved -- to a point where we
- 13 could submit something that all the members agreed to.
- 14 We do have good agreement, I should mention, on what
- 15 we refer to as part A of the plan. There's two parts.
- 16 One is how you collect the data and two is how you
- 17 calculate the costs. There's good agreement in the
- 18 collaborative.
- 19 Q. Excuse me. I hate to cut you off, but it's
- 20 my understanding that that portion of your testimony
- 21 which addresses this was withdrawn at this time. I'm
- 22 just trying to clarify just these two points for the
- 23 record, number one, that the plan was never approved
- 24 by the Commission and that if the parties are unable
- 25 to reach successful settlement that the company will

- 1 not be seeking recovery of the three-year incentive in
- 2 the context of this PRAM 4 docket. I didn't really
- 3 intend for you to elaborate.
- 4 A. That's fine.
- 5 MS. JOHNSTON: That's actually all the
- 6 questions I have for you, I think. I'm just going to
- 7 be putting in a bunch of DR responses that we received
- 8 this morning around 9 into the record. That shouldn't
- 9 take long.
- 10 JUDGE HAENLE: Why don't we go off the
- 11 record to allow you to distribute those.
- 12 (Recess.)
- 13 JUDGE HAENLE: Let's be back on the record.
- 14 During the time we were off the record Ms. Johnston
- 15 distributed a number of documents. They are as a
- 16 group, as I understand, detail of charges to different
- 17 vendors, and it's a group of different requests, and I
- 18 will read just the number of the request so you will
- 19 have that reference. This is all going to be marked
- 20 as Exhibit 35 for identification. These are requests
- 21 Nos. 105, 108, 109, 113, 117, 121, 129 and 130.
- MS. JOHNSTON: Thank you.
- 23 (Marked Exhibit 35.)
- Q. Ms. Smith, do you recognize all of these
- 25 data request responses as your responses to staff data

- 1 requests 105, 108, 109, 113, 117, 129, 121 and 130?
- 2 A. Yes, I do.
- 3 MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, I move the
- 4 admission of those as Exhibit 35.
- 5 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- 6 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No objection.
- 7 JUDGE HAENLE: That document, then, will be
- 8 entered into the record as Exhibit 35.
- 9 (Admitted Exhibit 35.)
- 10 Q. There's only one thing I wanted to point
- 11 out right now. Direct your attention to the response
- 12 to WUTC 105. Do you have that before you?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Could you just turn to the last sheet of
- 15 that.
- 16 A. Now, this shows a billing for dinner, is
- 17 that correct, at the Woodmark hotel at Carillon Point?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. And the amount is just under \$2,000. Is
- 20 that true?
- 21 A. That appears to be what it shows on this
- 22 invoice, true.
- MS. JOHNSTON: Thank you. I have no
- 24 further questions.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Mr. Manifold.

1 MR. MANIFOLD: Just a few questions.

- 3 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 4 BY MR. MANIFOLD:
- 5 Q. If you could pull out Exhibit 27, please.
- 6 That was the response to staff data request 36. I
- 7 understood your response to an earlier question to be
- 8 that the media campaign was not cancelled as of May 9,
- 9 1993, but rather it was a spring-fall campaign and
- 10 this was the spring portion; is that correct?
- 11 A. Right. What is shown in attachments to
- 12 this exhibit is activities in the spring portion of
- 13 the campaign.
- 14 Q. Then I understood you to say that there
- 15 have been no expenses on this campaign since that
- 16 date?
- 17 A. No, that's not correct.
- 18 O. What is correct?
- 19 A. There have been expenses. There have been
- 20 costs incurred and there have been expenses on this
- 21 campaign since the ninth day of May. The campaign was
- 22 not cancelled in May. The campaign was still an
- 23 ongoing activity. There are expenses that were noted
- 24 in the questioning from staff that may have reflected
- 25 costs incurred prior to the period. I can't testify

- 1 to that without going into the invoices. We've had
- 2 ongoing work by both Hinton and Steele and O'Neill;
- 3 both of their charges appear in some of the staff data
- 4 requests.
- 5 In further planning and further development
- 6 on this campaign there had originally been intended to
- 7 have a fall campaign. That has subsequently been not
- 8 carried out. There have been other conservation
- 9 advertising activities that have gone on in this PRAM
- 10 period. Some of those relate to the brochures and the
- 11 various pieces of materials that we hand out on
- 12 programs or to announce our programs and those
- 13 expenses are still being incurred. They are no longer
- 14 being charged to conservation, however. They're being
- 15 charged to expense accounts.
- 16 Q. What do you mean when you say they're being
- 17 charge to expense accounts? Do you mean being
- 18 attributed to general corporate advertising rather
- 19 than conservation advertising?
- 20 A. That's correct. We can identify them as
- 21 conservation-related advertising but per the
- 22 Commission order effective October 1st of 1993 there
- 23 are no longer any charges for any type of advertising
- 24 that go into conservation deferred accounts. All
- 25 conservation-related advertising goes into the

- 1 corporate expense accounts.
- 2 Q. When was it decided not to do a fall
- 3 advertising campaign?
- 4 A. I don't know whether I have an exact date.
- 5 I know that certainly during PRAM 3 there was some
- 6 concerns at the company given the issues that were
- 7 being raised about the campaign during PRAM 3 as to
- 8 whether or not that campaign would continue. I think
- 9 the company at the time wasn't aware of what the
- 10 outcome of PRAM 3 would be. The decision to actually
- 11 carry out or not carry out the fall campaign is made
- 12 in the context of reviewing all of our conservation
- 13 costs and I think, as Mr. Lauckhart testified, we've
- 14 been in the company reviewing all costs in the past
- 15 year.
- 16 At this point in time I think the decision
- 17 was mostly based upon the fact that there was not
- 18 established as much of a need as there had been for
- 19 that campaign in prior years. The campaign in prior
- 20 years had allowed us to ramp up very heavily, to
- 21 achieve very aggressive goals. In 1993, we exceeded
- 22 our conservation targets. We have another year of
- 23 conservation activity planned in 1994, which is again
- 24 very high levels compared to other utilities of our
- 25 size, certainly in the region, certainly even

- 1 nationally. That part of the decision is that the
- 2 need for that campaign has changed over time.
- 3 Q. Do you know what the current rate of
- 4 conservation advertising expenditure is?
- 5 A. The current rate of conservation?
- 6 Q. Do you know what the conservation
- 7 advertising expenses have been in 1994?
- 8 A. Yeah. I think I can answer that also by
- 9 referring to two data requests. One is I believe No.
- 10 76 from staff which showed conservation actual
- 11 expenditures -- excuse me -- conservation and
- 12 corporate advertising actual expenditures for the
- 13 period calendar year '92-93 and '94 to date as well as
- 14 for the PRAM 3 period.
- 15 Q. Are you familiar with or aware that in the
- 16 general rate case the Commission -- there was a
- 17 contested issue regarding what level of conservation
- 18 advertising to include in rates for Puget?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And is it your understanding that the rate
- 21 that was allowed was about 2.1 million dollars per
- 22 year as a proforma amount of conservation advertising?
- 23 A. Yeah. And not being an accountant I'm not
- 24 exactly sure of proforma, but yes, I understand
- 25 there's a 2.1 million dollars per year proforma amount

- 1 that was issued regarding advertising.
- 2 Q. And is the conservation advertising at this
- 3 point at that level of expense?
- 4 A. No. The conservation is not at that level
- 5 of expense at this time.
- 6 Q. What would be a comparable number to
- 7 reflect the current level of expense compared to the
- 8 -- to what was put in the rate case of 2.1 million
- 9 dollars? Do you know?
- 10 A. In the data request No. 76, we showed that
- 11 for the actual period year 1993 actuals were 1.4
- 12 million for the calendar year. For 1994 because of
- 13 the accounting that is now going on, what's
- 14 illustrated in that data request are basically zero as
- 15 a budget for conservation advertising, meaning
- 16 conservation advertising going into deferred accounts.
- 17 The conservation advertising that's being carried out
- 18 now is in corporate advertising accounts, and that
- 19 amount is probably -- for an annual period is the
- 20 question?
- 21 Q. Yes.
- 22 A. I would estimate probably -- well, actually
- 23 I think here in this data request it shows that the
- 24 corporate advertising budget is 1.4 million. The
- 25 actuals for 1994 to date are a little under \$250,000.

- 1 That would be for the 1994 calendar year. I don't
- 2 have it for a PRAM period.
- 3 Q. And the 1.4 would be all corporate
- 4 advertising not just conservation?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. Do you know if the company made any
- 7 presentation in the general rate case like in its
- 8 rebuttal case or otherwise that it was cutting its
- 9 conservation advertising expense along the lines that
- 10 you've been talking about here?
- 11 A. In the PRAM 3 case?
- 12 Q. In the general rate case where it was a
- 13 contested issue what the amount going forward was
- 14 going to be?
- 15 A. I don't think that the decision when those
- 16 expenditures would be made was made in that time
- 17 frame. Probably was made after that decision came in.
- 18 O. Who made that decision?
- 19 A. A number of the officers at the company I'm
- 20 sure are involved in that decision.
- Q. Who would they be? I mean, who is
- 22 responsible for that area?
- 23 A. I would suspect Neil McReynolds at the time
- 24 was responsible.
- 25 MR. MANIFOLD: I have no other questions.

- 1 JUDGE HAENLE: Commissioners, have you
- 2 questions.
- 3 CHAIRMAN NELSON: No.
- 4 COMMISSIONER HEMSTAD: No.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Any redirect?
- 6 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No, Your Honor.
- 7 JUDGE HAENLE: Anything else of the
- 8 witness?
- 9 MS. JOHNSTON: I just have one other item,
- 10 Your Honor, and that is that there has been so much
- 11 discussion about staff request No. 76 and the
- 12 company's response to that request that I propose to
- 13 have copies made and have that DR and response entered
- 14 into the record.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No.
- 17 MR. MANIFOLD: No.
- 18 JUDGE HAENLE: Let's make that 36 then and
- 19 it will be entered when it is provided by Ms.
- 20 Johnston. Can you do that before people leave today?
- 21 MS. JOHNSTON: I certainly can.
- JUDGE HAENLE: That would be entered then.
- 23 That will be response to WUTC request No. 76.
- 24 (Marked and Admitted Exhibit 36.)
- JUDGE HAENLE: Anything more of the

- 1 witness?
- MS. JOHNSTON: No, Your Honor.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Thank you, you may step
- 4 down. Let's go off the record to change witnesses.
- 5 (Recess.)
- 6 JUDGE HAENLE: Let's be back on the record.
- 7 During the time we were off the record another witness
- 8 has assumed the stand.
- 9 Whereupon,
- JOHN STORY,
- 11 having been first duly sworn, was called as a
- 12 witness herein and was examined and testified as follows:
- 13
- 14 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 15 BY MR. VAN NOSTRAND:
- 16 Q. Would you state your name and spell it for
- 17 the record, please.
- 18 A. My name is John Story. Last name is
- 19 spelled S T O R Y.
- 20 Q. And you have before you what's been marked
- 21 for identification as Exhibit T-12?
- 22 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Do you recognize that document as your
- 24 prefiled direct testimony in this case?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And do you have any additions or
- 2 corrections to make to Exhibit T-12 other than as set
- 3 forth in the errata sheet circulated on July 11?
- 4 A. No, I don't.
- 5 Q. If I asked you the questions set forth in
- 6 Exhibit T-12 as corrected by that errata sheet, would
- 7 you give the answers set forth in that exhibit?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. You also have before you what's been marked
- 10 for identification as Exhibits 13 through 17?
- 11 A. Yes, I do.
- 12 Q. And Exhibit 13 is the revised exhibit
- 13 circulated around on July 11 and indicated by a
- 14 revised 7-11-94 notation on that exhibit?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Do you have any additions or corrections to
- 17 make to Exhibits 13, 17 and at this time?
- 18 A. No, I don't.
- 19 Q. Were they prepared under your direction and
- 20 supervision?
- 21 A. Yes, they were.
- Q. Are they true and correct to the best of
- 23 your knowledge?
- 24 A. Yes, they are.
- 25 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: Move the admission of

- 1 Exhibit T-12 and Exhibits 13 through 17, and Mr. Story
- 2 is available for cross-examination.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- 4 All right. T-12 and 13 through 17 will be
- 5 entered into the record.
- 6 (Admitted Exhibits T-12 and 13 through 17.)
- 7 JUDGE HAENLE: Go ahead.

- 9 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 10 BY MS. JOHNSTON:
- 11 Q. Mr. Story, please turn to Exhibit 16.
- 12 A. Was that 16 or 15?
- 13 Q. 16, JHS-5. Is it true that the rates of
- 14 return under the reported column represent the rates
- 15 of return as reported to this Commission under the
- 16 Commission's reporting requirements?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Is it also true that the figure used to
- 19 calculate these percentages are based on actual
- 20 figures and do not contain any normalizing or proforma
- 21 adjustments as usually made in a rate case?
- 22 A. That's correct.
- 23 Q. Is it true that staff during its visit to
- 24 the company in connection with the review of your
- 25 filing noted and pointed out to the company that a

- 1 certain item, specifically the average debt balance
- 2 and the residential exchange account, was improperly
- 3 added to the rate base used in the rate of return
- 4 calculation?
- 5 A. I believe I've got something on that, yes.
- 6 Q. And do you concur with staff's finding?
- 7 A. I believe it shouldn't have been, right.
- 8 Q. Would you agree that if such an error is
- 9 corrected that the reported rate of return from March
- 10 1994 of 9.21 percent would change to 9.24 percent and
- 11 the December of rate of return would change to 9.75
- 12 percent?
- 13 A. I will accept that subject to check. I
- 14 don't believe the numbers are right. I think we ran
- 15 the numbers and they didn't change, but I will accept
- 16 it subject to check if you have something for me to
- 17 look at.
- 18 JUDGE HAENLE: You've handed me a two-page
- 19 document. The caption at the top of the first page is
- 20 Rate of Return on Rate Base. I will mark this as
- 21 Exhibit 37 for identification.
- 22 (Marked Exhibit 37.)
- 23 Q. Mr. Story, do you recognize this as
- 24 consisting of update to the Exhibit 16 data covering
- 25 the years ended April and May 1994 and showing rates

- 1 of return of 9.24 percent as being earned for both
- 2 periods?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And if these rates of return are corrected
- 5 for the improper item in rate base, would you accept
- 6 subject to check that the April rate of return would
- 7 change to 9.27 percent and the May figure would change
- 8 to 9.28 percent?
- 9 A. Again, I would have to accept it subject to
- 10 check.
- MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, as the next
- 12 record requisition I would like to ask Mr. Story to
- 13 please provide the corresponding percentages under the
- 14 column adjusted for these corrected reported rates of
- 15 return, i.e., December through May 1994, and if
- 16 already available, could you include both corrected
- 17 information reported and adjusted for June of 1994?
- 18 THE WITNESS: Sure.
- 19 JUDGE HAENLE: That will be record
- 20 requisition 2.
- 21 (Record requisition 2.)
- 22 Q. Is it correct that in March of 1994 the
- 23 company booked an after tax write-off of approximately
- 24 4 and a half million in connection with its voluntary
- 25 separation program?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Is it also true that this write-off is
- 3 nonrecurring in nature?
- 4 A. That's true, yes.
- 5 Q. Do you know the impact of this write-off on
- 6 the March 1994 rate of return?
- 7 A. You would take 4 and a half million away
- 8 from operating income and divide it by the same rate
- 9 base.
- 10 Q. Could you please provide that as a record
- 11 requisition, i.e., what you reported as an adjusted
- 12 rate of return for the period ended March absent what
- 13 the write-off would be?
- 14 A. Sure.
- 15 JUDGE HAENLE: That will be No. 3.
- 16 (Record Requisition 3.)
- 17 Q. Now, this write-off was incurred because
- 18 the company envisioned that benefits will rise in the
- 19 future and will exceed the costs, and, in other words,
- 20 you would expect that future costs would be lower by
- 21 more than the level of costs that the company paid in
- 22 March. Is that true?
- 23 A. We didn't pay anything in March. That's a
- 24 recording of future benefits. It's estimated that in
- 25 one year we will have that amount savings, right.

- 1 Q. Please turn to page 4, first paragraph of
- 2 your testimony.
- 3 JUDGE HAENLE: Did you intend to move the
- 4 entry of 37?
- 5 MS. JOHNSTON: Yes, I do, Your Honor.
- 6 Thank you.
- 7 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- 8 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No, Your Honor.
- 9 JUDGE HAENLE: 37 will be entered into the
- 10 record.
- 11 (Admitted Exhibit 37.)
- 12 Q. The first paragraph you state that the
- 13 company is requesting that the Commission allow it to
- 14 cover the actual costs associated with the additional
- 15 items moved from base to resource categories. When
- 16 you say "in the future," are you talking about a PRAM
- 17 4 period true-up or something else? Could you clarify
- 18 the time frame you're referring to?
- 19 A. We were talking about starting with this
- 20 PRAM. When it's implemented in October we would start
- 21 truing up to actuals just on the additional costs
- 22 removed or moved over from base to resource.
- 23 Q. To illustrate this true-up you state on
- 24 line 17 of your testimony on page 4 that allowed
- 25 revenue from these items when trued up will increase

- 1 your allowed revenues by \$700,000. Is that true?
- 2 A. Yes, approximately.
- JUDGE HAENLE: You handed me a one-page
- 4 document. The caption at the top is Costs Moved From
- 5 Base To Resource Per UE 921262, and there's a 1
- 6 circled in the upper right-hand corner. I will mark
- 7 this as 38 for identification.
- 8 (Marked Exhibit 38.)
- JUDGE HAENLE: There are, I note,
- 10 handwritten notes and numbers and letters on the face
- 11 of the document.
- 12 Q. Mr. Story, do you recognize what's been
- 13 marked for identification as Exhibit 38 as page 1 of
- 14 42 of the supporting calculation for the \$700,000
- 15 allowed revenue increase that you talked about in your
- 16 testimony you just mentioned?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 O. And the handwritten numbers and letters
- 19 appearing on this work paper were added by the
- 20 company; is that right?
- 21 A. Right. They are cross-references to the
- 22 supporting pages.
- MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, move the
- 24 admission of Exhibit 38.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?

- 1 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No.
- JUDGE HAENLE: 38 will be entered into the
- 3 record.
- 4 (Admitted Exhibit 38.)
- 5 Q. Can you estimate for us how much personnel
- 6 time was spent to do the true-up?
- 7 A. I don't believe it was long. No, I
- 8 couldn't. It was hours probably.
- 9 Q. That's your guess or what do you base that
- 10 on?
- 11 A. By just looking at the costs here, I would
- 12 say multiplying, take a couple of hours. Just to
- 13 get the supporting materials is the main thing to get
- 14 the actual number. The actual looking at what ones
- 15 would be trued up takes very little time. All you
- 16 have to do is go to the unit cost analysis and get the
- 17 dollars. To get the supporting materials and cross-
- 18 reference it and support why they're changing could
- 19 take a couple of hours.
- Q. From this exhibit, is it correct to
- 21 conclude that if the company is allowed to recover its
- 22 actual costs for the items listed during the 1993
- 23 period it would result in a negative deferral of 1.7
- 24 million as shown on line 37 under the reported
- 25 difference column?

- 1 A. No, it's the far right-hand column. The
- 2 negative 1 million 711 includes Skagit and Creston
- 3 which have already been adjusted out. When you remove
- 4 them as one of the items that's been trued up already
- 5 in this rate case it's the remaining item, the
- 6 \$700,000. If you look at during those two columns the
- 7 only difference is the Skaqit, Hanford and the Creston
- 8 lines, so when you remove those, when they're already
- 9 taken out and trued up to actual, the remainder is
- 10 \$700,000 positive.
- 11 Q. I'm not talking about prospectively, Mr.
- 12 Story. My question referred to the 1993 period. Does
- 13 that change your answer at all?
- 14 A. If you were looking at 1993, that would
- 15 have been the case, yes.
- 16 Q. You're not proposing to recover your actual
- 17 costs for the 1993 period, are you?
- 18 A. We're not proposing anything retroactive.
- 19 It's proforma. Future.
- Q. It's true, isn't it, that certain cost
- 21 items depicted in your exhibit, for example, wages on
- 22 line 10, were contested items in the general rate
- 23 case?
- A. Yes, but these are actual costs now.
- 25 That's one other point to that you should be aware of.

- 1 We just picked a point in time to say this is what it
- 2 would look like. This would have to be trued up if
- 3 you were looking at '93-94 time period. It would
- 4 have to be trued up to the September numbers. This is
- 5 just an example of how it would be done.
- 6 Q. Since you were proposing to reflect actual
- 7 costs as they are incurred, is it fair to say that the
- 8 company would expect the same degree of controversy
- 9 and scrutiny surrounding these actual costs that was
- 10 accorded those contested items in the general rate
- 11 case?
- 12 A. Not really. I think you're dealing with
- 13 actual costs again and in a rate case you're dealing
- 14 with proforma costs. Some of the things like wages,
- 15 you deal with wage increases, what is a true impact
- 16 on salaries. With this number you're dealing with
- 17 actuals. They are what they are.
- 18 Q. Is it true that the items listed on this
- 19 exhibit are related to production and that certain
- 20 items are in the base category? For example, payroll
- 21 overhead and wages are only those allocated to
- 22 production and do not constitute the total company
- 23 payroll and wages?
- 24 A. Right. I believe this example was taken
- 25 off of the Commission basis report for December 31,

- 1 '93 and these would be what would be allowed on the
- 2 production adjustment.
- 3 Q. Under your proposal, you're not proposing
- 4 to true up the corresponding items that are in the
- 5 base category, are you?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. In regard to the production rate base,
- 8 which is an element adjusted by the production factor
- 9 and was a part of the production adjustment in the
- 10 last general rate case, you are not proposing to true
- 11 it up to actual either, am I right?
- 12 A. You're talking just about the adjustment?
- 13 Q. Yes.
- 14 A. The .936, no.
- 15 JUDGE HAENLE: Am I right, no, or you were
- 16 not proposing that?
- 17 A. We're not proposing to change that, no.
- 18 Q. Would you accept subject to check that the
- 19 actual production rate base for the 12 months ended
- 20 June 1993 is \$605,081,802?
- 21 A. Subject to check.
- 22 Q. I will direct your attention to your
- 23 response to staff request 63 to assist you in your
- 24 checking that figure.
- 25 Would you also accept subject to check that

- 1 the actual production rate base for the 12 months
- 2 ended December 1993 is \$590,553,604 per your
- 3 semi-annual report to this Commission?
- 4 A. What was the date?
- 5 Q. 12 months ended December 1993.
- 6 A. Subject to check.
- 7 Q. Would you also accept subject to check that
- 8 the rate year level of production rate base as
- 9 determined in the last general rate case is
- 10 \$624,673,102?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 MS. JOHNSTON: Would you look for a good
- 13 stopping point the next five minutes or so for a lunch
- 14 break.
- 15 JUDGE HAENLE: You've handed me a one-page
- 16 document. In the upper left-hand corner is the date
- 17 April 29, 1994. The heading at the center is Outlet.
- 18 I will mark this as 39 for identification.
- 19 (Marked Exhibit 39.)
- 20 Q. Do you recognize this document as page 6 of
- 21 the company's April 29, 1994 issue of the Outlet?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. The Outlet is the company magazine?
- A. Right.
- 25 Q. This discusses, this particular page

- 1 discusses revenues, power costs other O and M and
- 2 other operating expenses, does it not?
- 3 A. Yes, it does.
- 4 Q. The feature article talks about the
- 5 company's attempts to improve its operating results
- 6 for 1994. Would you agree with that characterization?
- 7 A. It's been a while since I read the article
- 8 and I would assume that's what it's doing, yes.
- 9 Q. Like to direct your attention to the last
- 10 sentence of the first column. It reads, "the fleet
- 11 cutbacks have allowed us to see a reduction in our
- 12 costs to date but we really see the full impact of
- 13 savings going forward." Do you see that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Another statement under the last section
- 16 pertains to negotiations with the state resulting in
- 17 savings of more than 4 and a half million to Puget
- 18 over a three-year period. Do you see that?
- 19 A. I'm sorry. Where were you?
- 20 Q. Last section, other operating expenses,
- 21 third column.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Would you accept -- based on these
- 24 statements would you agree that these are anticipated
- 25 savings and cost reductions and are not or are only

- 1 partially reflective of proformed in the last general
- 2 rate case?
- 3 A. Well, the fleet was proformed and the
- 4 property tax I can't recall if that was or not, but
- 5 they are since the last general rate case.
- 6 Q. Would you accept subject to check that the
- 7 1993 FERC form 1 reports for the year ended 1993 and
- 8 administrative and general expense amount of
- 9 \$62,959,055 and for the previous year 1992 the amount
- 10 was 465,094,910?
- 11 A. Yes, but you can't take those numbers and
- 12 compare them and say that they're equivalent.
- 13 Q. Please turn to Exhibit 13.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Did you wish to move the
- 15 entry of this?
- MS. JOHNSTON: Yes, Your Honor.
- 17 JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection to the entry?
- 18 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No, Your Honor.
- 19 JUDGE HAENLE: 39 will be entered into the
- 20 record.
- 21 (Admitted Exhibit 39.)
- 22 A. I have it.
- 23 Q. Page 1, line 23, the administrative and
- 24 general expense allowed in general rate case,
- 25 \$69,826,718 of which about one and a half million is

1 allocated to resource cost and 68.3 million is allocated to base. Is that a fair reading? A. Yes. MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, this would be a good time to break for lunch. My next subject pertains to revenue per customer allowance. JUDGE HAENLE: Let's break at this time. Be back at 1:30, please. (Lunch recess at 12:00 p.m.)

1 AFTERNOON SESSION

- 2 JUDGE HAENLE: Let's be back on the record
- 3 after our lunch recess. While we were off the record
- 4 Ms. Johnston distributed 76 which has already been
- 5 entered. Be sure that you got your copy, please. I'm
- 6 also told that the -- I had the protective order done
- 7 over the lunch hour and it's at the record center now
- 8 and will be served this afternoon so that will go out
- 9 today. Is there anything else we need to cover before
- 10 we continue? Why don't you go ahead, Ms. Johnston.
- 11 MS. JOHNSTON: I'm sorry, I wasn't
- 12 listening. Did you admit No. 76?
- JUDGE HAENLE: 76 was already admitted, I
- 14 had thought.
- 15 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: You reserved a spot for
- 16 it, I believe.
- 17 JUDGE HAENLE: I thought that I had
- 18 admitted it. If I had not, let me ask then, is there
- 19 any objection to its admission?
- MR. MANIFOLD: No.
- 21 JUDGE HAENLE: Excellent. Then it is
- 22 admitted. I appreciate it. If I missed that I
- 23 certainly didn't mean to.
- Q. Mr. Story, back to the issue of revenue per
- 25 customer allowance. Could you please turn to your

- 1 revised Exhibit 13.
- 2 A. I have it.
- 3 Q. Is it true that page 1 of that exhibit
- 4 reflects the revenue requirement and base cost per
- 5 customer calculation before making the correction for
- 6 Skagit, Hanford and Creston?
- 7 A. Before backing them out, yes, that's
- 8 correct.
- 9 Q. And page 2 reflects the revision, is that
- 10 true?
- 11 A. Yes, it does.
- 12 Q. Directing your attention to column 8 on
- 13 both pages, is it correct that the difference between
- 14 the base revenue requirement on line 50 under those
- 15 columns is \$5,860,510 or can you accept that figure
- 16 subject to check?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Is it true that this 5.8 million is wholly
- 19 associated with Skagit, Hanford and Creston?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. It's not true. Could you please explain
- 22 that.
- 23 A. Yes. The way the revenue requirement is
- 24 done, you get a rate base number, apply the rate of
- 25 return and come down with what your income is that has

- 1 to be earned to get a rate of return. From that you
- 2 deduct your net operating income. The result -- the
- 3 remaining amount is adjusted by your conversion factor
- 4 to get your proper revenue to get your rate of return
- 5 on rate base. When we change the net operating income
- 6 because we backed out Skagit and Creston, that
- 7 resulting net operating income is now higher, so those
- 8 taxes are related to all rate base and they're
- 9 adjusted for in column 5, line 36 through 47. The same
- 10 rate base didn't change, those taxes remained the same
- 11 as they were previously, but it does change your
- 12 overall taxes you have to collect during your return.
- Q. Please turn to your Exhibit 14, JHS-3.
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. On line 30, is it true that the 53.1
- 16 million is the amount of deferred revenues that you
- 17 are proposing to collect in rates in this filing?
- 18 A. Actually we're asking for approval of the
- 19 full amount of 84 million. We're asking for recovery
- 20 of the 53 million, right.
- 21 Q. The amount on line 26 of 41.8 million is
- 22 the minimum amount that can be recovered without
- 23 affecting the company's practice of recognizing
- 24 deferrals as revenue at the time they are incurred; is
- 25 that right?

- 1 A. Yes, but that carries with it a certain
- 2 problem that if you don't have any offsets against
- 3 the remaining 12 million for the October through
- 4 December time period, you could be required to collect
- 5 12 million of deferral in three months of the PRAM
- 6 period in the second year to remain within two years
- 7 of deferral.
- 8 Q. The amount of 11.3 million shown on line 28
- 9 can be recovered after PRAM 4 without affecting
- 10 revenue requisition as long as it does not go past the
- 11 end of December 1995. Is that true?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. Yesterday we received new response to staff
- 14 data request pertaining to your financial forecast.
- 15 Is it true that in your financial forecast there is no
- 16 rate of return on rate base calculation because per
- 17 the response, "rate base was not forecast by the
- 18 corporate financial model"?
- 19 A. The financial model does not do a rate base
- 20 determination under the state methodology. It does do
- 21 a return on equity.
- 22 Q. So the answer is yes?
- 23 A. Yes, it isn't.
- 24 JUDGE HAENLE: You've handed me two
- 25 documents which I've marked for identification as

- 1 follows: The first is a four-page document, Actuals
- 2 Through April 1994 and it has a 38 with a circle
- 3 around it in one of the corners. The second is a
- 4 multi-page document entitled Customer Count True-Up
- 5 Actuals Through October 1993. It has a 75 with a
- 6 circle around it in the corner. I will mark the first
- 7 one as 40, the second one as 41.
- 8 (Marked Exhibits 40 and 41.)
- 9 Q. Mr. Story, do you recognize what's been
- 10 marked as Exhibits 40 and 41 for identification as
- 11 portions of your work papers?
- 12 A. Yes.
- MS. JOHNSTON: I move the admission of
- 14 Exhibits 40 and 41, please.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- MR. MANIFOLD: No.
- JUDGE HAENLE: 40 and 41 will be entered
- 18 into the record.
- 19 (Admitted Exhibit 40 and 41.)
- 20 Q. Turn first to Exhibit 40, please. Page 38,
- 21 the first page of this shows the calculation of the
- 22 amount of deferrals for the first seven months of PRAM
- 23 3 which is the period of October 1993 through April of
- 24 1994. Is that true?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- 1 Q. Please turn to Exhibit 41. Do these pages
- 2 show the calculation of the trued-up customer count
- 3 figures for the months of October of 1993 and April
- 4 1994?
- 5 A. Well, they are October through April, yes:
- 6 I'm sorry. Which one are you on again? Are you still
- 7 on Exhibit 40?
- 8 Q. Excuse me just a moment. On Exhibit 40.
- 9 Do these pages show the calculations of the trued-up
- 10 customer count figures for the months of October 1993
- 11 through April 1994?
- 12 A. On line --
- 13 Q. 2, I believe it is.
- 14 A. Right. You can't just -- in the month of
- 15 April the 806,947 is the trued up customer count
- 16 through April for that month and in March, you know,
- 17 it would be a different number because you had less
- 18 actuals, so these numbers, you know, at that point,
- 19 each month at that point in time that's what we're
- 20 estimating that month's -- in that month what the
- 21 12-month average is going to be and then it's trued up
- 22 the next month.
- 23 Q. Please turn to page -- your work paper
- 24 numbered 75 of Exhibit 41. Does this page show the
- 25 calculation of the trued-up customer count for the

- 1 month of October 1993?
- 2 A. Right.
- 3 Q. Looking at column D, the column entitled
- 4 Actual Count, is the figure of 806,229 at the bottom
- 5 of this column the trued-up customer count for the
- 6 month of October 1993?
- 7 A. Right. It's using the actual count for
- 8 October and then the deltas to calculate the customer
- 9 count for each month after that. So there's estimates
- 10 involved.
- 11 Q. Is it true that the 806,229 figure is the
- 12 trued-up customer count for the month of October
- 13 1993?
- 14 A. No. It's the customer count for the rate
- 15 year using an October actual number.
- 16 Q. Could you take a look at Exhibit 40 again.
- 17 Look at line 21 under the column headed October 1993.
- 18 A. Right.
- 19 Q. If you go down to customer count --
- 20 A. 806,229.
- 21 Q. -- it shows that figure.
- 22 A. That's the estimate in October what we
- 23 think the average customer count will be for the PRAM
- 24 3 period using an October actual customer count
- 25 number. What we're trying to do with this -- maybe

- 1 just go through a brief explanation -- is when we file
- 2 a PRAM we file an estimated customer count to do the
- 3 calculation on the base revenues. As we go through
- 4 the PRAM, each month we true that customer count up
- 5 and that customer count is for the rate year, the PRAM
- 6 year.
- 7 In October we now have an October actual
- 8 customer count number which is the 798,992 shown on
- 9 line 2, Exhibit 41, column D. We now have that
- 10 actual. We use the deltas from the forecast to
- 11 calculate customer count for each of the remaining
- 12 months, and then we just take a simple average to get
- 13 the average for the year. The 806,229 is our new
- 14 calculation of what the average customer count will be
- 15 for the PRAM 4 or PRAM 3 period. If you go to page
- 16 76 you see on line 3 -- if you look at line 2, it's
- 17 not changed, it's still 798,992 but now we have an
- 18 actual count for November of '93 of 800,654. We had
- 19 estimated it was going to be 800,581 in October. The
- 20 800,654 is an actual count for November. We then take
- 21 the deltas for December, January, February to
- 22 calculate the new customer count for each month and we
- 23 come up with a new average customer count for the year
- 24 of 806,235. So this is slowly getting to the actual
- 25 count for the year as we get the actual counts in.

- 1 Q. Is it true that the delta increase numbers
- 2 are the numbers of customer growth estimated by the
- 3 company for each month?
- 4 A. That's the forecast, yes.
- 5 Q. So of the twelve months of customer count
- 6 used by the company in the calculation of the trued-
- 7 up customer count for the months of October of 1993,
- 8 only the number for the month of October of 1993 is an
- 9 actual customer count and the rest of them are
- 10 estimates based on the company's forecasts of customer
- 11 growth for each month?
- 12 A. Right, and that's what I just said, we
- 13 slowly move toward what the actual counsel is for the
- 14 PRAM 4.
- 15 Q. Is it also true, then, that the trued-
- 16 up customer count figures for the months of November
- 17 of 1993 through April 1994 as shown on pages 76
- 18 through 81 of this exhibit are also estimates because
- 19 the calculation of each of those figures also involves
- 20 a number of estimated customer counts?
- 21 A. Each one would have remaining motion until
- 22 you get to September which then they would all be.
- 23 MS. JOHNSTON: Your Honor, did I move the
- 24 admission of 40 and 41?
- JUDGE HAENLE: Yes, you did, and they were

- 1 admitted.
- 2 MS. JOHNSTON: Can we go off the record for
- 3 just a minute. I have one other data response that I
- 4 would like to have entered into the record and then I
- 5 am through with my questions for Mr. Story.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Let's go off the record
- 7 then.
- 8 (Discussion off the record.)
- 9 JUDGE HAENLE: Let's be back on the record.
- 10 We determined while we were off the record that it has
- 11 been provided, apparently. I guess your copies are
- 12 here. That was excellent timing.
- You've handed me a multi-page document.
- 14 The caption at the top is Response to Staff Data
- 15 Request 97. I will mark this as 42 for
- 16 identification.
- 17 (Marked Exhibit 42.)
- 18 Q. Do you recognize what's been handed to you
- 19 as Exhibit 42 for identification as your response to
- 20 staff data request 97?
- 21 A. Yes.
- MS. JOHNSTON: Move the Commission
- 23 admission of Exhibit 42, please.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Any objection?
- 25 42 will be entered into the record.

- 1 (Admitted Exhibit 42.)
- 2 Q. In the general rate case order, the
- 3 Commission disallowed \$652,000 of conservation
- 4 advertising. Is that correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. The response to this data request, Exhibit
- 7 42, is the company's attempt to implement that part of
- 8 the Commission's order. Is that true?
- 9 A. I don't know about the word attempt. It's
- 10 implementing it.
- 11 Q. The end result of this series of journal
- 12 entries is that a credit of \$652,000 is in the layer
- 13 of conservation rate base being requested in this PRAM
- 14 4. Is that true?
- 15 A. That's correct.
- Q. And this \$652,000 is earning negative AFUCE
- 17 until it is included in rate base; is that correct?
- 18 A. That's right.
- 19 Q. As a part of account 18233, conservation
- 20 not in rate base, this credit will formally be
- 21 included in rate base as of October 1, 1994?
- 22 A. Right.
- 23 MS. JOHNSTON: Thank you. I have no
- 24 further questions.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Mr. Manifold.

1	MR. MANIFOLD: Just a few.
2	
3	CROSS-EXAMINATION
4	BY MR. MANIFOLD:
5	Q. Mr. Story, I have a few questions about
6	your proposal on pages I think it's 7 to 10 of your
7	testimony regarding interest, and it's mainly to
8	understand exactly what it is you're proposing. Let
9	you know where I'm going. Is your proposal exactly
LO	the same as what had been ordered previously until it
L1	was in a prior Commission order, I think it was
L2	PRAM 1, there was interest ordered when the deferrals
L3	were going to be when the deferrals were going to
L4	be amortized over a three-year period; is that right?
L5	A. Right. It's a little different than that
L6	because a piece of this is in working capital.
L7	Q. Could you explain what that difference is.
L8	A. Well, you have to give a credit for that
L9	piece that's earning in working capital, so we would
20	be deferring interest on the balance and giving a
21	credit back for what had been built into rates through
22	working capital.
23	Q. Does this result in more interest being

24 accumulated than would have been under that other

25 procedure?

- 1 A. From the original, no, it shouldn't. It
- 2 should be less.
- 3 Q. Is your proposal here to start collecting
- 4 interest or start assessing interest as of the time
- 5 that the deferral is approved in a PRAM proceeding or
- 6 at the time that a deferral is first accrued on the
- 7 company's books?
- 8 A. When it's first accrued.
- 9 Q. Is it your understanding that that's what
- 10 the Commission had done in that prior order?
- 11 A. That's my understanding. Any adjustment to
- 12 that accrual, a deferred amount would also go back and
- 13 adjust for interest, so if something was determined it
- 14 shouldn't have been deferred you would adjust the
- 15 interest also?
- 16 Q. Bear with me. I'm not an accountant. My
- 17 -- it sounds to me like your proposal is to start
- 18 collecting interest from each month that revenues are
- 19 different than projected to be?
- 20 A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. So if --
- 22 A. It wouldn't be a collection, though. It
- 23 would just be a recording of the interest of the
- 24 deferred amount.
- Q. So if this was implemented starting with

- 1 this proceeding that would mean in October of 1994 if
- 2 actual recoveries were less than projected recoveries,
- 3 there would be a deferral booked and then you would
- 4 start booking interest on that deferral?
- 5 A. Right, and the balance that's there already
- 6 as of October.
- 7 O. The balance that has been accumulated in
- 8 the past and that is not being set for collection as
- 9 of this case?
- 10 A. Well, it would be whatever the balance is
- 11 in the account plus any new charges or credits.
- 12 Q. And it was my understanding that the prior
- 13 Commission order was that there would be interest only
- 14 on that part of the deferral that was not being
- 15 collected as of the end of a particular PRAM
- 16 proceeding?
- 17 A. That wasn't my understanding. It was --
- 18 you treat it just like any other balance that has,
- 19 and if it goes negative you actually pay interest.
- 20 Whatever is there is treated as a positive or negative
- 21 interest.
- Q. Has it ever gone negative so far?
- 23 A. No, and that's one of the problems that we
- 24 have. It just keeps building.
- MR. MANIFOLD: Thank you.

- 1 A. I'm sorry. It did go negative the first
- 2 three months. It got to be about 6 million dollars
- 3 negative.
- 4 Q. Anything else?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 MR. MANIFOLD: I have no other questions.

- 8 EXAMINATION
- 9 BY JUDGE HAENLE:
- 10 Q. Referring to page 9 of your testimony and
- 11 page 8 of your testimony, you discuss your calculation
- 12 in Exhibit 15 but then I think you say that you're not
- 13 requesting recovery of most of what's in Exhibit 15.
- 14 Is that right or have I misunderstood?
- 15 A. We're not requesting for that interest for
- 16 previous periods. We're asking to start the interest
- 17 October 1, the interest calculation.
- 18 Q. Why did you do Exhibit 15 then?
- 19 A. Just to show the costs that the company is
- 20 bearing right now on having this balance there.
- 21 Q. Referring to Exhibit 38, it appears that
- 22 your calculations indicate increases in both
- 23 production depreciation and production taxes. Do
- 24 these increases include the addition of new generating
- 25 resources?

- 1 A. Which lines are you looking at? I'm sorry.
- 2 Q. Line 11 in particular and line 14.
- 3 A. Total taxes, other, so it's most probably
- 4 just increases in property taxes. The depreciation is
- 5 most probably on replacement, new replacement. I
- 6 wouldn't know without getting into the detail exactly
- 7 what caused those increases.
- 8 Q. Does your proposal for true-ups include new
- 9 generating plants not included in the previous general
- 10 rate case?
- 11 A. It would be what the production
- 12 depreciation is, yes.
- 13 Q. And so that does include new plant. Which
- 14 ones?
- 15 A. We don't have any new production plant.
- 16 It's just whatever replacements would be put in. You
- 17 have retirements and replacements.
- 18 O. But it would include them if there were new
- 19 ones; is that correct?
- 20 A. I guess under the way our proposal is right
- 21 now it would. We hadn't really considered that as the
- 22 possibility because we aren't adding any production
- 23 plant, but normally if we had production plant we
- 24 would have to come in for general rates because
- 25 they're such large amounts.

- 1 JUDGE HAENLE: Did you have any redirect?
- MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No, Your Honor.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Commissioners, you said you
- 4 didn't have questions.
- 5 CHAIRMAN NELSON: I didn't.
- 6 JUDGE HAENLE: Anything more of the
- 7 witness, anyone?
- 8 All right. Thank you, sir, you may step
- 9 down. Do we have anything else we need to cover
- 10 today.
- MR. VAN NOSTRAND: No.
- 12 JUDGE HAENLE: As I say, that protective
- 13 order is supposed to be issued today so you should be
- 14 all set there. We'll recess then until the next
- 15 session. Thank you.
- 16 (Recess.)
- 17 JUDGE HAENLE: Let's be back on the record.
- 18 Just after we broke Ms. Johnston realized that she had
- 19 forgotten to distribute one additional packet of
- 20 documents. You indicated that this would not require
- 21 a witness particularly, Ms. Johnston.
- MS. JOHNSTON: That's correct.
- JUDGE HAENLE: I have seven pieces of
- 24 information or seven groups of information which I
- 25 have marked collectively as Exhibit 43 for

- 1 identification. The first page of each of those
- 2 little packets includes the following: First a letter
- 3 on Puget letterhead dated May 4, 1994 addressed to the
- 4 secretary of the Commission. Second, a multi-page
- 5 document entitled Request No. 217. I think that
- 6 refers to public counsel data request. The third
- 7 refers to public counsel data request 216. The next
- 8 refers to WUTC staff data request No. 94. Then a
- 9 multi-page group, the first page entitled Secondary
- 10 Purchase and Wheeling for Secondary Rate and has 109
- 11 in the upper right-hand corner. Then a two-page
- 12 packet which has quite a bit of writing on the side
- 13 of it saying "calculation of secondary purchase and
- 14 sales rate for PRAM 4." Much of it is handwritten,
- 15 and finally a multi-page group of 92 in the upper
- 16 right-hand corner and the title of the group is Simple
- 17 Dispatch Model Updates. Again I will mark this
- 18 collectively as 43 for identification. Is it all
- 19 right with you if these document are entered, Mr. Van
- 20 Nostrand.
- 21 (Marked Exhibit 43.)
- MR. VAN NOSTRAND: Yes, Your Honor.
- JUDGE HAENLE: Mr. Manifold?
- MR. MANIFOLD: Fine.
- JUDGE HAENLE: I will enter 43 then.

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1 Anything else we need to take care of?
               Hearing will be adjourned and we will meet
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 3
   next for cross of staff and intervenors.
               (Admitted Exhibit 43.)
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               (Hearing adjourned at 2:10 p.m.)
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