Docket No. UE-170717 - Vol. II

In the Matter of: Pacific Power & Light Company

June 19, 2018



206.287.9066 I 800.846.6989

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BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION	1 2	APPEARANCES (Cont.)	
		FOR BOISE WHITE PAPER:	
)	3	PATRICK J. OSHIE	
PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT) COMPANY,)	4	Davison Van Cleve, PC	
COMPANY,)	5	750 SW Harbor Way Portland, Oregon 97204	
2016 Power Cost Ádjustment)		(503) 241-7242	
Mechanism Report.)	6 7	pjo@dvclaw.com FOR PUBLIC COUNSEL:	
SETTLEMENT HEARING, VOLUME II	8	LISA GAFKEN	
Pages 10-45 CHAIRMAN DANNER, COMMISSIONERS ANN E. RENDAHL & JAY	9	Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General	
BALASBAS ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE GREGORY J. KOPTA	10	800 - 5th Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, Washington 98104	
	1 10	(206) 464-6595	
June 19, 2018	11	lisa.gafken@atg.wa.gov	
8:45 a.m.	12 13	ALSO PRESENT: MICHAEL WILDING	
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission		BRADLEY MULLINS	
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive Southwest	14	JASON BALL	
Olympia, Washington 98504	15 16		
		* * * *	
REPORTED BY: TAYLER GARLINGHOUSE, CCR 3358	17 18		
Buell Realtime Reporting, LLC 1325 Fourth Avenue	19		
Suite 1840	20		
Seattle, Washington 98101 (206) 287-9066 Seattle	21 22		
(360) 534-9066 Olympia	23		
(800) 846-6989 National www.buellrealtime.com	24 25		
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EXHIBITS FOR ADMISSION PAGE DMR-7C MSHA 103(k) Control Order 18	2	8:45 A.M.
(Confidential)	3	00
DMR-8C Staff Response to Pacific Power DRs 18	4	PROCEEDINGS
(Confidential) DMR-9 Boise White Paper Responses to 18	5	TROOLLDINGO
Pacific Power DRs (Confidential)	6	JUDGE KOPTA: Let's be on the record in
JLB-1CT Testimony of Jason Ball (Confidential) 18	7	Docket UE-170717 captioned In the Matter of Pacific
	8	Power & Light Company 2016 Power Cost Adjustment
JLB-2C Timeline of Events (Confidential) 18	9	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
JLB-3C Company Response to Informal UTC 18 Staff Data Request No. 3, Final Report	10	Mechanism.
of Investigation (Confidential)		We're here on Tuesday, June 19th, at 8:50 to
JLB-3C.a Supplement to Exh. JLB-3C providing 18	11 12	consider the settlement agreement that the parties have
legible copy of diagram on page 18		adopted and proposed for the Commission to approve.
(Confidential)	13	I'm Gregory J. Kopta, the administrative law
JLB-4 Company Response to UTC Staff Data 18 Request No. 1	14	judge who is presiding in this docket. The
JLB-5C Company Response to Informal UTC 18	15	Commissioners will be joining us momentarily, but as a
Staff Data Request Nos. 4 and 5, UTC Staff Data Request No. 2 and	16	preliminary matter, we wanted to take up the exhibits so
Confidential Attachment	17	that we have a full evidentiary record.
(Confidential) JLB-6C Staff Proposed Net Power Cost 18	18	We will wait to have appearances for counsel
Deferral (Confidential)	19	and identification of the witnesses until the
JLB-7C Graphical Illustration of Joy 18	20	Commissioners are here.
Longwall System (Confidential) JLB-8C Confidential Testimony of Cindy A. 18	21	So at this point, we have an exhibit list,
Crane in Docket UE-140762	22	and I will briefly recount the exhibits that are on this
(Confidential) JLB-9C Attachment to Company Confidential 18	23	list.
Response to UTC Staff Data Request No. 10 (Confidential)	24	For the settling parties, Exhibits SP-1
No. 10 (Confidential)	25	through SP-3; for Pacific Power, the testimony and
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EXHIBIT INDEX (Cont.) EXHIBITS FOR ADMISSION PAGE		Page 17
EXHIBIT INDEX (Cont.) EXHIBITS FOR ADMISSION PAGE BGM-1CT Response Testimony of Bradley G. 18 Mullins (Confidential)	1	Page 17 exhibits of Mr. Wilding are MGW-1T through MGW-5; the
EXHIBIT INDEX (Cont.) EXHIBITS FOR ADMISSION PAGE BGM-1CT Response Testimony of Bradley G. 18 Mullins (Confidential)	1 2	Page 17 exhibits of Mr. Wilding are MGW-1T through MGW-5; the testimony and exhibits of Mr. Thomas are RT-1CT and
EXHIBIT INDEX (Cont.) EXHIBITS FOR ADMISSION PAGE BGM-1CT Response Testimony of Bradley G. 18 Mullins (Confidential) BGM-2 Regulatory Appearances of Bradley 18 G. Mullins	1 2 3	exhibits of Mr. Wilding are MGW-1T through MGW-5; the testimony and exhibits of Mr. Thomas are RT-1CT and RT-2C; the exhibits of Mr. Ralston are DMR-1CT through DMR-9; for Commission Staff, Mr. Ball's testimony and
EXHIBIT INDEX (Cont.) EXHIBITS FOR ADMISSION PAGE BGM-1CT Response Testimony of Bradley G. 18 Mullins (Confidential) BGM-2 Regulatory Appearances of Bradley 18	1 2 3 4	exhibits of Mr. Wilding are MGW-1T through MGW-5; the testimony and exhibits of Mr. Thomas are RT-1CT and RT-2C; the exhibits of Mr. Ralston are DMR-1CT through DMR-9; for Commission Staff, Mr. Ball's testimony and exhibits are JLB-1CT through JLB-9C; for Boise White
EXHIBIT INDEX (Cont.) EXHIBITS FOR ADMISSION PAGE BGM-1CT Response Testimony of Bradley G. 18 Mullins (Confidential) BGM-2 Regulatory Appearances of Bradley 18 G. Mullins BGM-3C PCAM Balance Calculations 18 (Confidential)	1 2 3 4 5	exhibits of Mr. Wilding are MGW-1T through MGW-5; the testimony and exhibits of Mr. Thomas are RT-1CT and RT-2C; the exhibits of Mr. Ralston are DMR-1CT through DMR-9; for Commission Staff, Mr. Ball's testimony and exhibits are JLB-1CT through JLB-9C; for Boise White Paper, the testimony and exhibits of Mr. Mullins are
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Page 18 Page 20 1 MR. KUMAR: Thank you, Your Honor. On 1 described below, un-paren, does not exist elsewhere, 2 2 then the email should be considered an official Company behalf of the Pacific Power & Light Company, my name is 3 3 Ajay Kumar, and with me testifying on behalf of the record. 4 Pacific Power & Light Company, I have Mike Wilding, who 4 So in reading this, and reading the 5 5 is our director of net power costs. testimony, this question is for Mr. Wilding, how will 6 JUDGE KOPTA: Thank you. 6 Company officials know if a record doesn't exist such 7 7 that they should consider an email an official Company And for Commission Staff? 8 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Jennifer 8 record? What is the process for that? 9 Cameron-Rulkowski, Assistant Attorney General. 9 MR. WILDING: The first step of the process 10 10 JUDGE KOPTA: And for AWEC? will be for PacifiCorp to provide training at the level 11 MR. OSHIE: Your Honor, Patrick Oshie. 11 where we will need to retain those emails if other 12 representing Boise White Paper, LLC, in this instance. 12 documentation does not exist. And so that will be the And also, although not present today, Tyler Pepple, 13 13 first step, is to make sure executives are aware that 14 attorney of record. 14 they need to retain those, and the default will need to JUDGE KOPTA: Okay. And for Public Counsel? 15 15 be that unless they are aware, explicitly aware, of 16 MS. GAFKEN: Good morning. Lisa Gafken, 16 another document that has detailed a decision-making 17 Assistant Attorney General, appearing on behalf of 17 process, that they will need to save those emails. 18 Public Counsel. And since we're taking no position on 18 COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: Okay. Is there any 19 the settlement, we are not presenting a witness today. 19 intent to amend the email retention policy referenced in 20 JUDGE KOPTA: All right. Thank you. 20 the settlement? 21 21 MR. WILDING: No. And I think that is all the parties. And 22 22 COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: Okay. So I guess I I'd like for each of the witnesses to identify 23 23 yourselves very briefly. would ask, would it be a problem for the Company to 24 MR. WILDING: Michael Wilding with 24 provide Staff with information about the training that 25 PacifiCorp. 25 will be going on related to this? Page 19 Page 21 1 MR. BALL: Jason Ball, Commission Staff. 1 MR. WILDING: No. 2 MR. MULLINS: And Brad Mullins, here for 2 COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: Okay. That might be 3 3 Boise White Paper, LLC. something that would be very helpful. 4 JUDGE KOPTA: And if you would stand, 4 I don't know if anybody else has any 5 5 questions on that? Okay. please, and raise your right hand. 6 6 (Michael Wilding, Jason Ball, and Brad CHAIRMAN DANNER: No. 7 Mullins sworn.) 7 COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: Okay. And then I 8 JUDGE KOPTA: Thank you. You may be seated. 8 just want to clarify, and this is for all the parties, All right. Mr. Kumar, you said you had 9 that the parties' agreement on this topic doesn't 9 10 prepared an opening statement. Would you like to give 10 replace or limit the Commission's current prudent 11 11 that? standard in which the utility bears the burden to retain 12 MR. KUMAR: I think in the interest of just 12 contemporaneous documentation for the purpose of 13 13 demonstrating if an expense or purchase was prudent, moving this along, I don't think that's necessary, Your Honor. 14 does it? 14 15 JUDGE KOPTA: All right. Then we will go to 15 MR. WILDING: No. The Company still bears 16 16 questions from the bench of the witness panel. the burden of showing prudence for our decisions. 17 17 Commissioner Rendahl, did you want to begin? MR. BALL: This is Jason with the Commission COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: Sure. 18 18 Staff. The -- the -- the way we viewed it was the 19 So this question has to do with the part of 19 exact -- the same. This does not serve as a replacement 20 the settlement on paragraphs 9 and 10 that relates to 20 of any standard or of -- of any rules that currently 21 the decision-making analysis, the documentation, and the 21 exist. This is just about making sure that the Company 22 agreement about email retention. Paragraph 9 says --22 is aware of what the requirements are and that everyone 23 begins by saying, (as read) Pacific Power agrees that if 23 is operating off the same playbook. 24 an email that provides evidence of an action taken and a 24 MR. MULLINS: And this is Brad. I would 25 25 agree with Mr. Ball's statement, that it doesn't affect record of decision-making analysis, in parens, as

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the document retention policy. COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: Okay. And then did you want to...

CHAIRMAN DANNER: No, go ahead.

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COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: And then about the next provision about the actions, updating the actions at the coal mine. Paragraph 11 of the settlement stipulation refers to updating the actions related to the mine and methods to prevent a recurrence. That title I don't believe is confidential, even though I have just stated it because it's in the -- it's in the settlement, and it's also referenced in the confidential Exhibit SP-2C, at pages 10 and 11.

So my question first to the Company is, has the Company begun to implement those methods that are referenced in that confidential document?

MR. WILDING: Yes. And in Mr. Ralston's testimony, rebuttal testimony, he did outline the current status of those corrective actions. And the plan is -- you know, some of those actions are ongoing and will be implemented and ongoing from that point. And most of those have been either implemented or corrected, and we plan to -- to either have all of the action items implemented or corrected and in place by the time we file the first report or shortly after.

know, what the form of the update be. You know, we would hope that, you know, rather than, you know -- for each item, rather than saying whether, you know, an item was implemented or not, for the Company to go into sort of greater detail and explain how they're implementing each -- each item. But, you know, other than that, we didn't have any strong expectations about the -- about the update process.

COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: Okay. Thank you. JUDGE KOPTA: I actually, before we go farther, wanted to follow up a little bit on the prudence.

Couple of questions. One is, there are other aspects to this PCAM, Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism, than the Joy Longwall. Are there any -- are you requesting that the Commission make any finding in terms of the prudence of other expenses, costs, activities that the Company has undertaken that are part of the PCAM?

Mr. Ball, I'll direct the question to you. MR. BALL: The -- I believe I talked a little bit about this on page 5 of my direct testimony, starting at lines 15. The -- the Company's provided enough documentation, and we reviewed it to support all of the expenses and revenues that are included in the

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COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: Okay. So you'd agree that the settlement requires the Company to implement the actions that are in the method, not just to report any progress?

MR. WILDING: Yes.

COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: Okay. So when the Company provides its report to Staff, it will be providing documentation of its completion of those methods and those items?

MR. WILDING: Yes.

COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: Okay. And turning to Staff and to Boise White Paper, what is your expectation of what you'll receive in those reports?

MR. BALL: I'm not entirely sure because I haven't seen them. What I would expect to see is something that shows us that those actions have been implemented, how they were implemented, and to the extent that personnel have been trained on them. And if we don't think that the Company in the report provides enough information, we will talk to them and get more information. But I anticipate that what they'll be providing will be a pretty detailed showing of how and why they implemented those actions.

MR. MULLINS: And, I guess, you know -- I guess we didn't have any strong expectations on, you Page 25

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PCAM, and you're right, there's quite an extensive list of them, except for the Joy Longwall. That's the only piece of this that Staff was concerned with. The rest of it we looked at, we didn't see any issues. It looked all pretty -- relatively standard.

JUDGE KOPTA: So we're not -- the Commission would not be making any finding on prudence on any aspect of the PCAM as a result of this settlement if the Commission approves it, or is it?

MR. BALL: I -- I believe by approving the deferral, it's approving the expenses and revenues that are in that -- that are a part of that deferral. So yes, I believe the Commission would be passing judgment on the remaining level of expenses and revenues.

JUDGE KOPTA: But the Joy Longwall would be excluded from that implicit finding that the other activities were prudent?

MR. BALL: In the -- in the settlement stipulation, no. The settlement stipulation does not call out the Joy Longwall as an imprudent action. It just agrees to a \$3.5 million black box number. So no, the Commission, in approving the settlement, would not be -- would not be issuing a determination of imprudence. It would just be approving a settlement agreement around the nature of the deferral mechanism

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weaknesses were in your argument that got you from one number to another.

JUDGE KOPTA: Okay. And I'm just trying to make sure that I understand what the Commission would be doing if it approves the settlement stipulation. But there are other actions, other expenses that the Company has undertaken in the PCAM that because there are no issues, they're implicitly agreeing that they were prudent, but with the Joy Longwall, that wouldn't be included in that. We would be making no determination on prudence one way or the other with respect to those

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for this year.

costs and expenses?

And I'm trying to get a handle on that, and I was wondering if you could, without revealing confidential information, just give me an idea of -- of what -- what changed, what are the considerations that I'm not seeing here.

MR. BALL: Correct. That's the way I interpret the settlement. We're not -- we're not passing judgment on the prudence of these actions anymore. We're just agreeing to a number.

MR. BALL: Sure. So the -- the way I calculated my number in my direct testimony was two aspects. The first was the costs of recovery and abandonment, and the second piece was the lost -- or the change in power production expenses as a result of fallout from Joy Longwall. So there's those two pieces.

JUDGE KOPTA: And, Mr. Wilding, is that your understanding as well?

The problem with the latter is that it's basically a but for analysis that's pretty hard to do. And so what I -- what I did in my testimony was, I tried to find a reasonable outcome that approximated what I think would have happened had Joy Longwall incident not occurred.

MR. WILDING: Yes. I would agree that there would be no prudence determination made for the cost associated with the Joy Longwall.

MR. MULLINS: I think for the non-Joy

Longwall costs, because the Commission would be

But when it came to settlement discussions, what I was primarily interested in and what I think -what I think the parties were primarily interested in was not being punitive to the Company, but rather trying to come up with a way to make sure that this doesn't happen again.

JUDGE KOPTA: Mr. Mullins?

approving balance, it would be implicitly making a prudence finding on the remainder of cost. With respect

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to the Joy Longwall stipulation, did not specifically call out the Joy Longwall as leading to the black box \$3.5 million adjustment, but, you know, the amount was reached in a -- in a settlement where the primary issue was -- was the Joy Longwall.

And so, you know, from that perspective, it's maybe just a matter of semantics whether the Commission might, you know, explicitly say that the Joy Longwall costs are imprudent or accept the stipulation with the black box adjustment for those costs.

JUDGE KOPTA: Okay. Thank you. I think that clarifies things.

Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN DANNER: Yeah. So let me follow up

I mean, you know, we always have this problem with black box settlements because we don't know what's in the black box.

But, Mr. Ball, in your initial testimony, you recommended removing 11.2 million from the actual cost, the power costs that were associated with the 2016 PCAM deferral period, and that was based on -- well, you know what they were based on. The number you arrived at is 3.5. I'm -- I'm -- that to me, that's quite a jump, and I didn't see any -- I wasn't sure what the

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The lost power production expenses, I think that there -- my testimony -- I support my testimony. I think that it was valid. I think that there were expenses that should -- that probably would not have been there, but I think the Company filed rebuttal, and in that rebuttal, they pointed out some of the problems with trying to make that logical leap. And they provided some good counterexamples of why it's really difficult to go back in time and understand exactly what would have changed if the operation were mined for an entire year.

So I -- when I went to the settlement at the beginning, in my mind, it was not about, oh, I need to get half of what I asked for in my testimony. I was there trying to figure out what is the best solution for ratepayers, for the Company, and for the public at large.

CHAIRMAN DANNER: And so when you say you don't want to be punitive to the Company, obviously you know the other side of the coin is you might be being punitive to the -- to the ratepayers. But you feel that at this point, this is -- this is a fair outcome and that the ratepayers are not holding the bag for something that they shouldn't be?

MR. BALL: Yes. I think that this -- that

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the black box settlement results in a number that holds them harmless for an asset that -- that became inoperable, and I think that it holds them harmless, and it puts the Company on notice for what we expect going forward about document retention, and it puts them on the hook for making sure that they implement new best practices that prevent this from reoccurring.

MR. KUMAR: Your Honor, before we go down too far on this path, I would like to just express some concern about attempting to sort of pull apart the black box settlement.

I think that's sort of the -- to reflect back on, I think, some of the comments that Mr. Mullins has made, I think the prudence or imprudence of the Joy Longwall, the fact that it's -- it's sort of not making a determination on that, it's sort of an essential piece of the settlement. And so I think that should be reflected in the record and --

CHAIRMAN DANNER: So I understand, Mr. Kumar. I -- my concern is when it's a black box, it's basically telling us -- I mean, our -- our options are to say yes or no. And the more I can tease this out, the more it might come to an outcome that I'm satisfied with. And so I'm trying to figure out how -- you know, how far I can go in this questioning because

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MR. KUMAR: Yes.
CHAIRMAN DANNER: It's not -- it's the --

well --

MR. KUMAR: I think it's also -- there's a larger issue, and I think the Company has serious concerns about a larger determination on the prudence of the Joy Longwall. I think one of the essential rules of the settlement is that we don't come to -- that we recommend the Commission will come to a determination on the prudent rule of the Joy Longwall. And so I think that's -- to go too far down that path would raise some deep concerns with the Company.

CHAIRMAN DANNER: So am I left in a position of having to make a data-free decision here?

MR. KUMAR: I wouldn't put you in that position, Chairman, but I think --

CHAIRMAN DANNER: I think you are.

MR. KUMAR: No, I think there are -- I think there are ways, certain -- we can -- I think the -- the adjustment and to get into sort of why the adjustment was made presents sort of some difficulties; however, if we can talk about how the -- the adjustment is reasonable and an interest of the consumer, there is some areas there that may not present as much difficulty in my view.

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it is a long way from 11.2 to 3.5.

MR. KUMAR: Of course, Your Honor, and I would never seek to deny any information that the Commission needs to make a determination, but I just -- I would like to express some concern about going too far down that path, and I would also like to express some concerns about Mr. Mullins' earlier answer on the prudence of the Longwall.

CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right.

MR. MULLINS: So can I potentially jump in on the last question of how -- kind of how the 3.5 million relates to the overall cost of the Longwall failure? I think it's important if that's okay.

CHAIRMAN DANNER: Yeah --

MR. KUMAR: Your Honor, I would actually very much hesitate to go down this path. I think that, you know, to the extent that we might be getting into sort of the realm of confidential settlement discussions if we go too far down this path.

MR. MULLINS: So I can provide Boise's perspective. You know, I couldn't speak for the Company, but...

CHAIRMAN DANNER: So is your -- your concern is not so much with confidential information as it is with disclosing what went on in settlement discussions?

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CHAIRMAN DANNER: Are there some questions maybe you'd like to ask your witness that could bring these out in a way that wouldn't violate what you think is confidential information?

MR. KUMAR: You know, I would always defer to the Commission. If -- if you'd like me to do that, I could, but I would always defer to -- I think your concerns are, of course, the foremost concern.

CHAIRMAN DANNER: Yeah. So basically, I've got a black box here, and I'm trying to get just a general idea what's in the black box so that I can decide whether this is in the public interest or not.

And I -- you know, really I understand that this is a settlement. I understand that compromises were made. I wasn't in on those settlement discussions, so I'm simply being asked to approve them.

And, again, as I said, you know, it's a long way from 11.2 to 3.5. I'm trying to get some idea of the comfort folks have with going from one to the other so that I can share that comfort.

So I'm trying to figure out what questions I can ask that don't run afoul of your concerns. So if you -- if you thought there was a line of questioning that -- that you present to Mr. Wilding, then maybe, you know, help -- help me out here.

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MR. KUMAR: I think I wouldn't want to presume to ask questions for the Commissioners. And so I think maybe sort of a reasonable approach might be, there was some earlier questions of Mr. Mullins where he made some comments about the sort of the prudence of the Longwall issue that maybe if we were to strike those comments from the record. I think Mr. Ball and Mr. Wilding, I think, were careful enough in their, sort of, answers to sort of allow the line of questioning to proceed.

CHAIRMAN DANNER: So if we simply went into confidential session here, would you be okay with those conversations going forward or do you think that that's violating the spirit of the settlement discussions?

MR. KUMAR: I apologize, Your Honor. I don't think the confidential nature of the session would -- is sort of the issue. It's attempting to -- some parts of the -- of the foundations of the settlement itself.

So I think -- that that's why I think I'd suggest that maybe a simpler solution would be if we were to sort of look at maybe striking a certain portion of Mr. Mullins' testimony on sort of the prudence or imprudence of the Longwall issue, that might be more appropriate than moving to a confidential session. And

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But as he suggests, it is something that we're trying to understand, and I believe the narrative has three different statements from the parties as to why they think this settlement is in the public interest and consistent with applicable law. And I think asking each of them to amplify on those is an appropriate line of questioning.

MR. KUMAR: Thank you, Your Honor. I would -- I will try not to say anything more.

CHAIRMAN DANNER: I'm trying to keep it short, too, actually.

MR. KUMAR: I think I've -- I think I've expressed my concerns adequately, and I -- I think I -- I'll -- back to the Commissioners.

CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. Well, I have one more question for Mr. Ball. And now, Mr. Mullins did offer to elucidate a little bit if you think you can do so --

MR. MULLINS: If I could very quickly. I mean, we're actually here in good faith to support the stipulation so -- and what I was trying to do is provide the Commission kind of with the -- with the bookends as far as the case was involved, because in the past, I found that helps Commissions to get comfortable with black box adjustments.

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I think that way we can also sort of maybe proceed down your line of questioning on sort of the --

CHAIRMAN DANNER: Well, Judge, I mean, I consider that a motion for -- to strike testimony, I leave that to you.

JUDGE KOPTA: Yeah. I have a concern with that because the settlement agreement itself does not discuss what the disposition of the Joy Longwall is. I don't even think that it's -- other than the background, it's even mentioned. Certainly not in the -- not in the agreement section. So I think it's appropriate.

That's why I asked the questions that I did in terms of what the expectations of the parties is because 3.5 million doesn't -- isn't specific to anything. It's just that's the number, and there are a lot of things that go into the PCAM. So I think trying to understand exactly what the Commission is going to be doing if it approves the settlement is appropriate.

So to the extent that you are making a motion to strike that portion of the testimony, I'm going to deny it. But we will take your comments under advisement in terms of what the meaning of that is. And if you have concerns with additional questions that the Chairman is asking, then certainly raise them at the time that he asks those questions.

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And so, you know, in my testimony, you know, I had recommended a \$9.8 million adjustment, and that was really broken into two components. There was the direct costs, which were known costs. They weren't disputed by anyone. And then there was the direct cost [sic], and those were sort of softer costs. And the direct costs were about \$4.5 million, and as you flow those through the PCAM, the impact is around \$3.5 million.

So, you know, if you were to consider the overall package and, you know, what parties are giving up and, you know, what other parties are gaining, that's sort of, you know, a rough -- rough way to -- those are sort of the benchmarks or the goalposts for what we were looking at when we entered into the settlement.

JUDGE KOPTA: And I'm going to ask, is that -- one of those numbers confidential or not?

MR. MULLINS: They were in the public testimony so...

JUDGE KOPTA: Okay. I just wanted to make sure whenever we're talking about numbers, anything other than 3.5 and 11.2 or 9.6. Okay.

MR. KUMAR: I think our concerns were other than confidentiality with regards to those numbers.

JUDGE KOPTA: Okay. Well, and this is -- we

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understand that Mr. Mullins is simply saying what was going on in Boise White Paper's mind and not necessarily what was agreed to in the settlement.

settlement.

MR. KUMAR: Thank you, Your Honor.
CHAIRMAN DANNER: And, again, Mr. Ball, a
question for you, just having to do with the Oregon
proceeding, do you feel that what you've come up with
here is consistent with that or is it -- I mean, you
didn't change your view of you -- the Oregon proceeding,
just the -- maybe you could explain for me how you
factor that into your final recommendation on the

MR. BALL: Certainly. Well, the Oregon proceeding was a little bit different because from my understanding of it, this -- the deferral, the total amount, didn't get outside of their deadband.

And so the result was that they didn't actually have to have a proceeding on it. They had, I believe, at least one round of testimony between the parties discussing it, and I read the nonconfidential versions of it, which I found illuminating. But the ultimate result of that was that they just -- they didn't have to do anything because it didn't -- there was no deferral needed. So that one didn't really impact my position.

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that you have of the panel to clarify any of the questions that came from the bench?

MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Not from Staff.Thank you.

Thank you.
 MR. OSHIE: No questions from Boise White
 Paper.

7 MS. GAFKEN: Public Counsel has no8 questions.

9 MR. KUMAR: Your Honor, I think I might have 10 one or two if you'll allow.

JUDGE KOPTA: Go ahead.

MR. KUMAR: And it's specifically for

Mr. Wilding.

COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: And if you could make sure your microphone is on. It's not very loud, so I don't know if it's...

CHAIRMAN DANNER: I think it's on. I think you just need to move it closer.

MR. KUMAR: Mr. Wilding, what's your understanding of the stipulation with regards to the prudence of the -- the Joy Longwall?

MR. WILDING: The stipulation, obviously in this case, there was one single issue, the Joy Longwall, and both the direct cost and potential indirect cost associated with that. As, you know, I think has been

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The other states also, there's either been the settlement -- I believe now they've all been settled. But at the time I wrote my direct testimony, I believe that they were not all finished yet. And what was interesting about it was just seeing the way that they -- they had looked at it. Each state kind of looked at it and analyzed it a different way.

And from my perspective, what I was really interested in, when I filed my direct testimony, was understanding what that first effect was, what the cost of recovery and abandonment were, and then understanding what the second order effects were.

When I went into the settlement negotiations, what I was interested in was how do we make sure this doesn't happen in the future and how do we make sure the ratepayers are held harmless. Those were my goals, and those, I think, are the most important. I think they do get reflected in the settlement stipulation under the outcome of the stipulation.

CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. All right. That's all I have. Thank you.

JUDGE KOPTA: Anything further from the bench?

Okay. Counsel, do you have any questions

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well established in the record, there was a divergence of opinions on that. The Company defended our -- its actions and the prudence of its actions, and other parties obviously felt that the Joy Longwall and the abandonment and recovery efforts were -- were imprudent.

The stipulation strikes a good balance between all parties and shows that a reasonable result can be achieved when the parties work together, and that dollar amount is a black box amount and, you know, each party will see value differently in that settlement.

But I think in the end, it struck a good balance and is in the public interest.

MR. KUMAR: Could you reflect briefly on the appropriateness of the adjustment that resulted from the settlement?

MR. WILDING: Yes. Again, I think the settlement is in the interest of customers. Again, you know, each -- each party is going to see value differently in that as it is a black box settlement and -- but, again, I think it's a reasonable settlement and in the interest -- and in the public interest.

MR. KUMAR: And could you provide sort of a brief overview of what has occurred in the other states with regard to the prudence of the Joy Longwall and how other Commissions may have solved this issue.

Page 42 Page 44 1 MR. WILDING: Yes, I can. So PacifiCorp for 1 JUDGE KOPTA: All right. Thank you. 2 2 Pacific Power, we operate in six states as you know. Anything further from the bench? Parties? 3 3 This is the fifth state where this issue has been --Doesn't sound like it. 4 4 been brought up in a PCAM type of -- of mechanism. The Thank you all for your testimony. 5 5 first state was Idaho where no adjustments were made to Appreciate your coming in and being here today, and 6 our net power cost, and the Commission allowed the 6 counsel as well. We will take the matter under 7 7 recovery of the Joy Longwall associated cost. advisement and issue an order in due course. And with 8 The next state was -- was Wyoming. We had 8 that, we are adjourned. 9 9 very similar proposals by parties. In that proceeding, (Adjourned at 9:40 a.m.) 10 as we do in this proceeding, that -- that proceeding 10 11 ended up being settled. In my testimony, I outline it. 11 12 I think it is 1.25 million in Wyoming. 12 13 The next was -- sorry, I'm just going to 13 14 turn to this so I don't give you -- the next proceeding 14 15 was in Utah, which is our largest state in which we 15 16 operate. Again, some of the costs associated with the 16 17 Joy Longwall were called into question; however, only 17 18 direct costs were called into question in Utah, and no 18 19 adjustment was proposed for indirect cost. And we were 19 20 able to settle -- settle that EPA for a \$2.8 billion 20 21 adjustment. 21 22 And -- and then in the Oregon PCAM, as 2.2 23 23 Mr. Ball pointed out, we did not exceed the deadbands in 24 the Oregon PCAM and so -- for the earnings test, and so 24 25 no adjustment was made in the Oregon PCAM, but we did Page 43 Page 45 come to a settlement where the Commission would make no 1 CERTIFICATE 1 2 2 determination on the cost associated with the Joy 3 3 STATE OF WASHINGTON Longwall. 4 **COUNTY OF THURSTON** 4 And then the last state -- and so then here 5 5 we are in Washington, and then the sixth state is the 6 California energy cost adjustment mechanism -- or the 6 I, Tayler Garlinghouse, a Certified Shorthand 7 ECAC, sorry, the Energy Cost Adjustment Clause, and that 7 Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby 8 8 has yet to be litigated, and it is not unusual for the certify that the foregoing transcript is true and California ORA, Office of Ratepayer Advocates, to wait 9 9 accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability. 10 and audit multiple years at once. 10 11 11 And so we're in one of those periods where 12 they -- they haven't audited that -- that ECAC for --12 Tayler Garlinghouse, CCR 3358 13 13 for a while, and sometime in the future, they'll come in 14 and audit multiple years at -- at one time. So in five 14 15 15 of the six -- or four of the six states, we've -- we've settled this issue. This is the fifth state and 16 16 17 California is outstanding. 17 18 MR. KUMAR: Mr. Wilding, would it be fair to 18 19 say, then, that all the states Commissions that have 19 20 ruled on this issue not have made a determination of the 20 21 prudence of the Joy Longwall? 21 22 MR. WILDING: Yes, that would be a fair 22 23 23 24 24 MR. KUMAR: I have no further questions, 25 25 Your Honor.

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