

1 **Q. Please state your name, business address and present position with PacifiCorp**  
2 **(the Company).**

3 A. My name is Chris R. Mumm, my business address is 825 N.E. Multnomah, Suite 600,  
4 Portland, Oregon 97232. My present position is Director of Structuring & Pricing,  
5 Commercial & Trading, which is part of PacifiCorp's regulated merchant function.

6 **Q. Briefly describe your education and business experience.**

7 A. I graduated from Eastern Washington University in 1998 with a Bachelor of Arts in  
8 Business Administration, focus in Finance & Economics and from the University of  
9 Oregon in 2001 with a Master of Business Administration in Finance. I have been  
10 employed in PacifiCorp's Commercial & Trading group since 2002. I have been in my  
11 present capacity as the Director of Structuring & Pricing since April 2004. In my  
12 current duties, I am responsible for analysis and valuation of the Company's structured  
13 wholesale contracts.

14 **Q. What is the purpose of this testimony?**

15 A. The purpose of my testimony is to: 1) describe the necessity of contracts that hedge  
16 exposure to uncontrollable price and volume volatility and/or contracts that provide  
17 price and volume optionality (together, "hedge" or "hedging" contracts), 2) rebut ICNU  
18 witness Falkenberg's criticism of Black-Scholes modeling as imprudent for energy  
19 resource purchase decisions by a regulated utility, 3) rebut Mr. Falkenberg's claim that  
20 customers do not benefit from hedges which provide risk reduction, and 4) rebut Mr.  
21 Falkenberg's claim that hedging contracts are different from insurance policies, and  
22 therefore should not be considered an ordinary ratemaking expense.

1 **Necessity of Hedging Contracts that Provide Price and Volume Optionality**

2 **Q. What is the issue with respect to hedging contracts?**

3 A. ICNU witness Falkenberg proposes to exclude the expense associated with hedging  
4 contracts because it “is not a reasonable ratemaking expense.”

5 **Q. Please describe the types of optionality or flexibility PacifiCorp’s customers**  
6 **currently enjoy.**

7 A. By virtue of PacifiCorp’s obligation to stand ready to meet its customers’ demands for  
8 electricity, PacifiCorp’s regulated retail customers currently have the right to buy (call)  
9 or not buy (put) additional energy on a proactive basis (by “flipping” the switch on or  
10 off) or passively when either weather conditions and/or economic conditions deviate  
11 from planned. These regulated retail customers have this right in “real-time,” that is,  
12 they are not under any obligation to notify PacifiCorp of their intention.

13 **Q. Please explain how customers can call or put energy when weather conditions**  
14 **deviate from planned, and the implications to the Company’s net energy**  
15 **position.**

16 A. The Company’s net energy position on a forward basis is based on normal weather and  
17 economic conditions. To the extent that temperatures are higher than normal during the  
18 summer, customers will use (call) more energy than planned at essentially a fixed tariff  
19 price. Under this circumstance, the Company and its customers have a short energy  
20 (volume risk) position in a volatile wholesale market that could potentially be higher than  
21 tariff (price risk). Alternatively, temperatures could be lower than normal and  
22 customers will use less energy (put) than planned. Under this circumstance, the system

1 has a long energy (volume risk) position in a wholesale market that could be lower than  
2 tariff (price risk). This volume risk reverses during the winter when below-normal  
3 temperatures can leave the system in a short energy (call) position. If wholesale prices  
4 rise above tariff price, then the unanticipated power purchases will result in upward  
5 pressure on net power costs. Alternatively, if temperatures are above normal during  
6 winter, customers will use less energy than planned and resources must either be  
7 adjusted downward or unanticipated power sales must be made to the market.  
8 PacifiCorp attempts to balance its loads and resources in advance by planning its  
9 generation and entering into forward wholesale transactions. When a PacifiCorp  
10 regulated retail customer does not consume energy as anticipated, for any reason  
11 (including due to economic or weather conditions), PacifiCorp may not be able to  
12 quickly adjust planned generation operations or purchase obligations and hence must  
13 either redirect this energy back to the wholesale market or make additional purchases.  
14 This results in portfolio price exposure since wholesale prices are likely to be different  
15 than those at the time the Company attempted to balance the load/resource balance.  
16 All load serving gas and electric utilities with an obligation to serve (at least those not  
17 having a full requirements supplier that bears the volume and price risk) have similar  
18 volume and price risk exposure.

19 **Q. Please explain how a prudent utility should hedge this short option position.**

20 A. A prudent utility would have a diverse and flexible portfolio of physical resources,  
21 physical purchases, and options (fixed price, tolling, volumetric) that permit the utility to  
22 manage its expected net energy position and resultant price and volume exposure. This

1 flexibility can allow the Company to better respond to unpredictable changes in  
2 regulated retail customer demand. In addition, a prudent utility would pursue additional  
3 hedge tools to help mitigate the effects due to unexpected and uncontrollable changes to  
4 the expected net energy position.

5 **Q. Please explain how the Company manages its net energy position.**

6 A. The Company seeks to manage the price and volume exposure for its customers by  
7 maintaining a net financial position (its exposure to wholesale market prices) as close to  
8 flat (net zero) as possible, taking into account expected levels of unit outages/derates,  
9 transmission availability, and expected weather conditions. An energy position that  
10 remains flat over a range of price and weather conditions is desirable as it is expected to  
11 result in relatively little change to the expected net portfolio cost under reasonably  
12 expected circumstances. The expected net portfolio cost is, of course, strongly related  
13 to net power costs. This means that an effective and prudent way to manage net power  
14 costs is to manage the expected energy position for the system in such a way that  
15 deviations in net power costs are mitigated by carrying a flat energy position as much as  
16 possible. The use of options is a prudent tool for managing these risks on behalf of  
17 customers.

18 **Q. Does the Company use options to speculate on market price direction?**

19 A. No. The Company's energy trading and risk management policies prohibit taking  
20 speculative option positions. As discussed above, the Company seeks to purchase  
21 options (purchase opportunities at a known cost to help mitigate the effects of having to  
22 make future wholesale balancing transactions at unknown prices) to mitigate the short

1 option position it holds as a result of its obligation to serve. The Company cannot  
2 predict what prices will be at the time unexpected balancing transactions are required,  
3 but it can hedge this price uncertainty with options. Assuming both forward block  
4 purchases and options are readily available, and assuming the risk being hedged is both  
5 price and volume risk, the risk of purchasing forward power is greater than purchasing  
6 options for the same quantity if the price being charged for those options is appropriate.

7 **Q. Can you provide an illustrative example?**

8 A. Yes. Exhibit No.\_\_(CRM-2) provides such an illustration. If the forward price for  
9 power is \$55/MWh, the Company could purchase either physical power forward  
10 (forward block) or a physical call option for the same quantity of power with a strike  
11 price of \$55/MWh (an “at-the-money” option).  
12 Since the Company seeks to hedge its price and volume risk on a forward basis, for any  
13 given short position, the Company will procure either a call option or a fixed price  
14 forward block. Given that one of these two products will be purchased, the benefit of  
15 the call option does not come, as Mr. Falkenberg would have you believe, from market  
16 prices increasing beyond \$55/MWh, but rather from market prices *decreasing* below  
17 \$55/MWh. When market prices increase beyond \$55/MWh both the call option and  
18 the forward block provide similar economic benefits. When market prices *decrease*  
19 below \$55/MWh, the economic loss on the option is limited to the option premium. At  
20 the same time when market prices *decrease* below \$55/MWh, a fixed price forward  
21 block purchase incurs an economic loss during every hour where the market is below  
22 \$55/MWh. This means, for example, that the Company, in this example, could be

1 forced to pay \$55/MWh when the market is at \$30/MWh, a \$25/MWh loss.  
2 Exhibit No. (CRM-2), shows a comparison of maximum losses and maximum gains  
3 between purchasing a forward block of power and purchasing a physical call option.  
4 The maximum loss for purchasing power forward under the above scenario is  
5 (\$1,144,000) and the maximum loss for purchasing the option is only the option  
6 premium (\$312,500). The maximum gain for purchased forward block power is  
7 \$4,056,000 while the maximum gain for the option purchase is \$3,743,500 (assuming  
8 the existing FERC price cap of \$250/MWh is the limiting market price constraint).  
9 Clearly, the more speculative approach to hedging is using only forward block  
10 purchases since this approach produces the greatest losses and the greatest gains. The  
11 call option allows the system of resources to meet rising demand when prices move  
12 higher, yet mitigate downside risk in the event demand decreases and prices fall. This  
13 means the option alternative is a risk mitigating approach and, as a result, benefits  
14 customers because there is less risk that net power cost will vary.

15 **Q. How does this example relate to the issues raised by Mr. Falkenberg?**

16 A. The Company seeks to hedge risks associated with extreme market price movements,  
17 and *not* to maximize its profit around expected market price outcomes as Mr.  
18 Falkenberg suggests. Further, disallowing the cost of option premiums could force the  
19 Company into riskier hedging strategies (i.e. purchasing more forward block power only  
20 when less risky and economic alternatives are made available by the market). This puts  
21 customers at greater risk because of the linkage between net power costs and the

1 embedded uncertainty of the system load/resource balance as a result of the Company's  
2 obligation to serve.

### 3 **Black-Scholes Modeling as Applied to Energy Resource Purchase Decisions**

4 **Q. What is the issue regarding Black-Scholes modeling in this case?**

5 A. ICNU witness Falkenberg claims that the use of Black-Scholes modeling for resource  
6 selection decisions is "unproven, novel and highly speculative," and that the Commission  
7 might "consider disallowing the costs of resources selected by the model on the basis of  
8 imprudence."

9 **Q. What is Black-Scholes modeling?**

10 A. Black-Scholes modeling values option contracts. Some discussion of option contracts  
11 is necessary before proceeding to discuss Black-Scholes modeling.

12 Option contracts give the option owner the right – but not the obligation – to do  
13 something, usually to buy or to sell a commodity at a known, fixed price (the "strike"  
14 price) at a specific point in time (the "delivery period") and at a certain location (the  
15 "delivery location"). If the contract is the right to buy it is a "call" option; if it is the right  
16 to sell it is a "put" option.

17 If the option contract is settled physically, the option is a physical option and the option  
18 owner takes physical delivery (calls) or delivers (puts) the commodity. If the option is  
19 settled financially, the option is a financial option and the owner receives the value, as  
20 settled against an agreed upon information source, of the commodity (for a call) or pays  
21 the value of the commodity (for a put) as if physical deliveries had taken place.

1 The option owner will exercise the option only if the option has value or, according to  
2 the jargon, if it is “in-the-money.” The seller of the call or put has the opposite position.  
3 If the owner exercises the option, the seller has an obligation to sell (in the case of the  
4 call) or buy (in the case of the put).

5 **Q. How does Black-Scholes modeling come into play?**

6 A. When a prospective option owner is deciding whether or not to buy, or a prospective  
7 option seller is deciding whether or not to sell, a model must be used to estimate the  
8 option value to determine the option price. The price of an option is known as the  
9 option “premium.” The Black-Scholes model helps buyers and sellers determine this  
10 premium and, later, to determine the ongoing value or “mark-to-market” value of the  
11 option. The Black-Scholes model was developed by scholars in an academic  
12 framework; as acknowledged by Mr. Falkenberg, one of the authors, Myron Scholes,  
13 won a Nobel Prize in economics in large part due to his development of the Black-  
14 Scholes option valuation model. For the purposes of option modeling, Black-Scholes is  
15 the most common and most credible model, regardless of industry.

16 **Q. How does PacifiCorp use Black-Scholes modeling?**

17 A. PacifiCorp uses Black-Scholes to determine what to pay for an option and, therefore,  
18 whether or not to buy the option. As a load-serving entity, it is very rare that  
19 PacifiCorp would consider selling an option during periods of expected resource  
20 inadequacy and does not buy or sell an option for speculative purposes. In fact, such  
21 speculative activity is prohibited by PacifiCorp’s energy trading and risk management  
22 policies, as noted earlier in my testimony. PacifiCorp also uses Black-Scholes to value



1 the options (mark-to-market) that exist in its portfolio.

2 **Q. Why does PacifiCorp believe Black-Scholes is a valuable tool and appropriate**  
3 **to use in the manner applied by PacifiCorp?**

4 A. PacifiCorp uses Black-Scholes for several reasons. First, in the Company's  
5 experience, Black-Scholes has delivered useful and commercially reasonable option  
6 values for a wide variety of instruments. Back testing Black-Scholes predictions has  
7 shown the model's accuracy. Black-Scholes has validated option quotes from  
8 counterparties and has validated published quotes from widely traded option  
9 instruments such as the options traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange  
10 (NYMEX). Finally, Black-Scholes has tremendous credibility in the financial and  
11 commodity community. Many software houses and financial and engineering firms have  
12 developed standardized energy derivative valuation software packages, and the most  
13 common option valuation model is Black-Scholes.

14 **Q. How do you respond to Mr. Falkenberg's claim that Black-Scholes modeling is**  
15 **"unproven, novel and highly speculative" when used for the purposes for which**  
16 **PacifiCorp uses it?**

17 A. The method is entirely appropriate for the purposes for which it is used by PacifiCorp.  
18 The energy industry has used Black-Scholes models for many years in valuing options  
19 on natural gas, crude oil, diesel fuel, gasoline, and electricity. As mentioned earlier,  
20 energy options (calls and puts) traded on the NYMEX for natural gas and crude oil are  
21 valued using Black-Scholes models. Black-Scholes models and other stochastic  
22 models are valid methodologies for valuing such diverse liquid and illiquid assets as

1 company acquisitions, stock warrants, employee stock option grants, director level  
2 option grants, option valuations on gasoline, jet fuel, and diesel fuel.

3 Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (CRM-3) is a representative list of companies currently employing  
4 Black-Scholes models as disclosed in their recent 10-K filings with the Securities and  
5 Exchange Commission. In fact, most commodity markets including banks and financial  
6 institutions involved in interest rate and currency markets use Black-Scholes valuation  
7 and analysis techniques.

8 **Q. Explain what crude oil, gasoline, diesel fuel, natural gas, and electricity all have  
9 in common.**

10 A. They are energy commodities in which prices exhibit similar behavior, and the future and  
11 forward contracts for these commodities do not pay dividends. A basic premise of the  
12 Black-Scholes model is that prices for the underlying asset are lognormally distributed  
13 (that, is the chances of a price increasing by a given percentage are approximately equal  
14 to the price decreasing by the same percentage). Prices for energy commodities (i.e.  
15 natural gas, crude oil, electricity) in general can never be negative but have an unlimited  
16 maximum (within bounds of future storage costs for natural gas and crude oil and FERC  
17 mandated price caps for electricity). The mean or expected price is the forward price  
18 for the underlying variable. The resulting price distributions can be approximated as  
19 lognormal distributions. Crude oil, gasoline, diesel fuel, natural gas, and electricity have  
20 shown different historical price volatilities, with electricity having the highest historical  
21 price volatility. As such, the use of option purchases is especially important for load

1 serving entities in helping to mitigate volume and price risk associated with their  
2 obligation to serve.

3 **Q. How do you respond to Mr. Falkenberg’s claim that the benefits ascribed to**  
4 **resources by Black-Scholes modeling are impossible to reflect in a rate case**  
5 **test year?**

6 A. Mr. Widmer addresses this issue in his rebuttal testimony.

7 **Hedge Benefits and Comparability to Insurance Products**

8 **Q. How do you respond to Mr. Falkenberg’s claim that ratepayers do not benefit**  
9 **from risk reducing hedges?**

10 A. The statement that hedge premiums are “just another one-way street where ratepayers  
11 pay the costs, while PacifiCorp stands to reap the benefits” is completely false.  
12 PacifiCorp enters into hedges to help reduce the volatility of net costs associated with  
13 the system or resources required to meet our obligation to serve. It is clear that  
14 customers are affected by a utility’s net expense associated with serving load. Volatility  
15 in what it costs the Company to serve load affects both PacifiCorp’s credit rating and its  
16 cost of capital.

17 **Q. How is PacifiCorp’s credit rating affected?**

18 A. High volatility of cash flows can adversely affect the Company’s perceived credit  
19 quality. This, in turn, would limit the Company’s ability to procure low cost resources  
20 from the forward market and/or long-term via purchased power agreements, tolling  
21 service agreements, and/or cost-based self build alternatives. PacifiCorp would be

1 forced either to procure energy in the volatile near-term markets (such as the balance of  
2 the month, daily, or real-time markets), or to bear an unnecessarily high embedded  
3 premium associated with long-term resources. Southern California Edison and Pacific  
4 Gas & Electric are good examples of companies whose customers have been adversely  
5 affected by exposure to daily and real-time markets. Correspondingly, through the  
6 application of prudent credit practices, the Company limits the type of transactions it is  
7 willing to enter into with certain counterparties when *their* quality is in question.

8 **Q. How is PacifiCorp's cost of capital affected?**

9 A. Cash flow volatility also affects the Company's cost of capital. The debt component of  
10 the Company's cost of capital is mainly a function of the Company's credit quality.  
11 Poorly perceived credit quality, via credit ratings or otherwise, typically translates into a  
12 higher cost of debt. The equity component of the Company's cost of capital is driven  
13 by the risk of cash flows made available to shareholders. High volatility associated with  
14 cash flows is likely to lead shareholders to demand a higher required rate of return, all  
15 else being equal. In summary, failure to hedge could lead to an increase in cash flow  
16 volatility, which in turn will decrease the Company's credit quality and possibly increase  
17 our cost of capital.

18 **Q. Mr. Falkenberg believes that hedges differ from insurance, and as a result  
19 their premiums should not be viewed as an ordinary ratemaking expense. Do  
20 you agree?**

21 A. No. Mr. Falkenberg fails to explain how PacifiCorp's hedges differ from insurance.  
22 He cites three reasons for claiming hedges to be different from insurance: 1) the

1 structure of the hedges that PacifiCorp has pursued do not look like insurance products  
2 with which he is familiar, 2) customers do not benefit from hedges, and 3) hedging is a  
3 risky endeavor relative to purchasing insurance policies. I discuss these points in turn  
4 below.

5 1. The PacifiCorp/Aquila hydro structure contains both fixed and variable  
6 payments as PacifiCorp was seeking to minimize its fixed premium, while still  
7 obtaining a product that would reduce cash flow volatility. PacifiCorp certainly  
8 could have increased the fixed premium to obtain a payout under any scenario  
9 (no variable payment to Aquila). Under such a scenario, the premium charged  
10 by Aquila would have been significantly higher than the current structure.

11 Apparently if PacifiCorp had structured the arrangement with a single fixed  
12 payment, it would be deemed insurance by Mr. Falkenberg. To compare  
13 paying extra for storm damage insurance when less than expected damage  
14 occurs – as stated in Mr. Falkenberg’s testimony – is not an accurate analogy  
15 as it fails to recognize that storm damage insurance would reflect a *reduced*  
16 premium in the situation where the customer was to pay an *additional* premium  
17 when storm damage *failed* to occur. Clearly the structure of the payments  
18 should not be used as a determinant for differing insurance from hedging.

19 2. As described earlier in the testimony, customers receive benefits from hedges  
20 through PacifiCorp’s strong credit rating and low cost of capital. These  
21 attributes tie directly to the Company’s ability to procure low cost resources on  
22 a forward basis, minimizing customer exposure to volatile markets or an

1                   unnecessarily high long-term resource cost. In addition, it is absurd for Mr.  
2                   Falkenberg to state that a product whose expected costs exceed its expected  
3                   benefits could not be an insurance product. If the expected benefits of  
4                   insurance products exceeded the expected cost, there would not be a single  
5                   insurance company in business today. When one takes out homeowners  
6                   insurance, does one expect that it will produce a payout that is greater than the  
7                   premium? The fact is, insurance policies do not typically produce expected  
8                   payouts that exceed the expected cost. Hedges are often no different in this  
9                   regard. Accordingly, the net present value of a hedge should not be used as a  
10                  determinant for differing it from insurance.

- 11           3.       It is false to suggest that hedging is a higher risk endeavor than purchasing an  
12                  insurance policy. The risk associated with either a hedge or an insurance  
13                  product is entirely based on the product structure and the resulting premium,  
14                  rather than the particular name assigned to the activity. Mr. Falkenberg makes  
15                  the claim that under the hydro hedge, the Company *could* end up making very  
16                  high payments to Aquila, yet receive no payments in return. This scenario  
17                  sounds very similar to earthquake insurance, flood insurance, and other  
18                  insurance products that are structured to pay out during the case of a  
19                  catastrophe. Simply stated, insurance products and hedging products are the  
20                  same in theory, application, and function. They can be structured to pay out  
21                  during cases of a catastrophe, such as an earthquake, or under more routine  
22                  circumstances, such as when temperatures rise above a certain level. There is

1                   no practical difference between hedge and insurance premiums, and both should  
2                   be recoverable in rates.

3   **Q.    Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?**

4   **A.    Yes.**