UE-991832/PacifiCorp March 1, 2000 WUTC Staff Data Request No.97

WUTC Staff Data Request No. 97:

In the merger proceeding with PacifiCorp, ScottishPower committed to develop an additional 50 MW of renewable resources within five years after completion of the transaction. In the Stipulation entered in Docket UE-981627, the Companies agreed that "In each rate proceeding filed with the Commission, PacifiCorp/ScottishPower shall have the burden to show that any resource additions, including renewable resources, which are added to the rate base or the revenue requirement for the first time in rate proceedings are reasonable and prudent investments" (Stipulation paragraph 3). Please explain how the Company's proposal that the Systems Benefit Charge (SBC) be used to fund the above market costs of new renewable resources is consistent with these statements from the merger.

Response to WUTC Staff Data Request 97:

The SBC proposed is consistent with the merger commitment and the stipulation cited. It would require a demonstration by the Company of the prudency of an investment before recovery of the above market costs.

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