

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION STAFF  
RESPONSE TO DATA REQUEST

DATE PREPARED: May 9, 2017  
DOCKET: UE-161204  
REQUESTER: Pacific Power

WITNESS: David Panco  
RESPONDER: David Panco  
TELEPHONE: (360) 664-1313

4. Please refer to Exhibit No. DJP-1T, p. 9, ll. 5-6 and Mr. Panco's summary of the genesis of Columbia REA's efforts to provide electric service within the traditional service area of Pacific Power and please explain the role that "regional growth in population" played in the actions of Columbia REA.

**Response:**

Staff has attached census figures for Walla Walla County, Columbia County, and the cities of Walla Walla, College Place and Dayton as Attachment A to its response to this data request. That data shows population growth in those counties and cities. Staff assumes that population growth is likely associated with increased levels of demand for power and therefore generally expanded markets for electric service providers. Staff concludes from this data that CREA has expanded its operations into Pacific Power's service territory to take advantage of this growing market for electrical service.