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BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

	)
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)Docket UE-032065
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,	)Volume VII
Complainant,	)Pages 794-840
v.	)
PACIFICORP d/b/a PACIFIC POWER &	)
LIGHT COMPANY,	)
Respondent.	)

A public hearing in the above-entitled matter was held at 6:03 p.m. on Monday, September 27, 2004, at 128 Second Street, Room B-33, Yakima, Washington, before Administrative Law Judge DENNIS J. MOSS and Commissioner PATRICK OSHIE.

The parties present were as follows:

COMMISSION STAFF, by Shannon Smith, Assistant Attorney General, 1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W., P.O. Box 40128, Olympia, Washington, 98504-1028.

PACIFICORP, by Stephen C. Hall, Attorney at Law, Stoel Rives, LLP, 900 S.W. Fifth Avenue, Suite 2600, Portland, Oregon 97204.

PUBLIC COUNSEL, by Robert Cromwell, Assistant Attorney General, 900 Fourth Avenue, Suite 2000, Seattle, Washington 98164.

Barbara L. Nelson, CCR

Court Reporter

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1                   CITIZENS UTILITY ALLIANCE OF  
2 WASHINGTON, by John O'Rourke, Program Director, and  
3 Lupido Flores, 212 W. Second Avenue, Suite 100,  
4 Spokane, Washington 99201.

5                   THE ENERGY PROJECT/THE OPPORTUNITY  
6 COUNCIL, by Chuck Eberdt, 1701 Ellis Street,  
7 Bellingham, Washington 98225.

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1                   COMMISSIONER OSHIE: Evening everyone. My  
2 name is Patrick Oshie, I'm one of the three  
3 Commissioners at the Washington Utilities and  
4 Transportation Commission. We are here tonight for  
5 the public comment hearing in the matter of the  
6 Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
7 versus PacifiCorp, doing business as Pacific Power  
8 and Light Company. And the purpose of this hearing  
9 is to take your comments on the rate case that has  
10 been filed by PacifiCorp and the proposed settlement  
11 that is before the Commission at this time for  
12 decision.

13                   And at this point, I would like to turn this  
14 matter over to the presiding judge in this  
15 proceeding, which is Dennis Moss, and Judge Moss will  
16 be presiding over this public hearing. He'll  
17 explain, if you will, the ground rules that the --  
18 under which the hearing will be conducted, and give  
19 you an opportunity, then, to make your comments to  
20 the Commission.

21                   As you can see, there's a court reporter  
22 here. She will be taking your comments verbatim,  
23 which will be placed in the record of this  
24 proceeding. So Dennis.

25                   JUDGE MOSS: All right. Thank you,

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1 Commissioner Oshie. I'll introduce Pam Smith, from  
2 our Staff, who's kindly agreed to assist us here this  
3 evening. She's with the Washington Utilities and  
4 Transportation Commission. Our court reporter is  
5 Barbara Nelson, who's with a private firm in Seattle.

6 Also here tonight for the Commission Staff  
7 is Mr. Roger Braden, if you'll raise your hand and  
8 rise. Mr. Braden is the assistant director for  
9 electricity at the WUTC, and those of you who may  
10 have questions for the WUTC about the case might wish  
11 to speak to him during a break or at the close of the  
12 evening.

13 I'm going to let the attorneys introduce  
14 themselves in a couple of minutes, but I just wanted  
15 to introduce the other people who are here for the  
16 various parties. For the Company, PacifiCorp, Mr.  
17 Anderberg and Mr. Satre are here this evening, if you  
18 will indicate who you are.

19 MR. HALL: Mr. Satre's out in the hall.

20 JUDGE MOSS: All right. Well, he'll come in  
21 presently, then. As I said, I'll let counsel  
22 introduce themselves in a minute. I do have a couple  
23 of comments, preliminary comments about the nature of  
24 our proceedings, and I'll explain a little bit more  
25 about what we're doing this evening.

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1           This is a formal proceeding. We conduct  
2 these proceedings in much the same way as a trial in  
3 a court. The Commissioners sit as judges. I assist  
4 them in that capacity. I am an Administrative Law  
5 Judge with the Utilities and Transportation  
6 Commission. As Commissioner Oshie mentioned,  
7 everything is transcribed, it becomes part of our  
8 official record in this proceeding, which is the  
9 basis upon which the Commissioners reach their  
10 decision about the rate request that PacifiCorp  
11 filed.

12           The Commission regulatory staff participates  
13 in the proceeding in the same way as any other party,  
14 that is to say, the only contact the Commissioners  
15 have, the only information the Commissioners receive  
16 from the regulatory staff is through the witnesses  
17 and testimony that they put on and the arguments that  
18 they make through counsel, just as in the same  
19 fashion as the other parties, who in this case  
20 include, of course, the company, PacifiCorp, the  
21 Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities, which is  
22 a group that represents various industrial customers  
23 of the utility, the Natural Resources Defense  
24 Council, the Citizens Utility Alliance of Washington  
25 is a party, as is the Energy Project/Opportunity

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1 Council.

2           Finally, the Public Counsel section of the  
3 Attorney General's Office, who represents the  
4 residential and small business ratepayers, is a  
5 party. So all those persons or entities are part of  
6 our case.

7           As I mentioned, there are legal  
8 representatives here tonight or other representatives  
9 for a number of the parties. I'm going to give them  
10 an opportunity in a minute, if they choose to do so,  
11 to make a statement to inform you of their  
12 perspectives on the case. I'm also going to say a  
13 few words about the case preliminary to that.

14           Before getting into that general discussion  
15 about the case, I do want to have the legal  
16 representatives make a brief appearance for the  
17 record, and we'll start with the Company here, Mr.  
18 Hall.

19           MR. HALL: My name is Stephen Hall, and I'm  
20 appearing here on behalf of Pacific Power.

21           JUDGE MOSS: And Ms. Smith.

22           MS. SMITH: Good evening. I'm Shannon  
23 Smith. I'm an Assistant Attorney General, and I'm  
24 here on behalf of the Washington Utilities and  
25 Transportation Commission Regulatory Staff.

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1 JUDGE MOSS: Mr. Cromwell.

2 MR. CROMWELL: Good evening. My name is  
3 Robert Cromwell, I'm an Assistant Attorney General,  
4 as well, but with the Public Counsel section,  
5 appearing on behalf of the Public Counsel section of  
6 the Washington State Attorney General's Office.

7 JUDGE MOSS: And we have a representative  
8 for the Citizens Utilities Alliance.

9 MR. FLORES: I'm Lupido Flores. I'm with  
10 the Citizens Utility Alliance, and we also have John  
11 O'Rourke, the Director, who's out in the hall being  
12 interviewed, he's also here.

13 JUDGE MOSS: All right. Very good. And  
14 Energy Project/Opportunity Council.

15 MR. EBERT: Hi, I'm Chuck Ebert, Director of  
16 the Energy Project.

17 JUDGE MOSS: Welcome. Do we have anybody  
18 here for NRDC? I don't think so. And how about the  
19 Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities? No one  
20 present. All right.

21 Let me just generally discuss the case, and  
22 then, again, I'll give the parties -- any parties  
23 that wish to make a statement about the case the  
24 opportunity to do that. In this proceeding,  
25 PacifiCorp came to the Commission and made a filing

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1 asking for a rate increase of \$26.7 million, or about  
2 13.5 percent.

3 Staff, the Industrial Customers of the  
4 Northwest Utilities, and Public Counsel offered  
5 testimony supporting smaller increases or even a rate  
6 decrease, in the case of Public Counsel.

7 Shortly before the evidentiary hearing that  
8 was scheduled for the first few weeks of September,  
9 PacifiCorp, Staff, and the Natural Resources Defense  
10 Council filed a proposed settlement in the case.  
11 They asked the Commission to resolve this case by  
12 authorizing an increase in rates of about 15.5  
13 million, or 7.8 percent.

14 The Commission held evidentiary hearings on  
15 the settlement, and that is now the focus of our  
16 public comment hearing this evening. In other words,  
17 it is the settlement that is before us at this point  
18 in time for consideration as a means to resolve the  
19 case.

20 Having said that, I want to describe the  
21 process tonight, and then I'm going to let the party  
22 representatives make their statements. The process  
23 is we will have those brief statements, I will then  
24 swear in any of you who are here tonight who wish to  
25 make a comment to the Commission to become part of



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1 the record in this proceeding. I'll call you up one  
2 at a time, based on the sheets that you signed up  
3 when you came in. If you want to make a comment and  
4 you haven't signed up, then you might see Ms. Smith  
5 and do that now and she can bring that up and I'll  
6 add you to the list.

7           Please keep in mind that the opportunity for  
8 you this evening is not an opportunity to ask us  
9 questions or to exchange views with us, but rather to  
10 make your comments to us, to give us an opportunity  
11 to hear your comments about this proposed rate  
12 increase and proposed settlement that I have just  
13 briefly mentioned.

14           I'm going to have to ask the speakers to  
15 limit themselves to five minutes, which actually is  
16 quite a bit more time than it may sound like. You  
17 can say an awful lot in five minutes. We do that so  
18 that everyone who may wish to comment will have an  
19 opportunity to do so, and we have had a lot of  
20 experience with these hearings over the years and  
21 find that that is about the right amount of time. If  
22 you do run over time, I'll have to interrupt you, and  
23 I don't like to do that, but it is necessary so that  
24 we give everybody the same opportunity to speak.

25           We will accept additional written comments.

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1 If you have more to say and your five minutes is up,  
2 you can submit additional written comments, or if you  
3 don't want to comment orally this evening, but would  
4 like to present some comments in writing, you can  
5 still do that, but we do require that those be  
6 postmarked by September 30th, so that we can include  
7 them in our record in a timely way.

8 And having said that, if you have a question  
9 about the process, you can certainly ask when you  
10 come up and I'll be happy to assist you, and I will  
11 assist you to give your testimony this evening, as  
12 well.

13 With that, let's have statements by party  
14 representatives, and I did understand, Mr. Cromwell,  
15 for the Public Counsel, did wish to make a statement.  
16 I don't think the microphones are working, so you'll  
17 just need to elevate your voice. You in the back can  
18 hear me all right, can't you? So use my voice as a  
19 guide. Project.

20 MR. CROMWELL: I shall do so. Good evening,  
21 Judge Moss and Commissioner Oshie. Thank you. As  
22 Judge Moss mentioned, I'm with the Public Counsel  
23 section of the Washington State Attorney General's  
24 Office. We represent residential and small business  
25 consumers in matters relating to the regulated

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1 electric, natural gas, and telecommunications  
2 providers operating here in Washington.

3           In December of 2003, PacifiCorp requested  
4 that the Commission allow it to increase rates by 13  
5 and a half percent, or \$26.7 million. This request  
6 was pursuant to a Commission order from that year,  
7 which broke the five-year rate plan adopted by the  
8 Commission in August of 2000. This was on the eve of  
9 two years where PacifiCorp's customers in the room  
10 here today would receive no rate increases.

11           Public Counsel has appealed that decision,  
12 and the matter is now in the courts. In this  
13 proceeding, Public Counsel has presented testimony  
14 recommending that the Commission either enforce the  
15 2000 rate plan or order a rate decrease for  
16 PacifiCorp's customers.

17           As Judge Moss mentioned, on August 27th of  
18 this year, PacifiCorp, Commission Staff, and the  
19 Natural Resource Defense Council filed a proposed  
20 settlement which would increase rates by \$15 and a  
21 half million.

22           It is Public Counsel's position that the  
23 Commission should enforce the 2000 rate plan and  
24 reject the settlement or, in the alternative, order a  
25 rate decrease. Thank you, Judge Moss.

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1                   JUDGE MOSS: All right. Thank you, Mr.  
2 Cromwell. Do any other of the party representatives  
3 wish to make an opening statement tonight, or shall  
4 we move directly to the witnesses? Seeing no  
5 indication --

6                   MR. HALL: The Company has no --

7                   JUDGE MOSS: -- then we'll go ahead and move  
8 to the witnesses. I'm going to just swear you in all  
9 at once, that will save time. So I'm going to ask  
10 that anyone who has indicated or does wish to make a  
11 public comment this evening, that you rise at this  
12 time and raise your right hand.

13 Whereupon,

14                   ALL POTENTIAL PUBLIC SPEAKERS,  
15 having been first duly sworn by Judge Moss, testified  
16 as follows:

17                   JUDGE MOSS: Thank you. Please be seated.  
18 All right. I will ask you a few preliminary  
19 questions as I call you up, so that will get you  
20 started. And if you feel any nervousness about  
21 public speaking, perhaps it will give you an  
22 opportunity to be relieved of your nervousness. And  
23 my other recommendation in that regard is a slow,  
24 deep breath, which I find helps me when I speak  
25 publicly.

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1                   So the first witness to indicate a desire to  
2 speak is Lucian Pace. Mr. Pace, if you could come up  
3 to the front of the room. It's not really necessary  
4 that you come to the podium, unless you want to, but  
5 you want to speak loudly enough so the audience can  
6 hear you and, of course, so that we here at the  
7 podium can hear you.

8 Whereupon,

9                   LUCIAN L. PACE,  
10 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness  
11 herein and testified as follows:

12                  JUDGE MOSS: Let me ask you for the record,  
13 please, to state your full name and spell your last  
14 name.

15                  MR. PACE: First name is Lucian, L-u-c-i-a-n  
16 Initial L., Pace, the last name, P-a-c-e.

17                  JUDGE MOSS: And what is your address, Mr.  
18 Pace?

19                  MR. PACE: 1940 Waneta Road, Grandview.

20                  JUDGE MOSS: All right. And are you a  
21 customer of PacifiCorp?

22                  MR. PACE: I'm a customer of Benton Rural  
23 Electric.

24                  JUDGE MOSS: All right. Very good. And did  
25 you wish to make a statement tonight concerning this

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1 proceeding?

2 MR. PACE: Yes, I think I do.

3 JUDGE MOSS: All right. Then please

4 proceed.

5 MR. PACE: Okay. As everyone knows, the  
6 Yakima Valley is a agriculture area, and a lot of  
7 people have to pump water, and therefore, brings  
8 their electricity through the roof. And it's also  
9 very important for retired people, people on a fixed  
10 income, and if they're still striving to farm  
11 whatever they grow, the increase in electricity won't  
12 only affect their homes, it will affect their  
13 livelihood, trying to farm and produce whatever they  
14 can produce.

15 And it seems like one thing that I was  
16 mostly interested in is that people in the Valley  
17 have been struggling for some years now to show a  
18 profit. Some will get into a new growing segment,  
19 whatever it might be, and sometimes they'll show a  
20 little profit, but most of them, it's downhill.

21 And I think a increase in our rates at home  
22 and also in our irrigation, who has to pump, which I  
23 have to pump my water on my place, and it keeps,  
24 seems like, going up every year, so I would like to  
25 see it stabilize, and not a big increase like they're

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1 asking for. And thank you very much.

2 JUDGE MOSS: All right, Mr. Pace. Thank you  
3 very much.

4 Let's see. I've got the name here Melissa  
5 Dekker, Daily Sun News. No indication concerning a  
6 desire to comment. Ms. Dekker does not wish to  
7 comment. The ones who have said no, by the way, I'm  
8 going to skip over your name, so the next one I have,  
9 Bill Douglas, did not indicate whether he wished to  
10 speak or not. Mr. Douglas?

11 MR. DOUGLAS: I was going to -- I may like  
12 to speak later or may not. Is that permissible?

13 JUDGE MOSS: We can come back to you if  
14 you'd like. Let us know at the end if you decide  
15 that you want to speak.

16 MR. DOUGLAS: Very good.

17 JUDGE MOSS: I'm just going to call people  
18 in order, in the order that they're on my list.

19 MR. DOUGLAS: Okay. Thank you.

20 JUDGE MOSS: Rich Rowland has indicated a  
21 desire to speak. Mr. Rowland, please come forward.

22 Whereupon,

23 RICH ROWLAND,  
24 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness  
25 herein and testified as follows:

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1                   JUDGE MOSS: Thank you for joining us this  
2 evening. If you could state your name for the  
3 record, please, and spell your last name?

4                   MR. ROWLAND: Rich Rowland, spelled  
5 R-o-w-l-a-n-d.

6                   JUDGE MOSS: And what is your address, Mr.  
7 Rowland?

8                   MR. ROWLAND: 7401 Bittner Road, Yakima.

9                   JUDGE MOSS: And are you a customer of  
10 PacifiCorp?

11                   MR. ROWLAND: Yes.

12                   JUDGE MOSS: Thank you. Do you wish to make  
13 a statement tonight?

14                   MR. ROWLAND: Just a short one.

15                   JUDGE MOSS: All right. Please proceed.

16                   MR. ROWLAND: Just basically, as a private  
17 homeowner, we've seen a number of rate increases over  
18 the years, and even though my wife and I are still  
19 working, when we get our nice little monthly bill  
20 from PacifiCorp, it sometimes is a bit hard to  
21 swallow, especially in the winter months. We've got  
22 the colder months coming on us. And fortunately, we  
23 both work, but here, again, we're creeping up on  
24 retirement, and like many folks that I know of that  
25 are retired, they're finding it harder and harder to



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1 meet these increased demands, not only with power,  
2 but food increase, gas, and so forth.

3           And to my way of thinking, when a company  
4 files a rate increase and they're supposed to abide  
5 by it for a few years, then I think they need to  
6 stick to it, especially in light of the fact that,  
7 from my viewpoint, the company maintains a double  
8 standard as far as billing, because myself, like a  
9 number of other folks I've discovered, where you've  
10 got two meters on your property and it's just a  
11 private residence, I do not have a commercial  
12 business or operation or anything like that, we're  
13 charged one rate for the house and then a commercial  
14 rate for the small shop that I have on my property.

15           And they either -- I think that if they had  
16 a proper rate structure that, when you have a  
17 residence and it's not used for commercial purposes,  
18 that, regardless of whether you got two or even three  
19 meters on your property, if you're not running a  
20 commercial operation, then you ought to stick to just  
21 the residential rate, because I, for one, think that  
22 if they had a single standard and that basis there,  
23 that, in the long run, the company would probably  
24 make more money, but I, for one, am very conservative  
25 about the power I use out of my shop because of that.

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1                   Between that and their multi-million dollar  
2 rate increase, I think it should be denied. Thank  
3 you.

4                   JUDGE MOSS: Mr. Rowland, thank you very  
5 much. Appreciate your testimony.

6                   John Klingele has indicated a desire to  
7 testify.

8 Whereupon,

9   JOHN KLINGELE,  
10 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness  
11 herein and testified as follows:

12                   JUDGE MOSS: Good evening. Thank you for  
13 being here.

14                   MR. KLINGELE: Good evening.

15                   JUDGE MOSS: Let me ask you to state your  
16 full name for the record and spell your last name.

17                   MR. KLINGELE: John Klingele,  
18 K-l-i-n-g-e-l-e.

19                   JUDGE MOSS: And what is your address, Mr.  
20 Klingele?

21                   MR. KLINGELE: 1312 West Walnut Street.

22                   JUDGE MOSS: And are you a customer of  
23 PacifiCorp?

24                   MR. KLINGELE: Oh, yes.

25                   JUDGE MOSS: All right. Very good.

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1           MR. KLINGELE: I get the bill every month.

2           JUDGE MOSS: Did you have a statement you  
3 wished to make this evening?

4           MR. KLINGELE: Oh, yes. I have been a  
5 Yakima City Councilman, so I am familiar with how  
6 rates have to be studied and reviewed, so I've been  
7 on the other side of that kind of table.

8           In the letter of introduction that was  
9 generated by Christy in December 16 of 2003, the  
10 notice said that the Yakima Service Center at 1101  
11 North 16th Avenue would have things available for us,  
12 and they have not been at that location since 2003,  
13 since January of 2003, and I notice that's also on  
14 the UTC Web site as a place to contact Pacific, where  
15 actually their place should be 500 North Keys Road.

16           I did get a copy of the filings, many pounds  
17 of paper. I noticed that the PP&L's President and  
18 CEO, Judith Johansen, in her list of witnesses, did  
19 not -- the witness list did not actually correspond  
20 with the witnesses presented in their filing.

21           Dr. Samuel Hadaway and other economists have  
22 made comments, and one of the things that was not  
23 mentioned in any of their comments and was neglected  
24 was whether foreign corporations and their investors  
25 have the same expectations as U.S. investors, and

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1 whether those things are greater or less. And since  
2 they compared with lots of U.S. corporations, they  
3 failed to mention that, whether that had any  
4 difference in this rate filing or not.

5 The economists get paid a hundred percent  
6 even if their predictions are only right 10 percent  
7 of the time.

8 The economist that was hired by the Staff  
9 assumed facts that weren't in evidence, such as that  
10 Pacific Power's generation that's located in  
11 Washington actually serves the Washington customers,  
12 assumed that the generation on the Lewis River  
13 provided electricity for the customers in Washington,  
14 and it does not. I have studied the power flows for  
15 more than a decade and recognize that that is not the  
16 case, and that's something that economists generally  
17 don't recognize, because they're not familiar with  
18 the nature of generation and transmission and  
19 distribution in the Northwest.

20 Part of this case is the MSP or protocol or  
21 some other term that the filings have talked about,  
22 and I'd hope that the Commission Staff and  
23 Commissioners themselves would keep on working on  
24 this issue. If PP&L has to look at doing different  
25 kinds of economic forecasts, as well as figuring out

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1 what their expenses are and each state has different  
2 policies, it really adds confusion, and I don't want  
3 to see Pacific and its various territories divided  
4 into various separate companies, because that will  
5 multiply the costs and paperwork.

6 I generally agree with the testimony from  
7 Alan Buckley, with regarding the control areas, but  
8 one of the things he fails to do is define what the  
9 control areas are and what the division is and how to  
10 identify that division.

11 He also, in his Exhibit APB-1T, page 110,  
12 line 21, states that the Lewis River provides power  
13 to Pacific's customers, and it does not.

14 Pacific Power generation, I was really  
15 pleased with the information regarding the Hermiston  
16 generation. I was thrilled to see that that plant  
17 has a long-term fixed gas price with a fixed  
18 escalator. In today's gas market, that means we're  
19 making good money on that, because the going rates  
20 for gas have skyrocketed.

21 In Pacific Power's transmission system, they  
22 have done some improvements in the last 10 years, and  
23 I'd like to see some others. They have done, for  
24 instance, from between Walla Walla substation and  
25 Pacific and BPA, they replaced the insulators along

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1 that line, and that made that corridor from a static  
2 zone to non-static zone. There's a big difference in  
3 folks driving down that piece of highway.

4 Pacific Power has improved its substations  
5 and distribution in the Waitsburg and Dayton area in  
6 the last 10 years. They went from a delta system to  
7 a Y system. When the floods of '96 came along and  
8 damaged their substation, they built a new substation  
9 a few blocks away, out of danger of the river rising,  
10 and that improved the economics in that area. And so  
11 to have considerable line loss has decreased doing  
12 that change. And then, the following year,  
13 interconnection with Dayton and Dayton's system was  
14 improved likewise.

15 Walla Walla's system has had some new  
16 transformers put in and substations, and I'd like to  
17 see some more done. The substation transformers out  
18 at Prospect Point, they have to lock the cooling fans  
19 on all summer long, because, otherwise, the  
20 transformers will overheat and we'll have problems  
21 out there, and I'd like to see some more transformers  
22 put in that area.

23 The Walla Walla area, even a decade ago,  
24 there was identified a need for reconductoring of the  
25 line from Walla Walla to Walla Walla Central, and I'd

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1 like to see that happen in the near future as, under  
2 certain conditions, that line can be severely  
3 overloaded.

4 In the rate changes, if you note in Exhibit  
5 DLT-9, it shows that the commercial customers  
6 presently are paying their fair share and more, and I  
7 would not be averse to seeing the Commission hold  
8 those rates stable, as it is right now, as the  
9 testimony from Pacific shows that they're already  
10 paying plenty of rates, even with the settlement  
11 talked about.

12 JUDGE MOSS: Mr. Klingele, I have to caution  
13 you. I believe you've got 30 seconds to sum up.  
14 Your presentation is taking a little more than five  
15 minutes.

16 MR. KLINGELE: I'd like to see the Aquilla  
17 credit that's being presented to be eliminated, as it  
18 is only a few pennies on the dollar. There's other  
19 credits that are going away, and that will impact  
20 rates as it is. Thank you for your testimony.

21 JUDGE MOSS: Thank you very much. We  
22 appreciate your testimony. Mr. Curtis Strausz  
23 indicated maybe.

24 Whereupon,

25 CURTIS STRAUZ,

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1 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness  
2 herein and testified as follows:

3 JUDGE MOSS: Mr. Strausz, good evening and  
4 thank you for being here. Let me ask you to state  
5 your full name and spell your last name for the court  
6 reporter.

7 MR. STRAUSZ: I'm Curtis A. Strausz, I live  
8 in Cowiche, Washington, 510 Old Cowiche Road.

9 JUDGE MOSS: Could you spell your last name  
10 for the reporter?

11 MR. STRAUSZ: S-t-r-a-u-s-z.

12 JUDGE MOSS: Thank you. Are you a customer  
13 of PacifiCorp?

14 MR. STRAUSZ: I certainly am. I'm also  
15 speaking as a stockholder.

16 JUDGE MOSS: All right. And did you wish to  
17 make a statement this evening?

18 MR. STRAUSZ: Well, yes. I would like to  
19 make a statement, and I'd like to paraphrase it this  
20 way. I have not received enough information that I  
21 feel I can talk intelligently about whether the rate  
22 increase is justified or not, but, like everybody  
23 else here who's speaking against the rate increase,  
24 I'm not really enamored with the possibility of  
25 paying more for my electricity.



0818

1           But my concern is this. I have been  
2 privileged to read of a study that's been done and  
3 been going on for about the last -- at least 10  
4 years, that states in its conclusions that, by 2050,  
5 70 percent of all the electricity generated will be  
6 used by the electronics industry. That being the  
7 case, I don't see where we're going to generate the  
8 extra electricity to fill that bill.

9           Now, then, we have five dams, five  
10 reservoirs in this Yakima irrigation project that  
11 presently aren't generating any electricity, and I  
12 can't help but feel they could be. May not be large  
13 quantities, but in my opinion, every little bit can  
14 help.

15           Now, I really don't know whether my  
16 testimony is pertinent to the subject or not, but  
17 these are my concerns. Thank you very much.

18           JUDGE MOSS: Thank you. We appreciate you  
19 testifying this evening. Chris Linschouten, or  
20 schooten, perhaps. I may have pronounced that  
21 incorrectly.

22           Whereupon,

23                               CORNELIUS LINSCHOOTEN,  
24 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness  
25 herein and testified as follows:

0819

1           JUDGE MOSS: Good evening, and I'll give you  
2 an opportunity to correct my pronunciation, if you'll  
3 please state your name for the record.

4           MR. LINSCHOOTEN: My name is Cornelius G.  
5 Linschooten, and last name is L-i-n-s-c-h-o-o-t-e-n.

6           JUDGE MOSS: All right. And your address,  
7 please?

8           MR. LINSCHOOTEN: 3010 West Yakima Avenue,  
9 Yakima, Washington.

10          JUDGE MOSS: And are you a customer of  
11 PacifiCorp?

12          MR. LINSCHOOTEN: Well, PP&L, I used to  
13 know. Probably the same company as it is.

14          JUDGE MOSS: Same company. They do business  
15 as Pacific Power and Light in this state. Do you  
16 have a statement you wish to make this evening?

17          MR. LINSCHOOTEN: Yes, I just received last  
18 week, about Thursday or Friday, a letter from the  
19 Department of Energy, the Bonneville Power  
20 Administration, dated September 16th, 2004, and so  
21 it's within two weeks that it was released, and it  
22 states here, I just have some sentence, Will result  
23 in BPA power rate for financial year 2005 that is  
24 seven and a half percent lower than the financial  
25 2004 rate. And some of the customers have different

0820

1 contracts, so that might change. However, all  
2 customers should benefit from the fact that BPA is  
3 reducing its cost. And it also states here that all  
4 the customers and industry and individual ratepayers  
5 have all made it clear they need a rate decrease.

6           And they also state here somewhere that they  
7 don't expect any rate increase, which they did  
8 before, but not now, anymore, any rate increase  
9 through the year 2006, so they only expect rate  
10 decreases. And there is a little graph where you can  
11 see where the costs are going down.

12           Apparently, the BPA is able to do a lot of  
13 cost reductions, and I have no details on that, but  
14 that's what they're saying, and they also sell a lot  
15 of equipments, which they have and don't use, and are  
16 able to decrease their rates.

17           So I just wonder what -- if this company  
18 here is doing any of that, and I also wonder who is  
19 checking their cost. Are their costs real or are  
20 they just hyped up to a level that -- you know.

21           The way I see it, 13 and a half percent is  
22 about more than 10 times the inflation rate. I  
23 myself, I'm retired, but I am a mechanical engineer,  
24 and I lived the first 26 years of my life in Europe  
25 and got my engineering degree there, Boeing brought

0821

1 me over to build the 747, and I have in-state  
2 mechanical engineering professional license. And I  
3 worked in aircraft industry, shipbuilding industry,  
4 the forest product industry, hydraulic industry here  
5 in Yakima, and the nuclear reservation here in  
6 Hanford, and I cannot remember ever getting a 13 and  
7 a half percent pay raise ever. The only way to do  
8 that was to change the jobs. That's why I went to  
9 several industries.

10           Then, the other thing, what concerns me,  
11 that a British company -- coming from both sides --  
12 can own utilities here. Those people are geared to a  
13 totally different attitude. The rates are there for  
14 electricity that is incredibly high for us, and our  
15 industry is geared to those rates. Right now, I  
16 think we almost eliminate already the aluminum  
17 industry, and if we're going to raise this, it's only  
18 going to get worse.

19           And so all I see is that we got a British  
20 company for profit, who likes to raise our rates as  
21 fast as they can to their level in Europe. And you  
22 know, I just called my brother in Sweden two weeks  
23 ago for his birthday, and it was \$1.39 for a half  
24 hour talking. He can't even pick up the phone and  
25 call me for that price. So those European people

0822

1 come from a totally different level of expenses.  
2 They like to go there as fast as they can. I don't  
3 think they give a darn about who their customer is  
4 here, so it's -- I don't know.

5 We had a British company at Hanford trying  
6 to build the plant for \$4 billion, and they raised it  
7 to 25, and they kicked them off. That's the first  
8 time I've ever seen DOE kick somebody off the site  
9 right there and then. They mostly let the contract  
10 go and don't, you know, don't give them a new  
11 contract, but same thing.

12 JUDGE MOSS: Thank you very much.  
13 Appreciate your comments.

14 MR. LINSCHOOTEN: Oh, anybody wants the  
15 letter?

16 JUDGE MOSS: If you want to submit the  
17 letter for the record, we can take that.

18 MR. LINSCHOOTEN: Sure. Who do I give it  
19 to?

20 JUDGE MOSS: You give it to me.

21 MR. LINSCHOOTEN: All right. Thank you.

22 JUDGE MOSS: Thank you. And I'll ask if  
23 there's any objection to making part of the record  
24 the letter of September 16th, 2004, from Department  
25 of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration,

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1 concerning the BPA's rates.

2 MR. HALL: No objection, Your Honor.

3 JUDGE MOSS: I'm not sure what exhibit  
4 number it will be, but I will assign it a number in  
5 due course. Morey Manyoky, maybe.

6 MR. MANYOKY: Manyoky.

7 JUDGE MOSS: Manyoky, thank you.

8 Whereupon,

9 MOREY MANYOKY,  
10 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness  
11 herein and testified as follows:

12 JUDGE MOSS: Please state your name for the  
13 record.

14 MR. MANYOKY: Morey Manyoky.

15 JUDGE MOSS: Spell your last name.

16 MR. MANYOKY: M-a-n-y-o-k-y.

17 JUDGE MOSS: And your address, please?

18 MR. MANYOKY: Okay. 501 North Naches  
19 Avenue, Apartment Two, in Yakima.

20 JUDGE MOSS: All right. Are you a  
21 PacifiCorp customer?

22 MR. MANYOKY: Yes.

23 JUDGE MOSS: Okay, great. Did you have a  
24 statement you wanted to make this evening?

25 MR. MANYOKY: Yes, but not as a customer. I

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1 work for Client Services with the Yakima County  
2 Coalition for the Homeless, and when I read about the  
3 increase, I thought that increases would be sort of  
4 respectful of the area's population, and I'm not  
5 aware if the company's taking into account some of  
6 the situations specific to Yakima County.

7 First of all, it's one of the poorest  
8 counties, and also a lot of the housing is very  
9 inferior in quality to homeless, very low income, and  
10 also to the farm workers who, as of October, are  
11 basically out of work. And we deal at our agency  
12 with about 3,000 individuals and family, homeless,  
13 mostly. And most of the low income population, which  
14 is about 3,000, 4,000 families and individuals, their  
15 incomes per month go from 349 to about \$600 a month.

16 We also work in coordination with other  
17 agencies to try and get emergency funding for some of  
18 the utility bills, and it's been extremely hard  
19 recently. Money has been very, very tight,  
20 especially for the last few months.

21 Now, if you increase by a substantial  
22 amount, basically what happens is we get about 20 to  
23 30 people already per week who are having difficulty  
24 paying the bills. This, in winter, goes up to about  
25 250, 300 people a month who come in with bills. We

0825

1 no longer have a lot of the access to the subsidies  
2 to help them, so what I was trying to place before  
3 you is, first of all, consideration that the increase  
4 that you're asking for is extremely high.

5           If the utility bill and the inability,  
6 because of the winter coming on with electric heat  
7 and a lot of these poor and badly insulated units, if  
8 it's already causing problems with a large amount of  
9 annual evictions, then why would the company want to  
10 force the issue to make it a detrimental to the farm  
11 workers and the poorer people in the community?

12           This is one of the poorest communities in  
13 the state. We're dealing with a tremendous amount of  
14 people who already have problems, agencies that don't  
15 have the access to the help and the emergency funding  
16 that we used to, so I was asking, at least on behalf  
17 of clients and homeless families and very low income  
18 families, that I know that you would consider at  
19 least the percentage by which you want to increase  
20 bills.

21           The Yakima County Coalition already covers  
22 about 40 of these bills for families, and we have  
23 difficulty meeting the expenses. Operating expenses  
24 for non-profits are not very easy to come by, and a  
25 lot of what is operating expenses goes to the utility



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1 bills. So that's another reason, that you wouldn't  
2 only be affecting the families; you're also affecting  
3 the social service provider agencies, and very, very  
4 severely, by such a high increase. That's what I  
5 wanted to bring before you.

6 JUDGE MOSS: Thank you very much. We  
7 appreciate your testimony.

8 COMMISSIONER OSHIE: Thank you.

9 MR. MANYOKY: Okay.

10 JUDGE MOSS: Alfred Carlson indicated maybe  
11 status. Mr. Carlson, did you wish to comment?

12 MR. CARLSON: I'd like to make a comment.

13 JUDGE MOSS: All right. Come on up.

14 Whereupon,

15 ALFRED CARLSON,  
16 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness  
17 herein and testified as follows:

18 MR. CARLSON: Thank you. Good evening.

19 JUDGE MOSS: Good evening. I'll ask you to  
20 state your name for the record, please.

21 MR. CARLSON: Alfred Carlson, C-a-r-l-s-o-n.

22 JUDGE MOSS: And your address?

23 MR. CARLSON: 7007 Avalanche Avenue.

24 JUDGE MOSS: And did you -- are you a  
25 customer of PacifiCorp?

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1           MR. CARLSON: A satisfied customer, yes, I  
2 am.

3           JUDGE MOSS: Do you wish to make a  
4 statement?

5           MR. CARLSON: Yes, I do. When I read in the  
6 paper this morning in regards to this request for a  
7 7.8 percent increase in utility bills and -- or for  
8 -- yeah, for utility increase, and my concern is is  
9 that I'm not really sure whether or not the utility  
10 company has the customer in mind here or whether or  
11 not they're trying to raise the percent of profit to  
12 the shareholders.

13           First I must bring to light that Yakima is  
14 in -- we're teetering on economic disaster here. We  
15 have one of the highest unemployment rates in the  
16 state, there's an awful lot of people here on very  
17 low, fixed incomes, and there's a lot of families  
18 here that are bordering on financial despair.

19           I don't feel that this rate increase is  
20 geared to benefit the users of power. It appears to  
21 me that it's geared to benefit the shareholders, who  
22 are looking for a better than eight percent return on  
23 their investment versus a five -- almost a five and a  
24 half percent return on their investment, which I  
25 don't know about the people in this room, but I feel

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1 that five and a half percent return on investment in  
2 today's economy is not bad. It's not bad.

3 So in lieu of the fact that we all have to  
4 give a little bit when the economic downturn is upon  
5 us, I feel that maybe the power company or Pacific  
6 Power could maybe do the same thing and tighten their  
7 belts up a little bit like we've tightened ours.

8 That's my testimony. Thank you.

9 JUDGE MOSS: Thank you very much.  
10 Appreciate you being here. And in similar vein,  
11 Randall Peterson indicated maybe.

12 MR. PETERSON: Yes, I would.

13 JUDGE MOSS: Okay, very good. Come up,  
14 please.

15 Whereupon,

16 RANDALL PETERSON,  
17 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness  
18 herein and testified as follows:

19 JUDGE MOSS: And Mr. Peterson, please state  
20 your name for the record.

21 MR. PETERSON: Randall M. Peterson.

22 JUDGE MOSS: I think your last name, the  
23 court reporter can probably spell.

24 MR. PETERSON: P-e-t-e-r-s-o-n.

25 JUDGE MOSS: Your address, please?

0829

1                   MR. PETERSON: 2013 Home Acres Road, Yakima,  
2 Washington.

3                   JUDGE MOSS: All right. Are you a customer  
4 of PacifiCorp?

5                   MR. PETERSON: Yes, I have been, and still  
6 am.

7                   JUDGE MOSS: All right. Did you have any  
8 comments you wish to make?

9                   MR. PETERSON: Yes, I do. The gentleman  
10 before the last one came up and talked about the  
11 economy and the poor people in Yakima that are living  
12 on fixed incomes. I know quite a few of them on  
13 fixed incomes, 550 a month for disability. You spend  
14 \$360 through \$400 a month on rent, and this leaves  
15 you very little for food and your power and  
16 everything else, and I think the increase is way out  
17 of line.

18                   You've got to think of the poor people.  
19 There's a lot of people, like myself, it's not going  
20 to hurt me, because I still work and I'm a single  
21 person, but there's a lot of people who have kids who  
22 can't even afford school clothes or school lunches or  
23 anything else. I think PP&L should take a real good  
24 look at it and fix their income down there for their  
25 increase a lot lower than what they're looking at.

0830

1           Like I say, I've been a customer of theirs  
2 for many years. Because a lot of people right now,  
3 they have to go to OIC and other places to try to get  
4 help. And I think they should look at it and really  
5 drop down their -- ask for their increase to a lower  
6 rate so people can afford it. A lot of people are  
7 going to have the lights shut off and everything else  
8 because they're not going to be able to afford it.

9           That's really about all I've got to say  
10 about it. Thank you very much.

11           JUDGE MOSS: Thank you very much.  
12 Appreciate your testimony. Carole Folsom Hill, or  
13 Hill. I'm not sure which.

14 Whereupon,

15                         CAROLE FOLSOM HILL,  
16 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness  
17 herein and testified as follows:

18           MS. FOLSOM HILL: Hello.

19           JUDGE MOSS: Hi there. Please state your  
20 name for the record.

21           MS. FOLSOM HILL: Carole Folsom Hill.

22           JUDGE MOSS: And your address?

23           MS. FOLSOM HILL: 15 South Sixth Street,  
24 Yakima.

25           JUDGE MOSS: Okay. And are you a customer?

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1 MS. FOLSOM HILL: I am a customer, but I  
2 come before you as a director of a non-profit  
3 organization --

4 JUDGE MOSS: Okay.

5 MS. FOLSOM HILL: -- serving low income  
6 people.

7 JUDGE MOSS: And that would be?

8 MS. FOLSOM HILL: Yakima Interfaith  
9 Coalition, La Casa Hogar.

10 JUDGE MOSS: Thank you very much. Do you  
11 have a statement you wish to make this evening?

12 MS. FOLSOM HILL: Yes.

13 JUDGE MOSS: Please proceed.

14 MS. FOLSOM HILL: I'm interested in speaking  
15 to three issues, the non-profit situation, which  
16 Morey actually just addressed; on behalf of the  
17 clients we serve; and also I'd like to commend  
18 PacifiCorp for their assistance programs and in  
19 working with us as we try to help clients resolve  
20 their situation. We have a very positive experience  
21 in working with the Staff at PacifiCorp. So all  
22 three of those are important to me and to the people  
23 that we serve.

24 We, so far this year, have assisted with  
25 \$5,800 in serving people to prevent a utility

0832

1 shut-off, an electrical shut-off through Pacific  
2 Power. That doesn't count the people that have  
3 already been served by the local assistance programs  
4 with OIC, Northwest Community Action and Salvation  
5 Army and St. Vincent de Paul. This is on top of  
6 that.

7           And our average amount of money that we help  
8 is \$29. That prevents the shutoff. It does not  
9 count those who call us who have \$350 power bills,  
10 \$250 power bills, \$100 power bills. Oftentimes  
11 people are able to contribute to prevent the shutoff  
12 to the \$30 that we're helping them with, but there  
13 are many, many people that are going without  
14 assistance, and there are elderly folks who call us  
15 and they are choosing to pay their power bill over  
16 buying prescriptions, so all of them all have to  
17 juggle.

18           And it's a very difficult situation on the  
19 ground, as it may be with PacifiCorp, but when we're  
20 facing the people daily, who cannot -- their incomes  
21 are \$330, their incomes are \$535, or something maybe  
22 a little more, and as Morey said, it's our  
23 experience, as well, that rents are very high, so  
24 there's not enough disposable income.

25           So this particular situation will only cause

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1 increased numbers of people asking us for assistance.  
2 We are also a very small, emerging non-profit. Our  
3 budget is 103 -- our income last year was \$103,000,  
4 of which 16,000 we used in this direct service way.  
5 So for us to have an increase in our power bill is  
6 also very, very important, and affects us fairly  
7 dramatically.

8           And again, I'd like to reinforce the idea  
9 that it has -- that it is very helpful to have the  
10 assistance programs and it's very helpful to be able  
11 to work in a cooperative manner with the Staff at  
12 PacifiCorp when we call to negotiate on behalf of the  
13 clients or to get payment plans or to really find out  
14 if they're going to really be shut off, and the staff  
15 are very, very capable and usually very kind and  
16 responsive in helping us. That makes our job a lot  
17 easier, as well.

18           So thank you for the opportunity to speak,  
19 and obviously I'm speaking against a rate hike.

20           JUDGE MOSS: Thank you, Ms. Hill. We  
21 appreciate your testimony. I have gotten through my  
22 list, and that brings me back to Mr. Douglas, who  
23 indicated he might like to reconsider whether to  
24 speak or not.

25           MR. DOUGLAS: I would just make a quick



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1 comment.

2 JUDGE MOSS: All right. Come ahead, please.

3 Whereupon,

4 BILL DOUGLAS,

5 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness

6 herein and testified as follows:

7 JUDGE MOSS: I'd ask you to please state

8 your name for the record.

9 MR. DOUGLAS: I'm Bill Douglas,  
10 D-o-u-g-l-a-s, and I'm a customer of Pacific.

11 JUDGE MOSS: And your address, please?

12 MR. DOUGLAS: 1480 Selah Heights Road,  
13 Selah, Washington.

14 JUDGE MOSS: Thank you very much. Please go  
15 ahead with your statement.

16 MR. DOUGLAS: You know, none of us like  
17 price increases, but I just want to say I've been in  
18 this Valley as a businessman for 40 years, and we've  
19 really enjoyed great service and a good product from  
20 Pacific Power. And when we've had to expand or do  
21 things, they've been there to get the job done and  
22 they've been able to -- we've had very low outages,  
23 and when there are outages, those problems get taken  
24 care of very well in the state of Washington.

25 And I'd just say that we need good

0835

1 companies, and if your staff decides that an increase  
2 is justified, I don't think an eight percent return  
3 is out of line in any way for the company.  
4 Otherwise, they won't attract capital to go and  
5 provide generation down the road.

6           And you know, I just -- I think -- I looked  
7 at some statistics the other day about what's  
8 happened in Seattle with Seattle City Light, Tacoma  
9 City Light, Snohomish P.U.D. From 1/1/2000 to  
10 10/1/2003, those three utilities increased 35, 38 and  
11 47 percent. You know, then we have the Enrons, where  
12 they've been in communities and it's been an absolute  
13 disaster, what happened in California. California is  
14 paying, what, 10 or 12 cents versus our four or five  
15 cents in this state.

16           So when we've got good companies, we should  
17 be thankful to have them. In this area, it was  
18 talked about that this increase was more than  
19 inflation, but, as a matter of fact, as this brochure  
20 points out, there hasn't been an increase since 1988.  
21 The rates right now are lower than 1988 in  
22 PacifiCorp. If these rates go in, they'll go to two  
23 cents higher than they were in 1988. So that  
24 certainly has not kept up with inflation. Inflation  
25 over that period would be about 50 percent.

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1           So I think, as a community, we're very  
2 fortunate to have PacifiCorp. They're a very good  
3 company. I sit on their advisory board from the  
4 Yakima area, and I've watched, over the last 10  
5 years, they've done everything they can to reduce  
6 their costs and they've done a good job. They have a  
7 lot less employees than they did 10 years ago, and  
8 that's why the rates have not gone up since 1988.  
9 And they are one of the lowest -- we have some of the  
10 lowest rates here in this area in the state.

11           I'm also a customer of Benton REA, which  
12 comes from Bonneville Power, and I believe their  
13 rates are quite a bit higher than PacifiCorp at this  
14 point. So I just say if staff determines that it's  
15 needed to get at least an eight percent return, I  
16 think that's very fair, and I would encourage staff  
17 to do so.

18           JUDGE MOSS: All right. Mr. Douglas, thank  
19 you very much. That completes the list of speakers  
20 that I have, but let me ask if there's anyone else  
21 present who wishes to make a statement this evening?  
22 All right. Seeing -- yes, sir.

23           MR. PACE: I'd like to say a few more words,  
24 if I may.

25           JUDGE MOSS: Well, sir, we really only give

0837

1 one opportunity for speakers, because if we extend  
2 that right to you, then we'd have to open that to  
3 everyone, sir.

4 MR. PACE: Thank you,

5 JUDGE MOSS: So I appreciate that. If there  
6 is anyone who hasn't given a comment who wishes to?  
7 Yes, sir, please come forward. Were you sworn with  
8 the group?

9 MR. NEWHOUSE: No, actually, I was not.

10 JUDGE MOSS: All right. Please raise your  
11 right hand.

12 Whereupon,

13 DAN NEWHOUSE,  
14 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness  
15 herein and testified as follows:

16 JUDGE MOSS: Thank you. Please state your  
17 name for the record.

18 MR. NEWHOUSE: My name is Dan Newhouse,  
19 N-e-w-h-o-u-s-e.

20 JUDGE MOSS: Mr. Newhouse, what is your  
21 address?

22 MR. NEWHOUSE: 2521 South Emerald Road,  
23 Sunnyside.

24 JUDGE MOSS: Are you a customer of  
25 PacifiCorp?

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1 MR. NEWHOUSE: Yes, I am.

2 JUDGE MOSS: Would you like to make a  
3 statement this evening?

4 MR. NEWHOUSE: Just briefly, a couple of  
5 things. I'm wearing two hats here, one as a  
6 ratepayer. I just paid my PPL bill last week, as a  
7 matter of fact, and still trying to figure out what  
8 the impact will be to me if these proposed rate  
9 increases go through. We farm. We have an  
10 agricultural operation in the Lower Valley. Of  
11 course, paying for several thousand kilowatt hours  
12 will probably be a bigger impact than the \$4.15 a  
13 month that the residents would incur.

14 But having said that, my main reason for  
15 being here is that I'm also a state representative  
16 for the Lower Valley, 15th District, and what I  
17 mainly intended to do was come and listen to the  
18 concerns of the people that were presented to the  
19 Commission so that I would better understand what the  
20 concerns are, know better what you have to deal with  
21 as far as the issues that these people bring forward.

22 I understand it's the company's position  
23 that bringing forward a rate increase is not an easy  
24 task to decide to do. I'm sure not a lot of fan mail  
25 is generated when something like that happens. But

0839

1 having said that, there are realities in the business  
2 world that certainly companies have to face, and as  
3 customers to this company, we also must face those  
4 realities. But as, again, I said the reason for me  
5 being here is to listen and to be able to understand  
6 the issues that are confronting you and so that we  
7 also may then understand the decisions that you make.  
8 So that's my point for being here.

9 JUDGE MOSS: All right. Representative  
10 Newhouse, thank you for being here. Is there anyone  
11 else that wishes to make a statement this evening for  
12 the record? All right.

13 Seeing no indication, let me ask if there's  
14 any other business the parties' representatives wish  
15 to bring forward this evening? Mr. Cromwell, as far  
16 as the public comment, written public comment, you're  
17 compiling that, I believe, and intend to furnish that  
18 to me sometime by the 30th?

19 MR. CROMWELL: Yes, sir.

20 JUDGE MOSS: All right. Very well,  
21 appreciate it, look forward to that, and I believe we  
22 have given that an exhibit number. Well, if there's  
23 no other business, I'll just say, for my part, that I  
24 appreciate you all being here tonight and being  
25 courteous and quiet while others spoke. We

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1 appreciate that. I'll turn the floor over to  
2 Commissioner Oshie, who may have a few final words,  
3 and then we'll go off the record.

4 COMMISSIONER OSHIE: I'd like just to really  
5 echo the comments of Judge Moss, that we, as the  
6 Commissioners, you know, very much appreciate the  
7 public input on these matters. It does give us more  
8 of an insight into how any rate increase would impact  
9 the customers of the company, and I know that  
10 everyone's very busy and you've taken your time out  
11 tonight to be here. It's a busy time of year here in  
12 the Valley, the harvest is on, and I know people are  
13 working very late hours to get fruit off the trees.

14 There's also many other things to do that  
15 you could be doing tonight, so you've chosen to be  
16 here, and we do very much appreciate it. And we will  
17 take your comments and the testimony here tonight  
18 under consideration when we make our decision. So  
19 thank you.

20 JUDGE MOSS: We'll be off the record.

21 (Proceedings adjourned at 6:56 p.m.)

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