

DOCKET NO. 41791

APPLICATION OF ENTERGY	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
TEXAS, INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO	§	
CHANGE RATES AND RECONCILE	§	OF TEXAS
FUEL COSTS	§	

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

RYAN S. TRUSHENSKI

ON BEHALF OF

ENTERGY TEXAS, INC.

SEPTEMBER 2013

ENTERGY TEXAS, INC.  
DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RYAN S. TRUSHENSKI  
2013 RATE CASE

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### EXHIBITS

Exhibit RST-1	Map Detailing Mine Locations in the Powder River Basin
Exhibit RST-2	Rail Routes to Nelson
Exhibit RST-3	Southern Gulf Railway Detail Map

I. INTRODUCTION

Q1. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS, AND BUSINESS AFFILIATION.

A. My name is Ryan S. Trushenski. I am Manager of the Solid Fuel Supply group of Entergy Services, Inc. ("ESI"), the service company affiliate of Entergy Texas, Inc. ("ETI" or the "Company"). My business address is 10055 Grogan's Mill Road, Parkwood II Building, Suite 300, The Woodlands, Texas, 77380.

Q2. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.

A. I hold a Masters of Business Administration degree from Carnegie Mellon University and a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Houston. From 2001 through July 2006, I was employed as a financial analyst and capital budget advisor for ExxonMobil. In August 2006, I joined the Solid Fuel Supply group as an associate responsible for special projects and analysis. In January 2008, I became project manager, Solid Fuel Operations primarily responsible for daily operations and planning activities related to coal transportation. In February 2010, I became Manager, Solid Fuel Supply, responsible for all activities handled by the Solid Fuel Supply organization, including the acquisition and transportation of coal supplies and the management of coal inventories.

1 Q3. WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SOLID FUELS GROUP?

2 A. The Solid Fuel Supply group reports to the Director, Commercial  
3 Operations in System Planning and Operations ("SPO"), and is  
4 responsible for purchasing coal, securing the transportation of coal,  
5 managing coal inventory, managing the operations of Southern Gulf  
6 Railway Company ("SGR"), and maintaining the railcar fleets for the  
7 Entergy operating companies, including ETI.

8

9 Q4. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

10 A. The purpose of my testimony is two-fold. First, I discuss reconcilable fuel  
11 costs incurred during the Reconciliation Period of July 2011 through  
12 March 2013. This includes discussions of all reconcilable fuel costs for  
13 both Roy S. Nelson Station, Unit 6 ("Nelson 6") and Big Cajun II, Unit 3  
14 ("BCII, U3"), of which plants ETI is a co-owner. Second, I sponsor the  
15 non-reconcilable coal costs incurred to operate these plants during the  
16 Test Year (April 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013). I conclude that the Company  
17 acted prudently and that the costs incurred during the Reconciliation  
18 Period and Test Year are reasonable.

19

20 Q5. HOW DOES YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY RELATE TO THE OVERALL  
21 FUEL ACQUISITION PROCESS?

22 A. Company witness Michelle H. Thiry provides an overview of the SPO  
23 Group. In Figure MHT-2 of Ms. Thiry's Direct Testimony, she presents an

1 overview of the ETI Fuel Acquisition and Reconciliation Process. The  
2 Solid Fuel Supply group provides the information related to "Coal Supply,"  
3 which is an input to the fuel acquisition and reconciliation processes. My  
4 Direct Testimony provides additional detail on the Solid Fuel Supply  
5 group's functions.

6  
7 II. OVERVIEW

8 Q6. WHAT IS THE OBJECTIVE OF THE ENTERGY SYSTEM'S COAL  
9 PURCHASE AND DELIVERY PROCESS?

10 A. The objective of the coal purchase and delivery process is to meet the  
11 Entergy System's (including ETI's) projected coal demand at a reasonable  
12 cost with a high degree of service reliability, consistent with known and  
13 reasonably anticipated System conditions (e.g., expected System loads  
14 and generating unit operations), market conditions (e.g., the price and  
15 availability of coal and other fuels) and transportation conditions (e.g.,  
16 expected cycle-times of delivery, availability of railcars and other factors  
17 affecting transportation).

18  
19 Q7. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE COMPANY'S COAL-FIRED GENERATING  
20 RESOURCES.

21 A. ETI is one of the co-owners of Nelson 6, a nominal 550 megawatt ("MW")  
22 coal-fired unit located in Westlake, Louisiana. Entergy Gulf States  
23 Louisiana, L.L.C. ("EGSL") is the majority owner and operator of this unit

1       pursuant to a Joint Ownership and Operating Agreement (“JOPOA”)  
2       signed with the other co-owners of Nelson 6. ETI has a 29.75 percent  
3       ownership interest in Nelson 6, or 164 MW; EGSL has a 40.25 percent  
4       ownership interest in Nelson 6, or 221 MW, the other co-owners’  
5       combined ownership equals the remaining 30 percent interest, or  
6       165 MW. Pursuant to the JOPOA, EGSL is responsible for the supply and  
7       delivery of coal to Nelson 6.

8               ETI also owns a 17.85 percent interest, or 105 MW, in BCII, U3, a  
9       nominal 588 MW coal-fired unit that is part of the Big Cajun II plant located  
10      in New Roads, Louisiana. The co-owners of BCII, U3 operate under a  
11      JOPOA. Louisiana Generating, LLC (“LaGen”), a wholesale power  
12      generation company, is a co-owner and the operator of the BCII plant, and  
13      is therefore responsible for the acquisition and delivery of coal to BCII, U3.

14  
15                               III.    RECONCILABLE COAL COSTS

16   Q8.   WHAT ARE THE COMPONENTS OF ETI’S COAL AND COAL-RELATED  
17       COSTS FOR THE RECONCILIATION PERIOD?

18   A.    The reconcilable coal cost is comprised of coal commodity costs, coal  
19       transportation costs, and Louisiana sales/use tax on boiler fuel. These  
20       costs are enumerated and quantified for each of the coal plants on an “as-  
21       purchased” basis in Highly Sensitive Schedule I-17.1, and on an “as-  
22       burned” basis in Highly Sensitive Schedule I-16. The total eligible coal  
23       costs that I am supporting are summarized in Figure MHT-1 of Ms. Thiry’s

1 testimony, for the amounts under the "Coal" section. These costs  
2 represent the cost of coal "as-burned" from inventory.

3

4 A. Roy S. Nelson Station, Unit 6

5 Q9. HOW ARE THE COAL SUPPLY AND TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS  
6 MANAGED AT NELSON 6?

7 A. A coal inventory forecast is used to ensure compliance with both  
8 transportation and coal supply contract requirements as well as to meet  
9 inventory targets required by the Coal Inventory Policy. This forecast  
10 includes an estimate of the number of trains in service each month, cycle-  
11 times (as a way to forecast deliveries), and plant burn. On the basis of  
12 this forecast, a monthly coal nomination is made with the supply mines  
13 and the railroad. After the close of each month, the forecast for the  
14 remainder of the year is adjusted to reflect actual year-to-date delivery and  
15 burn data and, to the extent necessary, adjustments are made to the  
16 number of trainsets in service in order to meet the monthly nominated  
17 tonnage. In the event forecasted inventory levels fall below the minimum  
18 target of 36 days, the Company would consider alternative coal supplies,  
19 alternative delivery modes, and the potential for additional trainsets in  
20 service as options to assist in inventory recovery.



1 Q10. PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE COAL DELIVERIES TO NELSON 6 DURING  
2 THE RECONCILIATION PERIOD.

3 A. During the Reconciliation Period, total coal deliveries to Nelson 6 were  
4 3,736,061 tons. All coal was sourced from mines located in the southern  
5 portion of the Powder River Coal Basin ("PRB") in Wyoming. Of this  
6 amount, BNSF Railway ("BNSF") provided transportation for 1,063,630  
7 tons of coal delivered to Nelson 6 and Union Pacific and Kansas City  
8 Southern ("UP/KCS") railroads provided transportation for the remaining  
9 3,736,061.

10

11 Q11. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE SOUTHERN POWDER RIVER COAL BASIN  
12 SOURCES USED BY NELSON 6 DURING THE RECONCILIATION  
13 PERIOD.

14 A. During the Reconciliation Period, coal was purchased from five sources:

- 15 1. Antelope Mine;  
16 2. Cordero Rojo and Caballo Rojo Complex;  
17 3. Black Thunder, East Thunder and West Thunder Complex.

18 Approximately 98% of all PRB coal was purchased under long-term  
19 agreements with Cloud Peak Energy Resources, LLC and Arch Coal  
20 Sales Company from, the Antelope, Cordero Rojo Complex, and Black  
21 Thunder Complex mines, while the remaining 2% was purchased on a  
22 short-term basis from various PRB mines. Please refer to Exhibit RST-1  
23 for a map detailing the location of these mines within the PRB, as well as

1           Schedule I-16.2 and Schedule I-16.3 for a more detailed break-down of  
2           the annual purchases.

3

4   Q12. DID ANY TERM COAL SUPPLY CONTRACTS EXPIRE DURING THIS  
5       RECONCILIATION PERIOD?

6   A.   Yes.   Cloud Peak Energy #1844 contract, which was executed on  
7       May 10, 2010, expired on December 31, 2012. In addition, Arch Coal  
8       Sales #2945, which was executed on November 24, 2008, expired on  
9       December 31, 2011 and Arch Coal Sales #3053, which was executed on  
10      July 16, 2009, expired on December 31, 2012.

11

12   Q13. WERE ANY NEW TERM COAL SUPPLY CONTRACTS SELECTED  
13       DURING THIS RECONCILIATION PERIOD?

14   A.   Yes.   Cloud Peak Energy #2016 contract, executed on November 9, 2011,  
15       was a selection from the Company's 2011 request for proposals ("RFP").  
16       ARCH 3930, executed on December 20, 2012, was a selection from the  
17       Company's 2012 RFP. Please refer to Highly Sensitive workpapers to  
18       Schedule I-15 for an analysis of bids received in response to the  
19       Company's RFPs. Summaries of these contracts, as well as copies of the  
20       contracts themselves, have been provided in Highly Sensitive  
21       Schedule I-4 and/or associated Highly Sensitive workpapers.

1 Q14. WHAT TYPES OF COSTS ARE INCLUDED IN THE RAIL  
2 TRANSPORTATION COSTS?

3 A. The transportation costs included all costs to operate trains from the mine  
4 or terminal to the plant and back to the mine or terminal. These costs  
5 include crews, locomotives, fuel, right-of-way, switching, storage,  
6 maintenance of railroad-controlled track and train handling expenses at  
7 the plant.

8

9 Q15. WERE THERE ANY TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO  
10 DURING THE RECONCILIATION PERIOD?

11 A. Yes. The Company entered into UP-C-54561, a new long-term  
12 transportation contract, effective January 1, 2012, with UP/KCS. This  
13 contract replaced the contract with BNSF that expired at the end of 2011.  
14 In addition, the Company entered into UP-C-54695, a short-term  
15 transportation contract with UP/KCS effective October 24, 2011 through  
16 December 31, 2011.

17

18 Q16. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PROCESS FOR ENTERING INTO THE NEW  
19 LONG-TERM TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT IN 2012.

20 A. In April 2011, EGSL initiated an RFP to replace its transportation  
21 agreements and ultimately entered into a new five-year transportation  
22 agreement. The 2012 agreement with UP/KCS provided for transportation

1 from the PRB, which would be effective January 1, 2012 through  
2 December 31, 2016.

3

4 Q17. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE COMPETITIVE PROCESS USED TO SELECT  
5 THE NEW 2012 BNSF TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT.

6 A. The plant has the ability to receive deliveries from three different railroads:  
7 BNSF, Kansas City Southern Railroad ("KCS"), and the Union Pacific  
8 Railroad ("UP"). In addition, there are two possible railroads that can  
9 originate coal from the PRB: BNSF and UP. Therefore, there are four  
10 potential routes that can deliver coal from the PRB to the plant: BNSF  
11 direct, UP direct, BNSF interchange with KCS, and UP interchange with  
12 KCS. Exhibit RST-2 depicts the general routes from origin to destination.  
13 In order to compare competitive options, the RFP was sent to the three  
14 railroads, requesting proposals to for each of these routes.

15

16 Q18. WHAT WAS THE RESULT OF EGSL'S RFP?

17 A. EGSL received three proposals for terms of three or five years: 1) BNSF  
18 direct service, 2) UP direct service, and 3) UP/KCS interconnect service.  
19 BNSF did not provide an interconnect proposal with KCS. EGSL selected  
20 the UP/KCS interconnect proposal as the best economic option and chose  
21 a term of five years as it resulted in a significantly lower rate. For a  
22 complete bid evaluation of the transportation RFP see the Highly Sensitive  
23 Workpapers to Schedule I-15.

1 Q19. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PROCESS FOR ENTERING INTO THE NEW  
2 SHORT-TERM TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT IN 2011.

3 A. The new short-term agreement with UP/KCS was in effect from  
4 October 24, 2011 through the end of 2011 and was the result of EGSL's  
5 efforts to build inventory at the Nelson 6 plant in response to less than  
6 optimal delivery performance by BNSF as a result of significant flooding  
7 issues and congestion on their system. A competitive process was not  
8 used for this specific agreement; however, it was negotiated as simply  
9 accelerating the start date of the new long-term transportation agreement  
10 with UP/KCS. Since EGSL had just completed the RFP process for that  
11 agreement and had negotiated all substantial terms, EGSL was able to  
12 enter into a separate agreement with UP/KCS with the same pricing and  
13 terms for a shorter period of time. Approximately 300,000 tons of coal  
14 were delivered by UP/KCS under this agreement. Further discussion of  
15 the events leading to this short-term transportation agreement will be  
16 given in Section VII of my testimony.

17

18 Q20. HOW ARE THE SUPPLY AND TRANSPORTATION COSTS SHARED  
19 AMONG THE NELSON 6 CO-OWNERS?

20 A. The costs of the supply and transportation agreements were allocated  
21 among all the co-owners. The transportation and supply costs are  
22 charged to the stockpile each month and expensed as the coal is  
23 consumed.

1 Q21. DOES A PUBLISHED INDEX EXIST THAT COMPARES COAL  
2 TRANSPORTATION EXPENSE AMONG UTILITIES?

3 A. No. Transportation agreements with the railroads have confidentiality  
4 provisions that prevent a utility from disclosing certain terms, including  
5 pricing of the transportation agreements. Therefore, the information  
6 needed to develop a commodity price index is unavailable.

7

8 Q22. DOES A PUBLISHED INDEX EXIST THAT COMPARES DELIVERED  
9 COAL PRICES AMONG UTILITIES?

10 A. No. Utility coal costs include short and long-term contract pricing. A daily  
11 market for coal exists, but is not relevant to the term contracts noted  
12 above.

13

14 Q23. ARE THE COSTS THE COMPANY INCURRED FOR FUEL EXPENSES  
15 AT NELSON 6 REASONABLE?

16 A. Yes. The PRB coal commodity and coal transportation were acquired  
17 under competitive bidding processes pursuant to RFPs.

18

19 B. Big Cajun II, Unit 3

20 Q24. PLEASE DESCRIBE ETI'S MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT OF ITS  
21 OWNERSHIP SHARE OF BCII, UNIT 3.

22 A. LaGen is the majority owner and project manager of the unit. The BCII,  
23 U3 JOPOA established the Management Advisory Committee ("MAC").

1       MAC is a forum for the exchange of operational information and issue  
2       resolution between ETI and LaGen, the project manager. A  
3       representative from the Company serves on the MAC for BCII, U3.

4  
5   Q25. PLEASE DESCRIBE ETI'S PARTICIPATION IN THE MANAGEMENT  
6       ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

7   A.   On a quarterly basis, one or more representatives of the Solid Fuel Supply  
8       group, as well as representatives from other Company groups, attends the  
9       MAC meeting. Each meeting follows an agenda prepared by the  
10      Company representative on the MAC and is intended to provide ETI with  
11      pertinent and timely information on BCII, U3 operations. In addition,  
12      representatives of the Company routinely consult with and advise LaGen  
13      management on a variety of operations and maintenance issues.

14

15   Q26. HOW DOES THE COMPANY MANAGE THE COAL SUPPLY AND  
16       TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS AT BCII, U3?

17   A.   ETI is a minority owner of BCII, U3 and does not directly manage the coal  
18       supply or transportation for BCII, U3. Those functions are performed by  
19       LaGen, the co-owner/project manager of BCII, U3.

1 Q27. WHAT WAS THE SOURCE OF COAL FOR BCII, U3 DURING THE  
2 RECONCILIATION PERIOD?

3 A. During the Reconciliation Period, BCII, U3 obtained coal from several  
4 different mines in Campbell County, Wyoming located in the Southern  
5 Powder River Basin. These coal supplier locations are shown in  
6 Schedule I-18. See also Exhibit RST-1 for a map of mine locations within  
7 the PRB.

8  
9 Q28. DID LAGEN ACQUIRE COAL SOURCED FROM LOCATIONS OTHER  
10 THAN THE PRB REGION?

11 A. No.

12

13 Q29. HOW IS COAL TRANSPORTED FROM THE DELIVERY POINT TO  
14 BCII, U3?

15 A. Coal supply for BCII, U3 is shipped by rail from mines in the PRB to  
16 Hall Street Terminal in St. Louis, Missouri, where it is transferred from  
17 railcar to river barge and transported down the Mississippi River to the Big  
18 Cajun II Station. A single transportation agreement between BNSF,  
19 American Commercial Barge Line, LLC ("ACBL") and LaGen governs the  
20 movement of coal from mines in the PRB to BCII, U3.



1 Q30. WHAT HAS THE COMPANY DONE TO ENSURE THAT LAGEN  
2 PROPERLY CHARGES FOR COAL AND TRANSPORTATION  
3 EXPENSE?

4 A. Due to confidentiality agreements that LaGen has in place with its  
5 suppliers, the Solid Fuel Supply group is not permitted to review the coal  
6 supply and transportation agreements. However, the Company's Risk  
7 Management Group has access to and periodically reviews the invoices  
8 and contracts to determine the accuracy of LaGen's billing.  
9

10 Q31. DID THE COMPANY INCUR ANY DISPUTED CHARGES FROM LAGEN  
11 DURING THE RECONCILIATION PERIOD?

12 A. Yes. In June 2012, LaGen billed the Company approximately \$69,000 to  
13 cancel a portion of the Company's 2012 deliveries in order to avoid  
14 exceeding a certain inventory level at the Big Cajun II plant site, asserting  
15 that the Company was carrying excess inventory. The Company made  
16 the payment under protest and engaged its internal auditors to review the  
17 nature and accuracy of these charges. At present, the Company  
18 continues discussions with LaGen and the matter remains pending. A  
19 final audit report has not yet been issued.  
20

21 Q32. HAVE THESE COSTS BEEN CHARGED TO ETI CUSTOMERS?

22 A. The payment in question has been charged to inventory. It is charged to  
23 fuel expense, and included in reconcilable fuel costs, as coal is burned out

1 of the stockpile. If these charges are deemed inappropriate and LaGen  
2 reimburses the funds, a credit will be made to the inventory account.

3

4 Q33. ARE THE COSTS THE COMPANY INCURRED FOR FUEL EXPENSES  
5 AT BCII, U3 REASONABLE?

6 A. Yes. The Company incurs fuel costs associated with BCII, U3 under the  
7 JOPOA. The Company takes reasonable steps to ensure that LaGen  
8 properly charges for coal and transportation expenses. The Commission  
9 has previously reviewed and approved this same arrangement in past fuel  
10 reconciliations.

11

12 C. Proper Invoicing of Coal Costs

13 Q34. HOW DOES THE COMPANY ENSURE THAT NELSON 6 COAL COSTS  
14 ARE PROPERLY INVOICED?

15 A. Each train shipment of coal is assigned to the proper coal supply and  
16 transportation contract in the Railcar & Coal Management System  
17 ("RCMS") database. Each invoice rendered by a vendor is verified by  
18 comparing the contract identification number, tons shipped, price per ton  
19 invoiced and total invoice amount to the information contained in RCMS  
20 for the same time period covered by the invoice. The RCMS data is  
21 obtained electronically from the mine at the time of loading. Both the mine  
22 and railroads use this information for billing purposes. The relevant coal

1 supply contracts require that the mine have a scale certification performed  
2 twice a year using a State of Wyoming certified scale test.

3 The monthly quality adjustments for Btu and SO<sub>2</sub> are also verified.  
4 The average monthly Btu and SO<sub>2</sub> content is compared to the value in a  
5 database for Nelson 6 and the current allowance price is verified by an  
6 index publication.

7

8 D. Sales/Use Tax on Boiler Fuel

9 Q35. WHAT IS THE SALES/USE TAX ON BOILER FUEL?

10 A. Currently a sales/use tax of 1% is imposed by the State of Louisiana on  
11 boiler fuels. Both Nelson 6 and BCII, U3 are located in Louisiana and are  
12 assessed this tax.

13

14 Q36. HOW IS THIS TAX IMPOSED?

15 A. A sales/use tax is assessed on boiler fuel based on a percentage of its  
16 commodity cost at the time of consumption.

17

18 E. Conclusion

19 Q37. ARE ETI'S RECONCILABLE FUEL COSTS NECESSARY AND  
20 REASONABLE?

21 A. Yes. Fuel expenses are incurred when the plants are dispatched and  
22 represent a reasonable cost to serve the Company's customers. All coal  
23 supply purchases and transportation arrangements made during the

1 Reconciliation Period were competitively bid or obtained through Over the  
2 Counter ("OTC") solicitations. State law requires that the Company pay a  
3 sales/use tax on boiler fuel. Thus, the Company's reconcilable coal  
4 expenses for the Reconciliation Period are both reasonable and  
5 necessary.

6  
7 IV. INELIGIBLE COAL COSTS

8 A. Type of Costs Incurred

9 Q38. WHAT ARE THE INELIGIBLE COAL-RELATED COSTS FOR NELSON 6  
10 DURING THE TEST YEAR?

11 A. Ineligible coal-related costs for Nelson 6 include ash handling costs, coal  
12 handling costs, railcar maintenance costs, taxes paid on railcars resulting  
13 from ownership and usage, maintenance on SGR's rail spur track and  
14 railcar lease payments. Incurrence of these costs is necessary to operate  
15 the coal plant and to support the rail delivery of coal.

16 Q39. HOW DOES THE COMPANY INCUR INELIGIBLE EXPENSES?

17 A. Ineligible costs are charged to the stockpile each month and expensed on  
18 a per ton basis as the coal is consumed. Similar to reconcilable expense,  
19 ineligible expense is associated with fuel consumption.

1 Q40. WHAT ARE THE INELIGIBLE COAL-RELATED COSTS FOR BCII, U3?

2 The ineligible costs for BCII, U3 are handling charges, coal ash proceeds,  
3 rail lease charges, and some minimal charges associated with railcar  
4 ownership, maintenance and brokerage fees. These latter charges are  
5 expenses incurred for railcar capacity to move coal to serve BCII, U3. As  
6 with Nelson 6, the railcar lease payments for BCII, U3 were recovered  
7 through ETI's base rates during the Test Year.

8

9 Q41. WHAT ARE THE TEST YEAR TOTAL INELIGIBLE COAL RELATED  
10 COSTS?

11 A. The Test Year ineligible coal-related costs for Nelson 6 are approximately  
12 \$1.7 million, and for BCII, U3 approximately \$1.1 million.<sup>1</sup>

13

14 Q42. PLEASE DESCRIBE IN MORE DETAIL THE ORIGIN OF THE COSTS  
15 THAT ARE INCLUDED IN THE COMPANY'S INELIGIBLE COAL COSTS.

16 A. The following discussion describes the ineligible coal-related costs  
17 incurred during the Test Year for the operation of Nelson 6. A similar  
18 discussion follows with respect to BCII, U3.

---

<sup>1</sup> See Highly Sensitive Schedule I-1.2.

1 B. Roy S. Nelson Station, Unit 6

2 1. Ash Handling

3 Q43. HOW WERE THE COAL RESIDUALS FROM NELSON 6 DISPOSED OF  
4 DURING THE TEST YEAR?

5 A. An Ash Marketing Agreement, which contains provisions for removal of  
6 ash at no cost to Nelson 6, was entered into in October of 1986, with  
7 Gifford Hill and Company. In September of 2000, Gifford Hill sold its fly  
8 ash marketing and disposal services business to Industrial Services Group  
9 ("ISG"), assigning the existing Ash Marketing Agreement to ISG. ISG  
10 subsequently merged with Headwaters Resources, Inc. ("Headwaters").  
11 Headwaters has provided the ash removal services at Nelson 6 since that  
12 time. Headwaters furnishes all labor and equipment to remove residual  
13 coal ash from the plant's ash storage silo.

14

15 Q44. IS THIS A REASONABLE MEANS TO DISPOSE OF COAL RESIDUALS  
16 FROM NELSON 6?

17 A. Yes. Ash is a waste product from burning coal. As a waste product, it  
18 must be disposed of in some fashion. The Ash Marketing Agreement  
19 provides for the disposal of the ash by-product at no cost to ETI and  
20 provides for a sharing of any revenue generated from the sale of ash. If  
21 the Ash Marketing Agreement were not in place, ETI would have incurred  
22 additional expense to remove and dispose of the ash product generated  
23 by the unit instead of generating income from the sale of ash.

2. Coal Handling

Q45. WHAT ARE THE COAL HANDLING COSTS AT NELSON 6?

A. Coal handling costs consist of expenses such as labor costs, material costs, diesel fuel expense and equipment rents incurred while unloading railcars, maintaining the stockpile, and maintaining conveyors.

Q46. WHAT IS THE TEST YEAR LEVEL OF COAL HANDLING EXPENSE AT NELSON 6?

A. As shown in Highly Sensitive Schedule I-1.2, the total Test Year expense for coal handling at Nelson 6 is approximately \$506,000.

Q47. ARE THESE EXPENSES REASONABLE AND NECESSARY?

A. Yes. If the coal is not unloaded from the railcars, stored and delivered to the boiler when needed, energy from Nelson 6 would not be available to the Company, and replacement energy would be required. Thus, the incurrence of costs to accomplish these tasks is necessary. The Company is not aware of any public information available to compare power plant coal handling costs. However, the cost of coal handling at Nelson 6 represents less than 1% of the Nelson 6 energy cost.

1

2

3

10

11



1        was determined that only five trainsets would be needed to meet EGSL's  
2        coal delivery requirements. Therefore, upon expiration of the operating  
3        lease agreement with WL Ross in September 2012, only 145 railcars were  
4        renewed for a two-year term and the remaining 97 were returned to the  
5        lessor. Each of the lease agreements is included in the confidential  
6        workpapers to Schedule I-4.

7

8    Q50. WHAT IS THE TEST YEAR LEVEL OF RAILCAR LEASE PAYMENTS  
9        FOR NELSON 6?

10    A.    As shown in Highly Sensitive Schedule I-1.2, the Test Year total railcar  
11        lease expense for Nelson 6 is approximately \$526,000.

12

13    Q51. ARE THE EXPENSES FOR RAILCAR LEASES REASONABLE AND  
14        NECESSARY?

15    A.    Yes. The lease expense is necessary because the railcars are necessary  
16        to economically transport the coal requirements for Nelson 6. If coal is not  
17        delivered to Nelson 6, the energy from Nelson 6 will not be available and  
18        the Company would have to replace the power from other sources. The  
19        lease expenses are reasonable because they represent the most  
20        economic option for providing railcars to transport coal.

#### 4. Taxes on Railcars

Q52. WHAT ARE THE TAXES ASSOCIATED WITH RAILCAR OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION?

A. Taxes such as ad valorem and coal car taxes are assessed to the effective owner of rolling railroad equipment by the state in which equipment is operated. Because EGSL leases these railcars as an operating lease net of any assessed fees or taxes, it is responsible for payment of the taxes, which are then allocated to the co-owners.

Q53. WHAT IS THE TEST YEAR LEVEL OF TAXES ASSOCIATED WITH OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION OF RAILCARS?

A. As shown in Highly Sensitive Schedule I-1.2, the Test Year total tax assessed to Nelson 6 and charged as expense is approximately \$12,000.

Q54. IS THE TAX EXPENSE FOR RAILCAR OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION  
REASONABLE AND NECESSARY?

A. Yes. The taxes are state-imposed ad valorem or mileage-based taxes assessed on all railcars traveling within state boundaries. Payment of these taxes is necessary to utilize the railways. Payment of the taxes is reasonable because that is the amount legally assessed by the taxing entities.

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1           repairs are made at a much lower rate than if the repairs were performed  
2           by the railroad.

3

4   Q58. DURING THE TEST YEAR, WAS A FORMAL MAINTENANCE  
5       PROGRAM IN PLACE FOR RAILCARS?

6   A.   Yes. WATCO inspected and repaired railcars during the Test Year.  
7       Railcar repair data is maintained in a database managed by Quality  
8       Transportation Service through December 31, 2011, and now managed by  
9       FreightCar Rail Services beginning January 1, 2012. Solid Fuel Supply  
10      employees manage the railcar maintenance process by monitoring dates  
11      when trainsets were last released from maintenance and scheduling the  
12      trainsets for maintenance that have gone the longest time since their last  
13      maintenance. Typically, maintenance will be scheduled on all trainsets  
14      twice a year.

15

16   Q59. WAS THE RAILCAR FLEET EFFICIENTLY MAINTAINED AND  
17       OPERATED DURING THE TEST YEAR?

18   A.   Yes. The railcar fleet was operated and maintained in compliance with  
19       AAR rules and Federal Railroad Administration ("FRA") regulations. All  
20       railcar repairs on any railcar operated in the United States are governed  
21       by the AAR Rules. There was no instance during the Test Year when coal  
22       could not be delivered because railcars were unavailable.

1 Q60. WHAT IS THE TEST YEAR LEVEL OF RAILCAR MAINTENANCE  
2 EXPENSE?

3 A. As shown in Highly Sensitive Schedule I-1.2, the Test Year total railcar  
4 maintenance expense is approximately \$804,000.

5

6 Q61. WHY IS THE INCURRENCE OF RAILCAR MAINTENANCE EXPENSE  
7 REASONABLE AND NECESSARY?

8 A. AAR Rules and the FRA regulations are the standard of repair for all  
9 railcars operating on United States railroads. If railcars are not maintained  
10 to these standards, the FRA can impound the railcar, or the AAR can  
11 restrict the use of the railcar.

12

13 C. Big Cajun II, Unit 3

14 1. Coal Handling

15 Q62. WHAT IS CONTAINED IN THE COAL HANDLING CHARGES FOR BCII,  
16 U3?

17 A. Coal handling charges consist of all LaGen expenses incurred to unload  
18 coal, store coal, maintain coal handling equipment and handle ash  
19 disposal at BCII, U3. These costs are provided in Highly Sensitive  
20 Schedule I-1.2.

1 Q63. IS THIS AMOUNT REASONABLE AND NECESSARY?

2 A. Yes. If the coal is not unloaded, stored and delivered to the boiler when  
3 needed, energy from BCII, U3 would not be available to the Company,  
4 and replacement energy would be required.

5

6 2. Ash Proceeds

7 Q64. DURING THE TEST YEAR, HOW WERE THE COAL RESIDUALS  
8 DISPOSED OF FROM BCII, U3?

9 A. Similar to Nelson 6, LaGen has an ash disposal contract. The ash  
10 disposal contract provides an efficient and cost-effective means of  
11 disposal of ash generated by BCII, U3. The revenues related to ash  
12 disposal are provided in Highly Sensitive Schedule I-1.2.

13

14 Q65. IS THIS A REASONABLE MEANS TO DISPOSE OF COAL RESIDUALS  
15 FROM BCII, U3?

16 A. Yes. Ash is a waste product from burning coal. As a waste product, it  
17 must be disposed of in some fashion. This ash disposal contract provides  
18 for the disposal of the ash by-product at no cost to ETI and provides for a  
19 sharing of any revenue generated from the sale of ash. In the absence of  
20 an ash removal contract, costs of removal and disposal of the ash product  
21 generated by the unit would have been incurred and shared by the co-  
22 owners.

2 Q66. DOES LAGEN LEASE ITS RAILCARS?

5

8 A. Yes. These expenses are necessary because LaGen needs railcars to  
9 transport the coal requirements of BCII, U3. These expenses are  
0 reasonable because if coal is not delivered to BCII, U3, the energy from  
1 BCII, U3 will not be available and the Company would not receive power  
2 from this plant.

14 V. COAL INVENTORY MEASUREMENT

17 A. Yes. Twice a year a physical measurement of coal inventory is performed  
18 at Nelson 6.

20 Q69. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THESE MEASUREMENTS?

2327

1 amount plus the amount of coal purchased less the amount of coal burned  
2 as adjusted for burn measurements and receipt measurements. The  
3 actual physical inventory of coal changes over time, as explained below.  
4 Therefore, periodic reconciliations are necessary.

5

6 Q70. WHAT METHOD IS EMPLOYED TO PERFORM INVENTORY  
7 RECONCILIATIONS AT NELSON 6?

8 A. An independent contractor, MIKON Corporation ("MIKON"), surveys and  
9 determines the volume of the coal inventory stockpile. In addition to the  
10 survey, MIKON also cores or samples the stockpile to determine density  
11 and Btu content. With the three values determined (volume, density, and  
12 Btu), MIKON converts the volume of the stockpile to tons using the density  
13 measurements and converts the tons to MMBtus using the Btu content.  
14 Once MIKON determines the amount of physical stockpile, it submits a  
15 coal inventory report to the Solid Fuels Supply group.

16 Because MIKON determines the total amount of coal in inventory, it  
17 includes any quantity of coal that has been capitalized (*i.e.*, coal that forms  
18 part of a permanent base layer which is not useable). Capitalized coal is  
19 removed from the physical measurement results prepared by MIKON and  
20 those results are compared to the book inventory maintained by the  
21 RCMS database. Any difference between the adjusted physical  
22 measurement and book inventory is determined, and the book inventory is  
23 adjusted by that difference.



1 Q71. WHAT CAUSES VARIANCES BETWEEN BOOK AND PHYSICAL  
2 MEASUREMENT INVENTORIES?

3 A. Variances between the book and physical measurement of inventory are  
4 caused by differences in scale calibration, sampling accuracy, equipment  
5 performance, and core sampling accuracy, each of which can affect the  
6 density and Btu content calculations.

7

8 Q72. WERE THERE ANY ADJUSTMENTS TO INVENTORY AS A RESULT OF  
9 INVENTORY SURVEYS PERFORMED BY MIKON DURING THE  
10 RECONCILIATION PERIOD?

11 A. Yes. The table below summarizes the inventory adjustments which  
12 resulted from MIKON physical measurements during the Reconciliation  
13 Period.

Date	Tons
Nov 3, 2011	(10,137)
Apr 20, 2012	36,057
Oct 23, 2012	(27,296)

14 Q73. WERE THERE ANY PHYSICAL MEASUREMENTS PERFORMED AT  
15 BCII, U3 DURING THE RECONCILIATION PERIOD?

16 A. Yes. A contractor for LaGen performed multiple physical inventory  
17 measurements during the Reconciliation Period. These physical

1 measurements resulted in the following adjustments to ETI's inventory at  
2 BCII, U3:

Fly-over Date	Tons
Aug 31, 2011	19,208
Oct 31, 2011	16,798

3 VI. COAL INVENTORY POLICY

4 Q74. COULD YOU SUMMARIZE THE COAL INVENTORY POLICY  
5 APPLICABLE TO NELSON 6?

6 A. The Coal Inventory Policy applicable to Nelson 6 provides for inventory  
7 target levels to help mitigate transportation and unit operating risks. The  
8 primary elements of the policy are that it provides for: (1) a base target of  
9 36 days of inventory; (2) an end-of-year 12-month average inventory  
10 target of 43 days; and (3) a twice year review/analysis to determine if  
11 alternative coals will be purchased.

12

13 Q75. WHAT IS THE COAL INVENTORY PROCESS FOR BCII, U3?

14 A. Because the Company is not the operator of the BCII, U3 plant, it does not  
15 have ultimate control over the coal inventory levels at BCII, U3. Under the  
16 JOPOA for BCII, U3, the Company each year must nominate for the next  
17 calendar year the level of coal to be delivered for its account at BCII, U3.  
18 The Company's nomination process is targeted to achieve an end-of-year  
19 inventory target of approximately 43 days.

1 Q76. DO YOU HAVE AN OPINION REGARDING THE TEST YEAR  
2 INVENTORY LEVELS FOR NELSON 6 and BCII, U3?

3 A. Yes. The test year solid fuel inventory levels for the Nelson 6 and  
4 BCII, U3 were reasonable and the costs incurred to maintain those levels  
5 were reasonable.

6

7

VII. SIGNIFICANT ATYPICAL EVENTS

8 Q77. DID NELSON 6 EXPERIENCE ANY SIGNIFICANT COAL DELIVERY  
9 DISRUPTIONS DURING THE RECONCILIATION PERIOD?

10 A. Yes. In June 2011, BNSF declared a force majeure event when railroad  
11 tracks were damaged due to severe flooding in the midwestern  
12 United States. Although the flooding did not directly involve the rail  
13 corridor used by Nelson trains, they were heavily impacted by other rail  
14 traffic being detoured around the flooded area. The increased traffic  
15 resulted in increased congestion along the route followed by the Nelson  
16 trains, causing railroad cycle times to deteriorate significantly. In order to  
17 meet the typical annual burn at Nelson 6 of approximately 2.3 million tons,  
18 five dedicated trains in Nelson 6 service must move at an average cycle  
19 time of approximately 250 hours. "Cycle time" is the total time required for  
20 a train to load with coal, make the trip from the Wyoming supply mines to  
21 Nelson 6, unload at the plant, and return to the Wyoming supply mines.

1 Q78. HOW WERE CYCLE TIMES AFFECTED BY THE FLOODING?

2 A. During the first six months of 2011, the average cycle time was 242 hours.  
3 However, during the force majeure event, cycle times were as high as 402  
4 hours and averaged 285 hours. In addition to deteriorating cycle times,  
5 BNSF also removed one of EGSL's trainsets from service to help alleviate  
6 some congestion on its system, further compounding the issue and  
7 leaving the plant with a delivery rate that was significantly lower than the  
8 pace of burn. Although the actual period of the force majeure was  
9 June 6 – September 13, 2011, average cycle times continued to be higher  
10 than normal for the remainder of the year. During the period that the force  
11 majeure was in place the average cycle time was 285 hours. Although  
12 there was some improvement following the force majeure period, average  
13 cycle time for the remainder of the year was 261 hours, still above the 250  
14 hour cycle time necessary to maintain or build inventory at the plant.

15

16 Q79. WHAT STEPS WERE TAKEN TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT ON PLANT  
17 OPERATIONS?

18 A. Over the course of the force majeure period and the months that followed,  
19 the Company took several steps to either avoid or diminish the effect on  
20 plant operations. These steps included: (1) pursuing with BNSF the  
21 possibility of placing additional trains in service for Nelson 6;  
22 (2) discussions with UP/KCS to start the new contract early; and

1 (3) implementing a coal conservation program to help manage coal  
2 stockpiles during the delivery disruptions.

3

4 Q80. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE COMPANY'S EFFORTS TO PLACE  
5 ADDITIONAL TRAINS IN BNSF SERVICE.

6 A. Although the force majeure began June 6, significant deterioration in cycle  
7 times to Nelson 6 did not occur until July at which time the Company  
8 requested that BNSF place an additional train in Nelson 6 service.  
9 Although BNSF initially agreed to place an additional train in service on  
10 July 22, BNSF continued to defer the additional train citing increasing  
11 congestion. On August 16, BNSF actually removed one of the trains from  
12 service due to continuing problems stemming from the congestion. This  
13 train was not placed back into service by BNSF until September 29, and  
14 despite further requests, BNSF indicated it would not add the sixth trainset  
15 into service.

16

17 Q81. WHAT OTHER EFFORTS DID THE COMPANY UNDERTAKE TO  
18 SECURE ADDITIONAL COAL FOR THE NELSON 6 PLANT?

19 A. The BNSF contract was set to expire at the end of 2011, and the  
20 Company was in the process of negotiating a new long-term transportation  
21 contract with UP/KCS that was to commence at the beginning of 2012.  
22 Although the Company continued to press BNSF to place additional trains  
23 in service, the railroad insisted that this would merely exacerbate the

1           problem by increasing congestion and causing a further deterioration in  
2           cycle times. In late August, the Company approached UP/KCS regarding  
3           the possibility of delivering coal under the contract prior to 2012.  
4           Ultimately, the Company was successful in executing a short-term  
5           transportation agreement with UP/KCS on October 26, placing a train in  
6           UP/KCS service on November 7.

7

8   Q82. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE COAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM  
9           UNDERTAKEN BY THE COMPANY.

10   A. In conjunction with the Energy Management Organization ("EMO") group  
11       within SPO and the Fossil organization, the Solid Fuel Supply Group  
12       helped develop a Fuel Conservation Program to prevent further  
13       deterioration of the coal inventory. Across the peak hours, the unit was  
14       operated at normal loading; however, during off-peak periods, the coal unit  
15       was held to approximately half load (200 – 250MW). The Company  
16       continued to cycle the unit in this fashion from approximately mid-October  
17       through mid-November.

18

19   Q83. HOW DID THE COMPANY'S COAL CONSERVATION EFFORTS  
20       AFFECT INVENTORY LEVELS?

21   A. Over the period during which the coal conservation efforts were in effect,  
22       approximately five days of burn were saved compared to estimated burn  
23       rates when operated at full load.

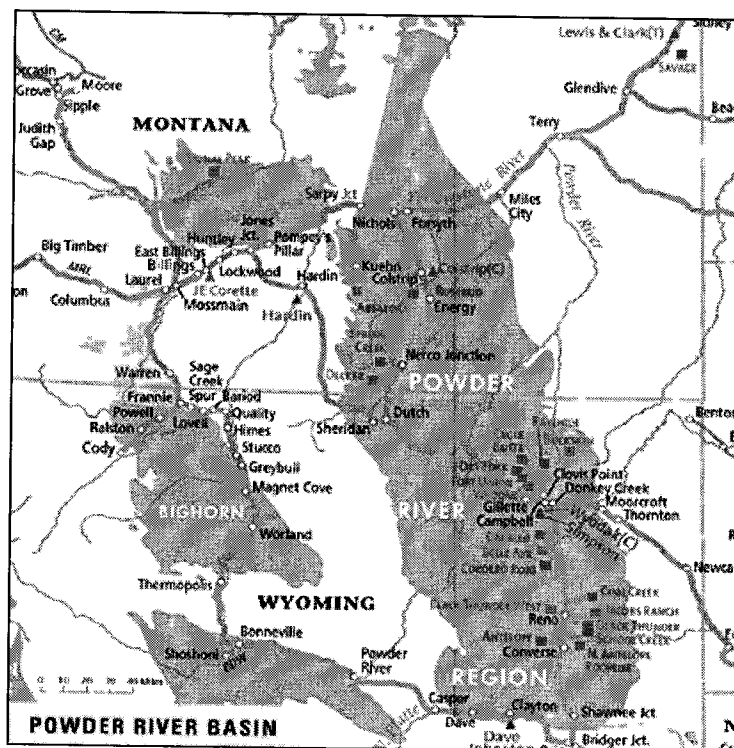
- 1 Q84. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?
- 2 A. Yes.

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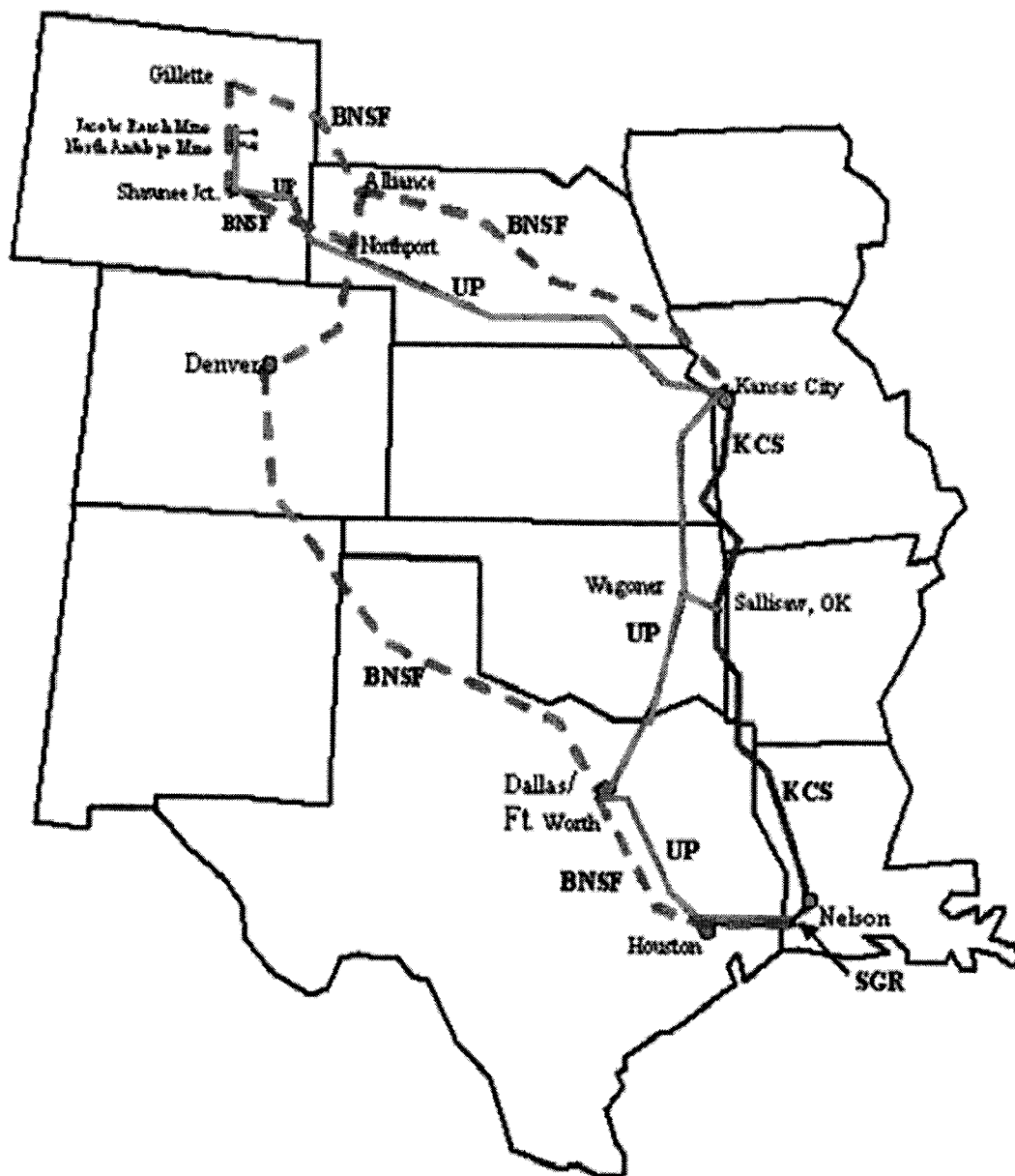


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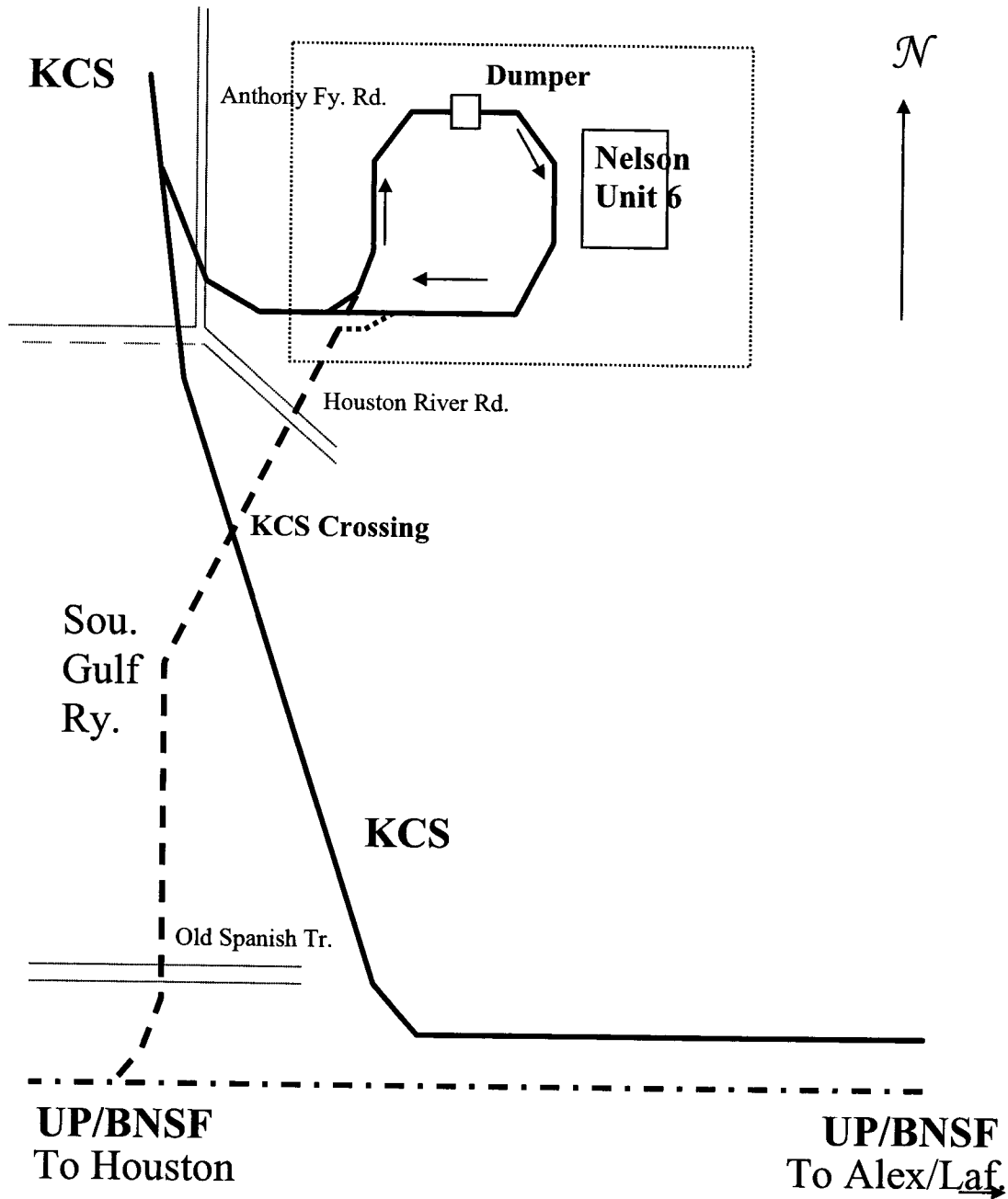
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# Southern Gulf Railway Co. Detail Map



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DOCKET NO. 41791

APPLICATION OF ENTERGY	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
TEXAS, INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO	§	
CHANGE RATES AND RECONCILE	§	OF TEXAS
FUEL COSTS	§	

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

GREGORY S. WILSON

ON BEHALF OF

ENTERGY TEXAS, INC.

SEPTEMBER 2013

ENTERGY TEXAS, INC.  
DIRECT TESTIMONY OF GREGORY S. WILSON  
2013 RATE CASE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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IV. Annual Expected Losses	7
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VII. Cost Benefit Analysis	16
VIII. Conclusion	19

EXHIBITS

Exhibit GSW-1	Gregory S. Wilson Resume
Exhibit GSW-2	Calculation of Recommended Accrual
Exhibit GSW-3	Texas Major Storm Damage Adjusted to Current Cost Level
Exhibit GSW-4	Example of Loss Trending Methodology
Exhibit GSW-5	Calculation of Recommended Accrual with \$500,000 Threshold
Exhibit GSW-6	Calculation of O&M Amounts Charged to Expense with \$500,000 Threshold



1 I. INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS

2 Q1. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, OCCUPATION, BUSINESS  
3 AFFILIATION, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

4 A. My name is Gregory S. Wilson. I am a consulting actuary specializing in  
5 the area of property-casualty actuarial matters. I am a Vice President and  
6 Principal at Lewis & Ellis, Inc. ("L&E"). My business address is  
7 2929 N. Central Expressway, Suite 200, Richardson, Texas 75080.

8

9 Q2. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL AND EMPLOYMENT  
10 BACKGROUND.

11 A. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in applied mathematics from the  
12 University of Rhode Island in 1976.

13 In 1992, I became a Fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society  
14 ("FCAS"), having attained that designation by completing all of the  
15 required examinations. I am also a member of the American Academy of  
16 Actuaries.

17 I was employed by Amica Mutual Insurance Company until 1994.  
18 Most recently, I was a vice president, serving as chief actuary and  
19 supervising the actuarial department.

20 In 1994, I joined PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP, where I provided  
21 actuarial consulting services to a wide variety of clients including  
22 insurance companies, state insurance regulators, self-insured entities, and  
23 non-insurance corporations.

1 I joined L&E in 2001, where I continue to provide actuarial  
2 consulting services to a wide variety of clients. I have testified before the  
3 Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") in Docket Nos. 16705,  
4 33309, 33310, 37695 and 39896, and submitted written testimony in  
5 Docket Nos. 20150, 22356, 30123, 34800, 37744, and 37364. I have also  
6 testified on self-insurance issues before the Missouri Public Service  
7 Commission in conjunction with a utility rate filing. My resume is attached  
8 as Exhibit GSW-1.

9  
10 Q3. WHAT IS AN ACTUARY?

11 A. This term can be defined in terms of required education and in terms of  
12 the functions an actuary usually performs. The highest designation a  
13 property-casualty actuary can have is FCAS. This designation is obtained  
14 through a rigorous process involving separate examinations on topics  
15 such as mathematics, probability and statistics, theory of credibility, theory  
16 of risk and insurance, economics, insurance coverages, ratemaking, loss  
17 reserving, insurance accounting and regulation, and individual risk rating.

18 An actuary estimates the financial implications of future contingent  
19 events. In this particular case, my analysis of the future financial  
20 consequences is performed in accordance with the Actuarial Standards of  
21 Practice, as well as the Statement of Principles Regarding Property and  
22 Casualty Loss and Loss Adjustment Expense Reserves adopted by the  
23 Casualty Actuarial Society.