

**BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN**

**APPLICATION OF WISCONSIN PUBLIC )  
SERVICE CORPORATION FOR ) DOCKET NO. 6690-UR-115  
AUTHORITY TO ADJUST RATES )**

**Direct Testimony of  
David A. Schlissel  
Synapse Energy Economics, Inc.**

**On behalf of the  
Citizens' Utility Board of Wisconsin**

**September 17, 2003**

1 **Q. Please state your name, position and business address.**

2 A. My name is David A. Schlissel. I am a Senior Consultant at Synapse Energy  
3 Economics, Inc, 22 Pearl Street, Cambridge, MA 02139.

4 **Q. On whose behalf are you testifying in this case?**

5 A. I am testifying on behalf of the Citizens' Utility Board of Wisconsin ("CUB").

6 **Q. Please describe Synapse Energy Economics.**

7 A. Synapse Energy Economics ("Synapse") is a research and consulting firm  
8 specializing in energy and environmental issues, including electric generation,  
9 transmission and distribution system reliability, market power, electricity market  
10 prices, stranded costs, efficiency, renewable energy, environmental quality, and  
11 nuclear power.

12 **Q. Please summarize your educational background and recent work experience.**

13 A. I graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1968 with a  
14 Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering. In 1969, I received a Master of  
15 Science Degree in Engineering from Stanford University. In 1973, I received a  
16 Law Degree from Stanford University. In addition, I studied nuclear engineering  
17 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology during the years 1983-1986.

18 Since 1983 I have been retained by governmental bodies, publicly-owned utilities,  
19 and private organizations in 24 states to prepare expert testimony and analyses on  
20 engineering and economic issues related to electric utilities. My clients have  
21 included the Staff of the California Public Utilities Commission, the Staff of the  
22 Arizona Corporation Commission, the Staff of the Kansas State Corporation  
23 Commission, the Arkansas Public Service Commission, municipal utility systems  
24 in Massachusetts, New York, Texas, and North Carolina, and the Attorney  
25 General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

26 I have testified before state regulatory commissions in Arizona, New Jersey,  
27 Connecticut, Kansas, Texas, New Mexico, New York, Vermont, North Carolina,  
28 South Carolina, Maine, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Massachusetts, Missouri, and

1 Wisconsin and before an Atomic Safety & Licensing Board of the U.S. Nuclear  
2 Regulatory Commission.

3 A copy of my current resume is attached as Exhibit DAS-1.

4 **Q. Have you previously submitted testimony before this Commission?**

5 A. Yes. I submitted testimony in September 1994 in Public Service Commission of  
6 Wisconsin (“Commission”) Docket Nos. 6630-CE-197 and 6630-CE-209  
7 addressing the proposed replacement of the steam generators at the Point Beach  
8 Unit 2 Nuclear Generating Station.

9 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

10 A. Synapse was retained by CUB to evaluate the reasonableness of Wisconsin Public  
11 Service Corporation’s (“WPS”) proposed decommissioning funding plan for the  
12 Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant. (“Kewaunee”) This testimony presents the  
13 results of our investigation of this issue.

14 **Q. Please explain how Synapse conducted its investigations and analyses on the**  
15 **decommissioning cost issue.**

16 A. We completed the following tasks as part of this investigation:

- 17 1. Reviewed WPS testimony and prepared data requests that CUB submitted  
18 to the Company.
- 19 2. Reviewed WPS’s responses to the data requests submitted by CUB.
- 20 3. Reviewed Commission Orders related to WPS and nuclear power plant  
21 decommissioning costs.
- 22 4. Examined materials in Synapse files related to decommissioning cost  
23 issues for other power plants.
- 24 5. Examined materials available in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory  
25 Commission’s public docket files related to decommissioning cost issues  
26 at other power plants.

1           6.       Analyzed the impact of different decommissioning funding levels using  
2                    WPS's nuclear decommissioning funding model.

3   **Q.    Have you evaluated the decommissioning costs being collected for other**  
4   **nuclear power plants?**

5   A.    Yes. I have evaluated the reasonableness of the decommissioning costs being  
6           collected for Commonwealth Edison's twelve nuclear power plants, the three  
7           Millstone nuclear units in Connecticut, the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant, the  
8           Maine Yankee nuclear plant, and the Summer nuclear plant in South Carolina.

9   **Q.    Please summarize your findings in this investigation.**

10  A.    I have found that WPS's funds for decommissioning the Kewaunee nuclear power  
11           plant will be adequately funded even if WPS does not collect any additional funds  
12           from ratepayers after 2003. The funds only appear underfunded because WPS  
13           uses an unnecessarily conservative (i.e., high) annual escalation rate to project  
14           future decommissioning costs. This unnecessarily conservative escalation rate is  
15           based on the requirement in the Commission's July 1994 Order 05-EI-14 that the  
16           "other costs" category of projected decommissioning costs be escalated at an  
17           annual rate of eight percent. However, this requirement needs to be revised due to  
18           changed circumstances since the Commission issued its Order 05-EI-14 in order  
19           to avoid ratepayers being forced to make unreasonably high annual contributions  
20           to WPS for the cost of decommissioning Kewaunee.

21  **Q.    What are your recommendations in this proceeding?**

22  A.    I recommend that the Commission:

- 23           1.       Reject WPS's request for \$7,208,000 in annual decommissioning cost  
24                    contributions from WPS's ratepayers beginning in 2004.
- 25           2.       Establish a regulatory policy that all decommissioning expenditures will  
26                    be investigated for prudence and that any imprudent decommissioning  
27                    expenditure must be refunded to ratepayers with interest.

1           3.       Establish a regulatory policy that any excess funds remaining in WPS's  
2                   Kewaunee decommissioning trust funds be refunded to ratepayers with  
3                   interest.

4   **Q.    Do you believe that it is important that decommissioning cost collections**  
5           **from ratepayers be adequate to ensure that a plant owner will have sufficient**  
6           **funds to decommission and decontaminate its nuclear facility at the end of**  
7           **the plant's operating life?**

8   A.    Yes. However, it also is important that there not be an unreasonably high over  
9           collection of decommissioning costs from ratepayers.

10 **Q.    Have you identified any aspects of the Company's Kewaunee**  
11           **decommissioning plan that you believe are unnecessarily conservative?**

12 A.    Yes. The future annual escalation rate for the cost of decommissioning the  
13           Kewaunee plant which the Company uses to develop the required annual  
14           contribution from ratepayers in the 2004 decommissioning plan is unnecessarily  
15           high. The use of this high escalation rate is leading to the overcollection of  
16           decommissioning costs from WPS's retail ratepayers.

17 **Q.    What annual decommissioning cost escalation rate has WPS used in**  
18           **developing its 2004 decommissioning plan?**

19 A.    WPS has escalated decommissioning costs by the following annual rates: labor  
20           costs by 3.965 percent, waste burial costs by 9.123 percent, energy costs by 2.356  
21           percent, and "other costs" by 8.0 percent.<sup>1</sup> This results in an overall 5.76 percent  
22           weighted average annual escalation rate for the entire decommissioning cost  
23           estimate.

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<sup>1</sup> WPS Response to Data Request 3-CUB-21.

1 **Q. How did WPS develop the escalation rates for the various categories of**  
2 **decommissioning costs for the Kewaunee plant?**

3 A. WPS used the methodology established by the Commission in July 1994 in Order  
4 05-EI-14.

5 **Q. Do you think that the annual escalation rates that WPS has used for the**  
6 **labor, waste burial, and energy cost categories of the decommissioning cost**  
7 **estimate are reasonable?**

8 A. I have seen no evidence that the labor, waste burial and energy escalation rates are  
9 unreasonable. However, the eight percent rate at which WPS escalates the “other  
10 costs” category is unnecessarily conservative given current circumstances.

11 **Q. What costs are included in the “other costs” category of the decommissioning**  
12 **cost estimate?**

13 A. The “other costs” category includes spent fuel-related costs, NRC fees, license  
14 termination costs, insurance, property taxes, emergency planning, and equipment  
15 and supply costs.

16 **Q. What factors led the Commission to adopt an eight percent annual escalation**  
17 **rate for these “other costs”?**

18 A. In Order 05-EI-14, the Commission said that an eight percent annual escalation  
19 rate should be used for the “other costs” category because it “factors in some of  
20 the uncertainty associated with calculating future decommissioning costs” and  
21 “will alleviate future concerns for unanticipated future costs.”<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> PSCW Order 05-EI-14, at pages 20 and 26.

1 **Q. Given changed circumstances since 1994, would a lower annual escalation**  
2 **rate for the “other costs” category be adequate to protect against the same**  
3 **uncertainties regarding “unanticipated future costs”?**

4 A. Yes. An annual escalation rate for the “other costs” category of less than six  
5 percent would be more than adequate to protect against unanticipated future  
6 decommissioning costs.

7 **Q. What circumstances have changed since the Commission issued Order 05-El-**  
8 **14 in July 1994?**

9 A. Since 1994 there has been significant actual experience in decommissioning  
10 nuclear power facilities. This should reduce the Commission’s concern over  
11 possible unanticipated future decommissioning costs.

12 In addition, Kewaunee became part of the Nuclear Management Company  
13 (“NMC”) in February 1999. Consequently, Kewaunee is no longer operated by a  
14 single operator as a separate site. Instead, Kewaunee is one of the eight nuclear  
15 power plants operated by NMC. This development was unanticipated in 1994. It  
16 is reasonable to expect that the cost of decommissioning Kewaunee will be  
17 reduced as a result of synergies and efficiencies that should be available to a large  
18 nuclear operator like NMC.

19 Finally, spent nuclear fuel related costs represent a substantial portion of the  
20 “other costs” category in the 2002 Kewaunee site-specific study prepared by TLG  
21 Services Inc. (“the 2002 TLG Study”). A significant portion of these costs are the  
22 direct result of the U.S. Department of Energy’s (“U.S. DOE”) failure to begin  
23 accepting spent nuclear fuel on January 31, 1998. However, the U.S. DOE has  
24 accepted responsibility for these costs and can be expected to compensate utilities  
25 for them. This also should reduce the Commission’s concern over possible  
26 unanticipated future spent nuclear fuel-related decommissioning costs.

27 **Q. Which nuclear power plants have been decommissioned since 1994?**

28 A. Significant activities under an immediate decommissioning methodology have  
29 been accomplished since 1994 at five commercial nuclear power plants: Haddam

1 Neck-Connecticut Yankee, Maine Yankee, San Onofre Unit 1, Trojan, and  
2 Yankee Rowe. Substantial decommissioning activities also have been completed  
3 to place the permanently shut down Zion Unit 1 and Unit 2 and Millstone Unit 1  
4 commercial nuclear power plants into cold storage/mothball status pending the  
5 ultimate decommissioning of these facilities at a later date. This actual  
6 decommissioning experience should reduce the possibility and, hence, lessen the  
7 Commission's concern that major unanticipated problems and costs will be  
8 experienced when other nuclear facilities, such as Kewaunee, are ultimately  
9 decommissioned at the end of their operating lives. This is not to say that there  
10 will be no risk that currently unanticipated problems and costs will be  
11 experienced. I only mean that there is less of a risk that such problems and costs  
12 will be experienced from today's perspective as opposed to back in 1994 given  
13 that there is now substantial actual experience decommissioning large commercial  
14 nuclear power plants.

15 **Q. Please summarize the decommissioning-related activities that have been**  
16 **completed at these facilities.**

17 A. The extent to which each plant has been decommissioned varies from site to site.  
18 However, in general, major primary and secondary system components at a  
19 number of plants, including the reactor vessels, reactor coolant pumps, and steam  
20 generators, have been decontaminated, removed and shipped to waste burial sites.  
21 In some cases, highly radioactive reactor internal structures have been cut and  
22 removed. The highly radioactive spent nuclear fuel is being transferred to long-  
23 term dry cask storage at some sites. Some buildings also have been  
24 decontaminated and demolished.

25 **Q. Are any of the nuclear plants that are being decommissioned or that have**  
26 **been placed into mothball/safe storage condition similar in design to**  
27 **Kewaunee?**

28 A. Yes. The Haddam Neck-Connecticut Yankee, Maine Yankee, San Onofre Unit 1,  
29 Trojan, Yankee Rowe, and Zion Units are all pressurized water reactors, like  
30 Kewaunee. In addition, like Kewaunee, Connecticut Yankee, San Onofre Unit 1,

1 Trojan and the Zion units had nuclear system supply systems designed by  
2 Westinghouse. The NRC considers Connecticut Yankee and San Onofre Unit 1,  
3 in particular, to be peer plants to Kewaunee which means that they were very  
4 similar in design and vintage.

5 **Q. What role does the recent Kewaunee decommissioning cost study foresee for**  
6 **the Nuclear Management Company which operates the Kewaunee, Point**  
7 **Beach, Prairie Island, Monticello, Duane Arnold and Palisades nuclear**  
8 **plants?**

9 A. The recent TLG decommissioning cost studies for both Kewaunee and Point  
10 Beach anticipate that NMC will oversee and provide site administration for the  
11 overall decommissioning process. In particular, the most recent Kewaunee TLG  
12 study assumes that:

13 NMC will hire a Decommissioning Operations Contractor (DOC)  
14 to manage the decommissioning. NMC will provide site security,  
15 radiological health and safety, quality assurance and overall site  
16 administration during the decommissioning and demolition  
17 phases.<sup>3</sup>

18 NMC also almost certainly will be involved in the license termination activities,  
19 decommissioning planning and engineering, site preparations, and spent nuclear  
20 fuel dry cask storage operations.

21 **Q. Is it reasonable to expect that NMC will experience synergies and efficiencies**  
22 **that will reduce decommissioning costs because it will be performing these**  
23 **same decommissioning-related activities at a number of the nuclear power**  
24 **plants it is currently operating?**

25 A. Yes. It is reasonable to expect that the operator of a number of nuclear power  
26 plants will be able to reduce individual plant decommissioning costs through  
27 synergies and efficiencies that would not be available to the operator of a single  
28 nuclear unit.

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<sup>3</sup> Exhibit BAJ-3, at Section 3, page 13 of 21.

1 **Q. Have you seen any claims by nuclear operators that they would be able to**  
2 **obtain such synergies and efficiencies in decommissioning costs because they**  
3 **own and/or operate a number of nuclear plants?**

4 A. Yes. In 1999, AmerGen was attempting to purchase the Vermont Yankee Nuclear  
5 Plant from its then-current owners. AmerGen claimed that it could reduce the  
6 cost of decommissioning Vermont Yankee by more effectively planning, and  
7 standardizing its approach to decommissioning.<sup>4</sup> AmerGen further said that it  
8 intended to “take advantage of both the synergies available to a large nuclear  
9 operator and experience in achieving [its] decommissioning goals in a more  
10 efficient manner than was possible for or foreseen by [the then-current Vermont  
11 Yankee owners].”<sup>5</sup> AmerGen also argued that “a large on-going nuclear company  
12 will have more resources to apply to decommissioning and will be able to  
13 negotiate lower vendor prices.”<sup>6</sup>

14 AmerGen further described the synergies and efficiencies that should be available  
15 to a large nuclear operator:

16 I guess that there are a number of views we have taken of  
17 synergies coming from the part of the operator. Some of the  
18 synergies we contemplate in the operation of the facility are  
19 merged in the decommissioning process. Example being  
20 AmerGen’s experience with a large fleet of nuclear plants. And to  
21 decommission plants from our own experiences is based on  
22 perhaps making some investments that are not cost effective for a  
23 single unit utility to make, but make a lot of sense for someone  
24 who owns a fleet of plants. Things like investment in mobile  
25 cranes, plasma cutters, lots of equipment to make the  
26 decommissioning process more effective and reduce the cost of  
27 that.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Testimony of AmerGen witness Duncan Hawthorne in Vermont Public Service Board Docket No. 6300, at page 3.

<sup>5</sup> Testimony of AmerGen witness Duncan Hawthorne in Vermont Public Service Board Docket No. 6300, at page 4, lines 6-9.

<sup>6</sup> AmerGen’s response to Conservation Law Foundation Information Request 1AEC13 in Vermont Public Service Board Docket No. 6300.

<sup>7</sup> Hearing of May 12, 2000 in Vermont Public Service Board Docket No. 6300, at Transcript page 163.

1 **Q. Have you seen any independent assessments of AmerGen’s claim that it**  
2 **would have decommissioning advantages from being a large company and**  
3 **being more efficient?**

4 A. Yes. AmerGen’s claim that it could achieve decommissioning advantages from  
5 being a large company was found “reasonable” by the Vermont Department of  
6 Public Service and the Nuclear Engineer for the State of Vermont.<sup>8</sup>

7 **Q. Has NMC claimed that its joint operation of a number of power plants will**  
8 **reduce the operating costs at each of the eight nuclear power plants it**  
9 **operates?**

10 A. Yes. When it was formed in 1999, NMC said that it expected to be able to reduce  
11 the power production costs at each of the nuclear plants it operates by roughly 25  
12 percent through efficiencies in purchasing fuels, joint contracting for services, and  
13 by reducing general administrative costs.<sup>9</sup>

14 **Q. Should NMC also be able to achieve similar efficiencies and cost reductions**  
15 **during the decommissioning of the Kewaunee nuclear plant?**

16 A. Yes. I think it is reasonable to expect that NMC will be able to achieve some  
17 efficiencies and cost reductions because it will be decommissioning a number of  
18 nuclear power plants.

19 **Q. Does the recent TLG decommissioning cost study for Kewaunee reflect any**  
20 **such efficiencies and cost reductions?**

21 A. No. `

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<sup>8</sup> Testimony of Vermont State Nuclear Engineer William Sherman on behalf of the Department of Public Service in Vermont Public Service Board Docket No. 6300, at page 48, lines 9-18.

<sup>9</sup> Nucleonics Week, December 2, 1999, at page 1.

1 **Q. Are you recommending that the TLG decommissioning cost estimate be**  
2 **reduced to reflect such efficiencies?**

3 A. No. I am not making that recommendation in this proceeding. I am merely  
4 recommending that the Commission consider the potential synergies and  
5 efficiencies that should be available to NMC, and the resulting potential  
6 reductions in the cost of decommissioning Kewaunee, as additional evidence that  
7 the eight percent escalation rate for the “other costs” category is unnecessarily  
8 high.

9 **Q. Has the U.S. DOE’s failure to begin taking spent nuclear fuel on January 31,**  
10 **1998 impacted the estimated cost of decommissioning Kewaunee?**

11 A. Yes. The failure by the U.S. DOE to begin taking spent nuclear fuel from nuclear  
12 power plants on January 31, 1998, as required by the Nuclear Waste Policy Act,  
13 has increased the estimated cost of decommissioning Kewaunee. For example,  
14 WPS has said that the cost to place the spent fuel that should have been picked up  
15 starting in 1998 in dry cask storage is now in Kewaunee’s decommissioning cost  
16 study.<sup>10</sup> WPS also has explained that some of the costs related to the purchase of  
17 dry casks are related to the DOE’s failure to begin accepting spent nuclear fuel  
18 starting in 1998 as are some of the Post Period 3 – ISFSI Operations costs in the  
19 2002 TLG Study.<sup>11</sup>

20 **Q. Has WPS quantified how much of the spent nuclear fuel-related costs in the**  
21 **2002 TLG decommissioning cost study are related to the U.S. DOE’s failure**  
22 **to begin taking spent fuel on January 31, 1998?**

23 A. No. WPS has said that it has not tried to identify and quantify all of the costs that  
24 can be expected to be incurred as a result of the DOE’s failure to begin accepting  
25 spent nuclear fuel starting in 1998.<sup>12</sup> Nevertheless, it is clear that these costs will

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<sup>10</sup> WPS Response to Data Request 3-CUB-13.a.

<sup>11</sup> WPS Response to Data Request 3-CUB-12.

<sup>12</sup> WPS Response to Data Request 3-CUB-12.

1 be significant and that to the extent that the DOE will compensate WPS for these  
2 costs, that the net decommissioning cost in the recent TLG is overstated.

3 **Q. Are spent fuel related costs a significant element of the total estimated cost of**  
4 **decommissioning Kewaunee?**

5 A. Yes. The 2002 TLG Study estimates that decommissioning related spent nuclear  
6 fuel capital and O&M costs will be \$43,548,100, in 2002 dollars.<sup>13</sup> Total spent  
7 fuel management costs will be \$111,624,000, also in 2002 dollars.<sup>14</sup>  
8 Consequently, spent fuel costs represent a significant portion of the “other costs”  
9 category.

10 **Q. Is it reasonable to expect that WPS will recover some of the additional costs**  
11 **that it will incur as a result of the DOE’s failure to begin taking spent**  
12 **nuclear fuel starting in 1998?**

13 A. Yes. Federal courts have decided that the U.S. government was unconditionally  
14 contracted to begin removing spent nuclear fuel by January 31, 1998.<sup>15</sup> The  
15 Federal Court of Claims has subsequently determined the individual utilities are  
16 owed damages resulting from the DOE’s failure to carry out this responsibility.  
17 Only the size of the payments remains to be determined and the amount of  
18 damages owed to individual utilities, like WPS, will continue to grow as the DOE  
19 is further unable to remove spent nuclear fuel from plant sites.

20 The DOE has acknowledged that it is responsible for removing spent nuclear fuel  
21 and is liable for the damages resulting from its failure to do so.<sup>16</sup>

22 Therefore, it is very reasonable to expect that at some point before Kewaunee is  
23 ultimately decommissioned, WPS will receive payments from the DOE (or

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<sup>13</sup> Exhibit BAJ-3, Table 6.1, at page 4 of Section 6.

<sup>14</sup> Exhibit BAJ-3, Table 3.3, at page 20 of Section 3.

<sup>15</sup> For example, see the attachments to WPS’s Response to Data Request 3-CUB-13 and the article on Nuclear Waste in the September 25, 2000 issue of Environment and Energy Daily.

<sup>16</sup> For example, see the August 2, 2000 issue of the Foster Electric Report, at page 24.

1 equivalent services in lieu of payments) for increased spent fuel costs at  
2 Kewaunee, either as the result of litigation or negotiation.

3 **Q. Should the damages that WPS receives from the DOE be returned to WPS's**  
4 **Wisconsin ratepayers?**

5 A. Yes. WPS has indicated that it would not object to returning to Wisconsin  
6 ratepayers their share of any spent nuclear fuel-related costs recovered from the  
7 U.S. DOE through litigation or negotiation.<sup>17</sup>

8 Consequently, those damages received by WPS from the DOE related to  
9 increased spent fuel-related costs incurred during Kewaunee's operating life  
10 should be returned to its Wisconsin ratepayers. The damages received by WPS  
11 from the DOE that are related to increased spent fuel-related costs that are  
12 expected to be incurred after the plant is retired should be used to reduce the cost  
13 of decommissioning the facility.

14 The expectation that WPS will receive payment (or any equivalent value of  
15 services that will reduce decommissioning costs) from the DOE for these  
16 damages also should reduce the Commission's concern about future escalation of  
17 the spent nuclear fuel-related costs, a significant portion of the "other costs"  
18 category in the 2002 TLG Study.

19 **Q. Does the 2002 TLG decommissioning cost estimate for Kewaunee already**  
20 **include significant contingency factors?**

21 A. Yes. The 2002 TLG Study includes an average 16.9 percent contingency  
22 allowance. The individual contingency factors used by TLG are listed at Section  
23 3, page 5 of 21, of the TLG Study. In particular, the TLG cost estimate includes  
24 contingencies for a number of the cost elements in the "other costs" category: a 25  
25 percent contingency for the cost of supplies, 15 percent for heavy equipment &  
26 tooling, 10 percent for taxes, and 10 percent for insurance.<sup>18</sup> The use of these

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<sup>17</sup> WPS Response to Data Request 3-CUB-13.e.

<sup>18</sup> Exhibit BAJ-3, at Section 3, page 5 of 21.

1 contingency factors further reduces the need for high escalation rates to reflect the  
2 potential for future unanticipated decommissioning costs.

3 **Q. Does TLG explain the purpose of including these contingencies in its**  
4 **decommissioning cost estimate for Kewaunee?**

5 A. Yes. TLG explains that the contingencies are included to address unforeseeable  
6 events and cost increases within the decommissioning scope of work.<sup>19</sup>

7 **Q. When they develop their decommissioning plans and identify their**  
8 **decommissioning funding requirements, do any other utilities escalate the**  
9 **individual categories of decommissioning costs at different rates, like WPS**  
10 **does?**

11 A. Yes. I have seen evidence that some other utilities use separate annual escalation  
12 rates to inflate the labor, waste burial, energy and “other costs” categories of  
13 decommissioning costs:

- 14 • Public Service Electric & Gas uses the following escalation rates to  
15 project the future costs to decommission its shares of five nuclear units:  
16 labor 3.36%; low level radioactive waste disposal 3.75%; energy costs  
17 3.24%; and the Producer Price Index at 2.67% for other costs.
- 18 • South Carolina Electric & Gas uses the following escalation rates to  
19 project the future costs to decommission its Summer nuclear plant for the  
20 years 1999-2024 with slightly higher rates for the years 2020-2024: labor  
21 3.994%; energy 2.407%; machinery & equipment 0.370%; and other costs  
22 3.004%.
- 23 • Southern California Edison uses the following escalation rates to project  
24 the future costs to decommission its San Onofre Units 2 and 3 nuclear  
25 plants: waste burial costs 10.00%; and other costs 3.02%.

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<sup>19</sup> Exhibit BAJ-3, page viii.

1 Thus, each of these utilities uses an annual escalation rate significantly lower than  
2 eight percent to project the future levels of the “other costs” of decommissioning  
3 their nuclear power plants. Indeed, all of these utilities use an annual escalation  
4 rate of approximately three percent to escalate the “other costs” category of  
5 decommissioning costs.

6 **Q. Earlier you mentioned that WPS is using an overall 5.76 percent annual**  
7 **escalation rate for developing its 2004 decommissioning plan. How does this**  
8 **5.76 percent escalation rate compare to the rates assumed for the future**  
9 **escalation of the cost of decommissioning the other power plants operated by**  
10 **the Nuclear Management Company?**

11 A. As shown on Table 1 below, the 5.76 percent annual decommissioning cost  
12 escalation rate used by WPS is significantly higher than the annual escalation  
13 rates used to project the costs of decommissioning the five non-Wisconsin power  
14 plants operated by the Nuclear Management Company.

15 **Table 1: Annual Decommissioning Cost Escalation Rates for NMC Plants**

Unit	Projected Decommissioning Escalation Rate
Point Beach Unit 1	5.96%
Kewaunee	5.76%
Point Beach Unit 2	5.75%
Palisades	4.54%
Monticello	4.35%
Prairie Island Unit 1	4.35%
Prairie Island Unit 2	4.35%
Duane Arnold	4.25%

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17 **Q. How does WPS’s 5.76 percent escalation rate compare to the annual**  
18 **escalation rates used by other utilities to project the future costs of**  
19 **decommissioning their nuclear plants?**

20 A. The current annual escalation rates that power plant owners use to project the  
21 future costs of decommissioning their nuclear units, as reported to the Nuclear

1 Regulatory Commission, are presented in Exhibit DAS-2.<sup>20</sup> AmerGen does not  
2 report the escalation rates it uses to project the future costs of decommissioning  
3 its Clinton, Oyster Creek and Three Mile Island Unit 1 nuclear power plants.  
4 Therefore, these three plants are not included in Exhibit DAS-2.

5 As shown in this Exhibit, the 5.76 percent weighted annual escalation rate used by  
6 WPS is the fifth highest among all operating power plants. In fact, only the two  
7 Cook units, Fermi 2, and Point Beach Unit 1 use higher escalation rates.<sup>21</sup>

8 The 5.76 percent annual escalation rate used by WPS also is significantly higher  
9 than the 4.28 percent median annual escalation rate used to project the future costs  
10 of decommissioning the other 100 operating nuclear power plants.

11 **Q. How much money is there in the Kewaunee decommissioning funds?**

12 A. At the end of 2002 WPS had \$299,746,000 in its tax qualified and non-qualified  
13 funds for its 59 percent share of the cost of decommissioning Kewaunee.<sup>22</sup>  
14 Wisconsin Power & Light Company had another \$228,832,447 in its accumulated  
15 decommissioning funds. Consequently, the two owners had over \$527 million in  
16 their accumulated decommissioning funds as of the end of 2002.

17 **Q. What annual escalation rate should the Commission use for the “other costs”**  
18 **category to determine the annual decommissioning cost collections that WPS**  
19 **needs to make from its ratepayers in 2004 and future years?**

20 A. The Commission should use an annual escalation rate for the “other costs”  
21 category of less than 6 percent to determine the annual decommissioning cost  
22 collections that WPS needs to make in 2004 and future years.

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<sup>20</sup> The source documents for the information presented in Exhibit DAS-2 are the Decommissioning Funding Status Reports submitted to the NRC by each licensee pursuant to 10 CFR 50.75(f)(1).

<sup>21</sup> Significantly, the three regulatory decisions which form the basis for the 6.43 percent escalation rate used to project future Cook plant decommissioning costs were all issued in the early 1990s. The most recent of these decisions were a Michigan Public Service Commission decision in October 1993 and an Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission decision in November 1993.

<sup>22</sup> WPS Response to Data Request 3-CUB-18.

1 **Q. What would be the resulting overall annual escalation rate that WPS would**  
2 **be using to project the future cost of decommissioning the Kewaunee plant?**

3 A. The use of a less than six percent annual escalation rate for the “other costs”  
4 category would result in an annual escalation rate of 5.11 percent or less for the  
5 overall decommissioning cost estimate. As shown by the information in Exhibit  
6 DAS-2, an overall annual escalation rate of 5.11 percent would still be  
7 significantly above the 4.28 percent median value of the escalation rates used to  
8 project the future costs of decommissioning the 100 other operating nuclear  
9 power plants.

10 **Q. What level of annual collections would be necessary from WPS’s ratepayers**  
11 **starting in the year 2004 if the Commission were to use an escalation rate of**  
12 **four to six percent for the “other costs” category?**

13 A. WPS would not need to make any additional collections from its retail ratepayers  
14 after 2003. Its funds for decommissioning Kewaunee are already fully funded. In  
15 fact, it would be quite possible that there will be substantial excess monies left  
16 over in the Kewaunee decommissioning funds after the projected end of  
17 decommissioning in 2038 even if ratepayers make no further contributions after  
18 2003.

19 **Q. Please explain what analyses form the basis for this conclusion.**

20 A. We used the Company’s Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Fund Model which is  
21 the same model used by WPS witness Jackson. For our analyses, we accepted all  
22 of WPS’s input assumptions except for the “other costs” escalation rate and the  
23 annual contributions from ratepayers into WPS’s tax qualified fund.

24 First, we modified the “other costs” annual escalation rate from WPS’s eight  
25 percent figure to six percent and four percent. We found that there would be  
26 between \$300 million (with a 6 percent escalation rate) and \$500 million (with a 4  
27 percent escalation rate) of excess monies remaining in WPS’s decommissioning  
28 funds after Kewaunee was fully decommissioned if WPS’s request to collect

1           \$7,207,000 from its Wisconsin ratepayers during the years 2004-2010 is  
2           approved.<sup>23</sup>

3           We then examined what would happen if there were no further decommissioning  
4           cost collections from ratepayers after 2003. From this analysis, we found that  
5           there will be sufficient monies in WPS's funds to pay for the Company's share of  
6           the cost of decommissioning Kewaunee even if no further funds are collected  
7           from ratepayers after 2003.

8           **Q.    Have any nuclear power plant owners stopped making annual collections**  
9           **from ratepayers because their decommissioning funds already are adequate?**

10          A.    Yes. The Omaha Public Power District, the owner of the Fort Calhoun nuclear  
11          station, ceased making annual decommissioning collections starting in 2002. Like  
12          Kewaunee, Fort Calhoun is scheduled to end its operating life in 2013.

13          **Q.    What should the Commission do if there are excess funds in WPS's**  
14          **decommissioning funds after Kewaunee is fully decommissioned?**

15          A.    The Commission should establish a regulatory policy that puts WPS on notice that  
16          all decommissioning expenditures will be investigated for prudence, that WPS  
17          must refund to its ratepayers with interest any imprudent decommissioning  
18          expenditures, and that all excess monies remaining in WPS's funds after  
19          decommissioning of Kewaunee is completed will be refunded to ratepayers with  
20          interest. WPS should not be able to gain any windfall from keeping excess  
21          decommissioning funds.

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<sup>23</sup>           The amount of excess funds in the decommissioning fund would be even higher if we were to use  
a 3 percent or lower annual escalation rate for "other costs."

1 **Q. What could the Commission do if it decides in this proceeding that WPS**  
2 **should not make any annual decommissioning collections from its ratepayers**  
3 **after 2003 and at some later date subsequently finds that the accumulated**  
4 **Kewaunee decommissioning funds will be insufficient?**

5 A. I understand that the Commission will be revisiting the decommissioning issue  
6 every four years. If it appears in 2007 or 2011 that the Kewaunee  
7 decommissioning funds will be inadequate, because of some currently  
8 unanticipated costs or problems, the Commission can order that WPS again make  
9 annual decommissioning cost collections from its ratepayers to cover any  
10 projected fund shortfalls. Or the Commission could revisit the question of the  
11 adequacy of the Kewaunee decommissioning funds more frequently than every  
12 four years.

13 **Q. Does this complete your testimony?**

14 A. Yes.

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# David A Schlissel

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## SUMMARY

I have worked for twenty-eight years as a consultant and attorney on complex management, engineering, and economic issues, primarily in the field of energy. This work has involved conducting technical investigations, preparing economic analyses, presenting expert testimony, providing support during all phases of regulatory proceedings and litigation, and advising clients during settlement negotiations. I received undergraduate and advanced engineering degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Stanford University and a law degree from Stanford Law School

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Electric Industry Restructuring and Deregulation** - Investigated whether generators have been intentionally withholding capacity in order to manipulate prices in the new spot wholesale market in New England. Evaluated the reasonableness of nuclear and fossil plant sales and auctions of power purchase agreements. Analyzed stranded utility costs in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Examined the reasonableness of utility standard offer rates and transition charges.

**System Operations and Reliability Analysis** - Investigated the causes of distribution system outages and inadequate service reliability. Evaluated the impact of a proposed merger on the reliability of the electric service provided to the ratepayers of the merging companies. Assessed whether new transmission and generation additions were needed to ensure adequate levels of system reliability. Scrutinized utility system reliability expenditures. Reviewed natural gas and telephone utility repair and replacement programs and policies.

**Power Plant Operations and Economics** - Investigated the causes of more than one hundred power plant and system outages, equipment failures, and component degradation, determined whether these problems could have been anticipated and avoided, and assessed liability for repair and replacement costs. Reviewed power plant operating, maintenance, and capital costs. Evaluated utility plans for and management of the replacement of major power plant components. Assessed the adequacy of power plant quality assurance and maintenance programs. Examined the selection and supervision of contractors and subcontractors. Evaluated the reasonableness of contract provisions and terms in proposed power supply agreements.

**Nuclear Power** - Examined the impact of industry restructuring and nuclear power plant life extensions on decommissioning costs and collections policies. Evaluated utility decommissioning cost estimates. Assessed the potential impact of electric industry deregulation on nuclear power plant safety. Reviewed nuclear waste storage and disposal costs. Investigated the potential safety consequences of nuclear power plant structure, system, and component failures.

**Economic Analysis** - Analyzed the costs and benefits of energy supply options. Examined the economic and system reliability consequences of the early retirement of major electric generating facilities. Quantified replacement power costs and the increased capital and operating costs due to identified instances of mismanagement.

**Expert Testimony** - Presented the results of management, technical and economic analyses as testimony in more than seventy proceedings before regulatory boards and commissions in twenty one states, before two federal regulatory agencies, and in state and federal court proceedings.

**Litigation and Regulatory Support** - Participated in all aspects of the development and preparation of case presentations on complex management, technical, and economic issues. Assisted in the preparation and conduct of pre-trial discovery and depositions. Helped identify and prepare expert witnesses. Aided the preparation of pre-hearing petitions and motions and post-hearing briefs and appeals. Assisted counsel in preparing for hearings and oral arguments. Advised counsel during settlement negotiations.

## TESTIMONY

### **Arkansas Public Service Commission (Docket 02-248-U) – May 2003**

Entergy's proposed replacement of the steam generators and the reactor vessel head at the ANO Unit 1 Steam Generating Station.

### **Appellate Tax Board, State of Massachusetts (Docket No C258405-406) – May 2003**

The physical nature of electricity and whether electricity is a tangible product or a service.

### **Maine Public Utilities Commission (Docket 2002-665-U) – April 2003**

Analysis of Central Maine Power Company's proposed transmission line for Southern York County and recommendation of alternatives.

### **Massachusetts Legislature, Joint Committees on Government Regulations and Energy – March 2003**

Whether PG&E can decide to permanently retire one or more of the generating units at its Salem Harbor Station if it is not granted an extension beyond October 2004 to reduce the emissions from the Station's three coal-fired units and one oil-fired unit.

### **New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (Docket No. ER02080614) – January 2003**

The prudence of Rockland Electric Company's power purchases during the period August 1, 1999 through July 31, 2002.

**New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (Case No. 00-F-1356) – September and October 2002 and January 2003**

The need for and the environmental benefits from the proposed 300 MW Kings Park Energy generating facility.

**Arizona Corporation Commission (Docket No. E-01345A-01-0822) – March 2002**

The reasonableness of Arizona Public Service Company's proposed long-term power purchase agreement with an affiliated company.

**New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (Case No. 99-F-1627) – March 2002**

Repowering NYPA's existing Poletti Station in Queens, New York.

**Connecticut Siting Council (Docket No. 217) – March 2002, November 2002, and January 2003**

Whether the proposed 345-kV transmission line between Plumtree and Norwalk substations in Southwestern Connecticut is needed and will produce public benefits.

**Vermont Public Service Board (Case No. 6545) – January 2002**

Whether the proposed sale of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Plant to Entergy is in the public interest of the State of Vermont and Vermont ratepayers.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 99-09-12RE02) – December 2001**

The reasonableness of adjustments that Connecticut Light and Power Company seeks to make to the proceeds that it received from the sale of Millstone Nuclear Power Station.

**Connecticut Siting Council (Docket No. 208) – October 2001**

Whether the proposed cross-sound cable between Connecticut and Long Island is needed and will produce public benefits for Connecticut consumers.

**New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (Docket No. EM01050308) - September 2001**

The market power implications of the proposed merger between Conectiv and Pepco.

**Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No. 01-0423 – August, September, and October 2001**

Commonwealth Edison Company's management of its distribution and transmission systems.

**New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (Case No. 99-F-1627) - August and September 2001**

The environmental benefits from the proposed 500 MW NYPA Astoria generating facility.

**New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (Case No. 99-F-1191) - June 2001**

The environmental benefits from the proposed 1,000 MW Astoria Energy generating facility.

**New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (Docket No. EM00110870) - May 2001**

The market power implications of the proposed merger between FirstEnergy and GPU Energy.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 99-09-12RE01) - November 2000**

The proposed sale of Millstone Nuclear Station to Dominion Nuclear, Inc.

**Illinois Commerce Commission (Docket 00-0361) - August 2000**

The impact of nuclear power plant life extensions on Commonwealth Edison Company's decommissioning costs and collections from ratepayers.

**Vermont Public Service Board (Docket 6300) - April 2000**

Whether the proposed sale of the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant to AmerGen Vermont is in the public interest.

**Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy (Docket 99-107, Phase II) - April and June 2000**

The causes of the May 18, 1999, main transformer fire at the Pilgrim generating station.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 00-01-11) - March and April 2000**

The impact of the proposed merger between Northeast Utilities and Con Edison, Inc. on the reliability of the electric service being provided to Connecticut ratepayers.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 99-09-12) - January 2000**

The reasonableness of Northeast Utilities plan for auctioning the Millstone Nuclear Station.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 99-08-01) - November 1999**

Generation, Transmission, and Distribution system reliability.

**Illinois Commerce Commission (Docket 99-0115) - September 1999**

Commonwealth Edison Company's decommissioning cost estimate for the Zion Nuclear Station.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 99-03-36) - July 1999**

Standard offer rates for Connecticut Light & Power Company.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 99-03-35) - July 1999**

Standard offer rates for United Illuminating Company.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 99-02-05) - April 1999**

Connecticut Light & Power Company stranded costs.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 99-03-04) - April 1999**

United Illuminating Company stranded costs.

**Maryland Public Service Commission (Docket 8795) - December 1998**

Future operating performance of Delmarva Power Company's nuclear units.

**Maryland Public Service Commission (Dockets 8794/8804) - December 1998**

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company's proposed replacement of the steam generators at the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant. Future performance of nuclear units.

**Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (Docket 38702-FAC-40-S1) - November 1998**

Whether the ongoing outages of the two units at the D.C. Cook Nuclear Plant were caused or extended by mismanagement.

**Arkansas Public Service Commission (Docket 98-065-U) - October 1998**

Entergy's proposed replacement of the steam generators at the ANO Unit 2 Steam Generating Station.

**Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy (Docket 97-120) - October 1998**

Western Massachusetts Electric Company's Transition Charge. Whether the extended 1996-1998 outages of the three units at the Millstone Nuclear Station were caused or extended by mismanagement.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 98-01-02) - September 1998**

Nuclear plant operations, operating and capital costs, and system reliability improvement costs.

**Illinois Commerce Commission (Docket 97-0015) - May 1998**

Whether any of the outages of Commonwealth Edison Company's twelve nuclear units during 1996 were caused or extended by mismanagement. Whether equipment problems, personnel performance weaknesses, and program deficiencies could have been avoided or addressed prior to plant outages. Outage-related fuel and replacement power costs.

**Public Service Commission of West Virginia (Case 97-1329-E-CN) - March 1998**

The need for a proposed 765 kV transmission line from Wyoming, West Virginia, to Cloverdate, Virginia.

**Illinois Commerce Commission (Docket 97-0018) - March 1998**

Whether any of the outages of the Clinton Power Station during 1996 were caused or extended by mismanagement.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 97-05-12) - October 1997**

The increased costs resulting from the ongoing outages of the three units at the Millstone Nuclear Station.

**New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (Docket ER96030257) - August 1996**

Replacement power costs during plant outages.

**Illinois Commerce Commission (Docket 95-0119) - February 1996**

Whether any of the outages of Commonwealth Edison Company's twelve nuclear units during 1994 were caused or extended by mismanagement. Whether equipment problems, personnel performance weaknesses, and program deficiencies could have been avoided or addressed prior to plant outages. Outage-related fuel and replacement power costs.

**Public Utility Commission of Texas (Docket 13170) - December 1994**

Whether any of the outages of the River Bend Nuclear Station during the period October 1, 1991, through December 31, 1993, were caused or extended by mismanagement.

**Public Utility Commission of Texas (Docket 12820) - October 1994**

Operations and maintenance expenses during outages of the South Texas Nuclear Generating Station.

**Wisconsin Public Service Commission (Cases 6630-CE-197 and 6630-CE-209) - September and October 1994**

The reasonableness of the projected cost and schedule for the replacement of the steam generators at the Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant. The potential impact of plant aging on future operating costs and performance.

**Public Utility Commission of Texas (Docket 12700) - June 1994**

Whether El Paso Electric Company's share of Palo Verde Unit 3 was needed to ensure adequate levels of system reliability. Whether the Company's investment in Unit 3 could be expected to generate cost savings for ratepayers within a reasonable number of years.

**Arizona Corporation Commission (Docket U-1551-93-272) - May and June 1994**

Southwest Gas Corporation's plastic and steel pipe repair and replacement programs.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 92-04-15) - March 1994**

Northeast Utilities management of the 1992/1993 replacement of the steam generators at Millstone Unit 2.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 92-10-03) - August 1993**

Whether the 1991 outage of Millstone Unit 3 as a result of the corrosion of safety-related plant piping systems was due to mismanagement.

**Public Utility Commission of Texas (Docket 11735) - April and July 1993**

Whether any of the outages of the Comanche Peak Unit 1 Nuclear Station during the period August 13, 1990, through June 30, 1992, were caused or extended by mismanagement.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 91-12-07) - January 1993 and August 1995**

Whether the November 6, 1991, pipe rupture at Millstone Unit 2 and the related outages of the Connecticut Yankee and Millstone units were caused or extended by mismanagement. The impact of environmental requirements on power plant design and operation.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 92-06-05) - September 1992**

United Illuminating Company off-system capacity sales.

**Public Utility Commission of Texas (Docket 10894) - August 1992**

Whether any of the outages of the River Bend Nuclear Station during the period October 1, 1988, through September 30, 1991, were caused or extended by mismanagement.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 92-01-05) - August 1992**  
Whether the July 1991 outage of Millstone Unit 3 due to the fouling of important plant systems by blue mussels was the result of mismanagement.

**California Public Utilities Commission (Docket 90-12-018) - November 1991, March 1992, June and July 1993**

Whether any of the outages of the three units at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station during 1989 and 1990 were caused or extended by mismanagement. Whether equipment problems, personnel performance weaknesses and program deficiencies could have been avoided or addressed prior to outages. Whether specific plant operating cost and capital expenditures were necessary and prudent.

**Public Utility Commission of Texas (Docket 9945) - July 1991**

Whether El Paso Electric Company's share of Palo Verde Unit 3 was needed to ensure adequate levels of system reliability. Whether the Company's investment in the unit could be expected to generate cost savings for ratepayers within a reasonable number of years. El Paso Electric Company's management of the planning and licensing of the Arizona Interconnection Project transmission line.

**Arizona Corporation Commission (Docket U-1345-90-007) - December 1990 and April 1991**

Arizona Public Service Company's management of the planning, construction and operation of the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. The costs resulting from identified instances of mismanagement.

**New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (Docket ER89110912J) - July and October 1990**

The economic costs and benefits of the early retirement of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Plant. The potential impact of the unit's early retirement on system reliability. The cost and schedule for siting and constructing a replacement natural gas-fired generating plant.

**Public Utility Commission of Texas (Docket 9300) - June and July 1990**

Texas Utilities management of the design and construction of the Comanche Peak Nuclear Plant. Whether the Company was prudent in repurchasing minority owners' shares of Comanche Peak without examining the costs and benefits of the repurchase for its ratepayers.

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Docket EL-88-5-000) - November 1989**

Boston Edison's corporate management of the Pilgrim Nuclear Station.

**Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (Docket 89-08-11) - November 1989**

United Illuminating Company's off-system capacity sales.

**Kansas State Corporation Commission (Case 164,211-U) - April 1989**

Whether any of the 127 days of outages of the Wolf Creek generating plant during 1987 and 1988 were the result of mismanagement.

**Public Utility Commission of Texas (Docket 8425) - March 1989**

Whether Houston Lighting & Power Company's new Limestone Unit 2 generating facility was needed to provide adequate levels of system reliability. Whether the Company's investment in Limestone Unit 2 would provide a net economic benefit for ratepayers.

**Illinois Commerce Commission (Dockets 83-0537 and 84-0555) - July 1985 and January 1989**

Commonwealth Edison Company's management of quality assurance and quality control activities and the actions of project contractors during construction of the Byron Nuclear Station.

**New Mexico Public Service Commission (Case 2146, Part II) - October 1988**

The rate consequences of Public Service Company of New Mexico's ownership of Palo Verde Units 1 and 2.

**United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York (Case 87-646-JBW) - October 1988**

Whether the Long Island Lighting Company withheld important information from the New York State Public Service Commission, the New York State Board on Electric Generating Siting and the Environment, and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Public Utility Commission of Texas (Docket 6668) - August 1988 and June 1989**

Houston Light & Power Company's management of the design and construction of the South Texas Nuclear Project. The impact of safety-related and environmental requirements on plant construction costs and schedule.

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Docket ER88-202-000) - June 1988**

Whether the turbine generator vibration problems that extended the 1987 outage of the Maine Yankee nuclear plant were caused by mismanagement.

**Illinois Commerce Commission (Docket 87-0695) - April 1988**

Illinois Power Company's planning for the Clinton Nuclear Station.

**North Carolina Utilities Commission (Docket E-2, Sub 537) - February 1988**

Carolina Power & Light Company's management of the design and construction of the Harris Nuclear Project. The Company's management of quality assurance and quality control activities. The impact of safety-related and environmental requirements on construction costs and schedule. The cost and schedule consequences of identified instances of mismanagement.

**Ohio Public Utilities Commission (Case 87-689-EL-AIR) - October 1987**

Whether any of Ohio Edison's share of the Perry Unit 2 generating facility was needed to ensure adequate levels of system reliability. Whether the Company's investment in Perry Unit 1 would produce a net economic benefit for ratepayers.

**North Carolina Utilities Commission (Docket E-2, Sub 526) - June 1987**

Fuel factor calculations.

**New York State Public Service Commission (Case 29484) - May 1987**

The planned startup and power ascension testing program for the Nine Mile Point Unit 2 generating facility.

**Illinois Commerce Commission (Dockets 86-0043 and 86-0096) - April 1987**

The reasonableness of certain terms in a proposed Power Supply Agreement.

**Illinois Commerce Commission (Docket 86-0405) - March 1987**

The in-service criteria to be used to determine when a new generating facility was capable of providing safe, adequate, reliable and efficient service.

**Indiana Public Service Commission (Case 38045) - December 1986**

Northern Indiana Public Service Company's planning for the Schaefer Unit 18 generating facility. Whether the capacity from Unit 18 was needed to ensure adequate system reliability. The rate consequences of excess capacity on the Company's system.

**Superior Court in Rockingham County, New Hampshire (Case 86E328) - July 1986**

The radiation effects of low power testing on the structures, equipment and components in a new nuclear power plant.

**New York State Public Service Commission (Case 28124) - April 1986 and May 1987**

The terms and provisions in a utility's contract with an equipment supplier. The prudence of the utility's planning for a new generating facility. Expenditures on a canceled generating facility.

**Arizona Corporation Commission (Docket U-1345-85) - February 1986**

The construction schedule for Palo Verde Unit No. 1. Regulatory and technical factors that would likely affect future plant operating costs.

**New York State Public Service Commission (Case 29124) - January 1986**

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation's management of construction of the Nine Mile Point Unit No. 2 nuclear power plant.

**New York State Public Service Commission (Case 28252) - October 1985**

A performance standard for the Shoreham nuclear power plant.

**New York State Public Service Commission (Case 29069) - August 1985**

A performance standard for the Nine Mile Point Unit No. 2 nuclear power plant.

**Missouri Public Service Commission (Cases ER-85-128 and EO-85-185) - July 1985**

The impact of safety-related regulatory requirements and plant aging on power plant operating costs and performance. Regulatory factors and plant-specific design features that will likely affect the future operating costs and performance of the Wolf Creek Nuclear Plant.

**Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (Case 84-152) - January 1985**

The impact of safety-related regulatory requirements and plant aging on power plant operating costs and performance. Regulatory factors and plant-specific design features that will likely affect the future operating costs and performance of the Seabrook Nuclear Plant.

**Maine Public Utilities Commission (Docket 84-113) - September 1984**

The impact of safety-related regulatory requirements and plant aging on power plant operating costs and performance. Regulatory factors and plant-specific design features that will likely affect the future operating costs and performance of the Seabrook Nuclear Plant.

**South Carolina Public Service Commission (Case 84-122-E) - August 1984**

The repair and replacement strategy adopted by Carolina Power & Light Company in response to pipe cracking at the Brunswick Nuclear Station. Quantification of replacement power costs attributable to identified instances of mismanagement.

**Vermont Public Service Board (Case 4865) - May 1984**

The repair and replacement strategy adopted by management in response to pipe cracking at the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant.

**New York State Public Service Commission (Case 28347) -January 1984**

The information that was available to Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation prior to 1982 concerning the potential for cracking in safety-related piping systems at the Nine Mile Point Unit No. 1 nuclear plant.

**New York State Public Service Commission (Case 28166) - February 1983 and February 1984**

Whether the January 25, 1982, steam generator tube rupture at the Ginna Nuclear Plant was caused by mismanagement.

**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Case 50-247SP) - May 1983**

The economic costs and benefits of the early retirement of the Indian Point nuclear plants.

**REPORTS, ARTICLES, AND PRESENTATIONS**

*Power Plant Repowering as a Strategy for Reducing Water Consumption at Existing Electric Generating Facilities.* A presentation at the May 2003 Symposium on Cooling Water Intake Technologies to Protect Aquatic Organisms. May 6, 2003.

*Financial Insecurity: The Increasing Use of Limited Liability Companies and Multi-tiered Holding Companies to Own Electric Generating Plants.* A presentation at the 2002 NASUCA Annual Meeting. November 12, 2002.

*Determining the Need for Proposed Overhead Transmission Facilities.* A Presentation by David Schlissel and Paul Peterson to the Task Force and Working Group for Connecticut Public Act 02-95. October 17, 2002.

*Future PG&E Net Revenues From The Sale of Electricity Generated at its Brayton Point Station.* An Analysis for the Attorney General of the State of Rhode Island. October 2, 2002.

*PG&E's Net Revenues From The Sale of Electricity Generated at its Brayton Point Station During the Years 1999-2002.* An Analysis for the Attorney General of the State of Rhode Island. October 2, 2002.

*Financial Insecurity: The Increasing Use of Limited Liability Companies and Multi-Tiered Holding Companies to Own Nuclear Power Plants.* A Synapse report for the STAR Foundation and Riverkeeper, Inc., by David Schlissel, Paul Peterson, and Bruce Biewald, August 7, 2002.

*Comments on EPA's Proposed Clean Water Act Section 316(b) for Cooling Water Intake Structures at Phase II Existing Facilities,* on behalf of Riverkeeper, Inc., by David Schlissel and Geoffrey Keith, August 2002.

*The Impact of Retiring the Indian Point Nuclear Power Station on Electric System Reliability.* A Synapse Report for Riverkeeper, Inc. and Pace Law School Energy Project. May 7, 2002.

*Preliminary Assessment of the Need for the Proposed Plumtree-Norwalk 345-kV Transmission Line.* A Synapse Report for the Towns of Bethel, Redding, Weston, and Wilton Connecticut. October 15, 2001.

*ISO New England's Generating Unit Availability Study: Where's the Beef?* A Presentation at the June 29, 2001 Restructuring Roundtable.

*Clean Air and Reliable Power: Connecticut Legislative House Bill HB6365 will not Jeopardize Electric System Reliability.* A Synapse Report for the Clean Air Task Force. May 2001.

*Room to Breathe: Why the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's Proposed Air Regulations are Compatible with Reliability.* A Synapse Report for MASSPIRG and the Clean Water Fund. March 2001.

*Generator Outage Increases: A Preliminary Analysis of Outage Trends in the New England Electricity Market,* a Synapse Report for the Union of Concerned Scientists, January 7, 2001.

*Cost, Grid Reliability Concerns on the Rise Amid Restructuring,* with Charlie Harak, Boston Business Journal, August 18-24, 2000.

*Report on Indian Point 2 Steam Generator Issues,* Schlissel Technical Consulting, Inc., March 10, 2000.

*Preliminary Expert Report in Case 96-016613, Cities of Wharton, Pasadena, et al v. Houston Lighting & Power Company,* October 28, 1999.

*Comments of Schlissel Technical Consulting, Inc. on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Draft Policy Statement on Electric Industry Economic Deregulation,* February 1997.

*Report to the Municipal Electric Utility Association of New York State on the Cost of Decommissioning the Fitzpatrick Nuclear Plant,* August 1996.

*Report to the Staff of the Arizona Corporation Commission on U.S. West Corporation's telephone cable repair and replacement programs,* May, 1996.

*Nuclear Power in the Competitive Environment,* NRRI Quarterly Bulletin, Vol. 16, No. 3, Fall 1995.

*Nuclear Power in the Competitive Environment*, presentation at the 18th National Conference of Regulatory Attorneys, Scottsdale, Arizona, May 17, 1995.

*The Potential Safety Consequences of Steam Generator Tube Cracking at the Byron and Braidwood Nuclear Stations*, a report for the Environmental Law and Policy Center of the Midwest, 1995.

*Report to the Public Policy Group Concerning Future Trojan Nuclear Plant Operating Performance and Costs*, July 15, 1992.

*Report to the New York State Consumer Protection Board on the Costs of the 1991 Refueling Outage of Indian Point 2*, December 1991.

*Preliminary Report on Excess Capacity Issues to the Public Utility Regulation Board of the City of El Paso*, Texas, April 1991.

*Nuclear Power Plant Construction Costs*, presentation at the November, 1987, Conference of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates.

*Comments on the Final Report of the National Electric Reliability Study*, a report for the New York State Consumer Protection Board, February 27, 1981.

## **OTHER SIGNIFICANT INVESTIGATIONS AND LITIGATION SUPPORT WORK**

Reviewed the salt deposition mitigation strategy proposed for Reliant Energy's repowering of its Astoria Generating Station. October 2002 through February 2003.

Assisted the Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel in reviewing the auction of Connecticut Light & Power Company's power purchase agreements. August and September, 2000.

Assisted the New Jersey Division of the Ratepayer Advocate in evaluating the reasonableness of Atlantic City Electric Company's proposed sale of its fossil generating facilities. June and July, 2000.

Investigated whether the 1996-1998 outages of the three Millstone Nuclear Units were caused or extended by mismanagement. 1997 and 1998. Clients were the Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel and the Office of the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Investigated whether the 1995-1997 outages of the two units at the Salem Nuclear Station were caused or extended by mismanagement. 1996-1997. Client was the New Jersey Division of the Ratepayer Advocate.

Assisted the Associated Industries of Massachusetts in quantifying the stranded costs associated with utility generating plants in the New England states. May through July, 1996

Investigated whether the December 25, 1993, turbine generator failure and fire at the Fermi 2 generating plant was caused by Detroit Edison Company's mismanagement of fabrication, operation or maintenance. 1995. Client was the Attorney General of the State of Michigan.

Investigated whether the outages of the two units at the South Texas Nuclear Generating Station during the years 1990 through 1994 were caused or extended by mismanagement. Client was the Texas Office of Public Utility Counsel.

Assisted the City Public Service Board of San Antonio, Texas in litigation over Houston Lighting & Power Company's management of operations of the South Texas Nuclear Generating Station.

Investigated whether outages of the Millstone nuclear units during the years 1991 through 1994 were caused or extended by mismanagement. Client was the Office of the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Evaluated the 1994 Decommissioning Cost Estimate for the Maine Yankee Nuclear Plant. Client was the Public Advocate of the State of Maine.

Evaluated the 1994 Decommissioning Cost Estimate for the Seabrook Nuclear Plant. Clients were investment firms that were evaluating whether to purchase the Great Bay Power Company, one of Seabrook's minority owners.

Investigated whether a proposed natural-gas fired generating facility was need to ensure adequate levels of system reliability. Examined the potential impacts of environmental regulations on the unit's expected construction cost and schedule. 1992. Client was the New Jersey Rate Counsel.

Investigated whether Public Service Company of New Mexico management had adequately disclosed to potential investors the risk that it would be unable to market its excess generating capacity. Clients were individual shareholders of Public Service Company of New Mexico.

Investigated whether the Seabrook Nuclear Plant was prudently designed and constructed. 1989. Clients were the Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel and the Attorney General of the State of Connecticut.

Investigated whether Carolina Power & Light Company had prudently managed the design and construction of the Harris nuclear plant. 1988-1989. Clients were the North Carolina Electric Municipal Power Agency and the City of Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Investigated whether the Grand Gulf nuclear plant had been prudently designed and constructed. 1988. Client was the Arkansas Public Service Commission.

Reviewed the financial incentive program proposed by the New York State Public Service Commission to improve nuclear power plant safety. 1987. Client was the New York State Consumer Protection Board.

Reviewed the construction cost and schedule of the Hope Creek Nuclear Generating Station. 1986-1987. Client was the New Jersey Rate Counsel.

Reviewed the operating performance of the Fort St. Vrain Nuclear Plant. 1985. Client was the Colorado Office of Consumer Counsel.

## **WORK HISTORY**

2000 - Present: Senior Consultant, Synapse Energy Economics, Inc.  
1994 - 2000: President, Schlissel Technical Consulting, Inc.  
1983 - 1994: Director, Schlissel Engineering Associates  
1979 - 1983: Private Legal and Consulting Practice  
1975 - 1979: Attorney, New York State Consumer Protection Board  
1973 - 1975: Staff Attorney, Georgia Power Project

## **EDUCATION**

1983-1985: Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Special Graduate Student in Nuclear Engineering and Project Management,  
1973: Stanford Law School,  
Juris Doctor  
1969: Stanford University  
Master of Science in Astronautical Engineering,  
1968: Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Bachelor of Science in Astronautical Engineering,

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- New York State Bar since 1981
- American Nuclear Society
- National Association of Corrosion Engineers

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Owner/NRC Licensee</u>	<u>Projected Annual Decommissioning Escalation Rate</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Cook Unit 1	Indiana Michigan	6.43%	
Cook Unit 2	Indiana Michigan	6.43%	
Fermi 2	Detroit Edison	6.00%	
Point Beach Unit 1	Wisconsin Electric Power Company	5.96%	
Kewaunee	WPS and WP&L	5.76%	
Point Beach Unit 2	Wisconsin Electric Power Company	5.75%	
Turkey Point Unit 3	Florida Power & Light	5.60%	
Turkey Point Unit 4	Florida Power & Light	5.60%	
Diablo Canyon Unit 1	Pacific Gas & Electric	5.50%	
Diablo Canyon Unit 2	Pacific Gas & Electric	5.50%	
Grand Gulf	Entergy	5.50%	
St. Lucie Unit 1	Florida Power & Light	5.50%	
St. Lucie Unit 2	Florida Power & Light	5.50%	
Waterford 3	Entergy	5.50%	
Crystal River Unit 3	Progress Energy Florida	5.30%	
Seabrook	FPL Energy	5.25%	
San Onofre Unit 2	Southern California Edison	5.02%	
San Onofre Unit 3	Southern California Edison	5.02%	
Braidwood Unit 1	Exelon	4.95%	
Braidwood Unit 2	Exelon	4.95%	
Byron Unit 1	Exelon	4.95%	
Byron Unit 2	Exelon	4.95%	
Dresden Unit 2	Exelon	4.95%	
Dresden Unit 3	Exelon	4.95%	
LaSalle Unit 1	Exelon	4.95%	
LaSalle Unit 2	Exelon	4.95%	
Quad Cities Unit 1	Exelon	4.95%	
Quad Cities Unit 2	Exelon	4.95%	
River Bend	Entergy Gulf States	4.81%	Texas jurisdictional rate. Louisiana rate is 2.53%.
Millstone Unit 3	Dominion	4.73%	
Comanche Peak Unit 1	TXU Generation	4.68%	
Comanche Peak Unit 2	TXU Generation	4.68%	
South Texas Unit 1	Texas Genco	4.58%	Weighted average of rates used by 4 joint owners
South Texas Unit 2	Texas Genco	4.58%	Weighted average of rates used by 4 joint owners
Palisades	Consumers Energy	4.54%	
Catawba Unit 1	Duke Power	4.50%	
Catawba Unit 2	Duke Power	4.50%	
Farley Unit 1	Alabama Power	4.50%	
Farley Unit 2	Alabama Power	4.50%	
McGuire Unit 1	Duke Power	4.50%	
McGuire Unit 2	Duke Power	4.50%	
Oconee Unit 1	Duke Power	4.50%	
Oconee Unit 2	Duke Power	4.50%	

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Owner/NRC Licensee</u>	<u>Projected Annual Decommissioning Escalation Rate</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Oconee Unit 3	Duke Power	4.50%	
Wolf Creek	KGE, KCP&L, KEPCo.	4.50%	KCP&L's Kansas jurisdictional rate. Kansas jurisdictional rates are lower.
Monticello	Xcel Energy	4.35%	
Prairie Island Unit 1	Xcel Energy	4.35%	
Prairie Island Unit 2	Xcel Energy	4.35%	
North Anna Unit 1	Dominion	4.28%	
North Anna Unit 2	Dominion	4.28%	
Surry Unit 1	Dominion	4.28%	
Surry Unit 2	Dominion	4.28%	
Duane Arnold	IPL, CIPCO & Corn Belt	4.25%	Minority owner CIPCO uses a 4% escalation rate. Minority owner Corn Belt uses a 5% rate.
Millstone Unit 2	Dominion	4.19%	
Calvert Cliffs Unit 1	Constellation Energy Group	4.05%	
Calvert Cliffs Unit 2	Constellation Energy Group	4.05%	
Nine Mile Point Unit 1	Constellation Energy Group	4.05%	Minority owner Long Island Power Authority uses 3% escalation rate
Nine Mile Point Unit 2	Constellation Energy Group	4.05%	
Browns Ferry Unit 1	Tennessee Valley Authority	4.00%	
Browns Ferry Unit 2	Tennessee Valley Authority	4.00%	
Browns Ferry Unit 3	Tennessee Valley Authority	4.00%	
Brunswick Unit 1	Progress Energy	4.00%	
Brunswick Unit 2	Progress Energy	4.00%	
Columbia	Energy Northwest	4.00%	
Cooper	Nebraska Public Power District	4.00%	
Ginna	Energy East	4.00%	
Harris Unit 1	Progress Energy	4.00%	
Palo Verde Unit 1	Pinnacle West	4.00%	
Palo Verde Unit 2	Pinnacle West	4.00%	
Palo Verde Unit 3	Pinnacle West	4.00%	
Robinson Unit 2	Progress Energy	4.00%	
Sequoyah Unit 1	Tennessee Valley Authority	4.00%	
Sequoyah Unit 2	Tennessee Valley Authority	4.00%	
Summer	SCE&G and South Carolina Public Service Authority	4.00%	SCE&G projects an approximate 4% escalation rate through 2020 and a lower rate thereafter
Susquehanna 1	PPL Corp	4.00%	
Susquehanna 2	PPL Corp	4.00%	
Watts Bar Unit 1	Tennessee Valley Authority	4.00%	
Beaver Valley Unit 1	FirstEnergy	3.86%	
Callaway	Ameren UE	3.86%	
Davis-Besse	FirstEnergy	3.80%	
Beaver Valley Unit 2	FirstEnergy	3.78%	
Perry Unit 1	FirstEnergy	3.77%	

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Owner/NRC Licensee</u>	<u>Projected Annual Decommissioning Escalation Rate</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Hatch Unit 1	Southern Company	3.60%	Minority owner - Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia uses a 4.5% escalation rate
Hatch Unit 2	Southern Company	3.60%	Minority owner - Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia uses a 4.5% escalation rate
Vogtle Unit 1	Southern Company	3.60%	Minority owner - Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia uses a 4.5% escalation rate
Vogtle Unit 2	Southern Company	3.60%	Minority owner - Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia uses a 4.5% escalation rate
Limerick Unit 1	Exelon	3.47%	
Limerick Unit 2	Exelon	3.47%	
Peach Bottom Unit 2	Exelon	3.47%	Other owner PSE&G uses a lower rate
Peach Bottom Unit 3	Exelon	3.47%	Other owner PSE&G uses a lower rate
Salem Unit 1	Exelon	3.47%	Other owner PSE&G uses a lower rate
Salem Unit 2	Exelon	3.47%	Other owner, PSE&G uses a lower rate
Hope Creek	Public Service Electric & Gas	3.36%	
Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2	Entergy	3.10%	
Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1	Entergy	3.06%	
Fitzpatrick	Entergy	3.00%	
Indian Point Unit 2	Entergy	3.00%	
Indian Point Unit 3	Entergy	3.00%	
Pilgrim	Entergy	3.00%	
Vermont Yankee	Entergy	3.00%	
Fort Calhoun	Omaha Public Power District	2.90%	