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Request IR-40:

With regard to Application Appendix 7, p. 1:

a) Please provide the transmission costs assumed for the 2013 "Coal uprate," 2012 wind, and 2030 Biomass PPA.

b) Please explain whether the "Wind (100MW nameplate,40 MW firm)" resource is modeled as NSPI-owned or PPA.

c) Please provide the price assumed for the "Wind (100MW nameplate,40 MW firm)" resource, and the derivation of that price.

d) Please specify the location of the coal plant upgrades listed for 2013.

e) For each biomass co-firing project listed, please identify the unit modeled as co-fired and provide the assumed capital cost.

f) Please provide the fuel prices in $/MMBtu and $/MWh for the co-firing projects.

Response IR-40:

a) Transmission costs are as follows:

- 2013 Coal Uprate - $3.6 million per unit
- 2013 Wind block - $45 million
- 2030 Biomass PPA - $2.1 million

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Response IR-40: (cont'd)

b) The wind resource in Base Case Plan A is modeled as a PPA.

c) The price of the wind is as per the 2009 IRP Update Basic Assumptions. The price is [redacted]. A back-up adder and transmission costs are also included.

d) The coal plant upgrades are located at Lingan.

e) The biomass co-firing projects are modeled as follows:

- 2012 – four Lingan units
- 2019 – Point Tupper
- 2020 – Point Aconi
- 2021 – two Trenton units

The capital cost for biomass co-firing is $7 million per unit, except for Point Aconi which is $4 million. The costs are as per the 2009 IRP Update Basic Assumptions.

f) The biomass fuel price is [redacted]. The estimated price assuming operating costs only (not including a capital cost portion) and a fuel blend of 90 percent low sulphur coal and a maximum of 10 percent biomass, is approximately [redacted]. This price could vary depending on unit heat rate, blended fuels and other operating factors.