

1 **BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA**

2 PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY

3 OF

4 **Gregory A. Kern**

5 **SECOND AMENDMENT TO NPC'S 2006 IRP**

6  
7 **1. Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, OCCUPATION, AND BUSINESS**  
8 **ADDRESS.**

9 A. My name is Gregory A. Kern. I am the Director for Energy Efficiency and  
10 Customer Strategies for Nevada Power Company ("Nevada Power") and Sierra  
11 Pacific Power Company ("Sierra"). I work primarily out of Nevada Power's  
12 offices at 6226 West Sahara Avenue in Las Vegas, Nevada.

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14 **2. Q. WHAT ARE YOUR DUTIES IN YOUR CURRENT POSITION?**

15 A. In my current position, I direct the development and execution of Nevada  
16 Power's and Sierra's demand side energy efficiency, conservation and load  
17 management programs. I also direct the SolarGenerations and Company owned  
18 renewable energy programs.

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21 **3. Q. PLEASE BRIEFLY SUMMARIZE YOUR EDUCATION AND**  
22 **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.**

23 A. I have been an employee of Sierra for fifteen years. For the majority of that  
24 time, I have been involved in the design, operation, and construction of gas,  
25 water, and electric infrastructure. During the last three years I served in the role  
26 of Director of Gas Distribution where my duties included directing all  
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operational, engineering, compliance, construction, service, emergency response, location, cathodic protection, and system control activities for the gas company.

**4. Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

A. The purpose of my testimony is to support the proposed extension of the small Company owned renewable resources program. The Company is proposing to extend the existing program to Action Plan periods 2007, 2008, and 2009. The proposed program will allow for \$500,000 of Company-owned installations in each Action Plan year. These Company-owned installations would be located at key locations where public visibility is high, including both Company-owned properties and customer-owned properties. The first example of the type of installation that would be constructed under the expanded program is a proposed 30 kW photo-voltaic (“PV”) array to be located at the Southern Nevada Water Authority (“SNWA”) main office building in Las Vegas Nevada.

**5. Q. WOULD YOU PLEASE DESCRIBE THE EXISTING PROGRAM?**

A. The existing program is the result of a Commission order in the Company’s Second Amendment to the 2003 Resource Plan. In the Order in that case, the Commission directed the Company to design and file with Commission a solar program to install solar installations at Company-owned facilities. In the Company’s Fourth Amendment to the 2003 Resource Plan, the Commission accepted a stipulation authorizing the implementation of Company-owned

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B. renewable projects to be installed at Company-owned facilities. The program had an initial budget of \$1 million per year for 2005 and 2006. Pursuant to the stipulation, the Company has since installed solar PV at the Pearson Building, Clark Station and the Ryan Operations Center. The Pearson Building installation is a 12 kW ground mounted fixed array. The Clark Station installation consists of three 25 kW free standing tracking PV units. The Ryan Operations Center installation is roof mounted with a capacity of 107 kW.

6. **Q. WHY IS THE COMPANY PROPOSING TO EXPAND ITS EXISTING PV PROGRAM TO INCLUDE INSTALLATIONS AT KEY CUSTOMER SITES?**

A. The Company has been approached by several customers including the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) regarding the installation of PV on their facilities. Specifically, the Company is investigating the installation of a 30 kW PV array at the new offices of the SNWA. The output of the PV array would be interconnected to the Company's side of the customer's meter. A kiosk or flat panel display would be installed at the site, informing customers of the benefits of solar installations thus raising public awareness of solar power. With this project in mind, the Company has redesigned the approved program to allow the Company to continue to install renewable energy sources on Company-owned facilities, as well as at key customer-owned sites that would promote public awareness of renewable energy.

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7. Q. **WHAT OTHER POTENTIAL SITES HAS THE COMPANY IDENTIFIED FOR THIS EXPANDED PROGRAM?**

A. The Company has already identified at least two other potential sites for this program. The first is at the Company's Pearson building. The Company is evaluating adding a dual axis tracking solar PV installation in front of the building, similar to the PV installation recently completed at the Sierra Pacific General Office Building (GOB) in Reno. The Company is also evaluating adding a dual axis tracking array at the Development Center across the street from the Pearson Building.

8. Q. **DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

A. Yes, it does.

**GREGORY A. KERN**  
**DIRECTOR, ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CUSTOMER STRATEGY**

Nevada Power Company  
6226 West Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89151-001  
(702) 367-5644

Mr. Kern became an employee of Sierra Pacific Power Company fifteen years ago. His expertise and experience for the past fifteen years have been concentrated on gas, water and electric operations, design, and construction. In addition to his utility experience, Mr. Kern has a Civil Engineering degree and is a registered civil engineer in both Nevada and California. Mr. Kern also has a graduate degree in Business Administration.

**Employment History**

**Sierra Pacific Power Company**

September 1992 to Present

**Director, Energy Efficiency & Customer Strategy**

October 2006 to present

- Direct the development and execution of demand side energy efficiency, conservation and load management programs.
- Develop marketing strategies to meet the Company's strategic and operational goals including retail access and distributed generation.
- Manage and conduct marketing research in order to develop new customer solutions.

**Director, Gas Distribution**

December 2002 to October 2006

- Direct all operational, engineering, compliance, construction, service and control activities for the gas company.
- Manage 65 employees that work at the 86<sup>th</sup> largest gas company in the U.S., with over 140,000 customers and 2,500 miles of pipe.

**Team Leader, Gas & Water Operations**

July 1998 to December 2002

- Supervise 40 employees who perform activities in a fabrication shop, a mapping department, a cathodic protection area, a general construction group, and a natural gas control group.

**Senior Pipeline Engineer, Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company**

December 1995 to July 1998

- Perform and/or supervise the performance of all calibration, operation, maintenance, and DOT compliance activities for a 229, 20-inch gas transmission pipeline, and its laterals.
- Perform economic/engineering analysis of proposed facilities, including computer modeling, estimating, and preliminary design. Design and commission new facilities.

**Field Engineer, Gas & Water Operations**

January 1995 to December 1995

- Insure compliance with all regulations. Estimate, budget, schedule, and design gas and water infrastructure.

**Associate Engineer, Gas & Water Engineering**

September 1992 to January 1995

- Perform duties as project engineer on gas and water projects. Projects included the Swope, Corbett, El Rancho, and Hunter Lake water wells, Vista and McCarran water pump stations, Ridgeview, Skyline, and Stocker water regulator stations, the Highland to Chalk bluff 48" water main, the Verdi and Stead gas mains, and the B-Line and Veca gas meter sets.

**Education**

**University of Nevada, Reno**

Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, May 1993

**University of Nevada, Reno**

Master of Business Administration, December 2002

**Professional Registration**

Registered Civil Engineer in the State of Nevada

Registered Civil Engineer in the State of California

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AFFIRMATION

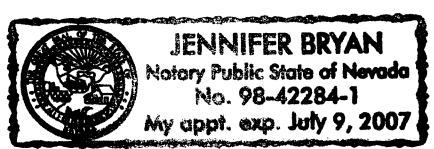
STATE OF NEVADA        )  
  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF CLARK        )

I, GREGORY A. KERN do hereby swear under penalty of perjury the following:

That I am the person identified in the attached Prefiled Direct Testimony and that such testimony was prepared by me or under my direct supervision; that the answers and information set forth therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and that if asked the questions set forth therein, my answers thereto would, under oath, be the same.

  
GREGORY A. KERN

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this 4<sup>th</sup> day of January 2007.



  
NOTARY PUBLIC