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1 TESTIMONY OF TOM SANZILLO AND CATHY KUNKEL

2 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAMES AND BUSINESS ADDRESSES.

3 A. We are Tom Sanzillo and Cathy Kunkel. We are jointly sponsoring this testimony.

4 Tom Sanzillo is the Director of Finance for the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial
5 Analysis. His business address is 3430 Rocky River Drive, Cleveland, OH 44111.

6 Cathy Kunkel is an Energy Analyst with the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial
7 Analysis. Her business address is 3430 Rocky River Drive, Cleveland, OH 44111.

8 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR QUALIFICATIONS.

9 Tom Sanzillo is the author of several studies on coal plants, rate impacts, credit analyses, and
10 public and private financial structures for the coal industry. He has testified as an expert witness,
11 taught energy-industry finance training sessions, and is quoted frequently by the media. Sanzillo
12 has 17 years of experience with the City and the State of New York in various senior financial and
13 policy management positions. He is a former first deputy comptroller for the State of New York,
14 where he oversaw the finances of 1,300 units of local government, the annual management of
15 44,000 government contracts, and where he had oversight of over \$200 billion in state and local
16 municipal bond programs and a \$156 billion pension fund.

17 Sanzillo recently contributed a chapter to the Oxford Handbook of New York State Government
18 and Politics on the New York State Comptroller's Office.

19 Sanzillo has a bachelor's degree from the University of California in politics.

20 Cathy Kunkel has co-authored numerous reports for the Institute for Energy Economics and
21 Financial Analysis related to utility regulation, electricity markets, mergers and acquisitions, and
22 coal plant finances. Previously she was a Senior Research Associate in the Electricity Markets and
23 Policy group at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. She has been an expert witness in eight
24 West Virginia Public Service Commission proceedings regarding resource planning and energy
25 efficiency. She has also participated in hearings before the Puerto Rico Energy Commission in its
26 Integrated Resource Plan proceeding.

27 Kunkel graduated from Princeton University with a B.A. in physics and from Cambridge
28 University with a Certificate of Advanced Study from the Department of Applied Mathematics
29 and Theoretical Physics.

30 Our resumes are attached as Exhibits 1 and 2.

31 Q. ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING?

32 A. We are testifying on behalf of ICSE-PR, the Institute for Competitiveness and Sustainable
33 Economy.

34 Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY.

35 A. Our testimony addresses the reasonableness of PREPA's proposed rates, from the perspective
36 of their affordability; the reasonableness of the budget assumptions embedded in the rates; and the
37 likelihood that the proposed rates will be adequate to support PREPA's re-entry to the credit
38 markets. We find that the proposed rates are excessively high when benchmarked against other
39 U.S. jurisdictions and unjustly biased in that they force industrial and commercial ratepayers to
40 subsidize other customer classes. However, we also find that the budget assumptions embedded in

41 the rates are unrealistic: if they are not met, PREPA's debt service coverage ratio (a key credit
42 metric) will likely fall below what PREPA's consultants believe is necessary for re-entry to the
43 bond markets. This will result in upward pressure on rates in future years, exacerbating our
44 concerns about affordability. Our conclusion is that PREPA's ratepayers cannot support the level
45 of legacy debt (inclusive of the previously approved Transition Charge) embedded in the proposed
46 rates. Although we are conscious that debt restructuring is not part of this proceeding, the overall
47 effect of the proposed rate increases points to the need for further debt renegotiation.

48 Additionally, our testimony addresses the need for close Commission oversight over PREPA's
49 expenditures and makes recommendations regarding PREPA's arguments for a formula rate-
50 making mechanism.

51 Thirdly, our testimony finds that the proposed rate design does not give customers, particularly
52 commercial and industrial classes, the flexibility to lower their own energy costs and to expand
53 the use of renewable energy generation in Puerto Rico. We recommend that open access in
54 transmission and distribution be implemented and that the industrial and commercial tariff designs
55 be weighted less heavily towards demand charges.

56 Finally, we attach an addendum (Exhibit 3) that summarizes our direct responses to some of the
57 Commission's questions to intervenors provided in the September 27, 2016 resolution.

58 **I. Proposed rates are unreasonable in comparison with other utilities**

59 Q. HOW DO PREPA'S PROPOSED RATES COMPARE AGAINST RATES IN THE
60 MAINLAND U.S.?

61 A. The rates proposed by PREPA are unaffordable. The testimony of PREPA witness Kaufman
62 benchmarked PREPA against mainland U.S. utilities in terms of operating costs and operating

63 revenues, but did not look at affordability metrics. The following table benchmarks PREPA
64 against other states with comparably high electricity rates. Under PREPA's projected FY 2017
65 rates, Puerto Rico will pay twice the average price of electricity in the U.S. in 2014. Puerto Ricans
66 have, on average one third the median income of households in those states with high electricity
67 rates. In addition, and unlike any of the following states with comparably high electricity rates
68 except Alaska, Puerto Rico had negative average GDP growth for the period 2011-2015¹ and
69 economic contraction is expected to continue, with GDP projected to decline by 2.0% over the
70 next year.²

71 Additionally, Puerto Rico's economy relies on manufacturing to a far greater extent than any other
72 state with comparably high electricity rates and the contribution of manufacturing to GDP is nearly
73 four times the U.S. average. The large contribution that this sector makes to Puerto Rico's economy
74 implies that economic losses in this sector will have a bigger impact on the overall Puerto Rican
75 economy than comparable manufacturing losses would have in other U.S. states. Yet, in other
76 states with high electricity rates, the industrial rate is considerably below the average rate.³ And,
77 as shown by the testimony of Dr. Ramon Cao on behalf of ICSE-PR, PREPA is proposing a rate
78 increase that will lead to further contraction in Puerto Rico's economy.

79

¹ In fact, aside from a small increase from 2011-2012, Puerto Rico's real GDP has declined since 2006. (Government Development Bank, Gross National Product in 1954 dollars, <http://www.gdb-pur.com/economy/statistical-appendix.html>)

² PREPA's 2014 Audit highlights the disparity between United States GDP and Puerto Rico's. <http://www.aeepr.com/INVESTORS/DOCS/Financial%20Information/Annual%20Reports/Financial%20Statements,%20Required%20Supplementary%20Information%20and%20Supplemental%20Schedules%202014.pdf>, p. 26.

³ Industrial electric rates for mainland U.S. available from U.S. Energy Information Administration, www.eia.gov/electricity/data/browser/. The industrial rate for Puerto Rico for FY 2017 can be estimated by dividing total revenues for class GSP (\$920 million) by total sales (4,510 GWh), as provided in Schedule H.

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81

82 **Table 1: Comparison of Puerto Rico’s proposed FY 2017 rates with recent (2014) electric**
83 **rates in U.S. states and other economic indicators.**

State	Electricity Rates (cents/kwh) ⁴	Median Incomes ⁵ 2014	Real GDP (Annual Average through 2011 through 2015) ⁶	Fraction of GDP from manufacturing ⁷
Hawaii	33.43	\$71,223	1.2%	1.93%
Puerto Rico	20.10 ⁸	\$19,183	(0.5%) ⁹	47.6%
Alaska	17.46	\$67,629	(1.0)%	2.44%
Connecticut	17.05	\$70,161	0.4%	10.68%
New York	16.25	\$54,310	1.4%	5.18%
U.S. Total ¹⁰	10.44	\$53,657	2.0%	12%

84

85 Q. WHAT FACTORS ARE CONTRIBUTING TO PREPA’S HIGH ELECTRICITY RATES?

86 A. Fuel and purchased power costs historically (FY 2012 – FY 2014) have comprised 75-80% of
87 PREPA’s total rate, in part because of the failure to update the base rate for several decades. Going
88 forward, PREPA projects that fuel and purchased power costs will be approximately half of the
89 total rate. In addition, PREPA’s proposed rates contain an unreasonably high level of debt and debt
90 service related costs.¹¹ In FY 2017, Schedule A-1 REV lists “Debt Service (Principal & Interest)”

⁴ U.S. Energy Information Administration, “State Electricity Profiles”, 2014. <http://www.eia.gov/electricity/state/>

⁵ For all states see: <http://www.advisorperspectives.com/dshort/updates/Household-Incomes-by-State> and the Commonwealth see: <https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2014/acs/acsbr13-02.pdf>

⁶ U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, “Real GDP by State (millions of chained 2009 dollars)”, June 2016.

⁷ National Association of Manufacturers, “State Manufacturing Data,” March 2016 (<http://www.nam.org/Data-and-Reports/State-Manufacturing-Data/State-Manufacturing-Data/2015-State-Manufacturing-Data-Table/>)

and Government Development Bank of Puerto Rico, “Puerto Rico Fact Sheet”, March 2016 (<http://www.gdb-pur.com/economy/documents/PREconomicFactSheet-March2016.pdf>)

⁸ FY 2017 rate from Schedule F. The FY 2014 rate for Puerto Rico was 26.4 cents/kWh

⁹ Government Development Bank, “Gross National Product in 1954 dollars”, <http://www.gdb-pur.com/economy/statistical-appendix.html>

¹⁰ Of the 50 states Mississippi has the lowest median income in 2014: \$35,521.

¹¹ Exhibit 14.01, Tab D2A compares the outstanding value of PREPA’s bond indebtedness to a market valuation of the bonds. The outstanding value is \$8.1 billion and the market value is \$5.3 billion. Cell S224 shows that the market value is 65.3% of the outstanding value of the bonds. PREPA has presented to the Commission, and the Commission

91 of \$314.3 million, “Debt Service for Securitization” of \$394 million, “Gross-up for Collections
92 Lag and Uncollectible Revenue” (specific to the securitization charge) of \$109 million, and
93 “Capital Expenditure” of \$337 million.¹² In total, debt and debt service related costs amount to
94 \$1.154 billion, or 6.7 cents/kWh, one-third of the proposed total rate.

95 Q. HOW DOES THIS LEVEL OF DEBT COMPARE TO OTHER PUBLIC POWER ENTITIES
96 IN THE UNITED STATES?

97 A. Table 2 benchmarks PREPA’s debt and debt service related costs against major public power
98 utilities in the mainland. PREPA has – by far – the highest proportion of its total rate going towards
99 debt and debt service related expenses. (This would still be true even if we did not include revenue-
100 financed capital expenditures in this category).

101 The comparison to LIPA (the Long Island Power Authority), which has the second largest debt
102 service shown in the table, is instructive. In 1998 the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) issued
103 \$7 billion in long term bonds to pay costs incurred with the decommissioning of the Shoreham
104 Nuclear Power Plant¹³. In 2013 the State of New York created the Utility Debt Securitization
105 Authority (UDSA). The UDSA was created to absorb a substantial portion of the remaining
106 liability. Since 2013 the UDSA has issued \$3 billion in long term debt and plans another \$1 billion.

approved a securitization arrangement where 85% of a portion of the bond indebtedness is refinanced and the remaining PREPA legacy indebtedness is paid at 100% of outstanding value. There is no attempt to reconcile the sizable difference between the market value of the debt and what PREPA ratepayers are being asked to underwrite.

¹² We include “capital expenditure” in the category of debt and debt service related costs, because if PREPA had access to the capital markets, this would be financed with debt.

¹³ Long Island Power Authority and Subsidiaries, Consolidated Financial Statements 2000 and 2001, http://www.lipower.org/pdfs/company/investor/lipa_financials2001.pdf, p. 5.

107 LIPA, now a separate operating entity retains an estimated \$2.2 billion¹⁴ in existing long term debt.
 108 Some of this debt is legacy debt and some of it has been used to fund new capital needs.

109 There are two noteworthy similarities between PREPA and LIPA. First, each has adopted a very
 110 similar corporate structure to facilitate management of its long term indebtedness. Second, each
 111 has incurred substantial debt for which there is no underlying specific asset that generates revenue
 112 to pay the debt.

113 The fundamental difference in the two utilities is their economic environment. PREPA is being
 114 asked to carry over \$8 billion in long term debt in a territory with a household median income of
 115 \$19,183. Nassau County and Suffolk County (LIPA's service area) are carrying indebtedness of
 116 approximately \$4-\$5 billion in areas with median incomes of \$98,401¹⁵ and \$88,323¹⁶,
 117 respectively.

118 **Table 2: PREPA's debt service compared to other large public power entities.**

	Revenues (R)	Debt Service (DS)	DS as % of Revenue	Generation	Debt Service	Rate	DS as % of Rate
	\$ billions	\$ billions	Percentage	Billion kwh	Cents/ kwh	Cents/ kwh	Percentage
PREPA	2.96	1.15	38%	17.27	6.7	20.1	33%
LIPA¹⁷	3.4	0.6	18%	20.4	2.9	18.0	16%
Santee Cooper¹⁸	1.8	0.28	16%	26.5	1.0	7.3	14%

¹⁴ Long Island Power Authority, 2016 Approved Operating Budget, 2016 Approved Capital Budget, 2017 and 2018 Projected Operating and Capital Budget, <http://www.lipower.org/profile/2016%20APPROVED%20BUDGET.pdf>, page b-2.

¹⁵ U.S. Census, "Quickfacts: Nassau County, NY", <http://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/SBO020212/36059>

¹⁶ U.S. Census, "Quickfacts: Suffolk County, NY", <http://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/RHI105210/36103>

¹⁷ Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) <http://www.lipower.org/profile/2016%20APPROVED%20BUDGET.pdf>, p. 5 rates, p. a-2 Revenue and Generation, p. A, Debt Service.

¹⁸ Santee Cooper, Annual Report 2015, https://www.santeecooper.com/pdfs/about-santee-cooper/2015ar/2015AR_FINAL.pdf, Revenues and Interest, p. 13 and Generation p. 6.

AMP¹⁹	1.1	0.14	13%	14.0	1.0	7.9	13%
LAWPD²⁰	3.3	0.46	14%	25.4	1.8	11.1	16%
Salt River Project²¹	3	0.30	10%	33.6	0.9	11.3	8%
CPS Energy²²	2.6	0.33	13%	33.2	1.0	17.0	6%

119

120 Q. IS PREPA PROPOSING TO ALLOCATE COSTS EQUITABLY ACROSS CUSTOMER
121 CLASSES?

122 A. No. The proposed PREPA rates disadvantage commercial and industrial customers because
123 these classes are excessively bearing some of the cost of serving other rate classes. As shown in
124 Exhibit G-3, industrial customers on tariffs GSP, GST, TOUP and TOUT will pay 26.5%, 35%,
125 14.6% and 34.6% more, respectively, than would be required to achieve the results of the
126 Embedded Cost of Service Study. The graph at line 421 in the testimony of PREPA witnesses
127 Zarumba and Granovsky shows that, to meet the Embedded Cost of Service Study, the commercial
128 class should see a 6.1% rate increase and the industrial class a 1.4% rate increase; instead PREPA
129 is proposing a 22.1% rate increase for commercial customers and 26.2% for industrial customers.
130 PREPA Witnesses Zarumba and Granovsky state that “equitable allocation of the revenue
131 requirement” among customer classes is one of the objectives of PREPA’s new rate design
132 (Exhibit 4.0, lines 45-62), but that this cannot be achieved immediately in this case. There is no
133 specific target date established nor phase-in plan in the rate design for achievement of this

¹⁹ American Municipal Power Inc., Consolidated Financial Statements and Supplementary Information 2015 and 2014, <http://www.ampppartners.org/docs/default-source/investors/financial-reports/2015/amp consolidated fs 2015.pdf?sfvrsn=2>, p. 5.

²⁰ Los Angeles Power and Water Department (LAPWD), Power System Revenue Bonds 2016 Series B, <http://emma.msrb.org/ER970367-ER758976-ER1160417.pdf>, 6/30/15, Revenues and Debt Service, p. 52 and Generation page 54.

²¹ Salt River Project, Electric System Revenue Bonds, 2015 Series A: <http://emma.msrb.org/EP863182-ER690004-ER1091632.pdf>, Revenues and Generation, p. 31, Rates p. 32, Debt Service, p. 38

²² CPS Energy, FY 2015 Annual Report: https://www.cpsenergy.com/content/dam/corporate/en/Documents/Finance/FY_2015_Annual_Report.pdf, Three Year Highlights Unaudited, electronic page 17.

134 objective. The fact the proposed rate increase is so high means that residential rates would have to
135 increase by more than 60% in order to align with the cost of service study (Exhibit 4.0, lines 420-
136 421). In order to avoid this level of residential rate shock, PREPA is proposing rates that have the
137 residential class subsidized by the commercial and industrial classes.

138 This is simply another indication that the overall rates are unaffordable. If, as Zarumba and
139 Granovsky indicate, moving towards equitable allocation between classes is one of PREPA's
140 objectives, then PREPA will be raising the residential rate even faster than the 38% overall rate²³
141 increase projected from FY 2016 through FY 2021.²⁴

142 Although we are conscious that debt restructuring is not part of this proceeding, the overall effect
143 of the proposed rate increases is unsustainable, pointing to the need for further debt renegotiation.
144 The PREPA debt urgently needs to be renegotiated in order to bring the overall level of rates down,
145 so that each class can afford to pay its own costs, without cross-subsidization, in accordance with
146 sound rate-making practices.

147 **II. Rates are likely to go higher than what PREPA projects**

148 Q. WHAT LEVEL OF RATE INCREASE IS CURRENTLY PROPOSED BY PREPA?

149 A. PREPA is proposing an overall rate of 20.1 cents/kWh in FY 2017, compared with actual rates
150 in the last fiscal year of 18.52 cents/kWh.²⁵ This rate includes the Transition Charge, an increase
151 in the base rate, the implementation of various savings initiatives and a projected decrease in fuel

²³ The actual rate in FY 2016 was 18.52 cents/kWh, according to PREPA's unaudited June 2016 monthly report. We use this number as the FY 2016 rate, as opposed to the 17.79 cents/kWh rate presented in Schedule F for FY 2016.

²⁴ In response to the Commission's 4th Request for Information (questions CEPR-01-03 and CEPR-01-04), witness Zarumba states that it will likely take several rate requests before an equitable allocation is achieved, but no specific timeframe is proposed.

²⁵ PREPA Monthly Report to the Governing Board, June 2016, <http://www.aeepr.com/INVESTORS/DOCS/Financial%20Information/Monthly%20Reports/2016/June%202016.pdf>, p. 26

152 costs (See Schedule A-1 REV). By FY 2021, PREPA projects rates increasing to 25.6 cents/kWh,
153 a 38% increase above current rates. PREPA projects stable rates at 24-25 cents/kWh through FY
154 2030.

155 We note that PREPA's actual FY 2016 rate of 18.52 cents/kWh is higher than the estimated FY
156 2016 rate of 17.79 cents/kWh shown in Schedule F-1. PREPA's underestimate of the FY 2016 rate
157 is not explained and raises questions about the validity of FY 2017 cost assumptions.

158 Q. DO YOU THINK PREPA'S PROJECTIONS OF FUTURE RATE INCREASES ARE
159 ACCURATE?

160 A. No. We think it likely that rates will go even higher than PREPA projects in Schedule F-1
161 because revenues will not be as high as expected and operational expenses will be higher than
162 budgeted. Either or both of these outcomes will increase pressure to raise rates in future years.
163 Additionally, if, as we believe, PREPA has underestimated its fuel expenditures for FY 2017, this
164 will lead to quarterly rate increases in FY 2017.

165 This will only worsen the problems of affordability and overall economic impact of the proposed
166 rate structure described in Section I, above.

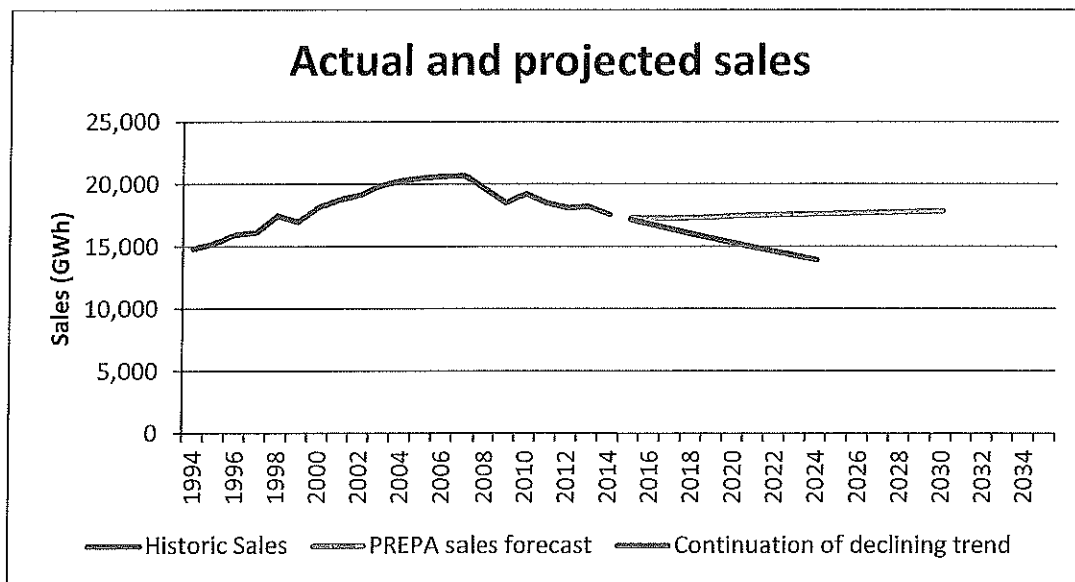
167 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY THERE IS A RISK THAT REVENUES WILL BE LOWER THAN
168 ANTICIPATED.

169 A. We believe that PREPA's long-term sales forecast is too high. PREPA forecasts that electricity
170 consumption in Puerto Rico will remain essentially flat through 2030, as shown in the following
171 graph.²⁶

²⁶ Schedule F-1.

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GRAPH: PREPA Actual and projected sales of electricity with IEEFA adjustment to PREPA outlook (1994-2034)



178

179 PREPA has faced declining electricity consumption for the past several years.²⁷ PREPA's sales
180 declined 16% from 2007 through 2015, from 20.6 billion kWh to 17.3 billion kWh. Sales were flat
181 at 17.3 billion kWh in FY 2016.

182 Q. HOW DOES PREPA JUSTIFY ITS SALES FORECAST?

183 A. In response to discovery (ICSE-PR request 26), PREPA states that electricity sales have
184 historically been correlated to Puerto Rico's GDP. The economic forecast from Inter-American
185 University Global Insight shows GDP starting to increase in FY 2017. PREPA states that FY

²⁷ Declining electricity sales are cited as a challenge for the Authority in its 2014 Audited financial statement. <http://www.aeepr.com/INVESTORS/DOCS/Financial%20Information/Annual%20Reports/Financial%20Statements,%20Required%20Supplementary%20Information%20and%20Supplemental%20Schedules%202014.pdf>, p. 7.

186 2016's 0.4% increase in electricity sales over FY 2015 further supports the idea that Puerto Rico's
187 economy is beginning to expand. Additionally, PREPA notes that its sales forecast has been
188 accurate for the last two years. ("PREPA's forecast shows a growth of 0.2% each year, and this is
189 reasonable considering the accuracy of the last two projections and the consumption behavior in
190 FY 2016").

191 Q. DOES PREPA'S ANALYSIS CONSIDER THE IMPACT OF REDUCED ELECTRICITY
192 PRICES ON FY 2016 SALES?

193 A. PREPA's forecasting methodology document provided in response to Commission request
194 CEPR-AH-1-05 (Attachment 8) indicates that the electricity price is included in the forecasting
195 model. Given that PREPA's rates declined 22% from FY 2015 to FY 2016²⁸, this should not be
196 discounted as a driver of PREPA's increased FY 2016 sales.

197 Q. WHAT ASSUMPTIONS UNDERLY PREPA'S FUTURE SALES FORECAST?

198 A. PREPA's forecasting methodology document describes the sales forecast as based on
199 underlying Puerto Rico economic indicators and the electricity price. The document states that
200 these economic indicators were obtained from the projections of Inter-American University Global
201 Insight.

202 The response to ICSE-PR Question 26 indicates that IAUGI's projection shows GDP bottoming
203 out in FY 2016, in contrast to the Puerto Rico Planning Board's forecast of continued GDP decline
204 in FY 2017.²⁹ Previously, PREPA has used the lower of the IAUGI, Planning Board, and

²⁸ PREPA Monthly Report to the Governing Board, June 2016, p. 5, <http://www.aeepr.com/INVESTORS/DOCS/Financial%20Information/Monthly%20Reports/2016/June%202016.pdf>

²⁹ D. Costa, "Planning Board: Puerto Rico Economy to Drop 2% in Fiscal 2017," Caribbean Business, May 6, 2016, <http://cb.pr/planning-board-puerto-rico-economy-to-drop-2-in-fiscal-2017/>

205 Advantage Business Consulting forecasts in creating its revenue forecasts.³⁰ That methodology.
206 has not been used in this case.

207 Q. WHY DO YOU EXPECT THE DOWNWARD TREND IN ENERGY SALES TO
208 CONTINUE? WHAT IMPACT WOULD THIS HAVE ON RATES?

209 A. PREPA's past statements and data show that Puerto Rico's economic growth and the overall
210 level of electric rates are both important drivers of changes in electricity consumption. Based on
211 the Puerto Rico Planning Board's forecast of continuing GDP decline in FY 2017, the Puerto Rico
212 Fiscal Plan's projection of real GDP decline through 2026³¹ and PREPA's plan to raise rates 38%
213 by FY 2021, we think is likely that PREPA's long-term forecast of flat electricity consumption is
214 too high. We have adjusted the above graph to create an illustrative scenario based upon a
215 continuation of PREPA's declining trend.³²

216 Lower-than-forecast electricity consumption results in the spread of costs of electricity production
217 over a smaller sales base (kWh sold). Because a large fraction of PREPA's production costs are
218 fixed costs, in part stemming from PREPA's high debt levels, the net effect is upward pressure on
219 rates.

220 Q. WHY IS THERE A RISK THAT PREPA'S OPERATIONAL EXPENSES COULD BE
221 HIGHER THAN FORECAST?

³⁰ PREPA Power Revenue Bonds, Series 2013A, <http://www.aeepr.com/INVESTORS/DOCS/Financial%20Information/Official%20Statement/PREPA%20Revenue%20Bonds%20Series%202013A.pdf>, p. 39-40.

³¹ Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Fiscal Plan, October 14, 2016 (<http://www.fortaleza.pr.gov/sites/default/files/16.10.14%20Fiscal%20Plan%20vFinal.pdf>), p. 82.

³²In its IRP Order, the Commission faulted PREPA for failing to develop a load forecast sensitivity that was significantly lower than its baseline load forecast, noting that "a substantially lower forecast could be justified, at the least, by the recent loss of Puerto Rico" (IRP Order, September 23, 2016 at paragraph 133).

222 A. We have identified four risks: the risk of (a) slippage in PREPA’s proposed savings initiatives;
223 (b) higher than anticipated fuel costs; (c) funding capital expenditures through revenues for the
224 next several years; (d) increases to the transition charge.

225 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW PREPA’S PROPOSED SAVINGS INITIATIVES ARE
226 RELEVANT TO ITS RATE FORECAST.

227 A. PREPA has proposed and is implementing numerous savings initiatives. These initiatives,
228 according to the testimony of Miranda, Sales and Sosa, have “already achieved approximately
229 \$165 million in one-time cash savings and approximately \$200 million in recurring annual
230 savings,” and PREPA “forecasts to save an incremental \$120 million of recurring annual savings
231 before 2019” (lines 180-183). If these savings initiatives do not materialize as forecast, rates will
232 need to be raised to compensate.

233 Q. WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THAT PREPA IS UNLIKELY TO MEET ITS SAVINGS GOALS?

234 A. The Commission has raised several issues³³ with PREPA that relate to the organizational
235 preparedness of the Authority³⁴ to carry out the administrative and budget actions required to
236 successfully implement its reorganization.

237 In PREPA’s third response to the Commission it has acknowledged that PREPA’s organizational
238 capacity is uneven with “varying degrees of preparedness for each improvement areas.”³⁵ Our
239 concern about organizational capacity is exacerbated by the departure of Sonia Miranda, the only

³³ The Commission’s August 2, 2016 resolution and order provides the background of the Commission’s efforts to secure details of the organizational issues confronting PREPA. The Commission has been probing witnesses Miranda and Donahue concerning their unspecified statements regarding: 1) a history of poor accountability in PREPA; 2) political interference and 3) staff capacity. This line of inquiry goes directly to the point that the savings initiatives may not materialize and that the program reforms may not solve PREPA’s long standing problems.

³⁴ The Commission’s recent order in the IRP case also raises significant concerns regarding PREPA’s organizational preparedness. (IRP order, September 23, 2016 paragraph 13).

³⁵ CEPR-SH-001-009(b)

240 PREPA employee who sponsored the original panel testimony on the savings initiatives (Exhibit
241 3.0).

242 Recent PREPA management decisions also call into question its ability to control costs. For
243 example, PREPA entered into a large number of above-market contracts for solar from 2010-
244 2013³⁶. Additionally, in selecting contractors for its bond restructuring, where contractors are
245 being paid tens of millions of dollars, PREPA failed to use competitive bidding.³⁷

246 In addition, PREPA has not presented its savings initiatives in a transparent and consistent manner
247 that would provide confidence in PREPA's ability to meet the targets.

248 Q. HOW DOES PREPA'S APPROACH TO ITS SAVINGS INITIATIVES CONTRAST WITH
249 BEST PRACTICES?

250 A. Typically when public agencies are involved in a large series of initiatives to bring a budget
251 into balance, the actions are tied together in what is sometimes called a "program to eliminate the
252 gap" (PEG).³⁸ The program creates a uniform system of accountability that identifies specific
253 budget and organizational initiatives and how the initiatives save money or generate additional
254 revenue, sets out financial targets, creates standards of accounting for the measurement of the
255 benefit, assesses related risk, establishes timelines and benchmarks to measure progress toward
256 objectives and assigns responsibility to administrators for achievement of objectives and corrective
257 action plans.

³⁶ IRP Order, September 23, 2016, paragraphs 179 and 184.

³⁷ Restructuring Order (June 21, 2016) paragraphs 258-262.

³⁸ See, for example: [http://policyatlas.org/wiki/Program_to_Eliminate_Gap_Procedures_\(PEG\)](http://policyatlas.org/wiki/Program_to_Eliminate_Gap_Procedures_(PEG))

258 On a budget-wide basis the PEG initiatives are integrated into the budget process of specific units,
259 agencies of government and into executive level budget documents. A careful tracking³⁹ is
260 maintained to monitor agency progress and to take action when early warning signs show slippage
261 in meeting performance objectives.

262 In contrast, PREPA's presentation of savings initiatives and revenue-producing actions identified
263 in the rate docket do not present a uniform system that is transparent, easily understandable, or
264 usable for the kind of rigorous budget monitoring that one would expect given the size of PREPA's
265 budget imbalance.⁴⁰

266 For example, Schedule F-4 provides information on assumptions underlying PREPA's FY 2017
267 revenue requirement. Under "customer service improvement savings", Schedule F-4 lists changes
268 to reconnection charges, theft recoveries and reduced T&D losses, which together appear to total
269 approximately \$30 million in FY 2017. Under "other improvement savings", Schedule F-4 appears
270 to show more than \$54 million in savings in FY 2017. Yet Schedule A-2 shows only \$23.75 million
271 and \$24 million in FY 2017 savings in these two categories, respectively.

272 Finally, in its response to the Commission's third request for information (CEPR-SH-001-006),
273 PREPA states that it does not yet have mechanisms in place to compensate or penalize managers
274 if improvements are achieved or not achieved, though PREPA plans to make this "a component of
275 the annual review process" and a "factor determining future career advancement opportunities,"

³⁹ Often outside groups with specific budget interests monitor these initiatives as well. See, for example:
<http://www.cbcny.org/category/tags/program-eliminate-gap>

⁴⁰ Here we contrast the system monitoring for operational expenses with the system monitoring used to insure that revenues are collected and debt service is paid. The debt service system is elaborate with significant attention paid to internal control accounting and revenue disbursement. See entire Testimony of Michael Mace, Transition Docket, with summary chart at Line 1558.

276 though no specifics were provided. This again raises the question of whether there will be
277 appropriate incentives within PREPA's organizational culture for achievement of savings
278 initiatives.

279 Q. YOU ALSO CITED HIGHER THAN ANTICIPATED FUEL COSTS AS A FACTOR THAT
280 COULD PUT UPWARD PRESSURE ON RATES. PLEASE EXPLAIN.

281 A. PREPA's estimated fuel expense for FY 2017 according to Schedule A-1 REV is
282 \$655,968,367; according to Schedule A-6 REV, it is \$763,695,078. This represents a \$1.581 to
283 \$1.689 billion reduction in fuel charges from the 2014 audited statement of \$2.344 billion. The
284 reduction is carried as a cost savings by PREPA in its presentation to the Commission.⁴¹ PREPA
285 then projects fuel costs to rise again in FY 2018, back to approximately the FY 2016 level
286 (Schedule A-6 REV).

287 It is unrealistic to expect PREPA to pay only \$656-\$764 million for fuel in FY 2017. PREPA has
288 recently provided its interim, unaudited Monthly Report for June 2016, the end of PREPA's Fiscal
289 Year (FY). The unaudited data puts PREPA's FY 2016 fuel costs at \$1.210 billion⁴² based upon
290 consumption of 23,202 barrels⁴³ at an average cost of \$52.17⁴⁴ per barrel.

⁴¹ Pampush, Porter and Stathos Direct Testimony Line 475 puts the savings at \$1.595 billion.

⁴² PREPA Monthly Report to the Governing Board, June 2016, <http://www.aeepr.com/INVESTORS/DOCS/Financial%20Information/Monthly%20Reports/2016/June%202016.pdf>, 8. Fuel Consumption (Cost -- Fiscal Year Total)

⁴³ PREPA Monthly Report to the Governing Board, June 2016, <http://www.aeepr.com/INVESTORS/DOCS/Financial%20Information/Monthly%20Reports/2016/June%202016.pdf>, 2. Fuel Consumption (BBL- Fiscal Year Total).

⁴⁴ PREPA Monthly Report to the Governing Board, June 2016, <http://www.aeepr.com/INVESTORS/DOCS/Financial%20Information/Monthly%20Reports/2016/June%202016.pdf>, I. Operations Highlights, A. Production, 4. Average Cost Per Barrel, Fiscal Year

291 Schedule E-7 REV projects a 14% decline in barrels of oil consumed in FY 2017 relative to FY
292 2016. Even so, in order for fuel costs to decline from \$1.210 billion in FY 2016 to \$656 million in
293 FY 2017, a 30%-40% drop in fuel prices would be required. This is not realistic.⁴⁵

294 We have surveyed recent oil price forecasts from four prominent, independent sources. None of
295 the oil price forecasts anticipate a precipitous drop in the price of oil for 2017. Prices in 2017 are
296 expected to be flat compared to 2016, according to the United States Energy Information Agency
297 (\$50.58 per barrel)⁴⁶, World Bank (\$53 per barrel), International Monetary Fund (\$51 per barrel)
298 and The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) (\$55 per barrel).⁴⁷ Additionally, PREPA's own fuel
299 forecast used in its IRP does not predict any significant decline in PREPA's fuel costs from FY
300 2016 to FY 2017.⁴⁸

301 In Schedule F, PREPA informed the Commission that it anticipated a 2016 fuel cost of
302 \$1,078,088,287. The unaudited actual expenditures were \$1.210 billion, a 20 percent increase.

303 It is with a high degree of certainty that we conclude that PREPA will not achieve the \$1.581 to
304 \$1.686 billion in savings from oil price declines from FY 2014 to FY 2017 identified in PREPA's
305 (seemingly inconsistent) presentation. If PREPA's fuel cost remains at or near the 2016 level,
306 PREPA's actual cost for 2017 will be as much as \$400-\$500 million more than the proposed budget
307 submitted in support of the Revenue Requirement.

⁴⁵ Indeed, PREPA's August monthly report shows fuel costs in the first two months of FY 2017 have declined only 12% relative to the same period of FY 2016 (p.2). Additionally, this document shows that actual fuel costs in the first two months of FY 2017 were more than 100% above budget "due to higher cost of fuel than budgeted" (p. 8). PREPA Monthly Report to the Governing Board, August 2016. <http://www.aepr.com/INVESTORS/DOCS/Financial%20Information/Monthly%20Reports/2016/August%202016.pdf>

⁴⁶ Energy Information Administration, Short-Term Energy Outlook (Crude Oil), October 2016 <http://www.eia.gov/forecasts/steo/>

⁴⁷ Knoema, "Crude oil price forecast: Long term 2016 to 2025", <https://knoema.com/yxptpab/crude-oil-price-forecast-long-term-2016-to-2025-data-and-charts>

⁴⁸ PREPA Supplemental Integrated Resource Plan, April 19, 2016. Appendix C.

308 Q. YOU REFERENCED REVENUE-FUNDED CAPITAL EXPENDITURES AS A THIRD
309 FACTOR THAT COULD DRIVE RATES HIGHER THAN PROJECTED. PLEASE EXPLAIN.

310 A. Another factor that is likely to drive rates higher than forecast is the likelihood that PREPA will
311 need to continue financing capital expenditures through revenues, rather than through new debt
312 issuances, because of its inability to access the capital market. Schedule F-2, PREPA's balance
313 sheet under the proposed new rates, shows "New Issue Capex Financing" beginning in FY 2018
314 at a level of approximately \$400 million per year through FY 2020. Presumably, this has been
315 included in the proposed rates through debt service charges, although this has not been presented
316 in a transparent manner. However, if PREPA is not able to access the capital markets beginning in
317 FY 2018, PREPA would need to finance this level of capital investment through cash, which would
318 require a higher revenue requirement in those years than debt financing, leading to upward pressure
319 on rates. (PREPA's IRP estimated the cost of AOGP at \$385 million⁴⁹ and, given that the
320 Commission has ordered PREPA not to proceed with construction at this time, some of this
321 projected "new issue capex financing" could presumably be reduced).

322 In fact, it is unlikely that PREPA will be able to enter the capital markets starting in FY 2018. The
323 Commission noted in its IRP Order that "[i]t is uncertain when PREPA will have access to the
324 capital markets; and when it does have that access, in what amounts and at what cost." (IRP Order
325 of September 23, 2016 at paragraph 65). The testimony of PREPA witnesses Pampush, Porter and
326 Stathos estimates that PREPA will be able to regain access to the capital markets at reasonable
327 rates "by 2020 or later" (lines 991-996). The testimony of these witnesses suggests that Schedule
328 F's representation of "new issue capex financing" beginning in FY 2018 is unlikely to materialize.

⁴⁹ PREPA Integrated Resource Plan (August 17, 2015 version), page 5-7.

329 Q. YOU MENTIONED THE TRANSITION CHARGE AS A FOURTH FACTOR PUTTING
330 UPWARD PRESSURE ON RATES. PLEASE EXPLAIN.

331 A. The costs embedded in the Transition Charge, including the upfront and ongoing financing
332 costs for the Securitization Bonds, are not subject to Commission oversight and are not being
333 reviewed in this proceeding. The amount of upfront fees is already well over the budget initially
334 provided in PREPA's application for the Transition Charge. The Commission's statutory lack of
335 oversight over the fees, combined with apparent conflicts of interest in establishing the fees, has
336 led the Commission to be concerned that PREPA ratepayers will be exposed to "fees without
337 limit."⁵⁰ An increase in the Transition Charge would result in higher overall rates.

338 Additionally, as noted by PREPA witness Donahue in response to the Commission's 4th request
339 for information, there is a risk that the final structure of the bond deal could result in higher rates.
340 Specifically, if more bondholders participate in the underlying securitization transaction, then the
341 Transition Charge would have to rise to cover the additional bond indebtedness of the Corporation.
342 But, Donahue is "unclear" whether that transfer of indebtedness from PREPA to the Securitization
343 transaction would decrease PREPA's total debt service obligations.⁵¹ She states, "it is possible
344 that the mix of participating bonds will have a different maturity and interest profile than
345 previously assumed, which would make the ultimate impact of greater participation [in the
346 Restructuring Support Agreement] unclear...[W]e cannot assume a \$1 for \$1 decrease." In other
347 words, there is a risk that the Transition Charge could be increased without an equal decrease in

⁵⁰ Restructuring Order (June 21, 2016) paragraph 266.

⁵¹ PREPA Response to CEPR-SGH-02-02 (a).

348 the legacy debt service component of the base rate, depending on the final participation level in
349 the Restructuring Support Agreement, thereby driving rates up.⁵²

350 **III. PREPA's proposed expenditures and investments require close regulatory scrutiny.**

351 Q. DO YOU AGREE THAT PREPA REQUIRES CLOSE COMMISSION OVERSIGHT OVER
352 ITS EXPENDITURES AND INVESTMENTS?

353 A. Yes. PREPA witness Hemphill states that PREPA's proposed formula rate-making (FRM)
354 mechanism will provide for "increased Commission oversight of PREPA's business planning
355 process." (Hemphill supplemental testimony lines 53-54).

356 We agree that the many changes underway at PREPA, the apparent low level of trust between
357 PREPA and its regulator⁵³, and our concerns described previously regarding likely slippage in
358 PREPA's budget initiatives all point towards a need for strong Commission oversight.

359 In this section, we evaluate PREPA's proposed FRM mechanism in that light and provide
360 additional recommendations for the Commission's consideration.

361 Q. WHAT IS THE PROPOSED "FORMULA RATE-MAKING" MECHANISM?

362 A. PREPA has proposed a "formula rate-making" (FRM) mechanism in which PREPA would file
363 a base rate case every three years, and in the intervening years it would true-up the different
364 components of the rate to align with actual costs without changing the allocation of costs between
365 customer classes. Specifically, in the years in which it does not file a base rate case, our
366 understanding is that PREPA would seek to set rates for the next fiscal year based on its budget

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ As suggested by the Commission's recent IRP Order (see paragraphs 13, 142, 243, 281) and Transition Charge Order (see paragraph 272).

367 for that fiscal year, plus a reconciliation of the previous year's rates based on actual expenditures
368 and the Commission's determinations of prudence. If rates in the previous year were too low to
369 cover expenditures, and the Commission finds that PREPA's expenditures were prudent, rates
370 would be raised in the subsequent year to cover the difference. This reconciliation would only
371 apply to the base rate, i.e. it would not include the fuel and purchased power adjustment riders, the
372 Transition Charge, CILT and subsidies which are to be adjusted separately. (Hemphill Direct
373 Testimony, Ex. 7 lines 404-418).

374 PREPA is proposing a six-month process for adjusting the rates in the off years (the years in which
375 it is not filing a base rate case). This is the same length of time that Act 57 allows for a base rate
376 case (as the current rate case proceeding), although the Commission has the option of a 60-day
377 extension for a base rate case. PREPA contemplates an annual proceeding that would allow for
378 intervention by other parties, discovery and testimony (Hemphill Supplemental Testimony, Ex. 16
379 lines 190-192).

380 Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH REFERRING TO THIS PROPOSAL AS A FORMULA RATE?

381 A. No. The concept of "formula rate-making" carries the implication of less regulatory oversight
382 and even automatic adjustments to rates according to a formula.^{54,55} We strongly oppose any such

⁵⁴ Indeed, witness Hemphill's original direct testimony (lines 353-356) seemed to support this concept by describing the proposed FRM as "a cycle where rates are revised every year to reflect updated cost and usage information with an *in-depth examination of the cost components*, allocation studies, interclass revenue allocation adjustments and rate design occurring every three years" (emphasis added). This description of the FRM does not appear to contemplate providing in-depth information to support the costs that PREPA would seek to recover. However, the Hemphill supplemental testimony calls for full Commission oversight of the cost components of the revenue requirement (lines 185-195).

⁵⁵ Indeed, one of the examples of formula rates cited in witness Hemphill's direct testimony provides an extreme example of limited regulatory oversight and public scrutiny. Alabama's FRM mechanism has been criticized for lack of transparency, cursory Commission review and excessive profits to Alabama Power (See: D. Schlissel and A.

383 concept. At this time in which so many changes are being attempted within PREPA and a major
384 attempt is underway to reform the agency, the public cannot afford less regulatory oversight of
385 PREPA. Additionally, automatic adjustments to rates would likely result in excessive rate
386 increases in the absence of Commission oversight over PREPA expenditures.

387 Witness Hemphill’s supplemental testimony, however, states that there would be no difference in
388 the amount of information provided to the Commission regarding the components of the revenue
389 requirement to be adjusted under its proposed annual rate filings, and that PREPA is committed to
390 providing audited financial information in annual rate cases as available.⁵⁶ Additionally, PREPA
391 proposes that the level of review be similar, with a 180-day process and full intervenor
392 participation. The difference is that a base rate case can be extended to 240 days at the
393 Commission’s discretion, providing for a higher level of scrutiny and oversight. (We would
394 recommend, if the Commission adopts some version of PREPA’s proposal, that it allow the option
395 for a 60-day extension in an annual rate review case).

396 If a proposal in line with the recommendations in witness Hemphill’s supplemental testimony that
397 does not involve less regulatory oversight, nor any automatic adjustment to rates, is considered, it
398 should more clearly be referred to as an “annual rate review”, not a formula rate. We will refer to
399 it as an “annual rate review” in the rest of this section and urge the Commission to reject the
400 language of “formula rate-making.”

Sommer, “Public utility regulation without the public: The Alabama Public Service Commission and Alabama Power,”
Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis, March 1, 2013.) Clearly this outcome should be avoided.

⁵⁶ Hemphill Supplemental at lines 333-335.

401 Q. DO YOU AGREE THAT PREPA'S UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCES CREATE CHALLENGES
402 FOR TRADITIONAL RATE-MAKING?

403 A. Yes. The logic of traditional rate regulation based on a historical test year will not work well
404 for PREPA under its current circumstances. Under this type of regulation, a utility does not begin
405 to recover on capital expenditures made after its last rate case until its next rate case. In an
406 environment of growing sales, and hence growing revenues, the utility is able to carry the cost of
407 these investments without the need to increase rates. But PREPA is not operating in an
408 environment of growing sales, nor does it have the ability to debt finance its capital expenditures;
409 it must pay for them immediately out of revenues.⁵⁷

410 Q. WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN A BASE RATE CASE AND PREPA'S
411 PROPOSED ANNUAL RATE REVIEW MECHANISM?

412 A. Assuming that the Commission requires the same level of detail on the cost components of the
413 revenue requirement as it would in a base rate case, there are two main differences between a
414 traditional base rate case and the proposed annual rate review. One is that PREPA would not be
415 presenting a cost of service study or proposing changes to rate design when it files an annual rate
416 review case. Instead, as required by law, PREPA will initiate proceedings to adjust the rate design
417 every three years with all requirements including cost of service studies.

⁵⁷ PREPA can also leverage third-party financing for major capital projects, via power purchase agreements, for example. But PREPA still has significant ongoing capital expenditures that currently must be funded through revenues.

418 The other difference is that under the annual rate review mechanism, PREPA will set rates based
419 on its budget for the next year and based on reconciling the previous year's revenues with actual
420 costs. A traditional base rate case does not involve such a reconciliation.

421 Q. WOULD THE RECONCILIATION OF THE PRIOR YEAR'S REVENUES AND COSTS BE
422 AUTOMATIC?

423 A. Not as proposed in witness Hemphill's supplemental testimony, and we agree that the
424 reconciliation should not be automatic. The Commission would have the opportunity to determine
425 whether the incurred costs were prudent (Hemphill Ex. 16 at lines 98-104). If the Commission
426 determines that PREPA incurred certain costs imprudently, they would be excluded from cost
427 recovery.

428 However, we note that – because PREPA does not have owners' equity – even if a cost is
429 disallowed as imprudent, ratepayers will still pay indirectly for that cost, through deferred
430 maintenance or investment. That is, if PREPA's operational expenditures are higher than budgeted
431 in a given year, PREPA will have to adjust by reducing maintenance or capital expenditures in that
432 year. If the Commission disallows PREPA's excessive operational expenditures as imprudent, then
433 PREPA will never recover the funds that it should have spent on maintenance or capital
434 expenditures. In other words, unlike a private investor-owned utility, a determination of
435 imprudence does not mean that shareholders bear the cost; it means that ratepayers bear the cost
436 in another form. Therefore, it is important that PREPA be regulated as closely as possible to
437 minimize imprudent expenditures.

438 Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOW COMMISSION MIGHT
439 ATTEMPT TO MINIMIZE IMPRUDENT EXPENDITURES?

440 A. Yes. The Commission could require more frequent financial updates on major capital
441 expenditures, such as AOGP if construction is ultimately approved. This would allow the
442 Commission to detect any problems with the project early and also to ensure that PREPA is
443 structuring contracts appropriately so that engineering, procurement and construction contractors
444 are bearing some of the risks of the project going over budget.

445 Additionally, the Commission could hire its own engineering advisor to oversee PREPA's
446 management of large projects, such as AOGP. This has occurred elsewhere; for example, the
447 Mississippi Public Service Commission has an engineering advisor monitoring the Kemper
448 integrated gasification combined cycle project.⁵⁸

449 The Commission could also require PREPA to present a turnkey cost estimate from an engineering,
450 procurement and construction (EPC) contractor for major projects. In a turnkey project, the EPC
451 contractor is charged with delivering the final project at a set cost. Requiring a turnkey estimate
452 would give the Commission a reference point for how an independent third-party would price the
453 risk inherent in a large construction project and assist the Commission in determining what is a
454 prudent cost.

⁵⁸ "URS Corporation (URS), later acquired by AECOM, was requested by the Mississippi Public Service Commission (MPSC) to provide Independent Monitoring services for the Kemper Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) Project located in Kemper County, MS. The scope of services includes monthly reporting by URS (AECOM) and its subcontractors, the Independent Monitor (IM), of the status and prudence of the on-going engineering, procurement, construction and startup activities performed by Mississippi Power Company (MPC or the Company), its parent Southern Company and subsidiary Southern Company Services (SCS), and its subcontractors on the project." (URS Corporation, IM Monthly Report to Mississippi Public Service Commission, May 2016, <http://www.psc.state.ms.us/executive/pdfs/2016/Kemper/Monthly%20Report%20May%202016%20Executive%20Summary.pdf>)

455 Finally, the Commission could investigate the oversight model known as the Independent Private
456 Sector Inspector General (IPSIG).^{59, 60}

457 These recommendations could be adopted whether or not an annual rate review is approved.

458 Q. COULD THE PROPOSED ANNUAL RATE REVIEW BE USED BY THE COMMISSION
459 TO FURTHER THE GOAL OF MINIMIZING IMPRUDENT EXPENDITURES?

460 A. Due to the serious inconsistencies and flaws in this petition, we believe that the Commission
461 should reject the proposed rate increase, which would preclude the Commission from adopting an
462 annual rate review mechanism at this time. However, if and when the Commission approves what
463 it considers to be a just and reasonable base rate for PREPA, strict oversight must follow and an
464 annual rate review could be used by the Commission as a tool for minimizing imprudent
465 expenditures going forward.

466 The proposed annual rate review has the advantage of setting a calendar for consistent and fairly
467 frequent filings from PREPA. In order to avoid imprudent capital expenditures, we urge the
468 Commission to require a detailed budget of capital expenditures for the next fiscal year and explain
469 any deviations from PREPA's approved IRP.

470 The Commission can also minimize the risk of imprudent expenditures by using its authority to
471 disallow imprudently incurred costs. If PREPA believes that it will have the opportunity to raise
472 rates in the next year if it misses its budget targets, PREPA will have less incentive to hit those
473 targets. This risk can be mitigated if the Commission insists on a high level of transparency up-

⁵⁹ <http://www.iaipsig.org/directors.html>

⁶⁰ See: <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/reports/nyra/nyrareport905.pdf> for an example of how an IPSIG works. Tom Sanzillo, the former First Deputy Comptroller of New York State, participated directly in this effort to reform a public authority that for decades was mismanaged and ultimately subjected to criminal sanctions.

474 front regarding how PREPA plans to meet its savings targets in the coming year and also makes
475 use of its ability during the reconciliation process to disallow expenditures that were not prudently
476 incurred.

477 **IV. The proposed rate design does not give customers, particularly industrial and**
478 **commercial customers, the flexibility to lower their own energy costs and expand the use of**
479 **renewable energy generation in Puerto Rico**

480 Q. HAS THE COMMISSION ARTICULATED ANY GOALS REGARDING THE
481 TRANSFORMATION OF PUERTO RICO'S ELECTRICITY GENERATION MIX?

482 A. Yes. The recent IRP order describes the Commission's goal as "to replace old, costly plants
483 with lower-cost options: more efficient plants, renewable resources, energy efficiency, demand
484 response and distributed generation technologies – some of which empower consumers to manage
485 their own costs, all of which reduce environmental damage as well as customers' exposure to fuel
486 price volatility." (IRP Order, September 23, 2016 at paragraph 30).

487 Q. DOES PREPA'S PROPOSED TARIFF IN THIS CASE FURTHER THE ABOVE GOAL?

488 A. No. The proposed tariff submitted by PREPA in this proceeding runs counter to this goal, by
489 failing to allow customers to source power from lower-cost options through a wheeling service
490 and by discouraging customers from investing in distributed renewable energy generation
491 technologies.

492 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW A WHEELING SERVICE WOULD ALLOW CUSTOMERS TO
493 SOURCE LOWER-COST POWER.

494 A. PREPA's generation costs are very high. PREPA's Embedded Cost of Service Study found that
495 a 100% cost-based unbundling of Tariff GRS, for example, resulted in the generation portion of
496 the rate being 11.5 cents/kWh (Zarumba and Granovsky Exhibit 4.0 at line 491).⁶¹ This is a result
497 of PREPA's expensive oil-based generation system (see Response to Commission Request CEPR-
498 PC-01-13). The few operational renewable energy contracts that PREPA has are also over-priced,
499 at an average price of \$189/MWh for solar and \$157/MWh for wind. This is a sharp contrast with
500 jurisdictions in the United States, even those with far less solar potential than Puerto Rico. In
501 Minnesota, for example, a state with a demonstrably lower solar resource than Puerto Rico, Xcel
502 Energy has estimated the cost of solar in 2016 at \$67.30/MWh, nearly two-thirds less expensive
503 than PREPA's current solar contracts.⁶² PREPA did not competitively bid these renewable energy
504 contracts, resulting in unnecessarily high prices.⁶³ This strongly suggests that third-party power
505 providers could provide renewable energy to commercial and industrial customers less expensively
506 than PREPA, if third-party power providers had access to the grid.

507 If wheeling were allowed, it would also provide a strong incentive for PREPA to reduce its costs
508 and greater leverage to PREPA in renegotiating some of its above-market contracts⁶⁴ because of
509 the introduction of competition. In the near term, the introduction of competition would allow
510 customers greater freedom to source electricity from renewable energy or other providers
511 potentially at a lower cost.

⁶¹ This is not the actual rate proposed for Schedule GRS because of mitigation and the inclusion of a \$8/month fixed charge.

⁶² Xcel 2015 IRP Supplement filed with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, January 29, 2016.

⁶³ A. Skibell, "How a stubborn utility and aging grid added to island's woes," E&E Publishing, May 2, 2016.

⁶⁴ Though PREPA has signed a large number of above-market contracts for solar projects, it is unclear how many of these projects will ultimately be developed. (IRP Order, September 23, 2016, paragraphs 184-188). PREPA has been ordered to renegotiate or terminate above-market contracts for projects that are not operational. (IRP Order, September 23, 2016, paragraph 299).

512 In addition, wheeling (provider selection) at the distribution system level for renewable energy
513 would increase demand from renewable sources, providing for significant opportunities in the
514 application and development of technologies such as utility scale batteries, and additional storage
515 and smart grid technology placing Puerto Rico as the natural leader in its region.

516 Additionally, we note that this is an opportune time for the introduction of a wheeling tariff because
517 PREPA is in the early stages of major capital investment in modernizing its generation system, but
518 it has not yet made significant investments. The Modified IRP ordered by the Commission
519 provides for a more flexible approach than PREPA originally proposed by ordering the near-term
520 construction of smaller units at Palo Seco and increased energy efficiency and demand response.
521 With proper planning, PREPA could anticipate the departure of commercial and industrial
522 customers from its system under a wheeling tariff (to purchase electricity from third-party
523 renewable energy or highly efficient fossil generation sources) and not overbuild its own
524 generation system.

525 Q. HAS PREPA MADE ANY STEPS TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WHEELING
526 SERVICE?

527 A. The unbundling of tariffs proposed in this proceeding is one step towards the establishment of
528 a wheeling service. The testimony of witnesses Zarumba and Granovsky acknowledges the
529 importance of tariff unbundling because “different customers purchase different services from the
530 utility” (line 439). Zarumba and Granovsky at lines 467-482 provide two examples of tariff
531 unbundling in the mainland United States: the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s
532 requirement since 1996 of “open access to transmission” and the decisions of seventeen U.S. states
533 to allow retail choice. Both of these examples were designed to further competition between

534 generation sources by allowing third-party power providers fair and open access to the grid and
535 allowing customers to purchase directly from these providers, bypassing the generation owned by
536 their incumbent utility. Despite providing these examples of tariff unbundling, PREPA is still not
537 proposing to allow customers to choose the services (generation, transmission and distribution)
538 that they can purchase from PREPA. PREPA does not offer, and does not plan to offer,
539 transmission and distribution-only services that would give open access to third-party power
540 providers and permit customers to contract with those providers.

541

542 Q. IS THERE ANY LEGISLATION THAT REQUIRES WHEELING?

543 A. Yes. Our understanding is that Puerto Rico Act 73-2008 directed PREPA to establish a wheeling
544 service by January 2, 2010. This did not occur. Later, through Act 57-2014 (Section 6.30), the
545 Commission was required to regulate wheeling and to establish the rules necessary for a wheeling
546 service.

547 PREPA should be required in this proceeding to develop a wheeling tariff so that commercial,
548 industrial, and if possible residential customers can take advantage of renewable energy sources
549 that are lower cost than those supplied by PREPA. This would assist customers in controlling costs,
550 as well as spurring the development of renewable energy in Puerto Rico.

551

552 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY YOU BELIEVE THAT THE PROPOSED TARIFF
553 DISCOURAGES INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS FROM INVESTING IN DISTRIBUTED
554 RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES.

555 A. PREPA's proposed tariff also disincentivizes industrial and commercial customers from
556 investing in distributed renewable energy through its over-reliance on demand charges and non-

557 bypassable energy charges. The proposed rate increases the proportion of revenues from demand
558 charges versus energy charges. While the overall industrial rate increase is 26.2%, the increase in
559 demand charges for the main industrial tariff, Schedule GSP (from \$8.1/kVA to \$12/kVA) is
560 nearly 50%. The net metering credit that industrial and commercial customers receive from
561 investing in their own distributed renewable energy generation is equal to the energy-only charge
562 (11.1 cents/kWh for GSP Tariff), not the retail rate. In other words, net metering customers still
563 must pay the demand charges, as well as the CILT, subsidy charge and the securitization charge.
564 In tariff GSP, for example, these charges amount to \$12/kVA (demand), \$200/month (fixed
565 charge), 0.303 cents/kWh (CILT), 1.02 cents/kWh (subsidy charge) and 3.05 cents/kWh
566 (Transition Charge), none of which are subject to the net metering credit. This tariff design, which
567 fails to give any capacity credit to distributed renewable energy resources, fails to recognize the
568 benefits that distributed renewable energy customers provide, including avoided line losses,
569 deferred transmission and distribution capacity upgrades, deferred generation capacity, and
570 reduction in peak demand.⁶⁵

571 The tariff design also highlights the unsustainably high debt levels embedded in PREPA's rates.
572 Overall rates for GSP customers are proposed to be approximately 20.4 cents/kWh.⁶⁶ A net
573 metering customer on this tariff can only avoid 54% of that charge, 11.1 cents/kWh. An industrial
574 or commercial customer on schedule GSP that offsets all of its own electricity consumption will
575 still pay the equivalent of 9.3 cents/kWh, of which 4.4 cents/kWh are subsidies and the legacy debt
576 embedded in the securitization charge.

⁶⁵ Because of PREPA's load shape, which includes an afternoon peak and an evening peak, distributed solar resources would need to be combined with an effective demand response program in order to shift load away from the evening peak so that solar can contribute to reducing peak demand.

⁶⁶ Total revenues for class GSP (\$920 million) divided by total sales (4,510 GWh), as provided in Schedule H.

577 Effectively, by weakening the incentive for industrial and commercial customers to invest in their
578 own distributed renewable energy resources and instead tying them to payments of PREPA's
579 legacy debt, PREPA's proposed tariff is crowding out investment in renewable energy generation
580 in Puerto Rico.

581 **V. PREPA's assertion that proposed rates will maintain an adequate debt service coverage**
582 **ratio is flawed.**

583 Q. WHY IS THE DEBT SERVICE COVERAGE RATIO (DSCR) THE CRITICAL CREDIT
584 METRIC FOR PREPA'S RE-ENTRY INTO THE CREDIT MARKETS?

585 A. We concur with PREPA on three critical points. First, that the DSCR is the most important
586 credit metric used by credit rating agencies to establish the Authority's creditworthiness at this
587 time.⁶⁷ Second, that Modified Cash Basis accounting is an approach⁶⁸ that can be utilized for a
588 public power entity with inadequate cash flow and constrained market access. We take note of
589 PREPA's use of this method to ensure that PREPA "recovers prior year capital expenditures
590 through debt service and anticipated capital expenditures through revenue funded capex."⁶⁹ The
591 Modified Cash Basis method in theory allows the Authority to capture and present its full revenues
592 and expenses in a transparent manner. Third, that "the true test of credit worthiness is the belief by
593 lenders that they will receive timely and complete repayments of all of the cash flow that are due
594 them. This analysis cannot capture subjective beliefs, but can provide values relative to
595 quantitative indicators."⁷⁰

⁶⁷ Pampush, Porter and Stathos Testimony, Line 1359-1360.

⁶⁸ Pampush, Porter and Stathos Testimony, Lines 296-298

⁶⁹ Pampush, Porter and Stathos Testimony, line 413.

⁷⁰ Pampush, Porter and Stathos Testimony, Lines 1166-1169.

596 Q. HOW IS THE DSCR DEFINED?

597 A. The DSCR establishes the relationship between PREPA's Net Income (available resources to
598 pay debt and invest after revenues are subtracted from expenses) and its Total Debt Service
599 obligation. The relationship is described as a ratio and it is derived from the typical formula:

600
$$\text{Debt Service Coverage (DSCR)} = \text{Net Income} / \text{Total Debt Service}$$

601 Net Income is measured as revenues minus operating expenses. When PREPA's Net Income
602 exceeds Total Debt Service the ratio is greater than 1 and demonstrates that PREPA has sufficient
603 cash to pay its debt service.

604 Q. WHAT IS CONSIDERED AN ADEQUATE DSCR?

605 Credit rating agencies, lenders and PREPA consider a 1.0 DSCR an inadequate level of coverage
606 to determine credit worthiness. Utilities or any business face risks that alter their budgets and
607 financial plans in unforeseen ways. The investment world looks to higher ratios, showing more
608 evidence of cash availability, to offset these risks. PREPA's Trust agreements require 1.2 DSCR.⁷¹

609 Given PREPA's currently distressed fiscal condition and its lack of reasonable market access
610 PREPA's consultants have concluded that the Authority would fare better in the capital markets
611 with a DSCR of 1.57 to 2.00.⁷²

⁷¹ Pampush, Porter and Stathos Testimony, Lines 1376-1379.

⁷² Pampush, Porter and Stathos Testimony, Lines 1038

612 While PREPA's financial presentations offer a number of different DSCR valuations in
613 testimony⁷³ PREPA informed the Commission that the DSCR is 3.9⁷⁴ for its stand-alone Legacy
614 Debt. Then, when PREPA's Legacy Debt is consolidated with the Securitization Charge, PREPA
615 claimed that the DSCR is 1.9. The underlying spreadsheet was later corrected and PREPA revised
616 its estimate of the DSCR for consolidated debt to 1.47.⁷⁵

617 PREPA contends that the post rate increase financial scenario supports a finding that the rate
618 increase(s), individually and when consolidated, supply PREPA with sufficient revenue to pay
619 debt service. In short PREPA finds that its finances exceed the 1.57 to 2.00 DSCR and meets the
620 standard most conducive to the Authority's re-entry into the capital markets.

621 Q. DO YOU CONCUR WITH THIS CONCLUSION?

622 A. No. Our analysis supports the following three findings:

- 623 1. The Authority does not meet the DSCR standard when presented on a consolidated basis.
624 PREPA's own analysis shows a DSCR of 1.47. This falls below its own standard of 1.57.
- 625 2. Our analysis shows the DSCR for consolidated debt is 1.36 (not 1.47 as PREPA claims). If
626 capital expenditures (which are costs that are passed to consumers) are included in the DSCR
627 calculation, as they should be, the DSCR is even lower.

⁷³ Pampush, Porter and Stathos Testimony, Lines 802-804.

⁷⁴ This portion of the testimony is supported by a PREPA spreadsheet: "PREPA Rate Case Financial Model 160620_Rate Change to PR", Tab: DSCR, cell H15. "PREPA RCFM".

⁷⁵ Pampush, Porter and Stathos Testimony Line 803 refers to DSCR of 1.9 for PREPA's securitized debt inclusive of its legacy debt. The spreadsheet supporting this figure is: "PREPA Rate Case Financial Model 160620_Rate Change to PR", Tab: IS, H59, "PREPA RCFM". This number was later corrected by PREPA: see and Pampush, Porter, Stathos, Supplemental Direct Testimony, Exhibit 14.00, October 13, 2016, Lines 73-83 and PREPA Exhibit 14.02, Tab IS, H59. The corrected DSCR is 1.47.

628 3. Taken as a standalone entity PREPA (non-securitized legacy debt) only meets the standard if
629 the Commission:

630 a. accepts unrealistic and risky budget forecasts; and

631 b. excludes capital expenditures that are being passed along to consumers in the final
632 rate design.

633 Using more realistic budget assumptions the DSCR is below the 1.57 standard.

634 Q. HOW DID YOU REACH THIS CONCLUSION?

635 A. IEEFA has constructed a post rate increase DSCR based upon PREPA's presentation of
636 revenue, expenses and its debt service needs in Schedule A (REV). We present two DSCR
637 coverage ratios using the same methodologies employed by PREPA in the PREPA RCFM
638 spreadsheet. The first covers a consolidated revenue and expense scenario that includes the
639 revenue and expenses for both PREPA under its rate request in this proceeding and the
640 Revitalization Corporation as presented and approved by the Commission in the Securitization rate
641 docket (CEPR-AP-2016-001). The second scenario excludes the Transition Charge and assesses
642 PREPA's DSCR as a standalone financial entity.

643 Q. HOW DOES PREPA'S DEBT SERVICE COVERAGE RATIO FOR ITS CONSOLIDATED
644 DEBT SCENARIO COMPARE TO ITS STANDARD OF 1.57?

645 A. PREPA's standard which would provide the Authority with an improved chance of market re-
646 entry is a DSCR of 1.57. PREPA's revised analysis contained in Exhibit 14.02 sets the DSCR at
647 1.47, below the credit metric necessary to support the Authority's market re-entry.

648 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW YOU CALCULATED A DSCR OF 1.36 (AS OPPOSED TO
 649 PREPA'S ESTIMATE OF 1.47) WHEN PREPA AND THE CORPORATION ARE
 650 CONSIDERED AS A CONSOLIDATED ENTITY.

651 A. Our analysis and conclusions start with PREPA's budgetary submissions that support a
 652 consolidated Revenue Requirement of \$3,462,194,772 against projected operational expenses
 653 (minus revenue funded capex and Legacy Debt Service) of \$2,346,907,833 as provided in
 654 Schedule A-1 (REV). IEEFA then subtracts revenues from expenses to derive a Net Income of
 655 \$1,115,286,833 (See Table 3).

656 **Table 3: Post Rate Increase Consolidated 2017 Revenue and Expenses⁷⁶ and IEEFA**
 657 **Calculation of Net Operating Income**

Budget Item		Total
Revenues		\$3,462,194,772
Expenses		\$2,346,907,833
IEEFA Net Income		\$1,115,286,889

658 Table 4 uses the Net Income from Table 3 and adds Total Debt Service by combining the Debt
 659 Service values provided in Schedule A-1 (Rev) for PREPA's Legacy Debt Service and Transition
 660 Charge. The consolidated DSCR is 1.36. This is below the standard established by PREPA (1.57
 661 to 2.00).

662 **Table 4: Post Rate Increase IEEFA Calculation of 2017 Debt Service Coverage for**
 663 **Consolidated PREPA Legacy Debt and the Securitization Charge**

Debt Service	Net Operating Income	Total Debt Service	Debt Coverage (DSCR)	Service Ratio

⁷⁶ The revenue and expenses are taken from Exhibit 5.04 and Schedule A-1. The Net Income calculation is derived by IEEFA as a simple subtraction of revenue and expenses.

Consolidated PREPA and Securitization)	\$1,115,286,889	\$817,653,975.00	1.36
---	-----------------	------------------	------

664

665 It is important to note that this calculation is very conservative because it does not include capital
666 expenditures at all. In reality, 2017 revenue funded capital expenditures should be included in this
667 calculation as they represent a 2017 cash cost that PREPA must pay. Either capital expenditures
668 should be treated as an operating expense (because they will be paid in cash through revenues in
669 FY 2017), which would reduce PREPA’s net operating income to \$778,729,081 and the DSCR to
670 0.95; or, the expenses should be included in debt service as they are integral to PREPA’s overall
671 debt management plan.

672 Q. CAN YOU EXPLAIN HOW PREPA CALCULATED A HIGHER DSCR FOR THE
673 CONSOLIDATED ENTITY?

674 A. Yes. PREPA’s Exhibit 14.02 shows PREPA revenues for FY 2017 of \$2,997,855,381. When
675 added to the Transition Charge revenue requirement of \$503,264,236, the total revenue for the
676 consolidated entity is \$3,501,119,617. This is higher than the total revenue requirement shown in
677 Schedule A-1 (REV) for FY 2017, which we used in our calculation. We are unable to account for
678 the discrepancy.

679 Q. WHAT DO YOU CONCLUDE ABOUT PREPA’S ABILITY TO MEET ITS DSCR
680 STANDARD FOR ITS LEGACY DEBT WHEN THE AUTHORITY IS CONSIDERED AS A
681 STAND-ALONE ENTITY?

682 A. PREPA does not meet the standard unless unacceptable and unrealistic budgetary assumptions
683 contained in the Authority’s financial presentation are accepted.

684 We find the DSCR for PREPA's Legacy Debt is 1.95, but only if a number of speculative
685 assumptions regarding PREPA's budget are accepted, and if capital expenditures are not included
686 in the DSCR calculation. Without making these assumptions, the DSCR is less than 0.88.

687 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW PREPA'S ASSUMPTIONS LEAD TO A DSCR OF 1.95 WHEN
688 PREPA IS CONSIDERED AS A STAND-ALONE ENTITY, RATHER THAN PREPA'S
689 ESTIMATE OF 3.9.

690 A. PREPA's 3.9 DSCR represents the Authority's Legacy Bonds only.⁷⁷ This analysis and this
691 proceeding is concerned with PREPA's total legacy debt service costs (exclusive of Transition
692 Charge revenues).

693 In order to maintain a consistent method of presenting the DSCR for both the stand-alone and
694 consolidated calculations IEEFA starts with the same figures for revenue and expense contained
695 in -Schedule A-1 (REV). We make one adjustment to Table 3. We reduce the projected \$3.462
696 billion revenue figure by the value of the Transition Charge: \$503 million. The Transition Charge
697 is the amount PREPA pays to service the Securitization bonds. Under the statute and presentation
698 to the Commission PREPA simply passes through the revenues for debt service for the Transition
699 Charge to a payment agent for the bondholders. Therefore, this revenue is not available to PREPA
700 to pay for its operating expenses, legacy debt or capex. This calculation reduces the revenue left
701 to pay PREPA's operational needs to \$2.958 billion. The net income for PREPA as a stand-alone
702 entity is \$612 million (Table 5).

⁷⁷ "PREPA Rate Case Financial Model 160620_Rate Change to PR", Tab: DSCR, cell H15. "PREPA RCFM". Cell H15 presents the debt service to cover only PREPA's remaining portion of the legacy debt. Cell H16 presents the DSCR assuming the full debt service cost for PREPA that is inclusive of the legacy debt and PREPA's other debt obligations. This DSCR is 2.07. The use of the 3.9 DSCR is somewhat misleading in the testimony as it does not present the impact of the full revenue requirement on the DSCR.

703 **Table 5: Post Rate Increase IEEFA Calculation 2017 Revenue and Expenses and Net**
 704 **Operating Income for PREPA on a Stand-Alone Basis**

Budget Item		Total
IEEFA Revenues		\$2,958,930.536
Expenses		\$2,346,907,833
IEEFA Net Income		\$612,022,703

705

706 We then use the same DSCR equation employed in Table 4 to derive the debt service ratio for
 707 PREPA as a stand-alone entity. The Legacy Debt requires an outlay of \$314 million, resulting in
 708 a debt service ratio of 1.95. This DSCR meets the standard of 1.57-2.0 established by PREPA, but
 709 is lower than the 3.9 ratio presented in the Pampush, Porter and Stathos testimony (Exhibit 5.0).

710

711

712

713 **Table 6: Post Rate Increase IEEFA 2017 Debt Service Coverage by for PREPA as standalone**
 714 **entity**

715

Debt Service	Net Operating Income	Total Debt Service	Debt Coverage Ratio (DSCR)
Legacy Funded Debt Service (LDS)	\$612,022,703	\$314,389,739.00	1.95

716

717 Q. PREPA'S EXHIBIT 14.02 (TAB IS, CELL:H48) DERIVES A 2.07 DSCR FOR PREPA'S
 718 STANDALONE DEBT POSITION. DO YOU AGREE?

719 A. No. We use the same methodology as found in the spreadsheet, however we are using the data
720 presented in Schedule A-1 (REV).

721 Q. DO YOU BELIEVE THERE SHOULD BE ADJUSTMENTS TO THE 1.95 DSCR FOR
722 PREPA'S REVENUE FUNDED LEGACY DEBT SERVICE FOR AN ACCURATE AND
723 PRUDENT PRESENTATION?

724 A. Yes. As above, this estimate neglects capital expenditures, which do not appear to be included
725 in PREPA's accounting but should be incorporated in some fashion because they are a cost passed
726 to ratepayers. If PREPA's FY 2017 capital expenditures are included in operating expenses
727 (because they are to be funded through revenues), the net income on a stand-alone basis falls to
728 \$275,464,895, implying a DSCR of only 0.88.

729 Additionally, the presentation contains assumptions related to oil prices, PREPA's savings
730 initiative and energy sales that are speculative, even highly speculative. As discussed in Section
731 II of our testimony, we believe that PREPA has over-stated its savings initiatives, under-estimated
732 FY 2017 fuel costs and over-estimated future sales. Referring to Table 6, if PREPA's net income
733 drops by \$120 million or more it will fail to meet the DSCR standard of 1.57. This is a very small
734 margin of error, given that we believe that PREPA's fuel costs, for example, may have been
735 underestimated by as much as \$400-\$500 million. Given the individual and cumulative impact of
736 the risks we cite above in Section II we conclude the actual DSCR for the legacy stand alone debt
737 is well below the 1.57 DSCR prescribed by PREPA's consultants.

738 Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR DSCR CALCULATIONS

739 A. The following table summarizes our DSCR calculations:

740 **Table 7: Summary of DSCR calculations**

	PREPA and Corporation consolidated DSCR	PREPA stand-alone DSCR
PREPA estimate	1.47	3.9
IEEFA adjustments using PREPA methodology and assumptions	1.36	1.95; but < 1.57 if budget estimates not achieved
IEEFA estimate accounting for capital expenditures	0.95	0.88

741

742 Q. HOW SHOULD PREPA TREAT REVENUE-FUNDED CAPITAL EXPENDITURES IN
743 THE DEBT SERVICE COVERAGE CALCULATION?

744 A. We take no position on how the Commission should include the Capex Expenditures of \$337
745 million for FY 2017 identified in the rate case. We only believe that it should be accounted for
746 somewhere in the calculation. If not, the presentation overstates the revenues available to pay debt
747 service.

748 All revenues and expenses need to be included in the calculation to provide a full and complete
749 DSCR. When the Revenue Funded Capex expenditure is properly included in some form into
750 PREPA's calculations, either as debt service or operating costs, it drives the DSCR down below
751 acceptable standards. In short, if the DSCR captures all revenues and expenditures then it will not
752 meet the standards. Or, in other words, PREPA only meets the DSCR standards if unrealistic
753 revenue, expenditure and energy sales assumptions are accepted, and if the Commission accepts
754 an incomplete and distorted financial accounting of the DSCR calculation that does not include
755 capital expenditures.

756 Q. WHAT IMPLICATIONS DOES THE SUBSTANDARD DSCR HAVE FOR PREPA'S
757 BUDGET?

758 A. PREPA's low DSCR and unrealistic budget forecasts mean that PREPA will face pressure to
759 raise its rates and lower its capital expenditures.

760 Under PREPA's plan, the first \$503 million of electricity sales revenues go to pay the Transition
761 Charge to cover the bond indebtedness included in the Securitization transaction. As noted above
762 this arrangement substantially reduces PREPA's net income.

763 If PREPA's budget assumptions do not materialize, PREPA will need to figure out how to adjust
764 its budget and financial plan. If revenues decline due to decreased electricity sales, for example,
765 both the Transition Charge and the PREPA rate are placed under pressure. The choice for PREPA
766 management is either to increase rates or to reduce its budget in order to effectively supply
767 additional cash for the Transition Charge upward adjustments. If PREPA does not raise rates, it
768 will have shortfalls in its operational budget.

769 Similarly, if PREPA's expenditures exceed budget projections, the financial burden will fall upon
770 PREPA's operational budget and on the rates charged to customers.

771 As PREPA's consultants have noted, not only will this situation result in upward pressure on rates,
772 but it will also pressure PREPA to cut capital expenditures:

773 First, these (government-owned) utilities do not have owners' equity. Thus they are
774 considerably more sensitive to the fluctuations that are business as usual for any utility or
775 business for that matter. A swing in expense outside its control can wreak havoc on the
776 utility's business plan. For PREPA, this means real delays in rebuilding and implementing
777 investment that ultimately makes them a more efficient utility.⁷⁸

⁷⁸ Hemphill Testimony, Lines 338-343.

778 We concur that PREPA will likely be pressured to reduce its revenue funded capex initiatives in
779 2017 and beyond, as well as being pressured to increase rates to bring revenues in line with
780 expenses. This will slow down necessary projects for PREPA. We are also cognizant of the
781 negative impact that considerable budget slippage will have during 2017 on PREPA's ability to
782 re-enter the capital markets and implement future investment plans.

783 Q. ARE THERE OTHER AREAS OF CONCERN REGARDING PREPA'S ABILITY TO RE-
784 ENTER THE CAPITAL MARKETS?

785 A. Yes. As described earlier in this section, we believe that PREPA's proposed rates will not result
786 in an adequate DSCR, leading to pressure to increase rates and cut capital expenditures.

787 However, PREPA's rates are already excessive, a factor that is not reflected in PREPA's
788 discussion of its ability to re-enter the capital markets. In July 2015 Moody's published a document
789 that addressed frequently asked questions regarding Puerto Rico's credit status. The document
790 provides a context for its credit rating of Puerto Rico given its extraordinary financial condition.
791 In addition to standard credit metrics, like the DSCR, the overall credit rating for Puerto Rico
792 must consider: bondholder recovery rates, missed bond payments, economic growth and revenues,
793 pension risk, federal response, sovereignty issues and bond insurance. The Moody's document
794 concludes that Puerto Rico's "main hurdle will likely be the ability to show its economy has
795 transcended the structural impediments to growth that have largely weighed on it since 2006."⁷⁹

⁷⁹ Moody's Investor Service, *Frequently Asked Questions About Puerto Rico's Fiscal and Debt Crisis*, Issuer-In-Depth, July 22, 2015, p.7

796 The lack of any underlying economic data (see: PREPA's response to ICSE-PR question 5) to
797 support PREPA's implicit claim that the Puerto Rican economy can support the level of rates being
798 proposed is a broader impairment to PREPA's creditworthiness.

799 Q. WHAT IS YOUR OVERALL CONCLUSION REGARDING PREPA'S PROPOSED RATE
800 INCREASE?

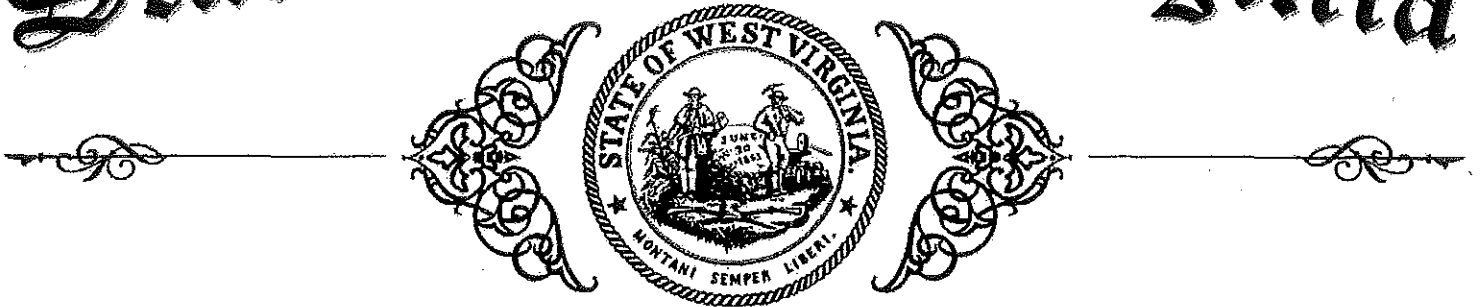
801 A. In this proceeding, the Commission is challenged to make a decision based on unreliable data
802 and flawed debt service calculation methodologies. The proposed rate increase is not affordable
803 and, even if it is implemented, PREPA is unlikely to realize the savings assumptions embedded in
804 the rate, increasing pressure to drive rates higher. We believe it will not be possible to achieve an
805 affordable rate structure without renegotiation of the underlying debt. Additionally the proposed
806 rate design undermines the goal of stimulating the development of renewable energy in Puerto
807 Rico.

808 For these reasons, we urge the Commission to reject the proposed rate increase and require PREPA
809 to go back to the drawing board and present a transparent and sustainable rate design. Moving
810 forward, we urge the Commission to closely monitor PREPA's expenditures and capital
811 investments, possibly in conjunction with the PROMESA Board, to minimize the risk of imprudent
812 expenditures.

813 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

814 A. Yes.

State of West Virginia



CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY

*I, Natalie E. Tennant, Secretary of State of the
State of West Virginia, hereby certify that*

Rafael M Barker, State of West Virginia, serving in the capacity of Notary Public of/in/for the State of West Virginia beginning 11/6/2009 and ending 11/20/2019, and that his acts are entitled to full faith and credit by the courts and authorities of the land, as contained in the records of my office.

*Given under my hand and the Great
Seal of the State of West Virginia*

Signature:

Natalie E Tennant

West Virginia Secretary of State

Friday, October 21, 2016

This Certificate only certifies the authenticity of the signature and the capacity of the person who has signed the public document, and, where appropriate, the identity of the seal or stamp which the public document bears. The Certificate does not certify the content of the document for which it was issued. The Certificate is not valid for use anywhere within the United States of America, its territories or possessions.

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ATTESTATION

Affiant, Catherine Kunkel, being first duly sworn, states the following:

The foregoing Testimony constitutes the direct testimony of Affiant. Affiant states that she would give the answers set forth in the Testimony if asked the questions propounded therein at the time of the filing. Affiant further states that, to the best of her knowledge, the statements made are true and correct.

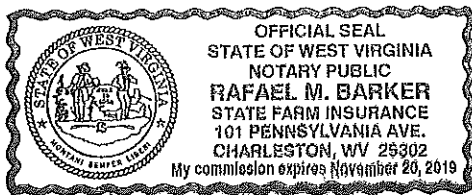
Catherine Kunkel

Catherine Kunkel
Consultant, ICSE-PR

Date: 10/21/16

Affidavit No. _____

Acknowledged and subscribed before me by Catherine Kunkel, of the personal circumstances above mentioned, in her capacity as Consultant for the ICSE-PR., who is personally known to me or whom I have identified by means of her driver's license number F714884, in Charleston, West Virginia this 21st day of October 2016.



Rafael M. Barker

Public Notary

SECRET

STATE OF NEW YORK
Ulster County Clerk's Office

} SS.:

I, Nina Postupack, Clerk of the County of Ulster and of the Courts of said County, and of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, in and for said County, the same being Courts of Record, DO

HEREBY CERTIFY: That Arleen M. Schenck

whose name is subscribed to the certificate of the proof or acknowledgement of the annexed instrument, and thereon, written, was at the time of taking such proof or acknowledgement, a Notary Public in and for the County of Ulster, dwelling in the said County, sworn and duly authorized to take the same. AND FURTHER: That I am acquainted with the handwriting of such Notary Public, and verily believe that the signature to the said Certificate of Proof or acknowledgement is genuine.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the seal of said Courts and County, this 21st day of October, 2016

Nina Postupack, County Clerk

Allee Kambis Deputy Clerk

ATTESTATION

Affiant, Thomas Sanzillo, being first duly sworn, states the following:

The prepared Testimony I am sponsoring constitute the direct testimony of Affiant in the above-styled case. Affiant states that I would give the answers set forth in the Testimony if asked the questions propounded therein at the time of the filing. Affiant further states that, to the best of my knowledge, the statements made are true and correct.

TH Sanzillo

Affidavit No. _____

Acknowledged and subscribed before me by Thomas Sanzillo of the personal circumstances above mentioned, in his capacity as Consultant for the ICSE-PR., who is personally known to me or whom I have identified by means of his driver's license number 781617285, in NY, this 30 day of Oct 2016.

Arleen M. Schenck

Public Notary

ARLEEN M. SCHENCK
Notary Public, State of New York
Reg. #01SC4799906
Qualified in Ulster County
Commission Expires September 30, 2017