# 1. Reference: Application

a) When were the revenue and expenditure forecasts used in the application prepared? Please confirm whether the application reflects the March 2016 business plan, the May 2016 update or a combination of the two.

## 2. Reference: Application

a) Please discuss what SaskPower considers to be the 4 largest financial risks it faces (e.g. natural gas prices; interest rates; sales growth or decline) and provide an estimate of the potential upper and lower range of effects of these risks on operating income and return on equity in 2016-17 and 2017-18.

# 3. Reference: Application

a) Please provide a graph which illustrates the actual and proposed percentage increases for each major customer group from 2008 through 2017-18.

# 4. Reference: Application

- a) Please provide a schedule showing SaskPower's total domestic electricity sales revenue; operating income; return on equity and debt to equity ratio for 2016/17 and 2017/18 assuming for each of the following potential rate scenarios:
  - Confirmation of a 5% average rate increase effective July 1, 2016 and no rate increase in 2017.
  - ii. Confirmation of a 5% average rate increase effective July 1, 2016 and a 2.5% average rate increase effective January 2017.
  - iii. Confirmation of a 5% average rate increase effective July 1, 2016 and a 5% average rate increase effective April 1, 2017
  - iv. A 10% average rate increase effective September 1, 2016 and no other rate increases in 2016/17 or 2017/18.

# 5. Reference: Application

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a) Please provide a continuity schedule of Plant in Service and Total Property, Plant and Equipment by function (generation, transmission, distribution, general) for 2013 through 2017/18.

# 6. Reference: Application

a) For the period 2013 – 2017/18 please provide a table itemizing all actual or forecast payments to the Province of Saskatchewan including water rentals, corporate capital taxes, coal royalties, dividends and any other payments to the Province.

# 7. Reference: Finance Expense

a) Please provide a schedule showing all long term debt (including any longterm lease obligations) including date of issue, date of maturity, effective interest rate, coupon rate, par value, unamortized premium and outstanding amount.

# 8. Reference: Finance Expense

a) For each year from 2010 through 2015, please provide a schedule showing the forecast short-term and long-term interest rates for new debt in each business plan and the actual short-term and long-term debt interest rates for new debt.

# 9. Reference: Finance Expense

a) Please provide a schedule showing details of the total finance charges for the period 2013 through 2017-18 (actual & forecast), including interest on long-term debt; interest on short-term debt; finance leases; interest capitalized; debt retirement fund earnings and other finance charges.

### 10. Reference: Finance Expense

a) Please provide details with respect to the sinking fund requirements for long-term debt and discuss whether there have been any recent changes to the provincial government's sinking fund requirements for new debt.

### 11. Reference: Finance Expense

a) Please provide details of the actual and forecast sinking fund balances, earnings, contributions and average returns for 2013 through 2017-18.

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# 12. Reference: Finance Expense

a) Please provide an explanation for why capitalized interest is forecast to be lower in 2016-17 and 2017-18 than in the actual period from 2013 to 2015.

## 13. Reference: Depreciation

a) Please discuss if SaskPower has made any changes to the depreciation rates recommended in the 2010 Gannett Fleming report. If so, please provide a qualitative explanation for these changes.

#### 14. Reference: Depreciation

a) Has SaskPower's auditor reviewed and accepted all changes to depreciation rates or service lives proposed by SaskPower since the last external review of depreciation rates was completed?

## 15. Reference: Depreciation

a) As part of its annual review of depreciation rates does SaskPower review or survey depreciation rates used by peer electric utilities? If so, please discuss the process used by SaskPower how this information is used to inform any changes to SaskPower's proposed depreciation rates.

#### 16. Reference: Depreciation

a) When does SaskPower anticipate completing its next external depreciation study? Has SaskPower retained an external consultant to perform its next depreciation study?

#### 17. Reference: Forecast Saskatchewan Sales Revenues

- a) Please confirm whether the revenues for 2016/17 and 2017/18 in the table on page 23 of the application are at existing rates or proposed rates.
- b) Please provide a proof of revenue schedule showing the billing determinants (e.g. number of customers, billed demand, energy), rates and revenues for the existing rates and SaskPower's proposed rates for each customer class for 2016/17 and 2017/18.

# 18. Reference: Export Revenues

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a) Please provide an overview of the export markets SaskPower participates in, the types of export sales (long-term contract; short-term contract; sport market sales) and details of any firm transmission contracts or positions with other markets or jurisdictions.

# 19. Reference: Export Revenues

a) Please provide an explanation for the year over year variation in export volumes (from 71.4 GWhs in 2015 to 419.3 GWhs forecast in 2017/18). Please elaborate on the degree to which each of: system supply characteristics (e.g. water flows); market prices (e.g. electricity markets in other jurisdictions and/or the cost of natural gas or coal); and transmission availability contribute to these variations.

# 20. Reference: Export Revenues

 a) Please discuss the degree to which SaskPower's export revenues relate to long-term contracts (i.e. longer than one year); short-term contracts (e.g. seasonal contracts or contracts of several months); and spot market sales.

### 21. Reference: Net Sales from Trading

a) Please provide a table showing net sales (actual & forecasts) for electricity trading for the period 2010 to 2015, and explain any variances.

# 22. Reference: Net Sales from Trading

 a) Please discuss how SaskPower prepares its forecasts of net sales from trading.

### 23. Reference: Net Sales from Trading

a) Please elaborate on the statement on page 25 of the application that "trading activities are intended to deliver positive gross margins to SaskPower's bottom line while operating within an acceptable level of risk". What level of risk or types of risks does SaskPower consider to be acceptable versus unacceptable?

### 24. Reference: Net Sales from Trading

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a) Please discuss whether SaskPower believes recent market changes in Alberta and/or the United States have impacted the degree to which trading activities can continue to be a revenue positive endeavor for SaskPower?

### 25. Reference: Other Revenue

a) Please provide an explanation for the material increase in customer contribution revenue in 2015.

#### 26. Reference: Other Revenue

a) Please explain how SaskPower forecasts customer contribution revenues in the test years. Is the forecast approximately consistent with the five or ten year average of actual customer contributions?

#### 27. Reference: Other Revenue

a) Please confirm that SaskPower fully recognizes customer contribution revenue in the year it is received, rather than deferring and amortizing the contribution revenue over the life of the associated asset.

#### 28. Reference: Other Revenue

 a) Please elaborate on how the gas and electrical inspection revenues arise and clarify if these revenues are net of any related costs incurred by SaskPower.

### 29. Reference: Other Revenue

- a) Please explain if the forecast increases in CO2 sales revenues from 2015 to 2017-18 reflect escalation in the selling price of the CO2 or an increase in volume of CO2 sales or both.
- b) Please discuss how the CO2 sales revenue forecasts are prepared, do the forecasts assume SaskPower captures and sells the maximum amount of CO2?

#### 30. Reference: Other Revenue

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a) Please provide details of the lease arrangement of the Clean Coal Test Facility for the time period covered by this application together with the annual lease payments.

#### 31. Reference: Other Revenue

a) Please provide a detailed schedule for Miscellaneous Revenue in the Other Revenue category together with an explanation for the \$8 million reduction forecasted in 2016-17.

#### 32. Reference: Business Plan

a) Please provide a description of SaskPower's annual business planning cycle, including inputs required and review and approval processes.

#### 33. Reference: Business Plan

a) Please expand the tables in the May 2016 business plan update to include the years from 2020 through 2026.

#### 34. Reference: Business Plan

 a) Please discuss any changes to inputs or assumptions between the March 2016 Business Plan and the May 2016 update.

### 35. Reference: Fuel and Purchased Power (F&PP)

a) Please discuss in detail how SaskPower prepares its forecast fuel and purchase power costs. Please explain which types of fuel or generation are assumed to be resourced first and then how subsequent resources are forecast to meet the total forecast generation requirements.

## 36. Reference: Fuel and Purchased Power (F&PP)

a) Please expand the fuel and purchased power volume table on page 28 of the application to show actual and forecast generation volumes for each individual plant and indicate which are owned by SaskPower and from which power is acquired through a power purchase agreement.

### 37. Reference: Fuel and Purchased Power (F&PP)

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- a) Please identify any actual or forecast energy volumes subject to "Take or Pay" (TOP) obligations under the PPAs (in total) for each year from 2013 through 2017-18.
- b) Please discuss whether SPC has been required to pay for unused energy because of Take or Pay provisions and indicate whether any such costs are forecast to be incurred in 2016/17 or 2017/18.

# 38. Reference: Fuel and Purchased Power (F&PP)

a) Please discuss the reasons for the variance in unit costs for Gas, Coal, Wind, Hydro, Imports and Other for 2015 and forecast for 2016/17 and 2017/18.

# 39. Reference: Fuel and Purchased Power (F&PP)

a) To the extent possible without requiring the disclosure of confidential information, please provide the average power price for generation owned by SPC and separately the average purchase price for PPAs by fuel type and explain any differences in unit costs.

### 40. Reference: Fuel and Purchased Power (F&PP)

a) Please describe SaskPower's net metering program, the annual volume and cost of purchases and benefits to date to SaskPower.

#### 41. Reference: Natural Gas

a) Please describe SaskPower's natural gas procurement processes including details on any firm contracted transmission and/or storage volumes for the three most recent actual years and forecasts for 2016/17 and 2017/18.

#### 42. Reference: Natural Gas

a) Please describe any changes to SaskPower's or NorthPoint's procedures, Risk Management Policy and/or Risk Management Manual related to procurement and pricing of Natural Gas supplies, including Storage and hedging since the last application.

#### 43. Reference: Natural Gas

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a) Please discuss whether there are any differences in procurement procedures, hedging activities or pricing considerations between natural gas supplies used for SPC generation and for PPA generation.

#### 44. Reference: Natural Gas

a) Please provide a table showing natural gas purchases within Saskatchewan and outside Saskatchewan including total volumes; average unit costs; and total natural gas expense for each year from 2013 to 2017/18.

#### 45. Reference: Natural Gas

a) Please provide a schedule showing actual natural gas hedged volumes for 2013 to 2015 and currently hedged volumes for 2016/17 and 2017/18. Please summarize the types of financial instruments used each year and indicate the overall annual cost of hedged volumes in aggregate and on a unit basis.

#### 46. Reference: Natural Gas

a) Please provide a schedule showing SaskPower's actual cost of natural gas for 2013-2015 and the estimated impact of hedging activities on the natural gas costs for the same period.

#### 47. Reference: Natural Gas

 a) Please discuss whether SaskPower has had any recent discussions with SaskEnergy with respect to combining the gas purchases for the two utilities.

#### 48. Reference: Natural Gas

a) Please provide a schedule showing the average cost of transmission and storage per GJ for 2013-2015 and forecast for 2016/17 and 2017/18.

#### 49. Reference: Natural Gas

 a) Please discuss what strategies SaskPower intends to pursue to mitigate risks associated with increasing reliance on natural gas and the associated price volatility.

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#### 50. Reference: Coal

a) Please provide details regarding each of SPC's coal supply contracts including the contract period, supply volumes, and pricing or price escalation provisions.

# 51. Reference: Coal

a) Please provide the actual or forecast coal volumes supplied, average heat values, locations of sources, and unit costs by source for each year from 2013 through 2017/18.

### 52. Reference: Coal

a) Please provide an update on whether SPC believes it will retire Boundary Dam Units #4 and #5 or build carbon capture technology for these units. Please identify any costs included in the 2016/17 and 2017/18 revenue requirements related to studying or planning related to these alternatives.

#### 53. Reference: Coal

a) Please provide an update on negotiations with the federal government on an emissions equivalency agreement. Does SPC believe it will be able to negotiate such an agreement before a decision must be made to retire Boundary Dam Units #4 and #5?

#### 54. Reference: Coal

a) Please provide an update on whether SaskPower believes it will have the opportunity to earn revenue from the implementation of carbon capture technology processes in other jurisdictions. If SaskPower believes such revenues are possible, please provide a summary of how those revenues might arise (from what types of products or services) and indicate whether any such revenues are included in the 2016/17 and 2017/18 forecasts.

# 55. Reference: Hydro

 a) Please provide the volume of hydro generation available at median flow levels now, and anticipated after the development of the Tazi Twé project.

### 56. Reference: Hydro

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a) Please provide a schedule showing the actual and forecast water rental rates from 2013 through 2017/18.

# 57. Reference: Hydro

a) Please discuss the basis of the specific flow conditions forecast for 2016/17 and 2017/18.

### 58. Reference: Hydro

a) Please confirm if the 40 year data series used for forecasting median flow conditions is rolling time series or not, i.e. as each new year of flow data becomes available does SaskPower drop the oldest year from the series when it adds the newer year of data?

#### 59. Reference: Hydro

 a) Please provide an update on the status of the partnership agreement, regulatory approvals and other planning requirements for the Tazi Twé project.

## 60. Reference: Export Power

a) Please provide a schedule showing variances between actual and forecast export quantities and revenues for 2013 to 2015 and provide variance explanations.

# 61. Reference: Export Power

a) Please discuss whether SaskPower's Generation Planning and future resource planning is based only on Saskatchewan's domestic supply requirements and excludes provisions for export power.

### 62. Reference: Export Power

a) Please describe any changes to SaskPower's Risk Management Policy and/or Risk Management Manual related to export sales since the last rate application.

#### 63. Reference: Wind

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a) Please discuss if SaskPower considers there is a maximum amount of wind generation, given its intermittent, non-dispatchable nature, that can be successfully integrated into the Saskatchewan electricity system.

#### 64. Reference: Wind

 a) Please provide a schedule showing actual and forecast monthly wind generation in GWh and wind capacity factors for wind facilities from 2013 through 2017/18.

#### 65. Reference: Wind

 a) Please discuss if SaskPower incurs any costs to integrate wind energy into the system and if so how these costs are reflected in the cost of wind energy.

### 66. Reference: Imports

a) Please provide a schedule showing actual and forecast import volumes and average prices separately for firm import contracts and spot market or short-term contracts for each year from 2013 through 2017/18.

#### 67. Reference: Operating, Maintenance and Administration (OM&A)

a) Please provide a table or chart depicting the actual or forecast OM&A spending per customer for the period 2010 to 2017/18.

# 68. Reference: Operating, Maintenance and Administration (OM&A)

a) Please provide a chart showing the number of customers/FTE for the years 2010 through 2015 and forecast for 2016/17 and 2017/18.

# 69. Reference: Operating, Maintenance and Administration (OM&A)

a) Please provide a schedule that breaks out actual and forecast total OM&A costs (i.e. before any amounts that are capitalized or any offsetting revenues or transfers) for standard time salaries and wages; overtime; vacation; retirement expenses; benefits; pension expense; external services; materials & supplies; travel and accommodation; marketing and communications; donations and sponsorships; and other administration for the period 2013 to 2017/18. Please separately show any reductions to OM&A for amounts that are capitalized or offset by additional sources of

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revenue to reconcile to the total annual OM&A shown on page 31 of the application.

# 70. Reference: Operating, Maintenance and Administration (OM&A)

a) Please file the most recent actuarial report relative to the Pension Plan(s) for employees.

## 71. Reference: Operating, Maintenance and Administration (OM&A)

a) Please provide a schedule detailing the original business plan OM&A and the revised OM&A for 2015 to 2017/18 showing the impact of each of the measures totaling \$52.9 million in savings discussed on page 31 of the application.

## 72. Reference: Operating, Maintenance and Administration (OM&A)

a) Please provide a table with the information supporting the data in the figure provided on page 32 of the application.

# 73. Reference: Operating, Maintenance and Administration (OM&A)

a) Please provide the actual overhaul spending for 2013 to 2015 and indicate the total overhaul spending forecast for 2016/17 and 2017/18.

### 74. Reference: Operating, Maintenance and Administration (OM&A)

a) Please provide the actual transmission and distribution maintenance spending in 2013 to 2015 and forecast for 2016/17 and 2017/18. Please elaborate on the additional initiatives described on page 32 of the application.

# 75. Reference: Operating, Maintenance and Administration (OM&A)

a) Please provide the actual and forecast vacancy rates for 2013 through 2017/18.

# 76. Reference: Operating, Maintenance and Administration (OM&A)

a) Please indicate when the current collective agreements are set to expire and provide an update on the status of any negotiations for future collective agreements.

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# 77. Reference: Operating, Maintenance and Administration (OM&A)

a) Please provide a table of SaskPower's Other Expense category for the period 2013 to 2015 and forecasts for 2016/17 and 2017/18 with a breakout of Asset Disposals, Asset Retirements, Foreign exchange (if any) and Environmental Expense.

# 78. Reference: Debt and Equity

a) Please discuss how SaskPower determines the appropriate mix of shortterm and long-term debt in its capital structure.

# 79. Reference: Debt and Equity

- a) With respect to the DBRS September 2015 report Tab 16 -
  - Please confirm that the DBRS ratings for SPC are a flow through of the ratings for the province of Saskatchewan.
  - Please confirm the current borrowing limit for SaskPower pursuant to the Power Corporation Act, SaskPower.
  - Please provide SaskPower's actual unused credit capacity at the end of 2015, and forecasts for 2016-17 and 2017-18.

### 80. Reference: Debt and Equity

a) Please provide a schedule showing SaskPower's actual and forecast capital structure (long-term debt; short-term debt, equity, other sources of financing) for 2010 through 2017/18.

# 81. Reference: Debt and Equity

a) Please provide the calculation of the operating return on equity percentage for each year from 2010 through 2015 and forecasts for 2016/17 and 2017/18 showing both the operating income and the equity component of SaskPower's total capital structure. Please confirm if the calculation includes an allowance for working capital as part of SaskPower's ratebase and if so, provide an explanation for how the working capital amounts were determined.

# 82. Reference: Debt and Equity

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a) Please confirm that SaskPower's long-term debt is guaranteed by the provincial government and discuss whether the province charges SaskPower a guarantee fee.

## 83. Reference: Debt and Equity

a) Please provide a table showing the actual and budgeted Return on Equity in dollars and in percentage terms for the period 2006 to 2015, on an actual and weather normalized basis.

#### 84. Reference: Debt and Equity

a) Please provide a table showing the actual and forecast debt-equity ratio for the period 2006-2015.

#### 85. Reference: Tax Expense

a) Please provide a table showing the detailed calculation of SaskPower's corporate capital tax obligation for 2015 and forecast for 2016/17 and 2017/18.

# 86. Reference: Tax Expense

a) Please discuss if the calculation of SaskPower's corporate capital tax obligation is affected by unrealized gains or losses.

### 87. Reference: Business Renewal (BR) Program

 a) Please elaborate on how the new connect joint services program operates and the source of the savings (e.g. reduced staff time; contributions from other utilities)

### 88. Reference: Business Renewal (BR) Program

 a) Please provide an update on whether SaskPower has observed any reliability or plant availability issues as a result of the overhaul maintenance management program.

### 89. Reference: Business Renewal (BR) Program

a) Please comment on whether there are any risks associated with eliminating the IT&S disaster recovery contract.

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# 90. Reference: Business Renewal (BR) Program

a) Please provide a table showing the calculation of savings related to the debt-mix program and comment on the degree to which other electric utilities include short-term debt in their financing structure.

## 91. Reference: Business Renewal (BR) Program

a) Please quantify the OM&A reductions in 2015 associated with the elimination of FTEs; salary rollback for out-of-scope employees; overtime reductions; and reduction in discretionary consulting and advertising spend.

# 92. Reference: Capital Program

a) Please provide a copy of SaskPower's most recent capital plan.

### 93. Reference: Capital Program

- a) For each capital project or program with final costs in excess of \$10 million for each year from 2013 to 2015 please provide:
  - The justification for the project (e.g. capacity or system growth requirements; infrastructure renewal; operating efficiencies/savings)
  - ii. the original budget allocation
  - iii. the final actual project direct costs
  - iv. capitalized interest, overheads, and other charges;
  - v. an explanation for any variances of more than 10% from the original budget
  - vi. the annual depreciation, finance, corporate capital tax and other related costs in the 2016/17 revenue requirement related to each project or program.

### 94. Reference: Capital Program

a) For each capital project or program with projected final costs in excess of \$10 million forecast to be completed in the 2016/17 or 2017/18 periods please provide:

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- The justification for the project (e.g. capacity or system growth requirements; infrastructure renewal; operating efficiencies/savings)
- ii. the project or program budget
- iii. estimated capitalized interest, overheads, and other charges;
- iv. the depreciation, finance, corporate capital tax and other related costs in the 2016/17 and 2017/18 revenue requirement related to each project or capital program.

# 95. Reference: Capital Program

a) Please discuss any change in SaskPower's capital budgeting process and capitalization policies since the last rate application.

## 96. Reference: Capital Program

a) Please provide SaskPower's actual customer connections for 2013 through 2015 and projected for 2016/17 and 2017/18.

### 97. Reference: Capital Program

a) Please provide an estimate of the average annual increase in depreciation expense, finance expense and return on equity for every \$100 million in new capital spending.

### 98. Reference: Capital Program

a) Please provide an overview of SPC's policy with respect to tendering capital projects including whether SPC's tendering policies include preferences for Saskatchewan or Canadian companies.

### 99. Reference: Capital Program

a) Please discuss the current state of capital planning for any future carbon capture projects including estimated timelines, key decision points and potential budgets related to such projects.

#### 100. Reference: Load Forecasts

a) Please provide a copy of SaskPower's most recent load forecast report.

#### 101. Reference: Load Forecasts

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a) For each year from 2006 through 2015, please provide a schedule showing the actual sales for each major customer group and the sales forecast from the load forecast immediately preceding the actual year. Please also include forecast and actual line losses and station service. Comment on any material variances between actuals and forecasts.

#### 102. Reference: Load Forecasts

a) Please indicate when the new load forecasting software was implemented and when SaskPower anticipates undertaking its next method review.

#### 103. Reference: Load Forecasts

a) Does SaskPower undertake a weather normalization analysis of historic sales as part of its load forecast? If so, please describe how SaskPower undertakes its weather normalization analysis.

#### 104. Reference: Load Forecasts

 a) Please discuss how SaskPower forecasts the number of customers for each customer class.

#### 105. Reference: Load Forecasts

a) Please discuss how SaskPower forecasts the billed demand for customer classes with a demand charge.

#### 106. Reference: Load Forecasts

a) Please discuss how frequently SaskPower updates its load forecast and indicate the date of the load forecast used to support the revenue forecasts in the application.

#### 107. Reference: Load Forecasts

a) Please indicate how frequently SaskPower has discussions with its major customers on short term and long term anticipated energy requirements and also discuss internal processes or activities utilized by SPC to assess the validity of the load forecasts provided by Key Account customers

#### 108. Reference: Load Forecasts

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a) Please provide the forecast and actual system winter and summer peaks for 2010 through 2015 and provide generation capacity by fuel types used to meet the peaks.

#### 109. Reference: Load Forecasts

 a) Please discuss SaskPower's generation planning criteria related to the amount of required available generation capacity in excess of the estimated peak load.

#### 110. Reference: Load Forecast

 a) Please provide the load forecast unadjusted for forecast DSM savings or indicate the amount of DSM savings included in each customer class forecast.

#### 111. Reference: Demand Side Management

 a) Please discuss how SaskPower develops its DSM programs and chooses which programs to implement.

# 112. Reference: Demand Side Management

a) Please provide the most recently completed Demand Side Management report.

#### 113. Reference: Demand Side Management

a) Please provide a table showing annual DSM spending, MW and GW.h savings, for the period 2013 to 2015 and forecast for 2016/17 and 2017/18 broken out by customer class and program area.

### 114. Reference: Demand Side Management

a) Please discuss the program evaluation criteria or metrics (e.g, RIM test, TRC test) economic cost benefit tests) SaskPower uses to evaluate the economic benefits of its DSM programming.

### 115. Reference: Demand Side Management

a) Please discuss whether DSM savings (both MW and MW.h) are considered to end or no longer provide system benefits. Alternatively, are savings assumed to continue indefinitely?

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# 116. Reference: Demand Response Program

- a) For Demand Response customers, please clarify:
  - i. How much capacity (in MW) is available under each of SaskPower's demand response options i) 15 minute curtailment notice, and ii) 2 hour curtailment notice.
  - ii. Are participating customers obligated to reduce usage when requested or is the program voluntary? If voluntary, how does SaskPower account for the uncertainty of whether customers will respond when requested?
  - iii. Are there terms related to the maximum number or duration curtailments SaskPower can request in a given year
  - iv. What is the duration of the Demand Response contracts?

# 117. Reference: Cost of Service Study

a) Please provide a list detailing any changes to methods used in SaskPower's cost of service study since the time of the last rate application.

### 118. Reference: Cost of Service Study

 a) Please discuss when SaskPower's next external review of its cost of service study will be completed.

### 119. Reference: Cost of Service Study

a) Please provide a table showing the derivation of the 2CP allocator by rate class including the actual winter and summer peak information used to calculate the 2CP allocator.

#### 120. Reference: Cost of Service Study

 a) Please provide a table comparing the revenue requirement allocated to each class and the revenue to revenue requirement ratios for 2016 and 2017 using the 2CP method and the 1CP method.

### 121. Reference: Cost of Service Study

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a) Please provide a schedule showing the calculation of the energy/demand classification ratios based on the equivalent peaker method and illustrate how this analysis is used to classify the plant in service to demand and energy.

## 122. Reference: Cost of Service Study

a) Please provide a schedule showing the average unit costs of energy, demand and customer by each major rate class calculated based on SaskPower's cost of service study and compare the average unit costs to the proposed rates effective January 1, 2017.

## 123. Reference: Cost of Service Study

a) Please explain how DSM costs and demand response costs are functionalized and classified in the cost of service study.

### 124. Reference: Proposed Rates

a) Please provide the revenues and revenue requirement breakdowns by class in dollars for each column in the table on page 4 of the Application.

#### 125. Reference: Proposed Rates

a) Please provide an explanation for why contract rates are only subject to a 3.9% rate increase despite their revenue to revenue requirement ratio after rate increases being less than 1.00 as shown in the table on page 4 of the application.

### 126. Reference: Proposed Rates

a) Please confirm the number of customers in the power contract class.

### 127. Reference: Proposed Rates

a) Please confirm that, outside of power contract rates, SaskPower is proposing to increase all elements of all rates (e.g. customer charges, demand charges, energy charges) by 5.1%. If the requested confirmation cannot be provided, please provide an explanation.

# 128. Reference: Proposed Rates

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a) Please elaborate on the statement on page 4 of the application that SaskPower is planning to execute a rate simplification plan in its next application. Please elaborate on which rate codes SaskPower anticipates will be combined and in what fiscal year SaskPower anticipates the changes will be made.

# 129. Reference: Proposed Rates

- a) Please provide the average percentage increase effective January 1, 2017 that would be required for the streetlights class to achieve a revenue to revenue requirement ratio of 0.98.
- b) Please provide the revenue to revenue requirement ratio for the commercial group of customers if the additional revenues generated in part a) were used to lower the average rate increases for commercial customers in a manner that would facilitate the future consolidation of those customer classes.

## 130. Reference: Competitiveness

a) Please identify which other jurisdictions are included in the 'thermal utility average' figures provided in the chart on page 16 of the application.

# 131. Reference: Competitiveness

 a) Please provide a copy of the customer satisfaction survey referenced on page 18 of the application.

#### 132. Reference: Competitiveness

a) Please expand the rates versus inflation figure at the top of page 19 of the application to include SaskPower's proposed rate increases for 2016/17 and the inflation rates assumed in SaskPower's most recent business plan.

# 133. Reference: Competitiveness

a) Please provide the electricity spending and total household spending figures used to calculate the percentages in the figure on page 19 of the application.

### 134. Reference: System Operations

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a) Please describe SaskPower's dispatch policies or rules for use of the various fuel sources to meet capacity and energy requirements. Please highlight any changes to these dispatch policies or rules since the last rate application.

# 135. Reference: System Operations

 a) Please discuss how SaskPower anticipates its dispatch policies and rules will change as coal generation is phased out.

# 136. Reference: Reliability

- a) Please provide a table summarizing transmission SAIDI; transmission SAIFI; distribution SAIDI and distribution SAIFI for the most recent five years of actuals available for each of:
  - i. SaskPower
  - ii. Canadian utility average

Please discuss any factors contributing to SaskPower's performance relative to the average of the other utilities such as reporting framework (e.g. including or excluding major events; different requirements for planned outages).

# 137. Reference: Reliability

a) Please provide a schedule summarizing power outages in excess of 2 hours, indicating the cause of the outages, the type of outage (generation, transmission, distribution) and the length of time required to restore power for each of the years 2013, 2014 and 2015.

### 138. Reference: Reliability

a) Please discuss how the condition of SaskPower's transmission lines relative to acceptable industry standards affects transmission outages. Please also discuss any expected improvements in transmission outages as a result of SaskPower's planned transmission capital program.

### 139. Reference: Resource Supply Plans

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a) Please explain the goals or objectives for SaskPower's Resource Supply Plans. Please provide an overview of the methods used to develop the plan, including any models or decision analysis frameworks used in the plan.

# 140. Reference: Resource Supply Plan

a) Please discuss how SaskPower's Resource Supply Plans are used internally, how often they are reviewed, updated and approved and what opportunities are planned for public review.

# 141. Reference: Resource Supply Plan

- a) Please provide a table that summarizes for each year from 2016 through 2035:
  - i. The expected system peak demand (MW) that must be met both before and after DSM; and
  - ii. The contribution of each individual existing or currently planned generation resource included in SPC's preferred supply plan to meeting the system peak demand.
  - iii. For each generation resource, please indicate whether it is considered to be a baseload, intermediate, peaking or intermittent resource.

### 142. Reference: Resource Supply Plan

- a) Please provide a table that summarizes for each year from 2016 through 2035:
  - i. The expected annual system energy requirement (GWh) that must be met both before and after DSM; and
  - ii. The contribution of each individual existing or currently planned generation resource included in SPC's preferred supply plan to meeting the annual system energy requirement.
  - iii. For each generation resource, please indicate whether it is considered to be a baseload, intermediate, peaking or intermittent resource.

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# 143. Reference: Resource Supply Plan

a) Please provide a table that summarizes, for each year from 2016 through 2035, the annual capital spending by project or program required to implement SaskPower's preferred supply plan.

## 144. Reference: Resource Supply Plan

- a) Please provide a table that summarizes the average cost of energy per MW.h (including capital costs, fuel expenses and non-fuel OM&A) (preferably in 2016 dollars) for each new generation resource planned to be added from 2016 through 2035.
- b) Please provide all assumptions and rationale used to derive the estimates provided in part (a) including availability assumptions for intermittent resources such as wind or solar.
- c) For comparison purposes, please provide the average levelized cost of energy per MW.h (including capital costs, fuel expenses and non-fuel OM&A) for SaskPower's existing generation resources by type (e.g. hydroelectric, natural gas, wind, coal).

#### 145. Reference: Resource Supply Plans

a) Please describe the criteria SaskPower uses, in addition to average unit costs of generation, to select generation resources in its Resource Supply Plan. Where appropriate, please provide examples of how these criteria are considered, ranked and/or quantified.

# 146. Reference: Resource Supply Plans

a) Please describe the supporting infrastructure, including transmission and distribution upgrades, required to implement SaskPower's preferred resource supply plan.

# 147. Reference: Resource Supply Plans

a) Please provide updates with respect to any partnership or stand-alone hydro projects envisioned within the 20 year planning horizon.

### 148. Reference: Community Partnerships and Investment Policy

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 a) Please explain how SaskPower ensures its community investments reflect industry best practice and are benchmarked by other professional organizations.

# 149. Reference: Other General

a) Please provide a copy of the 2016 Corporate Balanced Scorecard: Definitions document.

# 150. Reference: Other General

- a) Please indicate how frequently NERC audits are completed.
- b) Please discuss whether SaskPower has addressed all potential violations or deficiencies identified in the most recent NERC audit.

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