

Exhibit No.:

Witness:

Type of Exhibit:

Issue:

Sponsoring Party:

Case No.

Maurice Brubaker

Surrebuttal Testimony

Cost of Service/

Rate Design

Praxair, Inc.

ER-2001-299

**Before the Public Service Commission
of the State of Missouri**

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric
Company's tariff sheets designed to implement
a general rate increase for retail electric service
provided to customers in the Missouri service
area of the Company

Case No. ER-2001-299

Surrebuttal Testimony of

Maurice Brubaker

On behalf of

Praxair, Inc.

Exhibit No. 97

Date 5/29/01 Case No. ER-2001-299

Reporter KRM

Project 7513

May 17, 2001



BRUBAKER & ASSOCIATES, INC.

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141-2000

**In the Matter of The Empire District Electric
Company's tariff sheets designed to implement
a general rate increase for retail electric service
provided to customers in the Missouri service
area of the Company**

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) **SS**
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS)

My Commission Expires February 26, 2004.

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provided to customers in the Missouri service)
area of the Company)
_____)

Case No. ER-2001-299

Surrebuttal Testimony of Maurice Brubaker

1 Q PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

2 A Maurice Brubaker. My business address is 1215 Fern Ridge Parkway, Suite 208,
3 St. Louis, Missouri 63141-2000.

4 Q ARE YOU THE SAME MAURICE BRUBAKER WHO PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED IN
5 THIS PROCEEDING?

6 A Yes, I have filed direct and rebuttal testimony on rate design/cost of service issues.

7 Q WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

8 A In my surrebuttal testimony I will respond to the rebuttal testimony of the Missouri
9 PSC Staff (Staff) and Office of Public Counsel (OPC) with respect to electric cost of
10 service and rate design issues.

Maurice Brubaker
Page 1

1 **RESPONSE TO PSC STAFF**

2 Q AT PAGE 2 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY MR. WATKINS CLAIMS THAT THE
3 "AVERAGE & EXCESS" METHOD IS AN "INNOCUOUS SOUNDING AND
4 MISLEADING" NAME FOR A "PEAK RESPONSIBILITY" METHOD OF
5 ALLOCATING CAPACITY COSTS, AND THAT IN APPLYING THIS METHOD
6 EACH CLASS' DEMAND IN A SINGLE HOUR OF THE YEAR IS THE "SOLE"
7 DETERMINANT OF THE CAPACITY COST ALLOCATED TO EACH CLASS. IS
8 MR. WATKINS CORRECT?

9 A No, Mr. Watkins is profoundly incorrect. In applying the traditional Average & Excess
10 (A&E) method, two factors are used to derive the allocation of capacity costs to each
11 customer class. The first factor is the average demand of each customer class, and
12 the second factor is the "excess" demand of each customer class. Individual class
13 contributions to system peak demand are not used in the calculation.

14 The average demand of each customer class is simply that kilowatt demand
15 level which, if imposed on the system each and every hour of the year would total up
16 to each class' total kilowatthours. The average demand for each class is determined
17 by dividing each class' annual kilowatthours by the number of hours in the year
18 (8,760 hours in a non-leap year). For example, if a class consumed 657 million kilo-
19 watthours in a year, the average demand would be determined by dividing 657
20 million kilowatthours by 8,760 hours. The result would be an average demand of
21 75,000 kilowatts. If this demand level had been imposed each and every hour of the
22 year, the total annual kilowatthours used would have been 657 million.

23 At some point of time during the year, the class will experience a maximum
24 demand. This is known as the non-coincident peak. It is the highest demand that
25 the class experiences at any time, regardless of whether the system is at its peak or

1 not. For purposes of this example, assume this class has an annual non-coincident
2 peak demand of 100,000 kilowatts.

3 The excess demand is the difference between each classes' maximum or
4 non-coincident demand and its average demand. Continuing with the above
5 example, the excess demand would be 25,000 kilowatts, which is the difference
6 between the 100,000 kilowatt peak demand and the 75,000 kilowatt average
7 demand.

8 In developing the A&E allocation factor, the average demand of each class is
9 weighted by the load factor of the utility system, and the excess demand is weighted
10 by a factor equal to one minus the system load factor. The detailed derivation of the
11 A&E demand allocation factors, based on Praxair's total load, is shown on Page 2 of
12 Schedule 3 attached to my direct testimony. Page 3 of Schedule 3 is the derivation
13 of the A&E factors based on Praxair's firm load.

14 **Q WHAT IS MEANT BY THE TERM "CONTRIBUTION TO SYSTEM PEAK**
15 **DEMAND"?**

16 **A** The term "contribution to system peak demand" means the demand of a customer
17 class at the time that the system is experiencing its maximum demand. Although this
18 is usually thought of on an annual basis, there are also system peak demands during
19 each month of the year and some allocation methods use the contribution of each
20 class to one or more of these system peaks in developing an allocation.

21 In any event, a "contribution" is simply the demand of the particular class or
22 classes coincident with (at the time of) the system peak. In our example above
23 where the class had an average demand of 75,000 kW and a non-coincident peak
24 demand of 100,000 kW, the contribution to the system peak will be equal to or less

1 than 100,000 kW, since 100,000 kW is the maximum demand. It may or may not be
2 larger than 75,000 kW. This will depend upon the class. For example, the lighting
3 class typically has a zero contribution to system peak because it is an off-peak load.
4 For most classes, however, the contribution to peak demand will be an amount in
5 between the average demand and the non-coincident peak demand.

6 **Q ARE THERE VERSIONS OF THE A&E METHOD THAT UTILIZE THE**
7 **CONTRIBUTION TO SYSTEM PEAK DEMAND OF INDIVIDUAL CUSTOMER**
8 **CLASSES, RATHER THAN THE NON-COINCIDENT PEAK DEMAND?**

9 **A Yes. There are versions of the A&E method that do. Some of the statements which**
10 **Mr. Watkins makes may be applicable to those versions that do utilize the**
11 **contribution of individual customer classes to the system peak demand. However,**
12 **that is not the method I used, and therefore Mr. Watkins' criticisms are not**
13 **applicable.**

14 **Q ON PAGE 3 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. WATKINS ASSERTS THAT**
15 **HE HAS PROVED THAT "AVERAGE & EXCESS" IS IDENTICAL TO "PEAK**
16 **RESPONSIBILITY" BY THE CALCULATIONS SHOWN IN HIS SCHEDULE 1. IS**
17 **THIS WHAT SCHEDULE 1 TO MR. WATKINS' REBUTTAL TESTIMONY SHOWS?**

18 **A No. Schedule 1 to Mr. Watkins' rebuttal testimony does not provide a calculation**
19 **either of the "Average & Excess" method or the "Peak Responsibility" method.**

20 **Q WHAT DID MR. WATKINS CALCULATE ON HIS SCHEDULE 1?**

21 **A Mr. Watkins made a calculation of the "non-coincident peak" allocation factors. His**
22 **schedule shows only class non-coincident peaks and class energy. (These are the**

1 same numbers, by class, shown on Page 2 of Schedule 3 attached to my direct
2 testimony – wherein I showed the appropriate derivation of the Average & Excess
3 demand allocation factors.) Presumably, Mr. Watkins wants us to believe that the
4 two columns with the bold numbers, labeled “NCP percent” and “A&E percent” are
5 the Peak Responsibility and Average & Excess demand allocation factors,
6 respectively. They are not.

7 Q PLEASE EXPLAIN.

8 A The percentages shown in the “NCP percent” column represent the relationship
9 between the non-coincident peak demand of each class and the sum of the non-
10 coincident peak demands of all customer classes. This column simply is what it
11 states it is – the allocation factors that would be applicable if a non-coincident peak
12 method were used. This is not the peak responsibility allocation method.

13 Second, in calculating the A&E percentages, Mr. Watkins erroneously makes
14 a load factor calculation based on the sum of the individual class peaks (i.e., the non-
15 coincident peaks) rather than based on the maximum demand of all customers taken
16 together, that is, the load factor based on the system coincident peak. The way that
17 he has manipulated the numbers, it is inevitable that the two sets of percentages
18 would equal each other. The correct load factor calculation is shown on Page 2 of
19 my Schedule 3. The correct load factor is 56.16%, and not the erroneous 48.04%
20 used by Mr. Watkins. Furthermore, the real Average & Excess allocation factors
21 (which I used) are not the same as the non-coincident peak allocation factors, as Mr.
22 Watkins would have us believe.

23 For example, the non-coincident peak allocation factor shown on his
24 Schedule 1, for the residential class, is 49.67%. As shown on Page 2 of Schedule 3

1 to my direct testimony, the correct Average & Excess allocation factor for the
2 residential class is in fact 48.38%.

3 Q WHAT IS THE COINCIDENT PEAK ALLOCATION FACTOR FOR THE
4 RESIDENTIAL CLASS?

5 A This can be derived from information shown on Page 4 of Schedule 3 attached to my
6 direct testimony. Since the numbers used by Mr. Watkins include Praxair's total
7 demand, it is appropriate to use the numbers shown on Lines 13 through 24 on Page
8 4 of Schedule 3 for this derivation. Using data for the month of August, the
9 residential class' peak responsibility factor would be 53.27% ($438,372 \div 822,919$).
10 For ease of reference, Schedule 1 attached to this surrebuttal testimony presents a
11 comparison between the correctly calculated NCP factors (which nobody used, and
12 which appear only in Mr. Watkins' strawman calculation), the correctly calculated
13 Average & Excess factors and the correctly calculated Peak Responsibility factors.

14 The clearest example of the difference between the A&E and Peak
15 Responsibility methods is the lighting class. As shown on Line 11, the A&E factor is
16 1.63%, while the Peak Responsibility factor is 0%.

17 This comparison clearly shows that Mr. Watkins' calculations and
18 comparisons are erroneous.

19 Q HAVE YOU REVIEWED MR. WATKINS' SCHEDULE 2 WHERE HE CLAIMS TO
20 HAVE "MATHEMATICALLY" PROVED THE EQUIVALENCE OF AVERAGE &
21 EXCESS AND PEAK RESPONSIBILITY METHODS?

22 A Yes, I have reviewed it.

1 Q DOES IT PROVE WHAT MR. WATKINS SAYS IT PROVES?

2 A No, it does not. It only proves that if terms are incorrectly defined, then erroneous
3 results can be obtained. Essentially, Mr. Watkins equates the sum of the class peak
4 demands with peak responsibility – which is not an accurate representation.

5 Q DO YOU HAVE ANY CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING THE
6 CONTROVERSY WHICH MR. WATKINS HAS CREATED ABOUT THE
7 INTERPRETATION OF THE AVERAGE & EXCESS DEMAND METHODOLOGY?

8 A Yes. I find it quite surprising that Mr. Watkins has gone to such great lengths to try to
9 prove that the Average & Excess methodology is something that it really isn't. This
10 should not be an issue at all. The Average & Excess method which I have used is a
11 traditional, well-accepted, allocation method that has been employed in the electric
12 utility industry for over 30 years. The interpretations which Mr. Watkins attempts to
13 place on the Average & Excess methodology are unusual. He is either unfamiliar
14 with basic allocation techniques that have been used in the industry for decades, or
15 he is intentionally distorting the methodology in order to create a "strawman" that is
16 more easily attacked.

17 Q AS YOU HAVE APPLIED THE A&E METHOD, DID YOU USE THE MAXIMUM
18 DEMANDS OF THE INDIVIDUAL CLASSES, OR DID YOU USE THE CONTRIBU-
19 TIONS OF THE CUSTOMER CLASSES TO THE SYSTEM PEAK DEMAND?

20 A The traditional A&E method, which I used, employs the maximum demands of the
21 individual classes, irrespective of when they occur in relation to the system peak. It
22 does not use the contributions of the classes to the system peak demand.

1 Q IS THE CONVENTIONAL A&E METHOD WHICH YOU HAVE USED DESCRIBED
2 IN INDUSTRY LITERATURE?

3 A Yes. It is described in detail in many books, articles and manuals on cost allocation.
4 For example, the January 1992 edition of the "Electric Utility Cost Allocation Manual,"
5 published by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC)
6 describes the conventional Average & Excess method at Pages 49 and 50. A review
7 of this description and an analysis of the A&E factors which I have developed will
8 show that they are identical. It will further show that there is no relationship between
9 what the NARUC manual describes as the A&E method, and what Mr. Watkins
10 would have us believe that it is. Schedule 2 attached to this surrebuttal testimony is
11 an excerpt from the NARUC Cost Allocation Manual that describes the development
12 of the conventional A&E method.

13 Q DO YOU AGREE WITH MR. WATKINS THAT THE A&E METHOD IS UNREASON-
14 ABLE AND SHOULD BE REJECTED?

15 A No. The A&E method is a widely used and well respected method. It has stood the
16 test of time and is utilized by many commissions. In fact, the A&E method and the
17 coincident peak method are the most widely used methods in the industry.

18 Q ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY STATE COMMISSIONS WHICH HAVE ADOPTED
19 THE A&E METHOD BECAUSE IT RECOGNIZES BOTH THE ON-PEAK AND OFF-
20 PEAK USE OF AN ELECTRIC UTILITY'S SYSTEM BY THE VARIOUS
21 CUSTOMER CLASSES?

22 A Yes. Several have made those findings. One which may be of particular interest is
23 the Iowa Utilities Board which has consistently adopted the A&E method for the

1 allocation of production system fixed costs. As one example, in a February 25, 1994
2 order in Docket No. RPU-93-4 (Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric Company), the
3 Commission adopted a cost of service and rate design settlement (which was
4 supported by the utility and most intervenors) which utilized the average and excess
5 method. In so doing, the Iowa Utilities Board stated:

6 "The average and excess method allocations recognize
7 that electric utility systems are required to serve both
8 peak and off-peak demands. Fixed production costs
9 are generally classified as demand costs and allocated
10 based on a combination of average [and] maximum
11 customer class demands and variable production costs
12 are generally classified as energy costs and allocated
13 by overall customer class usage." (Iowa Utilities Board,
14 Docket RPU-93-4, In Re: Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric
15 Company, Order dated February 25, 1994, at Page 4.)

16 Q IN CONTRAST TO THE TRADITIONAL A&E METHOD, DO STAFF AND OPC
17 CONTINUE TO ARGUE IN SUPPORT OF THEIR PROPOSED METHODS?

18 A Yes. As described in more detail in my rebuttal testimony, the Staff has created
19 something which it calls a "time of use" allocation method, and OPC has developed
20 a monthly NCP and Average cost allocation method.

21 Q ARE THE STAFF OR OPC METHODS CONVENTIONAL OR ACCEPTED IN THE
22 INDUSTRY?

23 A No. I have never seen either method written up in any book, article, or manual that
24 describes appropriate cost allocation techniques. Furthermore, I am not aware of
25 any place other than Missouri where either of these methods has ever been
26 proposed. They are both unconventional and illogical. They fail to appropriately
27 consider the factors which cause costs to be incurred and produce a distorted
28 allocation. They are highly favorable to low load factor customers, and highly

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1 disadvantageous to high load factor customers, thereby rewarding inefficient use and
2 penalizing efficient use. Adoption of unconventional methods such as these, that
3 allocate significantly more cost responsibility to business customers than do more
4 traditional methods used by other states, would certainly be a negative factor in
5 assessing Missouri's business climate.

6 **Q MR. WATKINS ALSO IS CRITICAL OF YOUR TREATMENT OF PRAXAIR IN THE**
7 **COST OF SERVICE STUDY BECAUSE YOU ONLY ALLOCATED COSTS BASED**
8 **ON PRAXAIR'S FIRM LOAD OF 300 KW. DO YOU AGREE WITH MR. WATKINS'**
9 **CRITICISM?**

10 **A No. First, let me state that in Schedule 4 to my direct testimony, I did in fact allocate**
11 **costs to all of Praxair's load, both firm and interruptible. This is equivalent to the**
12 **general methodology employed by both Empire and Staff. The results of this study**
13 **indicate the cost to serve Praxair if Praxair were totally firm. This may be interesting**
14 **but it is not reality. 95% of Praxair's load is interruptible. Nevertheless, it does show**
15 **that, using Mr. Watkins' preferred basis, Praxair provides revenues more than**
16 **sufficient to recover its cost of service. I will discuss this in more detail later when I**
17 **respond to Staff Witness Pyatte.**

18 **Q WHY IS IT APPROPRIATE TO REMOVE PRAXAIR'S INTERRUPTIBLE LOAD**
19 **WHEN DOING THE COST OF SERVICE STUDY?**

20 **A It is appropriate because only 300 kW of Praxair's total load is firm. Any load above**
21 **the firm level can be interrupted by Empire when the power is needed to provide**
22 **reliable service to firm customers. Generation capacity is not constructed to meet**
23 **Praxair's interruptible requirements, and it is not appropriate to allocate fixed costs**

1 associated with production facilities to Praxair's interruptible load because this load
2 does not cause these costs to be incurred. Of course, Praxair gets a full allocation of
3 the variable costs (fuel, variable purchased power, O&M expense etc.) associated
4 with the production function. I have also allocated to Praxair transmission capacity
5 based on its total load (firm plus interruptible).

6 **Q MR. WATKINS NOTES THAT IN 1999 PRAXAIR HAD A DEMAND OF 8,409 KW**
7 **AT THE TIME OF EMPIRE'S SYSTEM PEAK. IS THIS RELEVANT?**

8 **A** No. It is not relevant because, had Empire needed the capacity which was serving
9 Praxair to instead serve firm customers, it would have taken the capacity away from
10 Praxair and used it to serve firm load. Thus, it is appropriate to allocate only to
11 Praxair capacity based on its firm load entitlement.

12 The fact that interruptions may not have occurred at the time of the system
13 peak is totally irrelevant. The Company can plan its system based on Praxair's firm
14 load entitlement, and need not plan generation capacity to meet Praxair's
15 interruptible load.

16 **Q HAVE YOU REVIEWED THE REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF STAFF WITNESS**
17 **JANICE PYATTE?**

18 **A** Yes. Ms. Pyatte observes, at Pages 10-12 of her testimony, that there could be
19 some rate relationship problems (between Rate CB and Rate SH) if these two rates
20 received the different percentage increases that I have recommended.

1 Q HOW DO YOU RESPOND?

2 A To the extent that there are these kinds of issues I have no objection to considering
3 these two schedules together for revenue allocation and rate design purposes. Ms.
4 Pyatte's criticism is the tail wagging the dog. While her issue is valid, it is not a
5 reason to reject the basic cost of service study or revenue allocation
6 recommendations. Rather, the identified issue points out a potential problem with
7 the rates themselves, which can easily be accommodated.

8 Q AT PAGE 2 OF HER REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, WITNESS PYATTE INDICATES
9 THAT YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY INCLUDES A "CORRECTED" VERSION OF
10 EMPIRE'S COST OF SERVICE STUDY. IS SHE RIGHT?

11 A Yes. This corrected study is presented as Schedule 4 attached to my direct
12 testimony.

13 Q SHE GOES ON TO STATE THAT EMPIRE HAS NOT ADOPTED YOUR
14 CORRECTIONS OR YOUR RESULTS. IS THIS CORRECT?

15 A It is correct to state that Empire has not adopted the results, because it has not filed
16 a version of its cost of service study that corrects for the erroneous understatement
17 of the Praxair revenues contained in the cost of service study filed with its direct
18 testimony, as well as in a subsequently provided study which corrected only for an
19 error in the depreciation reserve associated with distribution plant accounts.

20 The Empire cost of service study has Praxair revenues of \$1,536,000. The
21 correct revenues, as shown on Schedule 4 attached to my direct testimony, and as
22 also used by MPSC Staff in its cost of service study, is \$1,868,000. Thus, the
23 Empire study understates the Praxair revenue by \$331,000, or almost 20%! (In this

1 version of the study, as well as Staff's version, Praxair is treated as a firm load for
2 allocation purposes, and its revenue is the amount which it pays to Empire before the
3 interruptible credit is applied.) Since the revenue number I am using was provided to
4 me by Empire as a correction to its erroneously stated number, I believe it is more
5 accurate to say that Empire has not yet filed a correct cost of service study. When it
6 does, the results for Praxair should be comparable to what is shown on Schedule 4
7 attached to my direct testimony – which is that Praxair's rate of return at current rates
8 is 132% of the system average rate of return, and that Praxair is paying rates in
9 excess of its fully allocated cost of service.

10 The same schedule also shows that if an increase is allocated on an equal
11 percentage across-the-board basis, Praxair's rate of return increases to 138% of the
12 new system average rate of return, and the extent to which it is providing revenues in
13 excess of cost of service (i.e., the subsidy that it provides) more than doubles.

14 **OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL**

15 Q HAVE YOU REVIEWED THE REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF OPC WITNESS HONG
16 HU?

17 A Yes, I have.

18 Q WHAT DOES THE TABLE ON PAGE 2 OF MS. HU'S REBUTTAL TESTIMONY
19 SHOW?

20 A It shows a comparison of class rates of return for selected customer classes under
21 the various cost of service studies that have been presented.

1 Q DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ON THIS TABLE?

2 A Yes. In the line labeled "company" Ms. Hu shows the erroneous negative 2.45% rate
3 of return for the Praxair special contract that appears in the Company's study. As
4 noted previously, this version of the Company's study contains an admitted,
5 uncorrected, error in Praxair's revenues at present rates of approximately \$331,000.
6 If that error is corrected, the Praxair rate of return at present rates should be
7 approximately 6.15%, or 132% of system average, as shown on Schedule 4 to my
8 direct testimony.

9 Q ON PAGE 4 OF HER REBUTTAL TESTIMONY MS. HU ATTEMPTS TO DEFEND
10 A TOU COST ALLOCATION METHOD. DID MS. HU USE A TOU COST
11 ALLOCATION METHOD IN DEVELOPING HER COST OF SERVICE STUDY?

12 A No, she did not.

13 Q DOES MS. HU ADD ANY REASONS IN SUPPORT OF A TOU METHODOLOGY
14 THAT YOU HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY ADDRESSED?

15 A No. I have previously addressed, in my rebuttal testimony, the fallacies with the so-
16 called TOU methodology that Staff has used. Ms. Hu adds no new arguments.

17 Q AT PAGE 5 OF HER REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MS. HU CRITICIZES THE
18 AVERAGE & EXCESS DEMAND ALLOCATION METHOD. IS HER CRITICISM
19 VALID?

20 A No. She erroneously states (beginning on Line 4) that the A&E method allocates
21 demand-related costs based on excess demands instead of total demands. This is
22 not a correct statement. The A&E method considers both average demands and

1 excess demands and develops total demands for purposes of allocating total
2 demand-related costs. Thus, the A&E method does not do what Ms. Hu says it
3 does. As a result, her criticisms are unfounded.

4 Q AT PAGES 5 AND 6 OF HER TESTIMONY MS. HU CRITICIZES YOUR REMOVAL
5 OF PRAXAIR'S INTERRUPTIBLE LOAD FROM THE ALLOCATION OF
6 PRODUCTION-RELATED COSTS. DO YOU AGREE WITH HER CRITICISMS?

7 A No. First, I should note that she erroneously states that no production or
8 transmission costs were allocated to Praxair's interruptible load. As is explicitly clear
9 from my testimony and exhibits, Praxair was allocated a full share of transmission
10 costs based on its total load, and not just its interruptible load.

11 Beyond that, Ms. Hu's criticisms are similar to those asserted by Mr. Watkins,
12 and the response is the same. That is, the Company's obligation to supply Praxair is
13 to the limit of its firm power requirements. If capacity is not sufficient to reliably serve
14 firm customers and also serve Praxair's interruptible power requirements, the firm
15 customers get the capacity – Praxair gets curtailed. Thus it is eminently fair and
16 reasonable that Praxair not be allocated cost responsibility for generation capacity
17 that it neither causes to be incurred, nor is entitled to use when others need it.

18 Q MS. HU MAKES FURTHER COMMENTS ON PAGE 6 CONCERNING THE LACK
19 OF ANY EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT PRAXAIR'S FREQUENCY OR DURATION OF
20 INTERRUPTIONS. DO YOU CARE TO RESPOND?

21 A Yes. To the best of my knowledge, Praxair has complied with each and every
22 curtailment request that Empire has made of it. The number of times that
23 interruptions are required is a function of the condition of the generating units on the

1 utility system, temperature, humidity, cloud cover, the condition of the transmission
2 system and the air-conditioning driven demands of residential and small commercial
3 customers. In some years there will be more interruptions than in other years. What
4 matters is not the number of interruptions that occur, but the fact that the Company is
5 entitled to interrupt the load when the capacity is needed to serve firm customers.

6 Q DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

7 A Yes, it does.

THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY

Comparison of Demand Allocators

Line	<u>Rate Classes</u>		Class Non- Coincident Peak <u>(kW)</u>	Class NCP Percent <u>(2)</u>	Average & Excess Allocator <u>(3)</u>	Demands at the Time of the System Peak Aug 1999 <u>(kW)</u>	System Peak Demand Percent <u>(5)</u>
			(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Residential	RG	477,998	49.67%	48.38%	438,372	53.27%
2	Commercial	CB	100,930	10.49%	10.22%	72,643	8.83%
3	Commercial	SH	37,631	3.91%	3.79%	25,294	3.07%
4	General Power	GP	147,618	15.34%	15.85%	123,117	14.96%
5	El. Furnace	PF	2,414	0.25%	0.22%	5	0.00%
6	Praxair		8,084	0.84%	0.93%	8,409	1.02%
7	Total El Build	TEB	71,242	7.40%	7.45%	60,255	7.32%
8	Feed Mill	PFM	613	0.06%	0.06%	68	0.01%
9	Large Power	LP	99,143	10.30%	11.47%	94,698	11.51%
10	Misc Lights	MS	58	0.01%	0.01%	58	0.01%
11	Other Lights		16,683	1.73%	1.63%	-	0.00%
12	Total Retail		962,414	100.00%	100.00%	822,919	100.00%

Note:

Column (1) is from Brubaker's Direct Testimony, Schedule 3, Page 2 of 4.

Column (2) is Column (1) expressed as a percent of the total.

Column (3) is from Brubaker's Direct Testimony Schedule 3, Page 2 of 4.

Column (4) is from Brubaker's Direct Testimony Schedule 3, Page 4 of 4,

Column (1), Lines 13 through 24.

Column (5) is Column (4) expressed as a percent of the total.

I. Average and Excess Method

Objective: The cost of service analyst may believe that average demand rather than coincident peak demand is a better allocator of production plant costs. The average and excess method is an appropriate method for the analyst to use. The method allocates production plant costs to rate classes using factors that combine the classes' average demands and non-coincident peak (NCP) demands.

Data Requirements: The required data are: the annual maximum and average demands for each customer class and the system load factor. All production plant costs are usually classified as demand-related. The allocation factor consists of two parts. The first component of each class's allocation factor is its proportion of total average demand (or energy consumption) times the system load factor. This effectively uses an average demand or total energy allocator to allocate that portion of the utility's generating capacity that would be needed if all customers used energy at a constant 100 percent load factor. The second component of each class's allocation factor is called the "excess demand factor." It is the proportion of the difference between the sum of all classes' non-coincident peaks and the system average demand. The difference may be negative for curtailable rate classes. This component is multiplied by the remaining proportion of production plant -- i.e., by 1 minus the system load factor -- and then added to the first component to obtain the "total allocator." Table 4-10A shows the derivation of the allocation factors and the resulting allocation of production plant costs using the average and excess method.

TABLE 4-10A

CLASS ALLOCATION FACTORS AND ALLOCATED PRODUCTION PLANT REVENUE REQUIREMENT USING THE AVERAGE AND EXCESS METHOD

Class Rate	Demand Allocation Factor - NCP MW	Average Demand (MW)	Excess Demand (NCP MW - Avg. MW)	Average Demand Component of Alloc. Factor	Excess Demand Component of Alloc. Factor	Total Allocation Factor (%)	Class Production Plant Revenue Requirement
DOM	5,357	2,440	2,917	17.95	18.51	36.46	386,683,685
LSMP	5,062	2,669	2,393	19.64	15.18	34.82	369,289,317
LP	3,385	2,459	926	18.09	5.88	23.97	254,184,071
AG&P	572	254	318	1.87	2.02	3.89	41,218,363
SL	126	58	68	0.43	0.43	0.86	9,101,564
TOTAL	14,502	7,880	6,622	57.98	42.02	100.00	\$1,060,476,000

Notes: The system load factor is 57.98 percent, calculated by dividing the average demand of 7,880 MW by the system coincident peak demand of 13,591 MW. This example shows production plant classified as demand-related.

Some columns may not add to indicated totals due to rounding.

If your objective is -- as it should be using this method -- to reflect the impact of average demand on production plant costs, then it is a mistake to allocate the excess demand with a coincident peak allocation factor because it produces allocation factors that are identical to those derived using a CP method. Rather, use the NCP to allocate the excess demands.

Source: *Electricity Utility Cost Allocation Manual*, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, January 1992, Pages 49-50.