

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. for an Increase in Gas)	Case No. 07-589-GA-AIR		- •	꼺
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In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. for approval of an Alternative Rate Plan for its Gas Distribution Service))	Case No. 07-590-GA-ALT		FEB 21 PM	INED-DOCKETING
In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. for Approval to Change Accounting Methods)	Case No. 07-591-GA-AAM	ı	2: 52	

NOTICE OF FILING DEPOSITION BY THE OFFICE OF THE OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL

Pursuant to Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-21, The Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel gives notice of filing the deposition of Warren Fisher, which was taken on February 11, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

It is hereby certified that a true copy of the foregoing Ohio Consumers' Counsel's Notice of

Filing deposition, was served via Electronic Mail, this Ast day of February, 2008.

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- 1 WHEREUPON, the following proceedings
- 2 were taken pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil
- 3 Procedure.
- 4 * * * * *
- 5 WARREN FISCHER,
- 6 having been first duly sworn or affirmed to state the
- 7 whole truth, testified as follows:
- 8 EXAMINATION
- 9 BY MR. SAUER:
- 10 Q. Mr. Fischer, my name is Larry Sauer.
- 11 I'm an attorney representing the Office of the Ohio
- 12 Consumers' Counsel, and I believe with us today is
- 13 John Finnigan, an attorney representing Duke Energy
- 14 Ohio; Tom Lindgren, representing the Attorney General
- of Ohio, representing the staff; and Jodi Bair, I
- 16 think, is still on the line.
- 17 MR. SAUER: Jodi, are you there as well?
- 18 MS. BAIR: Yes, I'm here on behalf of
- 19 the staff and Public Utilities Commission with Tom.
- Q. (BY MR. SAUER) And, Mr. Fischer, have
- 21 you had your deposition taken before?
- 22 A. Yes, I have.
- Q. So generally you know the ground rules,
- 24 that I'm going to ask you a series of questions, and
- 25 you can answer those to the best of your ability. If

- 1 you don't understand a question, ask me to repeat it
- 2 or clarify it in some way. If I can, I will, and
- 3 because there's a court reporter there taking down
- 4 everything you're saying, it would be helpful if you
- 5 answer yes or no as opposed to uh-huh or huh-uh
- 6 because those are difficult to understand later when
- 7 you read the transcript.
- If you need to take a break at any time,
- 9 just let me know; we can stop. If there's a question
- 10 pending, I would ask you answer the question before we
- 11 break.
- 12 And do you understand generally the
- 13 process that we're going to go through here?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 O. This is a bit unusual in that we're
- doing it telephonically, so I'll try my best to let
- 17 you finish and not talk over you and so that the court
- 18 reporter can get down everything that's being said.
- 19 We'll start out, can you give me
- 20 generally an idea of your educational background after
- 21 high school?
- 22 A. Yes. My educational background consists
- 23 of a bachelor's of science degree in business
- 24 administration with an emphasis in accounting from the
- 25 University of Colorado in Boulder. I have no other

- 1 postgraduate education other than that.
- Q. How about work history? Can you give me
- 3 a sense of what you've been doing since you graduated
- 4 from --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. -- University of Colorado?
- 7 A. Yes. Immediately after graduating from
- 8 the University of Colorado, I passed the CPA exam and
- 9 began working for what was Deloitte Haskins & Sells at
- 10 that time for a period of two and a half years, where
- 11 I became certified as a public accountant. After
- 12 leaving Deloitte Haskins, which is now Deloitte &
- 13 Touche, I went to work for a company called Century 21
- 14 Real Estate Corporation, which specializes in the
- 15 franchising side of the real estate business.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. I worked there as a financial analyst
- 18 for a period of approximately four years. Subsequent
- 19 to my employment with Century 21 Real Estate
- 20 Corporation, I went to work as a senior financial
- 21 analyst with the E. & J. Gallo Winery in Modesto,
- 22 California. That was also for a period of about four
- 23 years.
- 24 And subsequent to working for E. & J.
- 25 Gallo Winery, I went to work for AT&T Corporation in

- 1 Denver, Colorado and was primarily responsible for
- 2 working with the regulatory and -- regulatory function
- 3 there within AT&T at that time.
- I worked for AT&T for a period of five
- 5 years, and after leaving AT&T, I came to work here
- 6 with my present employer, which is QSI Consulting,
- 7 Inc. Since joining QSI in 2000, I have progressed
- 8 through a number of positions and am now presently the
- 9 chief financial officer of the company.
- 10 Q. About how many employees does QSI have?
- 11 A. We have approximately ten employees.
- 12 Q. And what type of consulting work have
- 13 you been doing since joining QSI?
- 14 A. The consulting work that I have been
- 15 doing since joining QSI has been primarily based in
- 16 telecommunications, regulatory economic consulting,
- involved with litigation support in a number of
- 18 regulatory filings across the country primarily as it
- 19 pertains to opening up the local exchange market to
- 20 competition.
- 21 We've also had roles in a number -- in
- 22 some energy-related work; some that we've partnered
- 23 with Blue Ridge Consulting Services on, others that
- 24 other members of our firm have dealt with on their
- own, but the focus of our company is mainly

- 1 telecommunications support.
- Q. Approximately how many of these
- 3 consulting engagements have you been involved with
- 4 with Blue Ridge Consulting?
- 5 A. This is my third -- the present case is
- 6 the second engagement that I've worked with Blue
- 7 Ridge. We are currently involved with a third
- 8 engagement on a similar case pending in front of the
- 9 Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, and that is with
- 10 Dominion East, Ohio.
- 11 Q. Okay. Thank you. What materials do you
- 12 have with you today, sir?
- 13 A. I have the final report issued by Blue
- 14 Ridge Consulting Services in this case. I have a
- 15 staff report. I have OCC's objections as well as
- 16 other objections raised by other parties. I've got
- 17 work papers electronically that we've prepared for the
- 18 audit.
- 19 Q. Okay. Very good. If we look at the
- 20 Blue Ridge report on Page 8, there's a general
- 21 description of the project scope and there are four
- 22 major areas; the general requirements, the
- 23 allocations, the operating income, and the rate base A
- 24 through D. Do you see those?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. That was, again, Page 8 of the Blue
- 2 Ridge report.
- 3 A. I do see those.
- 4 Q. And is it your understanding that those
- 5 generally came from the staff's RFP?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And then within each of those four
- 8 areas, there are -- if you look at the table of
- 9 contents, Page 3, there are subtasks within each of
- 10 those four major categories. Is that correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And is it your understanding or can you
- 13 explain to me how those major -- those general tasks
- 14 under each major area came about?
- 15 A. It's my understanding that each of those
- 16 tasks were taken primarily from the work steps
- 17 required in the request for proposal.
- 18 Q. And your responsibilities under this
- 19 audit, can you explain what those were?
- 20 A. Yes. My responsibilities largely
- 21 consisted of the Section C, Operating Income Testing,
- 22 validation of the company's revenue requirement
- 23 filing, validation of its budgeting and forecasting
- 24 process, and there were some additional testing
- 25 outside of Section C, which we call the miscellaneous

- 1 areas that involve some billing records testing.
- 2 Q. That would be the other independent
- 3 analysis?
- 4 A. That's correct.
- 5 Q. Is that what you're referring to?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And can you tell me how that particular
- 8 section came about?
- 9 A. That section came about, I think, upon
- 10 reviewing the general requirements section of the
- 11 request for proposal. The staff had listed a number
- 12 of areas that the auditors should examine records to
- 13 be able to opine on the validity of the company's
- 14 accuracy of its recordkeeping, and billing records was
- one of those general requirements.
- 16 Q. So this was an area that Blue Ridge
- 17 determined on their own essentially to select the
- 18 billing as an area of analysis?
- 19 A. Well, I think it was one of many that
- 20 Blue Ridge selected. I think there are other areas
- 21 that are embedded within other sections of the report
- 22 where they are addressed, and I think the beginning of
- 23 the report generally describes how the general
- 24 requirements were addressed through the audit.
- 25 Q. And in reviewing the billing records,

- 1 was there also a review of the meter reading and those
- 2 kind of processes as well?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And within each of these tasks, there
- 5 was generally a background discussion, analysis, and
- 6 recommendation and conclusions. Typically, isn't that
- 7 how the report was set up?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. For example, if you look at Page 121 of
- 10 your billing records, there is a -- the audit team is
- 11 listed, and then there's a background discussion about
- 12 the billing records. And then on Page 124, there's
- 13 some findings, and right under the findings, there are
- 14 conclusions and recommendations. Is that typically
- 15 how the Blue Ridge went through each of the various
- 16 tasks that they were assigned?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And in the billing records' conclusions
- 19 and recommendations that follow on Page 124 and 125, I
- 20 don't see any specific recommendations to the company
- 21 that there's anything -- any exceptions or problems
- 22 that Blue Ridge identified in this particular area.
- 23 Would that be correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And as part of that review of the

- 1 billing records and the meter-reading activities, did
- 2 Blue Ridge have any opportunity to review the
- 3 company's proposal for their Utility of the Future
- 4 initiative?
- 5 A. I think that may have been addressed in
- 6 a different area. During our interviews with company
- 7 personnel, there was discussion of the company's plans
- 8 to upgrade its meter-reading process to be more
- 9 automated, but we did not get into specifics in terms
- 10 of any sort of capital expenditures or defined time
- 11 lines. We just generally inquired about what that
- 12 process entailed and when they expected to complete
- 13 that migration and how many customers that would
- 14 affect ultimately.
- 15 Q. Was there any ability on Blue Ridge's
- 16 part to identify the proposed expenditures that Duke
- 17 was contemplating spending on the Utility of the
- 18 Future initiative?
- 19 A. I'm sure we had the ability. I don't
- 20 know if that was addressed by someone else on the
- 21 team. I don't have direct knowledge of that.
- Q. Similarly with any benefits that would
- 23 have been expected to be derived from Duke's proposal
- 24 to undertake the Utility of the Future initiative,
- 25 would you have been involved in that process?

- 1 A. Only to the extent that Duke personnel
- 2 conveyed to us during interviews what they hoped that
- 3 upgrade in technology would do for them.
- 4 Q. And who -- were you involved in that
- 5 interview process?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. I think it was on Page 25. There's a
- 8 listing of the various company personnel that were
- 9 interviewed. Who would you have interviewed regarding
- 10 the Utility of the Future initiative?
- 11 A. It most likely came up in conversations
- 12 or interviews with Tiffany Moore, Charles Session, who
- 13 is the manager of meter reading. I think those are
- 14 the two primary individuals that would have discussed
- 15 that.
- 16 Q. Maybe I missed it in the Blue Ridge
- 17 report, do you think somewhere in this document
- 18 there's a discussion of the Blue Ridge utility
- 19 initiative?
- 20 A. I would have to search through it to
- 21 confirm that.
- Q. So you don't have -- well, let's take a
- 23 step back. The area of your responsibilities were
- 24 operating income and the independent analysis section;
- 25 is that correct?

- 1 A. A portion of the independent analysis
- 2 session, the one dealing with the billing records.
- 3 Q. Billing records only?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And it wasn't included in there,
- 6 correct?
- 7 A. Correct. There is a reference to the
- 8 Utility of the Future program on Page 122 as part of a
- 9 footnote.
- 10 Q. That would be footnote 247?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Is that what you're referring to,
- 13 Mr. Fischer?
- 14 A. Yes, it is.
- 15 Q. And that's talking about a certain
- 16 number of AMI-capable meters in Kentucky?
- 17 A. Presently, and their expectation, I
- 18 think, as they roll it out.
- 19 Q. Okay. And do you think there's any
- 20 other reference to the Utility of the Future within
- 21 the Blue Ridge report?
- 22 A. No, I don't see any.
- 23 Q. So when you were interviewing Tiffany
- 24 Moore, or was it Charles Session, you think there may
- 25 have been some discussion in terms of the total

- 1 expenditures that Duke was contemplating spending on
- 2 the Utility of the Future program in Ohio?
- 3 A. Not that I recall, but I can certainly
- 4 review the interview notes to see if there was any
- 5 discussion of that.
- 6 Q. Okay. To your knowledge, was there ever
- 7 a situation in which the staff instructed Blue Ridge
- 8 to investigate any aspect of Duke's application which
- 9 exceeded the scope of the audit that was established
- 10 by the RFP?
- 11 A. Not to my knowledge.
- 12 Q. Did your audit take you outside any
- 13 particular areas of responsibility as the audit scope
- 14 had been defined?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. I'm sorry. Did I miss an answer to that
- 17 previous question?
- 18 A. I said no.
- 19 Q. I'm sorry. I didn't hear. On Page 17
- 20 there's a discussion of a kick-off meeting. Were you
- 21 in attendance at that meeting?
- 22 A. I'm sorry. Was that in the Blue Ridge
- 23 report or in the staff report?
- Q. That was in the Blue Ridge report?
- 25 A. Yes, I did attend the kick-off meeting.

- 1 Q. And were you -- when did your audit
- 2 commence?
- A. It was either that afternoon or the
- 4 following day.
- 5 Q. And during the period of the audit, how
- 6 much time did you spend in Cincinnati at Duke's
- 7 facilities?
- 8 A. I think it was three separate trips,
- 9 about three to four days per trip, so a total of about
- 10 twelve days at the most.
- 11 Q. And when did your audit responsibilities
- 12 conclude?
- 13 A. When we filed the report with the staff.
- 14 Q. And what was the date of that?
- 15 A. I don't know the exact date. That was
- 16 ultimately filed by the people at Blue Ridge
- 17 consulting services, but I think it was somewhere
- 18 early December.
- 19 Q. Well, the Blue Ridge report was filed, I
- 20 believe, December 20th, the same day as the staff
- 21 report, but did you have a deadline prior to
- 22 December 20th in which you had to have the Blue Ridge
- 23 report completed?
- 24 A. Yes. My understanding was a draft --
- 25 final draft was due to the staff I think just after

- 1 the Thanksgiving holiday, which would have put it in
- 2 the early part of December.
- 3 Q. And during the audit process, what was
- 4 the frequency of your contact with the staff?
- 5 A. My contact with staff was minimal.
- 6 Virtually all conversations with staff went through
- 7 Michael McGarry, the project manager.
- 8 Q. Okay. You said your contact was
- 9 minimal. Do you know approximately how many times you
- 10 had contact with the staff?
- 11 A. My contact was limited to, I believe,
- 12 the kick-off meeting when we were all present in
- 13 Cincinnati, and then I think --
- 14 Q. Was that the only contact?
- 15 A. I think there was one conference call
- 16 with staff to go over the status of the testing and
- 17 the report prior to completion of the report.
- 18 Q. And do you know who was present from
- 19 Blue Ridge on that conference call?
- 20 A. I believe it was myself, Michael
- 21 McGarry. It may have just been the two of us. It
- 22 could have been Donna Mullinax as well, but I think it
- 23 was just the two of us.
- Q. And how about from the staff? Do you
- 25 know who was on the other end of the conference call?

- 1 A. I believe it was Ed Hess and possibly
- 2 Jodi Bair.
- 3 Q. And what was generally the discussion
- 4 regarding the state of the testing and the status of
- 5 the report at that point?
- A. I believe the context of the call was to
- 7 discuss where we were at with the report in terms of
- 8 not only completing the primary audit steps but some
- 9 of our potential findings and recommendations that the
- 10 staff should address at our recommendation.
- 11 Q. I'm sorry. Can you repeat that last
- 12 part again?
- 13 A. Yes. My understanding or recollection
- 14 of the conversation was to not only discuss the status
- of all of our testing and the report drafting, but to
- 16 highlight our primary findings and recommendations
- 17 that the staff would need to consider once the report
- 18 came out.
- 19 Q. And what do you mean by the
- 20 recommendations the staff would need to consider?
- 21 A. Well, my understanding of our role was
- 22 primarily to validate the company's filing as to its
- 23 accuracy, and anything that pertained to a regulatory
- 24 adjustment would be dealt with by staff. So any
- 25 findings we had that could lead to a potential

- 1 regulatory adjustment, we advised staff of our
- 2 recommendation, and it was up to staff to decide
- 3 whether to pursue that.
- 4 Q. And beyond the one conference call
- 5 you're talking about, were there other discussions, to
- 6 your knowledge, between the staff and Blue Ridge
- 7 regarding the adoption or failure to adopt Blue Ridge
- 8 recommendations by the staff?
- 9 A. I believe that Michael McGarry had at
- 10 least weekly update calls with staff to go over our
- 11 findings to date during the course of the audit.
- 12 Following that one conference call that I was on, I
- 13 don't know how many, if any, other calls took place
- 14 between Mr. McGarry and the staff.
- 15 Q. Okay. And did I understand you? You
- 16 say Mr. McGarry had weekly calls with the staff or did
- 17 he put together weekly status reports that were
- 18 actually in writing?
- 19 A. I think he did both. I don't know if he
- 20 did written reports every time, but I know he
- 21 typically summarized findings for the week, forwarded
- 22 those via e-mail, and I think he followed up with
- 23 calls with staff to discuss those issues.
- Q. Would there be situations where you
- 25 would identify issues that you thought you were going

- 1 to pursue and the staff would come back and suggest
- 2 that you not pursue those?
- 3 A. I don't remember any circumstances such
- 4 as that.
- 5 Q. Okay. Were there situations the
- 6 opposite of that, where you would point out a
- 7 circumstance where you thought there needed to be some
- 8 more investigation and the staff would say, "Yeah, go
- 9 forward with that"?
- 10 A. The only area I can think of was with
- 11 the shared service company costs. We brought -- that
- 12 was one of our primary findings in the report, and I
- 13 know that Michael McGarry had brought that to their
- 14 attention. I don't recall if they said, "Continue
- 15 investigating" or if they just accepted the scope of
- 16 what we had done to that point as reasonable enough
- 17 for that finding.
- 18 Q. I was just trying to get a sense as to
- 19 how closely supervised by the staff you felt you were.
- 20 A. Is that a question?
- Q. Yes, and you can put it in the context
- of other audits that you've been involved with in
- 23 other states. Based on your experience, do you feel
- 24 like you were closely supervised by the PUCO in this
- 25 case?

- 1 A. Yes. I know during the course of
- 2 Mr. McGarry's frequent calls with the staff, we always
- 3 wanted to make sure that our testing was on point,
- 4 that we were heading down the right path of what their
- 5 expectations were based on the audits they had done
- 6 internally on the past, and based on the feedback we
- 7 did get from staff, we felt comfortable that we were
- 8 doing what was expected of us.
- 9 Q. During the time you were on Duke's
- 10 premises, were there at times staff members present at
- 11 the same time?
- 12 A. No, not that I recall, other than the
- 13 kick-off meeting.
- 14 Q. I think we had looked earlier at Page 25
- 15 of the Blue Ridge report that listed the various
- 16 company personnel that were interviewed. Can you tell
- 17 me who it was on this list that you interviewed?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Who would that have been?
- 20 A. Starting at the top, I'll reference by
- 21 number and name. Number 4, Lynn Good; Number 5, Todd
- 22 Arnold; Number 10, Don Wathen; Number 11, Gwen Pate;
- 23 Number 14, Steve Lee; Number 15, Brian Davey; Number
- 24 20, Peggy Laub; Number 21, Charles Session; Number 22,
- 25 Adriaenne McMahand; Number 23, Tiffany Moore; Number

- 1 26, Ted Czupik, and Number 28, Bob Parsons.
- 2 Q. And just generally, how would you
- 3 characterize the cooperation that you received from
- 4 Duke?

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- 5 A. Excellent.
- 6 Q. And the twelve people that you had noted
- 7 you had interviewed, you had no difficulty lining the
- 8 interviews up and getting the information from them
- 9 that you were seeking?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. And how were the interviews conducted?
- 12 Was it essentially one on one or did you meet with
- 13 some of them in groupings or how did that go?
- 14 A. Most interviews were set up one on one
- 15 with the interviewee. We had a team of two people
- 16 typically from Blue Ridge; primarily the interviewer
- 17 being myself and a second person to take the notes.
- 18 There were a couple of interviews where there may have
- 19 been a team of people that that interviewee works with
- 20 that they wanted to be present to better answer all of
- 21 our questions at the same time, but I would say most
- of them were one on one or two people together.
- Q. Okay. And were these people that you
- 24 selected to talk to or was it more a situation where
- 25 the company offered these people up for you to

- 1 interview?
- 2 A. The company made us aware of who was
- 3 responsible for the areas that we had an interest in
- 4 exploring, and based on that listing of people, we
- 5 then picked who we wanted to interview.
- 6 Q. Was there ever a situation where you
- 7 picked someone you wanted to interview and that person
- 8 wasn't provided?
- 9 A. Not that I recall. There may have been
- 10 an indication where they weren't immediately
- 11 available, but we were eventually able to get our
- 12 schedules to synchronize.
- 13 Q. Were all the interviews conducted in
- 14 Cincinnati or were they conducted at different
- 15 locations?
- 16 A. The majority were in Cincinnati. There
- 17 were some where people were located in other states
- 18 that had to be done by phone.
- 19 Q. Did you ever have any problems with the
- 20 timeliness of information that you requested from
- 21 Duke?
- 22 A. I would say for the most part the
- 23 company was very timely in the information they
- 24 provided to us. There may have been a few areas where
- 25 it took them a while to put the information together

- 1 because of the scope of data required to respond to
- 2 our request.
- 3 Q. Were there any situations that the staff
- 4 had to resolve because of any conflicts or disputes
- 5 between Blue Ridge and the company?
- 6 A. Not that I'm aware of. I think there
- 7 was one perhaps exception to that, and that was access
- 8 to audit work papers from the external auditors. I
- 9 think an agreement had to be reached between the
- 10 auditing firm and the staff before the company could
- 11 release those to us.
- 12 Q. The auditor's workpapers were ultimately
- 13 released to you then?
- 14 A. That's my understanding. I think there
- 15 were audit reports and workpapers I think that were
- 16 made available for review by the audit firm.
- 17 Q. And those weren't provided to you? You
- 18 didn't ask for those? It was another Blue Ridge
- 19 person that had inquired about that?
- 20 A. Yes. I believe that was Michael
- 21 McGarry.
- 22 Q. Okay. How was the Blue Ridge audit
- 23 report finalized? Can you kind of walk me through
- 24 that? Was there drafts that were provided to the
- 25 staff that Blue Ridge then got feedback on?

- 1 A. I believe there was at least one draft,
- 2 final draft that was provided to staff for feedback.
- 3 I don't know if they were provided any additional
- 4 copies before a final report was issued subsequent to
- 5 that.
- 6 O. Did that draft that came back with
- 7 feedback, did it impact any of the areas that you had
- 8 been responsible for in the audit report?
- 9 A. Not that I recall.
- 10 Q. Do you recall if there were any
- 11 substantive changes to the draft in other areas of the
- 12 audit report that you weren't responsible for?
- 13 A. No. My understanding was staff was
- 14 generally in agreement with all of our findings and
- 15 recommendations, and any changes they had were minor.
- 16 Q. Was there a process that was in place in
- 17 the event that Blue Ridge made a recommendation that
- 18 the staff didn't adopt?
- 19 A. My understanding was that the report
- 20 didn't necessarily require concurrence with staff for
- 21 a recommendation. It was basically our responsibility
- 22 to make a recommendation. It would then be up to
- 23 staff to decide what to do with that once the report
- 24 was issued.
- 25 Q. Did Blue Ridge review the staff report

- 1 or did you review the staff report after it was -- in
- 2 any form prior to it being filed on December 20th?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. Do you know if the company had any
- 5 opportunity to review drafts of the Blue Ridge report
- 6 before it was finalized?
- 7 A. I would say the company did not have an
- 8 opportunity. It was our understanding that they would
- 9 not get to see it until it was filed with the staff.
- 10 Q. You said that part of your
- 11 responsibilities were in the budget and the forecast
- 12 areas --
- 13 A, Yes.
- 14 Q. -- is that correct? Which part of the
- 15 budget and forecast process were you auditing?
- 16 A. We were auditing the accuracy of the
- 17 company's revenues and expense forecasting as it was
- 18 used as a basis for the test year. The test year was
- 19 based on three months of actual and nine months of
- 20 forecast.
- 21 Q. Okay. And as part of operating income,
- 22 did you review the company's sales forecast
- 23 methodologies?
- A. Are you referring to the load forecast?
- 25 Q. Yes.

- 1 A. I generally reviewed, but Howard
- 2 Solganick did the primary testing of it because of his
- 3 experience in that area.
- 4 MR. SAUER: Let me go off the record for
- 5 a minute. I'll look through my notes. I think I'm
- 6 about finished. I don't have if you have any
- 7 questions, John.
- 8 MR. FINNIGAN: May I just have a minute?
- 9 MR. SAUER: Yes.
- 10 (Pause in the proceedings.)
- MR. FINNIGAN: We have no questions.
- 12 Thank you, Mr. Fischer.
- 13 MR. SAUER: Yes, I think those were all
- 14 the questions I had as well. Mr. Fischer, I really
- 15 appreciate your participation in the deposition today,
- 16 and the court reporter will transcribe this
- 17 deposition. And you have an opportunity to review it,
- 18 and if you have changes to it, you have an opportunity
- 19 to make those.
- THE DEPONENT: Okay.
- 21 WHEREUPON, the within proceedings were
- 22 concluded at the approximate hour of 3:01 p.m. on the
- 23 11th day of February, 2008.
- 24 * * * * *

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the less.

1	I, WARREN FISCHER, do hereby certify that I
2	have read the above and foregoing deposition and that
3	the same is a true and accurate transcription of my
4	testimony, except for attached amendments, if any.
5	Amendments attached () Yes () No
6	
7	
8	
9	WARREN FISCHER
10	
11	
12	
13	The signature above of WARREN FISCHER was
13 14	The signature above of WARREN FISCHER was subscribed and sworn to before me in the county of
14	subscribed and sworn to before me in the county of
14 15	subscribed and sworn to before me in the county of, state of,
14 15 16	subscribed and sworn to before me in the county of, state of,
14 15 16 17	subscribed and sworn to before me in the county of
14 15 16 17	subscribed and sworn to before me in the county of, state of,
14 15 16 17 18	subscribed and sworn to before me in the county of
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14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	subscribed and sworn to before me in the county of
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	subscribed and sworn to before me in the county of

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF COLORADO)
) ss.
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER)

I, SANDRA L. BRAY, Registered Diplomate Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter, and Notary Public, State of Colorado, do hereby certify that previous to the commencement of the examination, the said WARREN FISCHER was duly sworn by me to testify to the truth in relations to the matters in controversy between the parties hereto; that the said deposition was taken in machine shorthand by me at the time and place aforesaid and was thereafter reduced to typewritten form; that the foregoing is a true transcript of the questions asked, testimony given, and proceedings had.

I further certify that I am not employed by, related to, nor of counsel for any of the parties herein nor otherwise interested in the outcome of this litigation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have affixed my signature this 11th of February, 2008.

My commission expires January 16, 2012.

X	Reading	and	Signing	was	req	uested.
	Reading	and	Signing	was	wai	ved.
	Reading	and	Signing	isı	not	required

Sandra L. Bray, RMR, CRA, RDR Certified Realtime Reporter

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