

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
BEFORE THE
BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION**

**FY 2026-2028 Proposed Power
and Transmission Rate Adjustments**)

BPA File No.: BP-26

**QUALIFICATION STATEMENT OF BLAKE P. WEATHERS
Witness for the Umatilla Electric Cooperative**

1 *Q: Please state your name, employer and business address.*

2 A: My name is Blake Weathers. I am employed by the Umatilla Electric Cooperative
3 (UEC), 750 West Elm Avenue, Hermiston, Oregon 97838.

4 *Q: In what capacity are you employed?*

5 A: I am the Vice President of Power Supply.

6 *Q: Please describe your educational background.*

7 A: I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from Indiana
8 University in 2000. I then received a Master of International Public Management and
9 Policy degree from Erasmus University in Rotterdam, The Netherlands in 2005, and a
10 Master of Public Affairs degree from Indiana University in 2006.

11 *Q: Please summarize your professional background.*

12 A: From 2000 to 2006, I was employed as a Program Analyst in the Transmission Services'
13 Asset and Staff Management functions at the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA).
14 In that capacity, I was responsible for analysis and studies concerning the budget and
15 administration of transmission's staffing and critical electrical assets. My areas of
16 particular involvement included asset management performance metrics, cost of service
17 studies for Transmission Field Services, and workforce planning and evaluation.

1 In 2007, I joined the Human Capital Management function at BPA, where I served
2 as the Program Analyst. My areas of responsibility included analysis and studies on
3 spending and staffing levels in BPA's supply chain and logistics functions.

4 From 2008 to 2010, I served as a Policy Analyst in Transmission Services'
5 Marketing and Strategy function at BPA. I was responsible for developing policy
6 regarding the implementation of Network Integration Transmission Service, and I also
7 served in a lead role on transmission issues associated with the implementation of Power
8 Services' Regional Dialogue contracts.

9 In 2010, I was promoted to an Account Executive position within Transmission
10 Services Market and Sales function at BPA. In that position, I managed nineteen
11 transmission customer accounts. I also served as a liaison on several policy and rates
12 teams, including the BP-14 Rate Case Work Team and the NT Planning Team.

13 In 2013, I joined Northwest Energy Management Services as the Resources and
14 Planning Director. In that capacity, I was responsible for managing the non-federal
15 power supply for twenty-two public utilities. At the same time, I also served as a subject
16 matter expert for Northwest Requirements Utilities on a wide array of transmission
17 matters including, but not limited to, segmentation studies, NERC and WECC
18 compliance activities, and BPA transfer service issues.

19 In 2021, I joined the Public Power Council as the Director of Power Supply. In
20 that capacity, I was responsible for leading the long-term federal power supply policy for
21 over one hundred public power utilities.

1 Q: *Please describe your scope of work at UEC.*

2 A: I joined UEC in the fall of 2022 as the Power Supply & Transmission Services Manager.
3 In that capacity, I administered the contractual agreements for the cooperative's existing
4 power supply and BPA transmission portfolio. This year, I was named the Vice President
5 of Power Supply. In this role, I continue to oversee the cooperative's power supply,
6 transmission requirements, and generation interconnection contracts. Additionally, I
7 guide the cooperative's long-term power supply strategy to implement a diverse power
8 supply from both federal and non-federal resources while ensuring UEC's transmission
9 portfolio is adequate to serve the UEC members' existing and future load growth needs.

10 Q: *Have you testified in a BPA proceeding before?*

11 A: Yes. Most recently, I testified as an expert witness in BPA's TC-22 proceeding.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I electronically filed the foregoing by uploading it to the Bonneville Power Administration's secure website. Pursuant to Section 1010.10(a) of the Rules of Procedure of the Bonneville Power Administration, such filing constitutes service on all Litigants.

Submitted by,

/s/ Irene A. Scruggs
Chief Legal Officer
Northern Wasco County PUD
Of Attorneys for Joint Party 03