STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

JOINT PETITION AND APPLICATION OF PSI ENERGY, INC., D/B/A DUKE ENERGY INDIANA, INC., AND SOUTHERN INDIANA GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, D/B/A VECTREN ENERGY DELIVERY OF INDIANA, INC., PURSUANT TO INDIANA CODE CHAPTERS 8-1-8.5, 8-1-8.7, 8-1-8.8, AND SECTIONS 8-1-2-6.8, 8-1-2-6.7, 8-1-2-42 (A) REQUESTING THAT THE COMMISSION: (1) ISSUE APPLICABLE CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND APPLICABLE CERTIFICATES OF CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY TO EACH JOINT PETITIONER FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN INTEGRATED GASIFICATION COMBINED CYCLE GENERATING FACILITY (“IGCC PROJECT”) TO BE USED IN THE PROVISION OF ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC; (2) APPROVE THE ESTIMATED COSTS AND SCHEDULE OF THE IGCC PROJECT; (3) AUTHORIZE EACH JOINT PETITIONER TO RECOVER ITS CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATING COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE IGCC PROJECT ON A TIMELY BASIS VIA APPLICABLE RATE ADJUSTMENT MECHANISMS; (4) AUTHORIZE EACH JOINT PETITIONER TO USE ACCELERATED DEPRECIATION FOR THE IGCC PROJECT; (5) APPROVE CERTAIN OTHER FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR EACH JOINT PETITIONER ASSOCIATED WITH THE IGCC PROJECT; (6) GRANT EACH JOINT PETITIONER THE AUTHORITY TO DEFER ITS PROPERTY TAX EXPENSE, POST-IN-SERVICE CARRYING COSTS, DEPRECIATION COSTS, AND OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE IGCC PROJECT ON AN INTERIM BASIS UNTIL THE APPLICABLE COSTS ARE REFLECTED IN EACH JOINT PETITIONER'S RESPECTIVE RETAIL ELECTRIC RATES; (7) AUTHORIZE EACH JOINT PETITIONER TO RECOVER ITS OTHER RELATED COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE IGCC PROJECT; AND (8) CONDUCT AN ONGOING REVIEW OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE IGCC PROJECT

CAUSE NO. 43114

VERIFIED PETITION OF DUKE ENERGY INDIANA, INC. FOR AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO AN ALTERNATIVE REGULATORY PLAN AUTHORIZED UNDER I.C. 8-1-2.5 ET SEQ. AND I.C. 8-1-6.1, 8-1-8.7, AND 8-1-8.8 TO DEFER AND SUBSEQUENTLY RECOVER ENGINEERING AND PRECONSTRUCTION COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONTINUED INVESTIGATION AND ANALYSIS OF CONSTRUCTING AN INTEGRATED COAL GASIFICATION COMBINED CYCLE ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITY

CAUSE NO. 43114

IGCC-4-S1

SURREBUTTAL AND SETTLEMENT TESTIMONY OF DAVID A. SCHLISSEL ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS ACTION COALITION OF INDIANA SAVE THE VALLEY VALLEY WATCH SIERRA CLUB November 12, 2010
Table of Contents

Introduction ..............................................................................................................................................1
Significantly Changed Circumstances and Need.................................................................5
DEI’s Mismanagement and Failure to Fully Disclose Critical Information...............27
Flaws in the Proposed Settlement Agreement........................................................................52
Findings and Recommendations........................................................................................................56

List of Exhibits

DAS-S1 DEI’s Need for Edwardsport’s Capacity
DAS-S2 Edwardsport IGCC Project Update Presentation, DEI President Stanley, June 9, 2007
DAS-S3 Investing in the First Wave of Gasification Projects, Bret Scholtes, GE Financial Services, May 24, 2007
DAS-S4 Duke Energy Indiana Edwardsport IGCC Project Update, Project Director Rex Sears, October 2008
Introduction

Q. Please state your name and business address.

A. My name is David A. Schlissel. I am the President of Schlissel Technical Consulting, Inc., 45 Horace Road, Belmont, MA 02478.

Q. Have you previously filed testimony in this case?

A. Yes. I filed Direct Testimony on July 30, 2010 on behalf of the Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, Valley Watch, Save the Valley and the Sierra Club.

Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

A. The purpose of this Surrebuttal and Settlement Testimony is to discuss:

a. Changed circumstances affecting the need for the Duke Edwardsport Project.

b. Unreasonable assumptions that bias the results of the Company’s new modeling analyses in favor of completion of Edwardsport as an IGCC plant.

c. The evidence which shows that Duke Energy Indiana has grossly mismanaged its resource planning for the Edwardsport IGCC Project and has failed to fully disclose to the IURC the significant risks and uncertainties associated with the construction and operation of the Project.

d. Flaws in and omissions from the proposed settlement agreement that would result in ratepayers continuing to bear significant risks associated with the Edwardsport Project if the settlement were to be approved as filed.

Q. Please summarize your primary findings.

A. My primary findings are that:
1. There is no need for the capacity from Edwardsport to ensure adequate system reliability.

- Circumstances have changed significantly since the CPCN was issued in November 2007.
- DEI’s own exhibits show that the Complete as NGCC and No IGCC scenarios each would provide adequate capacity to provide for a 13.9% reserve margin.

2. The Cost of the Edwardsport Project has skyrocketed since 2007 with the plant now expected to cost almost $5,000 per kilowatt.

3. The results of DEI’s economic analyses, including its most recent modeling, have shown, at most, a marginal benefit in some scenarios to completing Edwardsport as an IGCC unit. In other scenarios, completing the plant as an IGCC unit has been, and continues to be, a higher cost option than canceling the project and/or completing it as an NGCC unit.

4. DEI’s modeling analyses are biased by a number of unreasonable assumptions including the following:

- The unreasonably optimistic assumption that a first-of-a-kind IGCC plant will have high availability and high capacity factors in all years of the study period.
- The assumption that CO₂ allowance costs will be extremely low. The allowance costs in Company’s “High CO₂” sensitivity case would be more reasonable as base case scenario.
- The assumption that there will not be any incremental energy efficiency savings after approximately the years 2021 in the base case and 2019 in the high energy efficiency case.

5. Completing Edwardsport as an IGCC plant is the riskiest option.

- There is a significant potential for operating problems in first-of-a-kind unit for extended period after the projected in-service date.
- CO₂ allowance costs could be significantly higher than DEI has modeled.
Edwardsport’s capital costs could be significantly higher than the Company has assumed if CCS is required to comply with an eventual federal climate change regulatory regime.

The Project could experience further cost increases and schedule delays prior to its actual in-service date.

6. DEI has grossly mismanaged its resource planning for the Edwardsport Project and has failed to fully disclose to the IURC the risks and the significance of higher construction costs.

The Company failed to acknowledge to the IURC that “First Mover” risks associated with the engineering and construction of a first-of-a-kind IGCC plant would expose the Project to significant increases in capital costs and delay(s) in in-service date.

The Company repeatedly refused in 2007 and 2008 to consider scenarios in its Edwardsport economic analyses with higher plant capital costs.

DEI failed in late 2009 and early 2010 to promptly conduct new economic studies after it finally recognized in the fall of 2009 that the project was going to cost more than the $2.35 billion that the IURC had approved.

DEI continued to spend money on construction at a rapid rate between October 2009 and March 2010, turning to-go costs into sunk costs and trying to make the project into a self-fulfilling prophecy.

The proposed settlement agreement is inadequate to address these issues and would leave the Company’s ratepayers exposed to very significant risks. Indeed, the proposed settlement would not only reimburse but would reward DEI for huge cost increases associated with the Company’s failure on a timely basis to acknowledge, reflect in modeling and report to the Commission the economic implications of “First Mover Issues.”

Q. Please summarize your primary conclusions and recommendations.

A. My conclusions and recommendations are as follows:
1. The Company clearly knew, even before beginning to build Edwardsport, the significant technology risks and potential for additional construction costs that a large scale, first-of-a-kind IGCC project necessarily presented.

2. However, the Company refused to acknowledge and analyze those risks and costs in its testimony before the IURC. Instead DEI reported to the IURC at every stage that the project risks were manageable and that its costs were under control.

3. DEI also failed to update its economic assessments of the continuing need for the project on a timely basis to reflect the much higher risks and costs to which its ratepayers actually were being exposed.

4. This course of conduct represents gross mismanagement, especially for DEI as the successor to PSI Energy with its Marble Hill and Wabash River No. 1 experiences.

5. For these reasons, I recommend that the IURC:

A. Revoke or modify the Edwardsport CPCN in this subdocket pursuant to IC 8-1-8.5-5.5 and 8-1-8.7-5.

B. Initiate an investigation into (1) whether the Company’s conduct constitutes fraud, concealment, and/or gross mismanagement within the meaning of the Utility Power Plant Construction Act, and (2) if there has been fraud, concealment or gross mismanagement, the amount of costs incurred to construct the Edwardsport Project that should be disallowed for ratemaking purposes.
Significantly Changed Circumstances Since the CPCN for the Edwardsport IGCC Project Was Issued in November 2007

Q. What key circumstances have changed significantly since the CPCN was issued for the Edwardsport IGCC Project in November 2007?

A. As shown in Figure 1, below, the Edwardsport IGCC Project’s estimated construction cost has increased dramatically above the $1.985 billion estimate initially presented by DEI in Cause No. 43114. At the same time, as shown in Figure 2, the Company’s projected loads also have been significantly reduced since 2007.
**Figure 1:** Changes in Edwardsport Capital Cost Estimates 2006-2010 (including AFUDC).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Cost in Billions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun-06</td>
<td>$2,000 per kW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May-07</td>
<td>$3,200 per kW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun-08</td>
<td>$3,800 per kW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-10</td>
<td>$4,700 per kW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed Settlement</td>
<td>$4,900 per kW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 2:** Changes in DEI Load Forecasts 2007-2010.

- 2007
- 2008
- Dec 2008
- Fall 2009
- Spring 2009
- 2010
In addition, when DEI originally petitioned the Commission for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Edwardsport project, Vectren was a partner in the project and it was contemplated that company would own 20 percent of the project and its electric generation. But, that is no longer the case and DEI is now owns 100% of the plant and its generation.

Q. Do DEI’s current load and resource analyses show a need for the capacity and energy from the Edwardsport IGCC Project?

A. No. A review of Exhibits BB-1 through BB-12 in DEI witness Hager’s Supplemental Settlement Testimony shows that the Company would have adequate capacity if it either completed Edwardsport as a natural gas combined cycle unit or if it abandoned the Edwardsport IGCC Project entirely and took other actions to ensure it would have adequate supply to meet its demands plus reserve requirements.

Q. Please explain.

A. Exhibit DAS-S1 shows the Company’s annual loads and resources balance for the years 2010 through 2030. Exhibit DAS-S1 compares the Company’s forecasted peak demands with available supply assuming that no additions to Duke’s system are made after 2010. There are two demand scenarios because DEI modeled two separate assumptions reflecting the amount of energy efficiency that was achieved on its system. The “Base” scenario is Duke’s assumption of energy efficiency absent the IURC’s Phase II order. The “High EE” scenario reflects the IURC’s Phase II order targets. All demand-side management activities including demand response are accounted for on the load side in this Exhibit. Both load trajectories include DEI’s 13.9% reserve margin.

The available capacity column in Exhibit DAS-S1 reflects an assumption that no additional capacity is added or purchased after 2010. It also assumes that Wabash
River 2-5 are retired in 2015 and that Gallagher 1 and 3 are converted to gas in 2013. Under these assumptions we find 7,161 MW of available capacity in 2010.\(^1\)

Load and resource balance analyses like Exhibit DAS-S1 and Exhibits BB-1 through BB-12 in Ms. Hager’s Supplemental Settlement Testimony look only at the circumstances during the peak time of the year – that is, the hour or the hours during which the Company’s loads are the highest. These load-resource balance analyses do not tell what type of demand and/or supply side resource(s) are the most economic option for meeting an identified load during peak hours. Economic analyses such as those discussed by Ms. Hager are required to answer that question.

Consequently, what the information on Exhibit DAS-S1 shows is:

1. Even without the capacity from the Edwardsport IGCC Project, DEI does not have a significant need for new capacity until 2016 in either the base energy efficiency scenario or the high energy efficiency scenario. This would be almost four years after the date that DEI now projects for Edwardsport’s September 30, 2012 in-service date.

2. The Company’s perceived need for capacity during the peak hours of 2016 is driven by the planned retirement of Wabash River Units 2-5 in 2015 and the loss of the share of Gibson Unit 5 that is assigned to IMPA and WVPA.

3. With the IURC’s Phase II order energy efficiency targets (and even with Duke’s unreasonable assumption that no incremental energy efficiency is achieved after 2019), the Company would not need all of the capacity from the Edwardsport IGCC Project to meet a 13.9 percent reserve margin requirement until the summer of 2022.

---

\(^1\) Petitioner’s Exhibit BB-1 says that DEI has 7,208 MW of capacity in 2010. Ms. Hager’s supply vs. demand balance was not consistent with her modeling in a number of respects including this.
If meeting peak hour capacity needs and reserve requirements were the only consideration, DEI could just add enough combustion turbine capacity as needed. However, that may not be most economic option. Consequently, an economic analysis is needed to determine whether adding combustion turbines or a new natural gas combined cycle unit or a new IGCC unit is the low cost/low risk alternative.

Q. Dr. Richard Stevie, the Company’s witness on energy efficiency, states that DEI has more confidence in its “Base” case level of energy efficiency than in the Phase II targets ordered by the IURC because it is consistent with an EPRI study on the potential for energy efficiency. Would you agree with Dr. Stevie’s assessment?

A. No. First, I would note that the EPRI study Dr. Stevie references is a national assessment and doesn’t account for differences in the energy efficiency achievements across states and utility service territories. In fact, the study acknowledges that in 2006 there were several states that, as a percentage of sales, saved more than EPRI’s highest achievable incremental reduction (0.85% per year). Though it acknowledges this fact, the study fails to address why EPRI would conclude that there is less energy efficiency potentially achievable than what some states have actually achieved.

Q. In its modeling, DEI assumed that no incremental energy efficiency would be achieved after 2019. Is that assumption reasonable?

A. No. This implies that after 10 years of increasing savings, there would suddenly be no incremental energy efficiency available. There’s no support for such an assumption. For example, the state of Vermont created an energy efficiency utility (similar to a third party administrator) in 1999. In 2008, Vermont saved 2.59% of sales but the efficiency utility did not rest on its laurels and clam to have one. There may also be slight differences in assumed net capacity. However, since it is less than 1% of total capacity, I do not consider this difference material for purposes of this comparison.
achieved all available savings. Instead, in its contract for 2009-2011, the Vermont efficiency utility committed to achieve energy savings of 360,000 MWh savings annually, equivalent to 5.6% of 2008 sales.

Q. Do the Company’s most recent modeling analyses show that completion of Edwardsport as an IGCC Project is clearly the lowest cost option?

A. No. Remarkably (given the approximately $2 billion that has been spent on the Project) DEI’s most recent modeling analyses do not show a clear and substantial economic advantage to completing Edwardsport as an IGCC Project across a wide range of scenarios.

Q. Please explain.

A. DEI witness Hager’s Supplemental Settlement Testimony presents the results of 24 different scenarios that DEI has modeled. As shown on Ms. Hager’s Exhibit BB-13, twelve of these scenarios assume the Company’s current $2.88 billion cost estimate for Edwardsport. The remaining twelve scenarios assume the $2.975 billion so-called “hard cap” cost figure. Each of these groups of twelve scenarios is broken down into four ‘base’ scenarios, four ‘high gas’ scenarios and four ‘high CO2’ price scenarios.

Exhibit BB-13, supported by the detailed results presented in Confidential Exhibit BB-14, shows that completing Edwardsport as an IGCC unit is the lowest cost option in seven of the eight ‘high gas’ price scenarios. However, completing Edwardsport as an IGCC unit is the lowest cost option in only 5 of the remaining sixteen. In the other 11 scenarios, completing Edwardsport as an IGCC is the most expensive or the next-to-most expensive alternative. Included in these 11 scenarios are the 8 scenarios that DEI misleadingly calls “High CO2.” As I will explain in a moment, the CO2 prices in this scenario can in no reasonable way be considered to be very “high.”

In other words, Edwardsport is only shown to be the lowest cost option in 11 of the 24 scenarios presented by Ms. Hager – and 7 of those 11 scenarios reflect the
Company’s new “high gas” price sensitivity. In the other 13 scenarios, either the option in which Edwardsport is completed as an NGCC unit or the option in which the Project is abandoned is the lowest cost alternative.

Q. Is the Company’s “High Gas” scenario credible?

A. No. I agree that there is uncertainty about long-term natural gas prices, but the identification of the tremendous shale gas deposits in the U.S. and Canada probably will mean gas prices will remain relatively low for a number of years into the near future, if not longer.

The problem with the Company’s “High Gas” scenario is that it assumes that gas prices will be about 35 percent higher (as compared to the Company’s base case gas price forecast) in every year of the planning period beginning in 2012. As shown in Confidential Figure 6 in my Direct Testimony, the Most Recent Duke Forecast of natural gas prices, which Ms. Hager has said the Company has used as the base case in its most recent modeling analyses, tracks relatively close to the NYMEX Henry Hub futures prices through about 2022. Given that there is no evidence that Henry Hub futures prices will increase by anywhere near 35 percent at any point in the relatively near future (say through 2016-2018), there does not appear to be any basis for the Company to make such an assumption in its “High Gas” scenarios. Ten or fifteen years in the future, natural gas prices may be very different from what we forecast today, but given the large reserves of shale gas in the U.S., it does not seem to be reasonable to expect such a significant upward change in gas prices above current NYMEX futures prices for near future years through 2016 or 2018, as the Company assumes in its “High Gas” price scenarios.
Q. Does the Company’s assumption in its “High Gas” price scenarios that natural gas prices would be 35 percent higher even for near term years (such as 2012 through 2016 or 2018) have a significant impact on the results of the modeling?

A. Yes. Given that future costs are discounted, near term price increases for natural gas will have a larger impact on PVRR than longer term price increases. Consequently, it is reasonable to expect that the assumption of 35 percent higher near term gas prices had a very significantly impact on the relative economics of the Complete as IGCC by unreasonably raising the near term costs of the Complete as NGCC and the No IGCC scenarios.

Q. Are there any other flaws or biases in the Company’s “High Gas” price scenarios?

A. Yes. The Company has argued that one of the reasons why it has lowered its projected CO2 prices between 2009 and 2010 was to reflect the impact of lower natural gas prices. For example, Ms. Hager has testified that “Two factors that will have a significant impact on CO2 allowance prices are natural gas prices and the amount of coal generation that is retired nationally as a result of more stringent environmental regulations.” However, when the Company assumed 35 percent higher natural gas prices in its “High Gas” price scenarios, it did not raise the CO2 allowance prices, accordingly. This is inconsistent with the Company’s own testimony and it biases the analyses in favor of completion of the Edwardsport IGCC Project.

---

Q. During the November 3rd technical conference, Duke CEO James Rogers raised concern about overreliance on gas generation on the Duke Energy Indiana system. Does DEI’s modeling support this concern?

A. No. Even if Edwardsport is not completed, the portion of DEI’s total energy that would be generated from gas-fired units would not rise above 5% through 2020. And it reaches a maximum of only 8% in 2029. These levels clearly do not present any risk of an “overreliance” on gas on DEI’s system.

Q. Earlier you said that DEI misleadingly labeled its CO$_2$ price sensitivity as a “High CO$_2$” scenario. Please explain the basis for this testimony.

A. As shown in Figures 3 and 4, below, DEI’s 2010 projected CO$_2$ allowance prices, which it uses for its base case scenarios in the new modeling presented by Ms. Hager in her Rebuttal and Supplemental Settlement Testimony, are very low when compared to the recent modeling of the Waxman-Markey bill and the American Power Act. Figure 3 compares annual costs in 2010 dollars while Figure 4 compares levelized prices for the years 2015-2030, also in 2010 dollars. The solid red line in Figure 3 represents DEI’s 2009 CO$_2$ prices and the lower solid black line represents the Company’s new 2010 CO$_2$ prices. DEI’s 2009 CO$_2$ prices are used in what DEI now calls its “High CO$_2$” scenario.
Figure 3: Annual Duke Energy Indiana 2009 and 2010 CO₂ Emissions Allowance Prices Compared to Results of EPA and EIA Modeling of Waxman-Markey and American Power Act
As can be seen from Figures 3 and 4, DEI’s 2009 CO₂ price forecast should represent a reasonable base case while the Company’s 2010 CO₂ price forecast could represent the lower end of a range of reasonable forecasts – even though it has a price trajectory which is lower than any of the price scenarios developed by the EPA and EIA in their modeling of the Waxman-Markey bill and the proposed American Power Act.

However, it clearly is not reasonable to do the reverse, that is, to use the very low DEI 2010 CO₂ price forecasts as the base case while calling the DEI 2009 CO₂ price forecasts a “High CO₂” scenario. As can be seen from both Figure 3 and Figure 4, there are many scenarios, examined by the EPA and EIA, in which CO₂ prices could be substantially higher than the Company’s 2009 CO₂ price forecast.
Q. When did the EPA and EIA prepare the modeling results that are presented in Figure 3 and Figure 4?

A. The EIA and EPA modeling analyses whose results are presented in Figure 3 and Figure 4 are very recent, having been released between June 2009 and June 2010 as follows.

- EPA Analysis of H.R. 2454 (Waxman-Markey Bill) – June 2009
- EIA Analysis of H.R. 2454 (Waxman-Markey Bill) – August 2009
- EPA Supplemental Analysis of H.R. 2454 – January 2010
- EIA Analysis of the American Power Act – May 2010
- EPA Analysis of the American Power Act – June 2010

Q. Figure 4, above, includes a set of CO₂ prices listed as Public Service of Colorado. Please explain what these prices represent.

A. Pursuant to a state law, Public Service of Colorado has this past summer and fall been examining options for reducing NOₓ emissions from its coal units in the Denver Metropolitan Area by the end of 2017.³ Part of the Company analyses has included the modeling of various alternatives for reducing NOₓ emissions. One of these alternatives would be adding emissions control equipment. Another alternative would be to retire four coal units at the Company’s Cherokee site while building gas-fired combined cycle replacements. In its modeling analyses, Public Service used a base carbon price assumption of $20 per ton beginning in 2014 and escalating at 7 percent per year in nominal terms.⁴ Public Service of Colorado also assumed a “high” CO₂ price of $40 per ton, also beginning in 2014 and escalating at 7 percent per year in nominal terms. As can be seen from Figure 4, above, the low end of the range considered by Public Service of Colorado is

⁴ Direct Testimony of Gary J. Magno on behalf of Public Service Company of Colorado, Docket No. 10M-245E, filed August 13, 2010, at page 13, lines 17-19/
significantly higher than the DEI 2010 CO2 prices that DEI wants to use as a “base case” in this proceeding. Similarly, the high end of the range of CO2 prices used by Public Service of Colorado is much higher than the DEI 2009 CO2 price forecasts that DEI labels as its “High CO2” scenario.

Q. Do the results of DEI’s modeling show that the Company will achieve significant long-term CO2 reductions if it adds the Edwardsport IGCC Project?

A. No. The results of the Company’s modeling for the base case scenarios involving completion of the Edwardsport IGCC Project show a 1.2 percent to 1.3 percent decrease over the twenty year period 2010 through 2030.

Figure 5: Annual DEI CO2 Emissions if Edwardsport IGCC Projected is Completed

![Graph showing annual DEI CO2 emissions if Edwardsport IGCC projected is completed.](image-url)
Q. Has the Company included any sensitivity analyses in its modeling to reflect continued escalation in the cost of Edwardsport Project?

A. Ms. Hager’s Rebuttal testimony included the results for modeling runs for a higher capital cost sensitivity that reflected an increase of 10 percent above DEI’s current $2.88 billion estimate.

Q. What were the results of the higher capital cost sensitivity that Ms. Hager presented in her Rebuttal Testimony?

A. The results reported by Ms. Hager show that with a capital cost just 10 percent higher than the Company’s current $2.88 billion estimate, completing Edwardsport is the most expensive option in both the base case energy efficiency and the high energy efficiency scenarios.\(^5\)

Q. Did the Company rerun these 10 percent higher capital cost sensitivities as part of the revised modeling analyses presented in Ms. Hager’s Supplemental Settlement Testimony?

A. No. Instead, Ms. Hager says the Company relied on the scenarios with the proposed settlement “hard cap” of $2.975 billion to show the potential impact of higher capital costs.

Q. Was this reasonable?

A. No. The $2.975 billion “hard cap” in the proposed settlement is only 3.3 percent higher than the Company’s current $2.88 billion estimate. The IURC should have the information to determine what impact a higher capital cost (say the 10 percent studied by Ms. Hager previously, or even a 20 percent higher capital cost) would

\(^5\) Rebuttal Testimony of Janice D. Hager in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-4S, at page 24, lines 5-16.
have on the relative economics of completing the Project as an IGCC unit. The
options before the IURC at this time are not simply whether to accept or reject the
proposed settlement. Given the results of the Company’s most recent modeling
analyses, conversion of the IGCC Project to an NGCC unit or abandonment also
remain economic options.

Q. Have you seen any evidence that there may already be a significant risk that
   the Company’s $2.88 billion estimate for the Edwardsport IGCC Project will
   be exceeded?

A. Yes. The testimony filed by DEI witness Womack last week in Cause No. 43114
IGCC-6 shows that the Company already is at risk of eating through the
unallocated project contingency with an ultimate impact of increasing the cost
beyond the $2.88 billion figure in which the Company expressed high confidence
just this past spring and summer. The project also appears to be at risk of a
significant delay, although Mr. Womack tries hard to suggest ways such a delay
might still be avoided.

Q. What is the currently expected project completion date?

A. According to Mr. Womack:

   The Project master schedule as of the end of October 2010 is
   projecting an in-service date of August 26, 2012 and a substantial
   completion date of November 28, 2012. However, we will be
   completing the full integration of our detailed start-up and testing
   plan into the master schedule shortly, and we believe the impact of
   that revision may be a delay of the in-service date to approximately
   September 30, 2010….\(^6\)

Q. What is the current project cost estimate?

A. According to Mr. Womack:

\(^6\) Direct Testimony of W. Michael Womack in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-6, at pages 5 and 6.
The current Project cost estimate is $2.88 billion. As of the end of September 2010, the cost estimate includes $89,584,861 of unallocated risk allowance (contingency). However, possible cost increases in the construction labor contracts, which we are tracking continually, would use all of that risk allowance if they materialize. While the cost increase trends in these labor contracts are not yet firm enough to warrant a contingency drawdown, it seems likely that they will impact the Project cost to some degree, possibly eating up all the currently unallocated contingency, leaving no contingency for unexpected costs during start-up and testing and no contingency for additional financing charges.7

Q. What are the most important issues affecting the schedule at this time?

A. According again to Mr. Womack:

The primary issue that we are managing at this time is the ability to achieve, on a sustained level, the needed installation levels for the Project commodities; particularly piping, insulation, and electrical wire and cable. For piping, the schedule is based on being able to install 40,000 linear feet of pipe per month for the months of October 2010 through approximately April 2011. During October 2010, we were able to achieve this planned rate of installation. Insulation work will follow closely behind the piping work. For the electrical work, we must ramp up to an installation level of approximately 500,000 linear feet of wire and cable per month. We need to ramp up to that level quickly and sustain it from November 2011 through approximately March 2011. During October 2010, we were able to achieve approximately 250,000 linear feet. Although our contractors have plans to continue ramping to the required installation level, electrical cable and wire installation remain a risk to our schedule.8

Q. Have you identified any other flaws or significant biases in the new modeling analyses presented by DEI witness Hager in her Rebuttal and Supplemental Settlement testimonies?

A. Yes. In addition to the three biases that I have just discussed (that is, the failure to include a higher capital cost scenario in its newest modeling, the use of

---

7 Id.
8 Id.
unreasonably high natural gas prices in the “High Gas” scenario, and the use of
unreasonably low CO₂ prices in the base case analyses), DEI’s modeling reflects
three other biases in favor of completion of Edwardsport as an IGCC Project:

• The failure to include off-system capacity purchases as part of a portfolio
  of alternatives to the completion of Edwardsport.

• As noted above, the failure to project incremental energy efficiency
  savings after 2019 in the High EE scenarios and after 2021 in the Base EE
  Scenarios.

• The overly optimistic assumption of very high operating performance for
  the Edwardsport IGCC Project in all years of the study period.

• The continued failure to account for the costs of carbon capture and
  sequestration and for the impacts that adding and operating CCS would
  have on Edwardsport’s operating efficiency and MW output.

Q. What annual operating performance does DEI assume that Edwardsport will
   achieve?

A. DEI has said that it anticipates that the capacity factor of the Edwardsport IGCC
   Project will be approximately 82 percent.⁹

Q. What capacity factors does Edwardsport achieve in the Company’s most
   recent modeling analyses?

A. In the Company’s Complete as IGCC cases, Edwardsport operates at a 78-79
   percent capacity factor in 2012, an 81-82 percent capacity factor in 2013 and at
   83-84 percent and higher capacity factors in subsequent years.

Q. What annual availability does DEI assume for Edwardsport in order to
   achieve such high capacity factors?

A. DEI assumes that Edwardsport’s availability would be 33.6 percent in 2012 and
   84.5 percent and higher in every subsequent year. In other words, DEI assumes
   that beginning in September 2012, the IGCC plant will be available almost 85%

⁹ DEI Response to DEI-IG 5.7 in Cause No. 43114 IGCC 4S.
of the time and operate at 100 percent power in almost every hour in which it
available. The 33.6 percent availability in 2012 is presumably due to the fact that
the Project had an in-service date of late August 2012, so it was available for only
the last four months of the year.

Q. Is it reasonable to assume that an Edwardsport IGCC plant would achieve
such a high level of performance in every year of its operating life?

A. No. It is not reasonable to assume that the Edwardsport IGCC plant would
achieve such high capacity factors and such high availability in all years in spite
of the fact that the Company now admits that it is the first-of-a-kind unit with
unique IGCC technology. There certainly is no basis for assuming that the IGCC
plant would achieve high availability and high capacity factors during the early
years of its operations.

Q. Did the two existing IGCC plants in the U.S. experience problems during
their initial operations that reduced their availability and capacity factors?

A. Yes. As Duke’s Group Vice President of Regulated Fossil/Hydro Generation
McCollum told the North Carolina Utilities Commission back in 2007, it took the
two existing IGCC plants in the U.S. six to eight years to reach 80 percent
capacity factors.\(^{10}\) In fact, both units experienced serious operating issues that
adversely affected their availability and neither Polk Station nor Wabash River
achieved availability of even 84 percent in any year through 2006.

In fact, as shown in Figure 6 and Figure 7, below, the each unit’s actual
availability through 2006 was significantly lower each year than DEI now
assumes in its modeling of the Edwardsport IGCC Project.

\(^{10}\) North Carolina Utilities Commission Order in Docket No. E-7, SUB 790, issued March 25, 2007,
at page 25.
Figure 6: Annual Availability of the Polk Station IGCC

![Chart showing annual availability of the Polk Station IGCC]

Figure 7: Annual Availability of Wabash River

![Chart showing annual availability of Wabash River]

---


12 Id, at page 3-8.
Thus, where DEI assumes availabilities in all years after the first four months of Edwardsport’s operation, the actual experience shows much lower availabilities at both Wabash River and Polk Station. Polk Station’s availability as an IGCC ranged between 55.3 percent and 79.5 percent in the nine years between 1998 and 2006. Wabash River’s availability ranged between 35.4 percent and 78.7 percent during the same period. In contrast, DEI is assuming that starting in 2013 (merely months after it begins commercial operation) Edwardsport will achieve an availability in excess of 80 percent in every year.

Q. Did the assumption that Edwardsport would achieve approximately 82 percent capacity factors in almost every year of the study period affect the results of the Company’s most recent modeling analyses?

A. Yes. I am sure that this assumption that Edwardsport would have a very high availability and would achieve high capacity factors in every year had a major impact and heavily biased the modeling analyses in favor of the Project’s completion as an IGCC unit.

Q. Is it prudent for DEI to make this assumption in this proceeding?

A. No.

Q. Did the results of DEI’s earlier modeling analyses in Cause Nos. 43114, 43114S1 and 43114 IGCC-1 similarly reflect high availabilities and capacity factors for the Edwardsport IGCC Project?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you seen any evidence that DEI ever attempted to calculate a break-even capacity factor for the Edwardsport IGCC Project as part of its economic modeling analyses?

A. No. In fact, DEI witness Diane L. Jenner testified in Cause 43114 that:

The testimony [IIG witness Phillips] has cited merely states that the model runs showed the plant running at approximately 82% capacity factor, period. In addition, in response to a data request from the Indiana Industry Group (IIG 2.3) asking at what capacity factor the IGCC must run to be the least cost option, Duke Energy Indiana explicitly stated that Duke Energy Indiana did not perform any STRATEGIST model runs to determine the capacity factor at which the IGCC must run to be the least cost option. (Emphasis added)

Q. Was the Company’s failure to determine a break-even capacity factor at which the IGCC unit must run to be the least cost option prudent?

A. No.

Q. In your direct testimony you criticized DEI’s modeling analyses for their failure to include the costs of carbon capture at the Edwardsport plant. Did DEI include those costs in its supplemental settlement modeling?

A. No.
Q. Ms. Hager responds that “the decision to capture and sequester CO₂ will be a separate economic decision” and that “the IGCC project is a component of the Company’s plan to modernize its fleet.”14 Would you agree that the Project can be justified on these grounds?

A. No. Any new power plant would, in general, serve to “modernize” DEI’s fleet. The question here is what does an IGCC plant bring to the table that is worth its extra cost? Ms. Hager goes on to say in that same testimony, that “a key attribute of IGCC technology is its potential for capturing carbon dioxide as compared to a pulverized coal plant.”15 Ms. Hager would seem to be arguing that the Company can justify an IGCC plant because it may more cheaply capture CO₂, but then not compare the cost-effectiveness of the plant including the cost of capture with other alternatives which would avoid some or all of the plant’s need for capture. This argument plainly biases any analysis in favor of IGCC.

Q. Ms. Hager testifies that “the analyses we performed included a reasonable value for the cost of CO₂ allowances which acts as a proxy for cost-effectively capturing and sequestering the CO₂.” Do you agree?

14 Rebuttal Testimony of Janice Hager, at page 8, lines 5-6, and at page 9, lines 1-2.
15 Rebuttal Testimony of Janice Hager, page 9, lines 2-4.
A. No. The results of DEI’s own modeling analyses contradict that claim because the model does not choose any plant with CCS even though it given the option of selecting either an IGCC plant with 65 percent or 90 percent CCS or a pulverized coal unit, also with 65 percent or 90 percent CCS. The model clearly does not select any unit with CCS because the CO2 allowance prices that DEI assumes in its modeling analyses are too low to encourage the addition of CCS – in other words, it is cheaper for the model to continue to purchase allowances instead of adding and operating CCS.

DEI’s CO2 allowance projection cannot reasonably be claimed to approximate the cost of CCS if the technology is never selected in its modeling. Instead, DEI’s modeling would seem to suggest that carbon capture will never be a cost-effective choice because the cost of CCS is substantially higher than DEI’s assumed cost of purchasing CO2 allowances even in what the Company calls its “High CO2” scenario.

DEI’s Mismanagement of the Edwardsport IGCC Project and the Company’s Failure to Fully Disclose Critical Information to the IURC

Q. Figure 1, earlier in this testimony, shows that the Edwardsport IGCC Project’s currently estimated cost is approximately $4,700 per kW, or about 45 percent higher than the Company’s estimate in Cause No. 43114 in 2007. Should DEI have anticipated these cost increases?

A. Yes. The cost increases that have been experienced by the Edwardsport IGCC Project were inevitable, foreseeable and foreseen.

Q. What evidence should have led DEI to conclude that significant increases in the cost of the Edwardsport Project beyond its initial $1.985 billion estimate were inevitable?

A. Industry experience beginning in about 2003 showed that coal plant construction costs were skyrocketing. At the same time, the Company knew that the Edwardsport Project would be a first-of-a-kind IGCC plant, and, therefore, would
clearly be exposed to significant risks and uncertainties. The potential for higher costs at Edwardsport was especially acute given the relatively incomplete state of project engineering during 2007 and 2008.

Q. Is it clear that DEI knew by 2007 of the industry experience concerning soaring coal plant construction costs?

A. Yes. Company witness Moreland’s Testimony in Cause 43114 in late 2006 clearly acknowledged the rising costs of coal plant construction commodities. But, even more importantly, by 2007, when Cause No. 43114 was being heard by the IURC, Duke Energy had already experienced significantly higher costs at its proposed Cliffside Project coal units in North Carolina.

Q. Please explain.

A. In early 2006, Duke Energy Carolinas announced that its proposed two unit Cliffside coal project would cost approximately $2 billion. Then, barely six-to-eight months later, Duke reported in October 2006 that the cost of the Project had increased by approximately $1 billion or 47 percent. By the late winter of 2007, after the project had been downsized because the North Carolina Utilities Commission refused to grant a permit for two units, Duke announced that the cost of building the remaining single unit would be about $1.53 billion, not including financing costs. However, in late May 2007, Duke announced yet another cost increase – this time 20 percent. Consequently, by May 2007, Duke had admitted that the cost of building only one coal-fired unit at Cliffside would be about the same ($2 billion) as it had projected one year earlier for building two units.

Duke emphasized in testimony filed at the North Carolina Utilities Commission on November 29, 2006, the significant impact that the competition for design and construction resources was having on the costs of building new power plants. This testimony was presented to explain the approximate 47 percent -- that is, the $1

---

16 Testimony of Robert D. Moreland, Cause 43114, at page 15, lines 1-18.
billion -- increase in the estimated cost of the Cliffside Project that the Company
had announced in October 2006.

The costs of new power plants have escalated very rapidly. This
effect appears to be broad based affecting many types of power
plants to some degree. One key steel price index has doubled over
the last twelve months alone. This reflects global trends as steel is
traded internationally and there is international competition among
power plant suppliers. Higher steel and other input prices broadly
affects power plant capital costs. A key driving force is a very
large boom in U.S. demand for coal power plants which in turn has
resulted from unexpectedly strong U.S. electricity demand growth
and high natural gas prices. Most integrated U.S. utilities have
decided to pursue coal power plants as a key component of their
capacity expansion plan. In addition, many foreign companies are
also expected to add large amounts of new coal power plant
capacity. This global boom is straining supply. Since coal power
plant equipment suppliers and bidders also supply other types of
plants, there is a spill over effect to other types of electric
generating plants such as combined cycle plants.17

Duke Energy Carolinas witness Rose further noted in this testimony that the
actual coal power plant capital costs as reported by plants already under
construction were exceeding government estimates of capital costs by “a wide
margin (i.e., 35 to 40 percent).” He also noted that currently announced power
plants appeared likely to face another increase in costs (i.e., approximately 40
percent).18 Thus, according to Mr. Rose, the cost of building new coal-fired power
plant capital costs had increased approximately 90 to 100 percent between 2002

17  Direct Testimony of Judah Rose for Duke Energy Carolinas, North Carolina Utilities Commission
18  Ibid, at page 6, lines 5-9, and page 12, lines 11-16.
Q. Do you agree with Duke Energy Carolinas assessment that the costs of new coal-fired power plants had increased significantly in the period between 2002 and 2006 and were likely to continue to rise in the future?
A. Yes. Just about every coal-fired power construction project in the U.S. during that period, of which I am aware, experienced a significant cost increase as a result of the factors cited by Duke Energy Carolinas in its testimony to the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

Q. Should Duke Energy Carolinas’ experience with its Cliffside Project have provided any insights into the expected construction cost of the Edwardsport IGCC Project?
A. Yes. DEI should have realized that Edwardsport would be subject to the same risks of significantly higher costs as other coal-fired projects including the Company’s Cliffside Project.

Q. You also mentioned, above, that DEI should have expected that Edwardsport would be particularly exposed to the risks of rising construction costs due to the fact that it was the first-of-a-kind commercial power plant using the chosen IGCC technology. Please explain the basis for this conclusion.
A. In proposing to build the Edwardsport IGCC Project, DEI was risking potentially higher construction costs and potential operability and reliability problems as an early adopter of IGCC technology (also called a “First Mover”) instead of waiting and learning from the experience of other IGCC projects. There were no plants that had previously been built anywhere else using the GE Reference Design that was being built at Edwardsport. Thus, it was not simply a matter of scaling up an existing plant design, i.e., the design for the Polk IGCC plant in Florida.

Q. Was there a complete detailed design for the Edwardsport IGCC plant back in 2006 and 2007 when Cause No. 43114 was being heard by the IURC?
A. No. There was only a conceptual design upon which the original FEED Study was based.
Q. Was it clear during this time frame (2006-2007) that the design for the Edwardsport IGCC Project involved new design features as compared to the existing Polk IGCC plant?

A. Yes. A presentation by DEI President Stanley in June 2007 acknowledged that the Edwardsport IGCC plant involved the introduction of multiple new GE products.\(^\text{19}\)

Q. Did GE acknowledge that there were challenges for a company in investing in the first wave of new IGCC plants?

A. Yes. A May 24, 2007 presentation by Bret Scholtes from GE Energy Financial Services listed the following “challenges of investing in the first wave” of new IGCC plants:

- Substantial development expense
- Increasing capital costs
- EPC uncertainty – Limited options at this time
- Technology – Performance and availability
- Limited Visibility into the future – Carbon and Greenhouse Gas legislation\(^\text{20}\)

Q. Was DEI aware of the risks, challenges and uncertainties involved in being a First Mover, that is, being among the first wave of projects involving new IGCC technology?

A. Yes. Duke Energy President Rogers explained to the North Carolina Utilities Commission in late 2006 that the Company had considered but decided against IGCC technology for a new plant in that state because of the expectation that

---

\(^{19}\) Edwardsport IGCC Project Update, Workshop on Gasification Technologies, Indianapolis, Indiana, June 13, 2007, at slide no. 9. Included as Exhibit DAS-S2.

\(^{20}\) Exhibit DAS-S3.
initial capital costs would be higher and because IGCC was still a developing technology.\textsuperscript{21}

Duke witness McCollum (Duke Energy’s Group Vice President of Regulated Fossil/Hydro Generation) testified in the same North Carolina proceeding that:

IGCC is a promising, but still developing technology. From the standpoint of technology, there currently are no IGCC plants larger than 300 MW operating or under construction. There are two IGCC plants currently operating in the United States: Tampa Electric Company’s Polk Station, a 250 MW Department of Energy (DOE) demonstration project brought on line in September 1996 and Duke Energy Indiana’s Wabash River 262 MW DOE demonstration IGCC plant in Indiana, which was completed in 1995. A number of larger commercial IGCC projects are under development, including Duke Energy Indiana’s proposal with GE Energy and Bechtel to evaluate the possible construction of a new 600 MW IGCC plant in Indiana, but no firm commitments have been made. Additional issues such as the higher initial costs, the limitations on load following and cycling capability, and the lack of suitable geologic formations to support CO₂ sequestration in Duke Energy Carolinas’ service territory, all made IGCC less suitable for Duke Energy Carolinas 2011 baseload needs than pulverized coal.\textsuperscript{22}

Mr. McCollum also testified that IGCC plants involve “some very complex and finicky pieces of equipment” and that, at that time (i.e., January 2007), the Edwardsport project was “still in a conceptual design phase.”\textsuperscript{23}

Duke witness Hager similarly told the North Carolina Utilities Commission that while IGCC was a potentially viable commercial technology, even in North Carolina where carbon sequestration was not possible, it could only be considered as a developing technology, not as a viable option at present.\textsuperscript{24}
Q. What did the North Carolina Utilities Commission decide about the viability of IGCC technology as an option for a new power plant?

A. The North Carolina Utilities Commission concluded that:

Duke cannot rely upon IGCC technology to supply its need for additional baseload generating capacity beginning in 2011. IGCC units have yet to be constructed as a large-scale electric generating resource. Even if such units could be built, they would achieve commercial operation at least two years later than the Cliffside project. Given the geology of North Carolina, a cost effective method for carbon sequestration is, at best, an unresolved issue. Further, IGCC may not operate as effectively as its proponents anticipate. Reliability issues and the higher capital costs associated with IGCC may outweigh any advantages in pollution control; it is too early to know at present. IGCC is still a developing technology, and it is not a reliable alternative to the Cliffside project.\(^{25}\)

Q. Did DEI present similar testimony to the IURC that IGCC was just a developing technology or that Edwardsport was only in a conceptual design phase?

A. No. In Cause Nos. 43114 and 43114 IGCC-1, the Company presented a very different view of the state of IGCC technology, in general, and of the state of the design of the Edwardsport IGCC Project, in particular.

For example, Company witness Roebel testified in Cause No. 43114 that the technology for the Edwardsport IGCC Project was not unproven technology:

… although the plant will be the first or one of the first IGCC plants in the 600 MW range. I view IGCC technology as a merging of two mature technologies. As Dr. Schilling describes, coal gasification has been practiced for many years. Combined cycle generation is nothing new, and there are a number of combined cycle plants operating on natural gas throughout the country. We now have a very good experience base with the two operating demonstration IGCC plants, Wabash River Repowering and Polk. Although Duke Energy Indiana has not operated the gasification island at Wabash River, we have over ten years experience operating a combined cycle power plant in

---

\(^{25}\) Id., at page 27.
conjunction with the gasification plant. Subject to stringent confidentiality limitations, engineers from our Edwardsport Project team have had unprecedented access to GE’s design effort – we have seen how GE has incorporated lessons learned from prior IGCC projects. It would not surprise me if we have to make some modifications early in the operating life of the Edwardsport Project, but that is not unusual for any new large power plant. In my opinion, overall Edwardsport will be a very good and reliable generating station and will serve our customers well.26

Company witness Zupan similarly testified in Cause No. 43114 that the number of Project design changes would be “limited:”

As stated above, the FEED Study will provide mid-level engineering and design details for the Project. Prior to making a final decision as to whether, in our view, the Edwardsport Project should go forward, and before beginning construction, we need to perform additional functions such as pursuing a number of value engineering analyses, performing more detailed engineering, contract negotiations and, quite possibly, making commitments for certain materials and equipment. Because of schedule impacts, incorporation of changes to the Project scope after the FEED Study will generally be limited to those that add value.27

Q. **Did the Company ever indicate to the IURC prior to the current proceeding that the FEED Study was based on a preliminary design with little detailed engineering and not on an actual facility that had already been constructed and could be used for estimate purposes?**

A. Not to my knowledge. Instead, a review of the testimony filed by DEI in Cause Nos. 43114, 43114 S1 and 43114 IGCC-1 suggests that the following testimony by Company witness is typical of what the Company told the IURC about the FEED Study:

We expect to begin more detailed engineering for certain components of the Project immediately after the completion of the FEED Study. While the **mid-level engineering from the FEED Study** is critical

---

26 Rebuttal Testimony of John J. Roebel in Cause Nos. 43114 and 43114 S1, at page 4, lines 1-18.
27 Testimony of Dennis M. Zupan in Cause No. 43114, at page 5, lines 1-8.
and very helpful for analyzing the reasonableness of the Project, it
does not provide the level of detail necessary to develop and issue
specifications for various components of the plant. Detailed
engineering is necessary in order to define equipment requirements
and get responsive and useful proposals from vendors. This
ingeering and design work will be performed by both GE and
Bechtel under a technical services agreement. (Emphasis added)\(^28\)

Q. Did anyone actually warn DEI about the potential for higher capital costs for
the Edwardsport IGCC than the Company was assuming in 2007 and 2008?

A. Yes. This is not an argument based on “hind sight.” Indiana Industrial Group
witness Nicholas Phillips warned in testimony in Cause No. 43114 S1 about the
risks of proceeding with an IGCC project. I warned in both Cause No. 43114 S1
and Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1 about the potential for higher costs than DEI was
then projecting for the Edwardsport Project.

For example, I testified in Cause No. 43114 that Duke should anticipate that the
cost of the Edwardsport Project would increase above its then-current $1.985
billion cost estimate and, consequently, should examine sensitivities in its
modeling analyses that reflected higher construction costs.\(^29\) I explained that it
was reasonable to assume that the proposed Project could experience cost
increases before it was completed:

\[\text{Duke may have to increase the estimated cost of the project once it completes its design and/or the selection of equipment suppliers.}
\]
\[\text{Moreover, any number of factors could lead to even higher costs during the remaining years before the proposed IGCC Project is completed, if indeed a Certificate is issued and the Project is allowed to continue. These factors could include the worldwide competition for power plant equipment, commodities and labor, project delays, regulation-related costs, and weather conditions. Thus, there is no guarantee that the current capital cost estimate for the proposed IGCC Project will be the last.}\(^30\)

\(^{28}\) Id, at page 6, lines 9-16.
\(^{29}\) Direct Testimony of David A. Schlissel, Cause No. 43114 S1, at page 34, lines 1-23.
\(^{30}\) Id, at page 33, lines 14-21.
Although Duke had considered the potential for higher construction costs in its modeling analyses of the proposed Cliffside Project in North Carolina, the Company refused to do the same in its modeling of the Edwardsport Project. Indeed, the Company actually contested that it was reasonable to expect that the cost of the Edwardsport Project might increase above its $1.985 billion estimate. For example, Company rebuttal witness Roebel testified that the $1.985 billion cost estimate was:

… as reasonable as possible at this time. As I have testified before with respect to the Company’s environmental compliance projects, relatively minor changes from ongoing impacts and refinements to the project as a normal part of an ongoing construction program. However, with the completion of the [Front End Engineering Design] FEED Study we have a significant amount of detailed knowledge about the project, more knowledge than normal for this stage of a major project. We were given unprecedented access to the GE and Bechtel teams working on the FEED Study and their work product. As we stated in the FEED Study Report, Bechtel was able to perform take offs from engineering drawings, a much more accurate method for estimating quantities. Bechtel obtained current pricing for over 90% of the bulk quantity materials and equipment from vendors. The estimate was rigorous and performed by seasoned personnel using accepted estimating techniques. In my opinion, the estimate is reasonable.  

Mr. Roebel also testified that the then current $1.985 billion estimate was based on very recent quotes and estimates from vendors and suppliers and on pricing data obtained as late as March, 2007.
Q. Did you subsequently warn in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1 in 2008 that the Edwardsport’s construction cost could rise above the Company’s new $2.35 billion estimate?

A. Yes. Based on industry experience, I recommended that Duke perform a series of sensitivity scenarios in its modeling analyses that would have assumed increases of 20 percent and 40 percent over its then-current $2.35 billion cost estimate.

Q. Did you present evidence in your testimony in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1 regarding the significant cost increases that had been experienced by other coal-fired power plant construction projects through mid-2008?

A. Yes.  

Q. Did Duke prepare any higher capital cost sensitivity analyses in response to your recommendation in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1?

A. No. Despite having been proven to have been wrong about the accuracy/reasonableness of its $1.985 billion cost estimate in May 2007, Duke again refused to consider in its modeling analyses that there might be further increases beyond its then-current $2.35 billion estimate. For example, Company witness Womack testified that:

I do not believe it is reasonable to assume that the cost of the Edwardsport project will exceed the Company’s current estimate. We are making significant progress toward mitigating the types of market risks referred to by Mr. Schlissel. A deeper analysis of the particular cost elements of the Edwardsport project will illustrate this point… While we cannot guarantee factors beyond our control, such as inflation, based on my specific knowledge of the Edwardsport project, I have not seen any evidence that would lead me to believe that the current estimate should be revised.

* * * * *

33 Direct Testimony of David A. Schlissel, Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1, at page 6, line 1, to page 12, line 11.
Taking everything into account, I have the same level of confidence in the current estimate that I did when it was completed in April of this year.34

The Company’s Reply Brief similarly expressed total confidence in its $2.35 billion cost estimate and rejected out-of-hand the idea of conducting any sensitivity economic analyses assuming higher capital costs for Edwardsport:

The Company could run an infinite number of cost increase (or decrease) scenarios producing an infinite number of potential outcomes. But the Company has chosen instead to confine itself to the facts, and present those facts as evidence in this proceeding. The evidence shows that future cost increases of any magnitude, let alone of the magnitude feared by the CAC, are unlikely. The reasons for this are not blind optimism; rather, the Project is much further along today than it was in 2007, numerous contracts with vendors and equipment suppliers have been finalized and signed, and the majority of the remaining work is of a nature that is much less susceptible to large price increases…35

Q. Did you recommend in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1 that Duke actually revise its cost estimate for the Edwardsport Project?

A. No. As I noted above, I merely recommended that prudent planning required that the Company examine the potential that such further cost increases might be experienced so that it and the IURC would have the best possible information for determining whether completion of the Project was in the public interest.

Q. Did the Company present any specific evidence in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1 that should have warned it about the potential for significantly higher construction costs at Edwardsport?

A. Yes. Company witness Turner testified in May 2008 that the EPRI range of costs of IGCC projects had increased from $1.666-$2.102 billion in 2006 to $2.325 billion to $3.063 billion for a plant in service in 2012, using a 6 percent escalation

34 Rebuttal Testimony of W. Michael Womack, Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1, August 8, 2008, at page 3, line 8, to page 4, line 9.
35 DEI September 25, 2008 Reply Brief in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1, at page 12.
rate. Remarkably, the Company cited the fact that its new estimate was within this range as evidence of its reasonableness instead of expressing concern that the new $2.35 billion estimate was barely above the low end of the range and that the EPRI data showed that the Project’s construction cost could be significantly higher. Rather than instilling confidence in its $2.35 billion estimate, the updated EPRI data presented by Mr. Turner should have flashed a red warning signal to DEI about proceeding without considering the potential for additional cost increases. Unfortunately, it did not.

Q. Did the Company present any testimony in Cause Nos. 43114 IGCC-1, IGCC-2 or IGCC-3 describing any major design modifications at Edwardsport or the impact that such design modifications was having on the Project’s cost or schedule?

A. No. The Company’s Petition and testimony in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1 focused on the following factors as the main reasons for increasing Edwardsport’s estimated cost from $1.985 billion to $2.35 billion:

As discussed above, the Company is requesting the Commission revise the approved estimated construction cost for the IGCC Project. The primary reasons for this increased cost estimate are: (1) higher than anticipated contract costs from our major vendors driven in large part by the worldwide demand for engineering and construction services and for construction commodities such as steel and concrete; (2) higher than expected inflationary increases on major pieces of equipment, many of which are only available from overseas firms, also driven by worldwide increases in demand for such equipment; and (3) higher than average expected inflation over the course of the construction period, expected to be reflected in contractors’ costs, labor costs, and other equipment costs.

I have seen no evidence of any discussion in the Company’s testimony in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1 of any impact that design modifications were having on the

36 Direct Testimony of James L. Turner in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1, at page 8, line 20, to page 9, line 3.
37 May 1, 2008 Verified Petition in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-1, at pages 6 and 7.
Project’s cost. There also was no mention of increasing numbers of commodities (i.e., concrete, steel, etc) being used at Edwardsport.

The Company’s testimony in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-2 in November 2008 similarly did not mention any need for significant design modifications due to Edwardsport’s being a first-of-a-kind IGCC plant or increased construction commodities. Indeed, Company witness Womack’s testimony in that proceeding specifically mentioned that no significant problems had arisen with site activities and that there was no need to change either the Project’s cost or schedule.

Mr. Womack’s testimony in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-3 did discuss a project delay and some scope/cost growth due to the raw water treatment and grey water disposal systems, with a cost impact within the range of $70 to $120 million.\(^{38}\) He also reported that unexpected issues and market conditions had required the Company to use some of the contingency and escalation allowances identified in the cost estimate.\(^{39}\) However, there was no mention of significant design modifications or significant scope growth beyond the raw water treatment and grey water disposal systems.

Q. How far along was engineering and design work for Edwardsport when Mr. Womack filed his testimony in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-3 in May 2009?

A. Mr. Womack testified that engineering and design work was more than 50 percent complete and on track to be 90 percent complete by the end of 2009.\(^{40}\)

Q. To what factors does DEI now attribute the dramatic increases in the cost of the Edwardsport IGCC Project?

A. As explained in the Company’s direct testimony in this proceeding, the Company realized in the fall of 2009 that the plant it is building “has significantly more

\(^{38}\) Direct Testimony of W. Michael Womack in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-3, at page 3, line 22, to page 4, line 2.

\(^{39}\) Id., at page 14, lines 12-14.

\(^{40}\) Id., at page 3, lines 4-6.
scope, and is significantly more complex, than the original FEED Study estimated.\textsuperscript{41}

As Company witness Haviland explained:

In the late stages of the engineering and procurement progress (over 80% complete), it became apparent that the IGCC Project we are building has significantly more scope than the FEED Study estimated – in other words, the plant is just a bigger plant than we expected. Although a reasonable FEED Study was performed to develop the expected scope and quantities for the IGCC Project, there was, and still is, no existing physical plant of this type and size for the FEED Study to base its estimates upon. This is unique technology and a first of its kind plant of this size. Although there are other gasification plants based on the GE technology, none of them have the latest improvements designed specifically for this plant by GE and none of them are as highly integrated with the power block components as this plant. The fact that the power block is highly integrated with the gasification island and that the power components are tailored for syngas also makes the power block design less similar to a traditional combined cycle plant. As a result, the FEED Study was based on a preliminary design with little detailed engineering and not on an actual facility that had already been constructed and could be used for estimate purposes. GE and Bechtel did refer to the Tampa Electric facility, previously mentioned, for some estimate comparisons. With regards to these estimate comparisons, although we believed that the proper estimating adjustments had been made to account for the differences between Tampa Electric and Edwardsport, GE and Bechtel adjustments were ultimately not adequate to account for the final design growth. Given the age of that facility, smaller size, and design differences, the Tampa Electric plant did not prove to be an adequate reference facility.

As final engineering progressed, it was determined that some of the FEED Study estimates were off by a large percentage….\textsuperscript{42}

\footnotesize

\textsuperscript{41} Direct Testimony of James L. Turner in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-4S, at page 5, lines 11-13 and page 6, lines 11-13.

\textsuperscript{42} Direct Testimony of Richard W. Haviland in Cause No. 43114 IGCC-4S, at page 5, line 19, to page 6, line 21.
The end result is a substantial amount of change in scope – some of it normal design development, but primarily driven by the unique plant design. It’s important to note that the increase in scope impacts other aspects of the Project. Because of the increase in scope, we have experienced increased engineering costs, late engineering, increased quantities, schedule compression, schedule extension to relieve some of the schedule compression, late deliveries of equipment, field and shop rework due to compression and late engineering changes, and increased construction costs affected by the aforementioned factors and the fact that we are installing and managing a larger project.\(^{43}\)

Q. What did DEI tell the IURC in earlier proceedings concerning the scope of the Edwardsport IGCC Project and the numbers of construction commodities that would be required?

A. The Company provided very optimistic and confident testimony concerning the design of the Edwardsport Project and even boasted that it would be able to build the new IGCC Project with fewer commodities than were in the original plant design. For example, Company witness Roebel testified in Cause No. 43114 that “As we stated in the FEED Study Report, Bechtel was able to perform take offs from engineering drawings, a much more accurate method for estimating quantities.”\(^{44}\)

Company witness Zupan similarly told the IURC that:

\[
\text{For example, as Mr. Moreland explained in Cause No. 42894, GE and Bechtel are developing a reference plant design, or a base design for the major components of a commercial IGCC generating station that will be adaptable to multiple sites. We believe that GE and Bechtel can reduce the overall footprint of their original site layout as it is adapted for the Edwardsport site, and significantly reduce the length of piping, cable and conduit runs along with associated pipe rack steel and foundations. (Emphasis added)\(^{45}\)}
\]

\(^{43}\) Id, at page 7, lines 12-22.
\(^{44}\) Direct Testimony of John J. Roebel in Cause No. 43114, at page 2, lines 16-18.
\(^{45}\) Direct Testimony of Dennis M. Zupan in Cause No. 43114, at page 5, line 7, to page 6, line 1.
Q. Do you have any comment on DEI’s explanation that it was unaware of the
design evolution and growth in scope of the Edwardsport IGCC Project until
the fall of 2009?

A. Yes. The Company’s “explanation” is prima facie evidence of gross
mismanagement in that:

- The Company’s explanation confirms that IGCC is still a developing
technology, a state of affairs to which Duke Energy testified before the
North Carolina Utilities Commission but not the IURC.

- DEI did not tell the IURC back in Cause Nos. 43114 or 43114 IGCC-1
that Edwardsport was employing a “unique technology” at Edwardsport.
Instead, as I have noted, the Company testified to precisely the opposite
point – that Edwardsport was merely merging two mature technologies.

- The very risks of proceeding as a “first mover” in the development of
IGCC technology that Indiana Industrial Group witness Phillips warned
about in Cause No. 43114 S1 have come to pass.

- The very risks of higher capital costs that I warned about in Cause Nos.
43114 S1 and IGCC-1 (and that DEI refused to acknowledge) have come
to pass.

- DEI knew that GE was incorporating new products (i.e., new design
features) in the Edwardsport design back in 2007 and should not have
been surprised about such changes in the fall of 2009.

- DEI did not warn the IURC that the FEED Study, completed in 2007, was
“based on a preliminary design with little detailed engineering.”

- DEI compares the current project design and cost estimate with the FEED
Study but does not explain why it was not aware of the changes in project
design and the growth in scope until mid-to-fall 2009. In other words, if
Mr. Haviland’s explanation is accepted at face value, why wasn’t DEI
aware that the scope of the project was changing and that the amounts of construction commodities being included in the design and actually being installed in the plant were increasing dramatically? Either DEI was not prudently involved in overseeing the design and construction of the Project or, incredibly, the Company suggests that, perhaps, GE and/or Bechtel were hiding design modifications from it.

Q. Is there any evidence that DEI knew before October 2009 that “first mover” risks with cost implications were actually materializing at Edwardsport?

A. Yes, there is. For example, in early October, 2008, DEI “Inside the Boundary Line” Project Director Rex Sears made a presentation at a Gasification Technologies Council conference in which he expressly identified and discussed three major “First Mover Challenges” which were already developing at Edwardsport, including:

- The terms of the Non-Disclosure Agreements required by GE and Bechtel were so stringent and the proportion of documents to which they applied was so extraordinarily high that their execution and administration were significantly complicating and delaying work by Project subcontractors.

- The number and importance of the new product designs which GE was introducing at Edwardsport (including not only the plant as a whole but also the radiant syngas cooler, the advanced feed injector, the 7FBH combustion turbines, the refractory, and the Mark VIe distributed control system) required the use of a special “toll gate process” to track and manage these new product introductions and an extended 13-month extended start-up period to accommodate testing and validation of these new products.

- The change from a “lump sum, turnkey” contracting process to one which included a blend of costing methods, with DEI managing the Project and holding the escalation and warranty risk, was requiring recreation of prime contractor collaboration, technology and engineering design responsibilities, with a resulting need for increased coordination at the
Q. At the same time that DEI was expressing confidence in 2007 and 2008 in its increasing cost estimates for the Edwardsport IGCC Project, were other companies cancelling their proposed IGCC plants because of rising costs?

A. Yes. A large number of other IGCC Projects were being cancelled or put on hold. For example: Tampa Electric, the owner of the Polk IGCC unit that DEI said it was using for the initial design of Edwardsport, cancelled a proposed IGCC plant in the fall of 2007 due to uncertainty related to CO₂ regulations, particularly capture and sequestration issues, and the potential for related project cost increases. According to a company press release, “Because of the economic risk of these factors to customers and investors, Tampa Electric believes it should not proceed with an IGCC project at this time,” although it remains steadfast in its support of IGCC as a critical component of future fuel diversity in Florida and the nation.

Other companies also cancelled proposed IGCC projects in the same time period that DEI was seeking a CPCN for the Edwardsport IGCC Project. Some examples include:

- In June 2007, the Tondu Corp. announced that it was suspending plans to build a planned 600 MW IGCC facility in Texas citing high costs and other concerns related to technology and construction risks.⁴⁷

- Xcel Energy announced in October 2007 that it was deferring indefinitely its plans to build an integrated gasification combined cycle plant (“IGCC”) in Colorado because the development costs were higher than the utility originally expected.⁴⁸

- The Orlando Utilities Commission announced in November 2007 that it was cancelling the coal gasification portion of a 285-megawatt IGCC plant

---


⁴⁷ http://www.reuters.com/article/companyNewsAndPR/idUSN1526955320070615

at the Stanton Energy Center. Construction will continue on the natural
gas-fired combined cycle generating unit. The Commission cited the
impact of possible federal and state regulations related to future emissions
restrictions in the state of Florida as the primary reason for terminating
construction.\footnote{http://www.ouc.com/news/releases/20071114-secb.htm.}

Q. Were state regulatory commissions expressing concern about the
uncertainties surrounding IGCC technology and the potential for increasing
capital costs?

A. Yes. The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission refused in August 2007 to
approve an agreement under which Xcel Energy would have purchased power
from a proposed IGCC facility due to concerns over the uncertainties surrounding
the plant’s estimated construction and operating costs and operating and financial

In April 2008, the Virginia State Corporation Commission refused to require
Virginia ratepayers of Appalachian Power Company to bear any of the costs of a
proposed IGCC plant citing uncertainties of costs, technology, and unknown
federal mandates.\footnote{Final Order in Case No. PUE-2007-00068, April 14, 2008. Available at
http://scc.virginia.gov/newsrel/e_apfrate_08.aspx.} The Commission also found that “… APCo has no fixed
price contract for any appreciable portion of the total construction costs; there are
no meaningful price or performance guarantees or controls for this project at this
time. This represents an extraordinary risk that we cannot allow the ratepayers of
Virginia in APCo’s service territory to assume.”\footnote{Id., at page 5.}

The Commission also noted the uncertainties surrounding federal regulation of
carbon emissions and carbon capture and sequestration technology and costs, and
observed that the Company was asking for a “blank check.”\footnote{Id., at page 10.} On this basis, the
Commission concluded that “We cannot ask Virginia ratepayers to bear the
enormous costs – and potentially huge costs – of these uncertainties in the context of the specific Application before us.\textsuperscript{54}

Q. Is it reasonable to assume that if DEI had accepted your recommendation that it assume higher capital costs for Edwardsport, the Company’s modeling analyses in Causes Nos. 43114 S1 and 43114 IGCC-1 would have shown that completion of the project as an IGCC plant was not the low cost option?

A. Yes. The resource plans with the Edwardsport IGCC Project that DEI included in their economic analyses in Cause Nos. 43114-S1 and IGCC-1 had only marginally lower costs, at best, than the plans without the IGCC plant. For example, in the economic modeling analyses that the Company presented in Cause 43114 S1, in the Base Case Scenario, the plan containing 100 percent of the IGCC plant was only 0.24 percent lower in PVRR than the lowest cost plan without the IGCC.\textsuperscript{55} In the scenario with CO\textsubscript{2} costs, the plan that included 100 percent of the IGCC Project had only a 0.13 percent lower PVRR than the lowest cost plan without the IGCC unit. It is reasonable to expect, given these marginal benefits, that had DEI looked at scenarios with 20 percent and 40 percent higher capital costs for Edwardsport, the plans with the IGCC Project would have had the higher PVRR.

Q. Why do you believe that DEI refused to model scenarios with higher Edwardsport capital costs in Cause Nos. 43114-S1 and IGCC-1?

A. Clearly, with its own analyses showing, at best, marginal economic benefits for the IGCC Project, the Company was afraid that the results of any such higher construction cost sensitivity analyses would show that completing the plant as an

\textsuperscript{54} Id, at page 10.
\textsuperscript{55} Rebuttal Testimony of Diane L. Jenner in Cause 43114-S1, Petitioner’s Exhibit 24, at page 7, lines 17-21.
IGCC was the more expensive alternative. Instead, it chose to conceal this information from the IURC.

Q. When Duke filed its direct case in this proceeding, did it include any sensitivity analyses reflecting cost increase above its current $2.88 billion cost estimate for Edwardsport?

A. No. Remarkably, despite having been proven wrong about the reasonableness of its previous cost estimates in both 2007 and 2008, the Company again failed in its direct testimony in this proceeding to consider the possibility that the cost of building the Edwardsport Project might increase above $2.88 billion. This failure followed a total increase of 45 percent in the cost of building Edwardsport just since the CPCN was issued in November 2007. Although DEI did include sensitivity scenarios that assumed another 10 percent increase in Edwardsport’s capital cost in the modeling analyses discussed in the Rebuttal Testimony of Ms. Hager in this proceeding, it did not include similar sensitivities in the modeling presented in Ms. Hager’s Supplemental Settlement Testimony.

Q. When did Duke realize that the Project could not be completed for the Commission approved cost estimate of $2.35 billion?

A. According to the Company’s Revised and Supplemental Response to DEI-IG 5.13, “During the preparation of the monthly progress report prepared and issued in October 2009 (based on data through the end of September), it became apparent that the forecasted cost to complete the project would exhaust all remaining contingencies and escalation; and thus exceed the $2.35 billion estimate.

Q. What does the September 2009 Monthly Report that is referenced in Duke’s response to DEI-IG 5.13 actually say?

A. The Executive Summary notes that the Forecast Project Cost is one of the “Critical Issues:”
Significant anticipated cost increases have become apparent in the last few months.

- Design quantities have continued to grow.
- Major construction packages have been awarded and significant cost increases for the target cost of these contracts has now been recognized.
- Large increases in the cost of bulk material ($46 million in piping) have been identified.
- A thorough review of services contracts has revealed larger than estimated cost projections.
- The anticipated cost of the grey water disposal system has increased, and
- The anticipated cost of startup related services has risen after a thorough re-estimate.

As of the issuance of this report, the cost of the project (excluding AFUDC) is forecast to be $116.7 million over the current approved budget. This forecast does not include any contingency allowance for future issues on the project. Since the project is only 40% complete, it is unreasonable to assume that there will not be a need for contingency in the future. We are currently performing scenario analysis to evaluate the possibility of future cost growth and attempting to quantify that growth. The need could be an additional $100 to $150 million, but further study is needed.56

Q. Did the October 2009 Edwardsport Project Monthly Report identify additional construction cost increases?

A. Yes. The October 2009 Project Monthly Report noted the following concerning the Forecast Project Cost:

In preparation for this month’s report, more significant increases in the forecast cost of certain elements of the project cost were revealed. The three primary factors driving the cost increase this month were the development of a revised Grey Water System cost estimate (~$10 million), more previously unaccounted for increases in bulk materials (~$15 million), and increases in the forecast cost of services contracts for miscellaneous share services (~$9 million).

As of the issuance of this report, the cost of the project (excluding AFUDC) is forecast to be $149.6 million over the current approved budget. This forecast amount does not include any unallocated contingency over future issues on the project. Since the project is only 44% complete, it is unreasonable to assume that there will not be a need for contingency in the future. We are currently performing scenario analysis to evaluate the possibility of future cost growth and attempting to quantify that growth. The need could be an additional $100 to $150 million, but further study is needed.\(^{57}\)

Q. Did DEI reanalyze the economics of continuing with construction of Edwardsport as an IGCC plant when these cost increases became apparent in the early-to-mid fall of 2009?

A. No. Company witness Haviland suggests that DEI was shocked when it realized in the fall of 2009 that the Project had become a “substantially different plant than the FEED Study had estimated.”\(^{58}\) However, the Company did not re-examine the economics of continuing with the Edwardsport Project until the preparation of its direct case in this proceeding (filed in early April 2010) despite the evidence of what were without doubt significant cost increases beyond the Commission approved $2.35 billion estimate. Instead, construction continued at a rapid pace, with the Company investing another $520 million in Edwardsport in the months of November 2009 through March 2010. DEI was clearly attempting to convert to-go costs into sunk costs and, thereby, improve the relative economics of continuing construction versus cancellation or conversion to an NGCC facility.

Q. Was this prudent management?

A. No. Prudent management requires that companies re-evaluate the reasonableness of continuing with projects in light of significantly changed circumstances. Yet another large increase in the cost of building Edwardsport was such a significantly changed circumstance.

---

\(^{57}\) Edwardsport IGCC Project Progress Report Number: 17, October 2009, at page 3 of 129.

\(^{58}\) Direct Testimony of Richard W. Haviland in Cause No. 43114 S4, at page 7, lines 1-2.
In accordance with prudent management principles, DEI should have re-examined the economics of completing Edwardsport as an IGCC plant before continuing to invest hundreds of millions more in the project. By failing to do so, DEI’s acted in a manner that represented gross mismanagement. In particular, DEI acted in a manner calculated to make the project a self-fulfilling prophecy by delaying preparation and submittal to the Commission of a significantly increased cost estimate while rapidly reducing remaining to-go costs to a level that would be low enough to induce the IURC into approving continued construction.

Q. Did the Company have reasonable opportunities to reconsider the economics of continuing construction of Edwardsport during the period November 2009 through March 2010?

A. Absolutely. The Company was preparing its 2009 Integrated Resource Plan filing during the summer and fall of 2009 with an originally planned submission date in November, 2009. DEI certainly could have incorporated scenarios with a range of higher estimated costs for Edwardsport in the modeling analyses that it was preparing for the IRP filing before it was finally made in January, 2010.

In this context it should be noted that Ms. Hager filed new rebuttal modeling analyses in this proceeding on September 2, 2010, barely one month after I filed my direct testimony. She subsequently filed additional settlement-related modeling analyses several weeks after the proposed settlement agreement was reached and yet another set of supplemental modeling analyses within two weeks of the Court of Appeals decision on the NSR lawsuit. Obviously, Duke has the resources and the expertise to prepare modeling analyses in a fairly short period of time, when it wants to do so.
Flaws in the Proposed Settlement Agreement that Leave Ratepayers Exposed to Significant Edwardsport-related Risks

Q. Does the proposed settlement agreement adequately protect ratepayers against Edwardsport-related costs?

A. No. The settlement agreement leaves ratepayers significantly exposed to higher costs related to the Edwardsport Project.

Q. Please explain.

A. There are a number of flaws that render the proposed agreement woefully inadequate to protect ratepayers.

1. The Company is rewarded for its gross mismanagement by being allowed to include in rate base at least $2.76 billion of the Project’s capital cost (the so-called “soft cap”).

2. The so-called “hard cap” figure of $2.975 billion may only be temporary, as Duke’s Group Executive for Franchised Gas and Utility Operations in the U.S., Jim Turner, intimated in this exchange with Citigroup Analyst Brian Chin in a September 20, 2010 conference call:
Brian Chin - Citigroup – Analyst:

Hi. Just one follow-up on Hugh's question about the hard cap. In the long shot event that the cost of the plant goes above the $2.97 [billion] level, what's sort of the game plan after that? Is there an assumed prudence review on top of that, that comes along?

Jim Turner - Duke Energy Corporation - Group Executive; President and COO, US Franchised Electric and Gas:

Well, I'm sure we'll have a conversation about it in the rate case, Brian, under the way we structured the settlement. [B]ut at this point the settlement agreement does not specifically call for a prudence review above the $2.975 [billion] since we're at risk for those costs that go above that. [B]ut again, I'm confident there will be a number of conversations along the way. So, in the chance we start trending up towards that number, there's going to be full visibility and transparency into it all along the way as we continue to do our every six-month rider updates with the Commission.59

In particular, the settlement agreement expressly permits recovery above the so-called “hard cap” of an increase in construction costs for the IGCC Project due to a force majeure event beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of Duke Energy Indiana or its suppliers or contractors involved in the Project, such as, by way of example, the following: acts of God, the public enemy, or any governmental or military entity.

In addition, the proposed settlement specifically includes a qualifying term that allows DEI to seek to raise the “hard cap” to recover increases in AFUDC “outside of Duke Energy Indiana’s control.”60

3. As it is currently being built, Edwardsport is essentially a coal plant without any carbon controls. Unfortunately, there is no protection at all for rates in the proposed settlement regarding carbon risks:

a. The costs of adding carbon capture and sequestration technology are not included in the settlement figures.

b. As noted above, even if you accept all of the Company’s assumptions, completion of Edwardsport as an IGCC plant is barely the lowest cost option with Duke’s new, and dramatically lower, 2010 projected CO2 allowance prices. Indeed, completion of Edwardsport as an IGCC plant is not the lowest cost option in any scenario modeled by the Company with DEI’s 2009 CO2 prices (and actually is the highest cost option in seven of the scenarios with DEI’s 2009 CO2 prices). Thus, ratepayers could be at risk for billions of dollars if actual CO2 allowance prices are higher than the extremely low prices that Duke has assumed in its new modeling analyses.

4. Also as noted above, completion of Edwardsport as an IGCC plant is barely the lowest cost option even if you accept DEI’s extremely optimistic assumption that the plant will immediately start off with a very high capacity factor and will continue to operate at approximately 82 percent capacity factors each year through 2030. The proposed settlement agreement does not offer any protection for ratepayers against the possibility or even likelihood that Edwardsport, a first-of-a-kind design, will experience significant technical and currently unanticipated problems that will adversely affect its operating performance.

5. There is no protection for ratepayers from having to pay for capital expenditures incurred after Edwardsport’s commercial operations date that are required to remedy problems related to the mismanaged planning, engineering or construction of the Edwardsport Project or resulting from what the Company now acknowledges is a first-of-a-kind plant with a unique GE design.

---

Q. Do you have any comments on the claimed benefits from the proposed settlement?

A. Yes. It is clear that several of benefits are illusory and/or represent deferrals of rate impacts rather than permanent rate reductions:

1. The so-called $65 million economic benefit from deferral of a rate case filing is completely speculative. There is no evidence that DEI actually would have filed a rate increase sometime in 2010. Nor is there any evidence as to the size of the rate increase that the Company would have requested or what increase the IURC would have granted.

2. The change in DEI’s depreciation rates is clearly a temporary measure to reduce rates by about $35 million annually for only the next few years. But ratepayers will have to pay any deferred amounts at a later time.

Q. Do you believe that the provision in Section 6 of the proposed settlement agreement that allows the Company to retain 40 percent of the jurisdictional share of recoveries from vendors is fair?

A. Absolutely not. As part of any agreement for the Commission to include in rate base Edwardsport construction costs in excess of the previously approved $2.35 billion, DEI should be required to show to the Commission that it has aggressively attempted to recover penalties and damages from vendors and subcontractors (i.e., GE, Bechtel and Sargent & Lundy, among others) for design, engineering and construction mismanagement. Such recoveries, actual or imputed, should be deducted dollar-for-dollar from the construction cost included in rate base.

Q. Do you believe that the provision in Section 5 of the proposed settlement agreement that would allow DEI to retain “any intellectual property commercial benefits related to the IGCC project” is fair?

A. No. Ratepayers are being asked to bear significant costs associated with the construction of Edwardsport IGCC Project and the other risks I have outlined.
above. It would be fair to allow them to share in the benefits if DEI gains monetarily from the sale of the intellectual property rights associated with the Project to other parties.

Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations

Q. Please summarize your findings and conclusions.

A. My primary findings and conclusions are that:

1. There is no need for the capacity from Edwardsport to ensure adequate system reliability.
   - Circumstances have changed significantly since the CPCN was issued in November 2007.
   - DEI’s own exhibits show that the Complete as NGCC and No IGCC scenarios each would provide adequate capacity to provide for a 13.9% reserve margin.

2. The Cost of the Edwardsport Project has skyrocketed since 2007 with the plant now expected to cost almost $5,000 per kilowatt.

3. The results of DEI’s economic analyses, including its most recent modeling, have shown, at most, a marginal benefit in some scenarios to completing Edwardsport as an IGCC unit. In other scenarios, completing the plant as an IGCC unit has been, and continues to be, a higher cost option than canceling the project and/or completing it as an NGCC unit.

4. DEI’s modeling analyses are biased by a number of unreasonable assumptions including the following:
   - The unreasonably optimistic assumption that a first-of-a-kind IGCC plant will have high availability and high capacity factors in all years of the study period.
   - The assumption that CO₂ allowance costs will be extremely low. The allowance costs in Company’s “High CO₂” sensitivity case would be more reasonable as base case scenario.
The assumption that there will not be any incremental energy efficiency savings after approximately the years 2021 in the base case and 2019 in the high energy efficiency case.

5. Completing Edwardsport as an IGCC plant is the riskiest option.
   - There is a significant potential for operating problems in first-of-a-kind unit for extended period after the projected in-service date.
   - CO₂ allowance costs could be significantly higher than DEI has modeled.
   - Edwardsport’s capital costs could be significantly higher than the Company has assumed if CCS is required to comply with an eventual federal climate change regulatory regime.
   - The Project could experience further cost increases and schedule delays prior to its actual in-service date.

6. DEI has grossly mismanaged its resource planning for the Edwardsport Project and has failed to fully disclose to the IURC the risks and the significance of higher construction costs.
   - The Company failed to acknowledge to the IURC that “First Mover” risks associated with the engineering and construction of a first-of-a-kind IGCC plant would expose the Project to significant increases in capital costs and delay(s) in in-service date.
   - The Company repeatedly refused in 2007 and 2008 to consider scenarios in its Edwardsport economic analyses with higher plant capital costs.
   - DEI failed in late 2009 and early 2010 to promptly conduct new economic studies after it finally recognized in the fall of 2009 that the project was going to cost more than the $2.35 billion that the IURC had approved.
   - DEI continued to spend money on construction at a rapid rate between October 2009 and March 2010, turning to-go costs into sunk costs and trying to make the project into a self-fulfilling prophecy.

7. The proposed settlement agreement is inadequate to address these issues and would leave the Company’s ratepayers exposed to very significant risks. Indeed, the proposed settlement would not only reimburse but would reward DEI for huge cost increases associated with the Company’s failure
on a timely basis to acknowledge, reflect in modeling and report to the
Commission the economic implications of “First Mover Issues.”

Q. Please summarize your recommendations.

A. In view of my primary findings and conclusions presented above, my principal
recommendations are that the Commission:

1. Rejected the Settlement Agreement as filed;

2. Enter an order which:

   A. Pursuant to IC 8-1-8.5-5.5 and 8-1-8.7-5, either revokes the CPCN
      for the Edwardsport Project or modifies it in such a manner as to
      address the deficiencies I have identified in the Settlement
      Agreement, especially but not exclusively its failure to adequately
      limit exposure of DEI ratepayers to additional capital costs in
      excess of the $2.35 billion previously approved by the Commission
      and significant additional operating costs if the plant goes into
      service and does not perform as assumed by the Company in its
      economic analyses.

   B. Pursuant to IC 8-1-2-51, initiates an investigation into (1) whether
      the Company’s conduct with respect to the Edwardsport Project
      constitutes fraud, concealment, and/or gross mismanagement
      within the meaning of the Utility Power Plant Construction Act,
      and (2) if there has been fraud, concealment or gross
      mismanagement, the amount of costs incurred to construct the
      Edwardsport Project that should be disallowed for ratemaking
      purposes for one or more of these reasons.

Q. Does this complete your testimony?

A. Yes.