

**GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
PUERTO RICO PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATORY BOARD
PUERTO RICO ENERGY BUREAU**

NEPR

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IN RE: PERFORMANCE METRICS
TARGETS FOR LUMA ENERGY SERVCO,
LLC

CASE NO. NEPR-AP-2020-0025

SUBJECT:

**LUMA Witnesses' Rebuttal on
Supplemental Testimony**

**LUMA'S MOTION SUBMITTING REBUTTAL TESTIMONIES ON
SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY ON ADDITIONAL METRICS**

TO THE HONORABLE PUERTO RICO ENERGY BUREAU:

COME now **LUMA Energy, LLC** ("ManagementCo"), and **LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC** ("ServCo"), (jointly referred to as the "Operator" or "LUMA"), and respectfully state and request the following:

1. On October 14, 2022, the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau ("Energy Bureau") entered a Resolution and Order that, in relevant part, amended the procedural calendar of this proceeding and set the virtual evidentiary hearing for February 7-10, 2023 ("October 14th Order"). Among other timeframes, the Energy Bureau required that, by October 28, 2022, LUMA shall file a Revised Annex IX to the Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution System Operation and Maintenance Agreement ("T&D OMA") to include the additional metrics requested by the Energy Bureau and to file supporting testimonies.

2. In what is relevant to this Motion, in the October 14th Order, this Energy Bureau granted intervenors until December 8, 2022, to submit supplemental written testimonies. This

Energy Bureau also determined that LUMA's rebuttal testimonies on the supplemental written testimonies, would be due on January 23, 2023.

3. On December 9, 2022, the Independent Consumer Protection Office submitted the supplemental testimony of Mr. Gerardo Cosme Nuñez ("Mr. Cosme").

4. In compliance with the October 14th Order, LUMA submits with this motion as **Exhibit 1**, the following pre-filed witnesses' rebuttal testimonies that address the supplemental testimony of Mr. Cosme. All of the witnesses are employees of LUMA and are presenting their rebuttal testimony on behalf of LUMA:

- a. Mrs. Diane Watkins- Vice President of Vegetation & Work Management
- e. Mr. Don Cortez- Vice President, Special Projects.

WHEREFORE, LUMA respectfully requests that the Energy Bureau **receive and accept** LUMA's witnesses' rebuttal testimonies; and **deem** that LUMA complied with the October 14th Order regarding filing of rebuttal testimonies.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

I hereby certify that I filed this motion using the electronic filing system of this Energy Bureau and that I will send an electronic copy of this motion to the attorneys for PREPA, Joannely Marrero-Cruz, jmarrero@diazvaz.law; and Katuska Bolaños-Lugo, kbolanos@diazvaz.law, the Office of the Independent Consumer Protection Office, Hannia Rivera Diaz, hrivera@jrsp.pr.gov, and counsel for the Puerto Rico Institute for Competitiveness and Sustainable Economy ("ICSE"), Fernando Agrait, agraitfe@agraitlawpr.com, counsel for the Colegio de Ingenieros y Agrimensores de Puerto Rico ("CIAPR"), Rhonda Castillo, rhoncat@netscape.net, and counsels for Comité Diálogo Ambiental, Inc., El Puente de Williamsburg, Inc., Enlace Latino de Acción Climática, Alianza Comunitaria Ambientalista del Sureste, Inc., Coalición de Organizaciones Anti-Incineración, Inc., Amigos del Río Guaynabo, Inc., CAMBIO, Sierra Club and its Puerto Rico Chapter, and Unión de Trabajadores de la Industria Eléctrica y Riego (jointly, Puerto Rico Local and Environmental Organizations), larroyo@earthjustice.org, lvelez@earthjustice.org, rmurthy@earthjustice.org, rstgo2@gmail.com, notificaciones@bufete-emmanuelli.com, pedrosaade5@gmail.com, jessica@bufete-emmanuelli.com; rolando@bufete-emmanuelli.com.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 23rd day of January 2023.



DLA Piper (Puerto Rico) LLC

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/s/ Margarita Mercado Echegaray

Margarita Mercado Echegaray

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Exhibit 1

Pre-Filed Rebuttal Testimonies

**GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
PUERTO RICO PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATORY BOARD
PUERTO RICO ENERGY BUREAU**

IN RE:

**PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR LUMA
ENERGY SERVCO, LLC**

CASE NO.: NEPR-AP-2020-0025

**Rebuttal Testimony of
Ms. Diane Watkins
Vice President of Vegetation & Work Management, LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC
January 23, 2023**

1 **Q. Please state your name.**

2 A. My name is Diane Watkins.


3 **Q. Please state your business mailing address, title, and employer.**

4 A. My business postal address is LUMA Energy, PO Box 363508, San Juan, Puerto Rico
5 00936-3508. I am the Vice President of Vegetation and Work Management for LUMA
6 Energy ServCo, LLC.

7 **Q. Please state your educational background.**

8 A. I graduated from Arizona State University in December 1999 with a Bachelor of Science
9 in Engineering (B.S.E.) degree in Electrical Engineering. I graduated again from Arizona
10 State University in August 2007 with a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)
11 degree.

12 **Q. Please state your professional experience.**

 13 A. I have over 20 years of professional experience in the utility industry. In October 2022, I
14 joined LUMA Energy as Vice President of Vegetation and Work Management.

15 **Q. Please describe your work experience prior to joining LUMA.**

16 A. Prior to joining Luma, I was the Director of Wildfire Mitigation at Xcel Energy in Denver,
17 Colorado. In that role, I led the company's strategic development and execution of the
18 wildfire mitigation plan. The plan included enhanced vegetation management practices,
19 system hardening, and conservative operations in high-risk threat areas, among other
20 activities. I also held a previous role at Xcel Energy in Federal Regulatory Affairs, where
21 I prepared tariff compliance and position documents submitted to the Federal Energy
22 Regulatory Commission (FERC), represented the company's positions on distributed
23 energy resource issues at the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), and

24 served as Chief Compliance Officer for FERC Standards of Conduct. Prior to my work in
25 Federal Regulatory Affairs, I was the Manager of Substation Field Engineering, where I
26 led a team of over 20 engineers who provided field support for the maintenance of over
27 1200 substations in eight (8) states. Before Xcel Energy, I held a variety of electric utility
28 engineering and leadership roles at David Evans and Associates and Salt River Project,
29 both in Phoenix, Arizona.

30 I am a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and
31 the current Vice Chair of the IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) Technical Council.

32 In 2016, I served as Editor of the Substations Chapter of the 17th Edition of the McGraw-
33 Hill *Standard Handbook for Electrical Engineers*.

34 **Q. Do you hold any professional licenses?**

35 A. Yes, I am registered as a Professional Engineer (P.E.) in Electrical Engineering by the State
36 of Arizona.

 37 **Q. Have you previously testified and appeared before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau?**

38 A. No.

39 **Q. On whose behalf are you testifying before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau?**

40 A. My testimony is on behalf of LUMA as part of the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau ("Energy
41 Bureau"), Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Board proceeding
42 Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025, the Performance Targets for LUMA Energy ServCo,
43 LLC.

44 **Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?**

45 A. To respond to those portions of the pre-filed supplemental testimony of Mr. Gerardo
46 Cosme Nunez ("Mr. Cosme") on behalf of the Independent Consumer Protection Office

47 (“IPCO”), filed on December 9, 2022, in this proceeding, regarding his recommendations
48 on the Vegetation Management Performance Metric: Vegetation Maintenance Miles
49 Completed.

50 **Q. Did you consider any documents for your rebuttal testimony?**

51 A. Yes, I did.

52 **Q. Which documents did you consider for your rebuttal testimony?**

53 a. Direct Testimony of Mr. Cosme Nuñez in response to LUMA’s proposed additional
54 metrics filed in this proceeding, NEPR-AP-2020-0025, notified on December 9, 2022.

55 b. Direct Testimony of Mr. Brent Bolzenius, dated October 28, 2022, filed in this
56 proceeding, NEPR-AP-2020-0025.

57 **Q. Did you rely on any other information for your testimony?**

58 A. My professional experience, including my experience in connection with the Transmission
59 and Distribution System (“T&D System”) of the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority
60 (“PREPA”) and its operations.

61 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Cosme’s recommendation on page 3, lines 114-122, of his pre-**
62 **filed testimony that the ratio between Reactive and Corrective vs. Preventative work**
63 **should be included in the metric to measure progress on the reduction of related**
64 **Vegetation Management backlog?**

65 A. No.

66 **Q. Please explain your response.**

67 A. First, while LUMA expects the amount of Reactive and Corrective work compared to
68 Preventive work to decrease, the ratio of Reactive and Corrective work to Preventive work
69 is not an accurate measure of Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed, and tracking this

ratio will not result in the completion of more vegetation maintenance work. A ratio measures the relationship between two things. In this case, the ratio suggested by Mr. Cosme would measure the relationship between the sum of the Reactive and Corrective work compared to the Preventive work. Such a ratio would not provide any information about the total amount of work actually completed. As an example, if LUMA completes 800 miles of Reactive/Corrective work and 800 miles of Preventive work, the ratio would be one ($800/800=1$). If LUMA completes 200 miles of Reactive/Corrective work and 200 miles of Preventive work, the ratio would also be one ($200/200=1$). So the ratio does not provide any indication of the amount of Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed and will not drive the completion of more vegetation maintenance miles. The metric proposed by LUMA measures all Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed and therefore tracks the total amount of work completed regardless of the specific category of the work. Tracking all the work completed is a better measure of overall work completion than tracking the ratio of specific classifications of the work.

Second, it is unclear what Mr. Cosme means when he refers to a “related Vegetation Management backlog.” As explained in Mr. Bolzenius’s pre-filed testimony of October 28, 2022, lines 69-78, LUMA’s vegetation maintenance work falls into three classifications: Reactive, Corrective, and Preventive. LUMA has not proposed the tracking of a backlog as part of the metric of Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed. If Mr. Cosme’s intent is to use the word “backlog” to refer to vegetation maintenance work that has been planned, but not yet completed, the proposed ratio will not measure such work. Reactive and Corrective work is work that cannot be easily planned for, while Preventive work can be planned, prioritized, and scheduled. As an example, assume LUMA plans to

93 complete 1200 miles of preventive work over a 12-month period. Half-way through this
94 example year, assume LUMA has completed 700 miles of Preventive work and 100 miles
95 of Reactive/Corrective work (recall that Reactive/Corrective work is unplanned and
96 therefore LUMA would not know at the beginning of the year how much
97 Reactive/Corrective work would be completed). In this example, the ratio of the
98 Reactive/Corrective work to the Preventive work would be 100/700 or 1/7. This number
99 provides no indication of the total Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed and no insight
100 into the remaining "backlog" of planned Preventive work.

101 LUMA may track the percentage of total work that is Reactive, Corrective, and Preventive,
102 but using the ratio of these classifications as a performance metric is not reasonable for the
103 purposes of setting targets; and doing so will not result in the completion of more
104 vegetation maintenance miles.

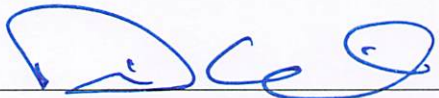
105 **Q. Does this complete your testimony?**

106 **A. Yes.**

ATTESTATION

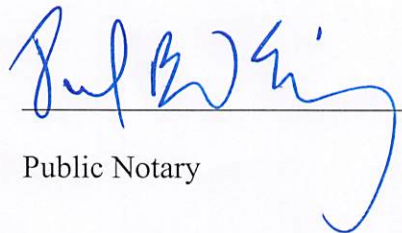
Affiant, Ms. Diane Watkins, being first duly sworn, states the following:

The prepared Rebuttal Testimony constitutes my Rebuttal in the above-styled case before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau. I would give the answers set forth in the Rebuttal Testimony if asked the questions included in the Rebuttal Testimony. The facts and statements provided herein are my Rebuttal Testimony and are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.


Diane Watkins

Acknowledged and subscribed before me by Mrs. Diane Watkins in her capacity as Vice President, Vegetation and Work Management of LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC, of legal age, married, and resident of San Juan, Puerto Rico, who I have identified through her Driver's License issued by the State Colorado, No. 14-212-1265.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 23th day of January 2023.


Public Notary



**GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
PUERTO RICO PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATORY BOARD
PUERTO RICO ENERGY BUREAU**

IN RE:

**PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR LUMA
ENERGY SERVCO, LLC**

CASE NO.: NEPR-AP-2020-0025

Rebuttal Testimony of
Mr. Don Cortez
Vice President, Special Projects, LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC
January 23, 2023

1 **Q. Please state your name.**

2 A. My name is Don Cortez.

3 **Q. Please state your business mailing address, title, and employer.**

4 A. My business postal address is LUMA Energy, PO Box 363508, San Juan, Puerto Rico
5 00936-3508. I am the Vice President, Special Projects, for LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC.

6 **Q. Please state your educational background.**

7 A. I graduated from Texas A&M University in 1976 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in
8 Electrical Engineering.

9 **Q. Please state your professional experience.**

10 A. I have approximately 40 years of professional experience in the utility industry. In 2020, I
11 joined LUMA Energy as Vice President of Utility Transformation. In December 2022, I
12 was designated as Vice President, Special Projects.

 13 **Q. Please describe your work experience prior to joining LUMA.**

14 A. I have approximately 33 years of experience with CenterPoint Energy and its predecessor
15 companies. Ten of the 33 years, I spent turning around companies bought from
16 governments in Argentina, Colombia, and Brazil. In my last turnaround assignment, I was
17 the Director of Operations in Eletropaulo (now Enel Distribuição São Paulo), responsible
18 for all Transmission and Distribution (T&D) operations. The company served the Sao
19 Paulo, Brazil metropolitan area and had (at that time) approximately 4.4 million customers.
20 In my last assignment with CenterPoint Energy, I was the Vice President of Operations
21 Technology and was responsible for designing the smart grid and Advanced Metering
22 Infrastructure. I also worked for approximately 4 years with IBM in a Global Utilities
23 Executive Business Development role. My last assignment prior to LUMA was working

24 for Quanta Services in an Executive Business Development role.

25 **Q. Have you previously testified and appeared before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau?**

26 A. Yes. I have presented and/or testified before the Energy Bureau in several proceedings as
27 follows:

28 a) Distribution Planning Resources Compliance Hearing, NEPR-MI-2019-0011 –
29 February 10, 2021

30 b) Initial Budgets Technical Conference, Case NEPR-MI-2021-0004 – May 3 - May 5,
31 2021, and October 18, 2022

32 c) System Operation Principles Technical Conference, NEPR-MI-2021-0001 – May 10 -
33 May 11, 2021

34 d) System Remediation Plan Technical Conference NEPR-MI-2020-0019 – May 14 and
35 May 17, 2021

36 e) Final Resolution and Order issued by the Energy Bureau in Case No. NEPR-QR-2020-
37 0019 and NEPR-QR-2020-061, on March 29, 2022

38 **Q. On whose behalf are you testifying before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau?**

39 A. My testimony is on behalf of LUMA as part of the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau (“Energy
40 Bureau”), Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Board proceeding
41 Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025, the Performance Targets for LUMA Energy ServCo,
42 LLC.

43 **Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?**

44 A. To respond to those portions of the pre-filed supplemental testimony of Mr. Gerardo
45 Cosme Nuñez (“Mr. Cosme”) on behalf of the Independent Consumer Protection Office
46 (“IPCO”), filed on December 9, 2022, in this proceeding, regarding his recommendations

on the NEM Project Activation Duration Metric, the Energy Savings as a Percent of Total Energy Sales, and Peak Demand Savings as a Percentage of Total Peak Demand metrics, proposed by LUMA in compliance with the order issued by this Energy Bureau in this proceeding.

Q. Did you consider any documents for your rebuttal testimony?

A. Yes, I did.

Q. Which documents did you consider for your rebuttal testimony?

a. The pre-filed supplemental testimony of Mr. Gerardo Cosme Nuñez (“Mr. Cosme”) on behalf of the Independent Consumer Protection Office (“IPCO”), filed on December 9, 2022, in this proceeding

b. RFI-LUMA-AP-2020-0025-ICPO-R1-11NOV22-008

c. RFI-LUMA-AP-2020-0025-PREB-R10-16NOV22-050

d. Direct Testimony of Mr. Lee Wood, dated October 28, 2022

e. Final Resolution and Order issued by the Energy Bureau in Case No. NEPR-QR-2020-0019 and Case No. NEPR-QR-2020-061, on March 29, 2022

Q. Did you rely on any other information for your testimony?

A. My professional experience, including my experience in connection with the Transmission and Distribution System of the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (“PREPA”) (“T&D System”) and its operations.

Q. Do you have a response to Mr. Cosme’s statement that the proposed metric on interconnection is about Net Metering rather than Interconnection *per se*, as stated on page 2, lines 64-65, of his pre-filed testimony?

A. Yes, I do.

70 **Q. Please explain your response.**

71 A. All generating capacity less than 5 MW connected to the LUMA grid behind the meter is
72 and requires an interconnection and qualifies for net metering per Act 114-2007, as
73 amended. The customer then has the option to participate in the Net Energy Metering
74 (NEM) program.

75 The expedited NEM program covers the distributed generation cases 25 kW and below
76 interconnected to the grid behind the meter. LUMA chose these generating capacity cases
77 (25 kW or less) for this interconnection metric because they make up approximately 99%
78 of the volume of incoming NEM applications and therefore represent the greatest number
79 of clients that interconnect to the grid.

80 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Cosme's recommendation on page 2, lines 75-80, of his pre-**
81 **filed testimony, that the target threshold of (28) days for the Interconnection**
82 **Performance Metric is not that much of an improvement from the (30) days, that it**
83 **should be set to a number that will reflect an outstanding performance by the utility**
84 **and that the target could be (15) days?**

85 A. No.

86 **Q. Please state and explain your response.**

87 A. LUMA OMA Annex IX target of 28 days is the target performance level to be reached by
88 the Third Contract Year and the requirement for LUMA to earn 100% of the base points in
89 a Contract Year where the Minimum Performance Level is exceeded. It is considered
90 aggressive, considering that circumstances beyond LUMA's control influence the average
91 number of days to activate NEM projects. For example, the number of NEM cases is
92 increasing on a monthly basis, and that increase is dictated by the customers and other

93 reasons that LUMA does not control. These reasons are (1) customer actions that are
94 pending, (2) the customer service accounts are not active or do not coincide with the
95 request, and (3) LUMA cannot complete the process that depends on the customer in order
96 to change the meter to a bi-directional meter.

97 The proposed target threshold of 28 days is less than the 30-day requirement under Act
98 114-2007. Mr. Cosme does not support his opinion that the proposed target threshold of
99 28 days does not constitute an improvement when compared with the 30-day requirement
100 under Act 114-2007. Because this Energy Bureau ruled in Case No. NEPR-QR-2020-0019
101 and NEPR-QR-2020-061, that the 30-day term under Act 114-2007 is subject to
102 enlargement for just cause, the target threshold of 28 days is aggressive.¹ Also, Mr. Cosme
103 does not consider that the Revised Annex IX includes more aggressive targets than the
104 target threshold of 28 days, such as 27 days for LUMA to earn 125% of the base points and
105 26 days for LUMA to earn 150% of the base points.

DC
106 Mr. Cosme's proposal to set the target for year 1 at 15 days is not feasible. The NEM cases
107 that arrived and were completed in FY22 had an average of 12 days for the validation of
108 the customer's NEM application due to information still required from the customer. That
109 time is completely out of the control of LUMA. If the target was set to 15 days, that would
110 only leave 3 days to complete the remaining portion of the process, including changing the
111 meter to a bi-directional meter when needed. Three (3) days to complete the remainder of
112 the process is not enough time, especially when the number of NEM cases per month
113 depend on the customers. Currently, approximately 40% of the NEM cases require a meter

¹ See Final Resolution and Order of March 31, 2022, available at <https://energia.pr.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2022/04/20220329-QR20200029-0061-Resolucion-final-y-Orden-con-opinion.pdf>.

114 changeout.

115 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Cosme’s recommendation on page 2, lines 82-94, of his pre-**
116 **filed testimony that a performance metric should be considered for the completion of**
117 **Interconnection Projects, including the Average Duration for Interconnection**
118 **Process Completion (and not only the Average Duration for Net Metering Tariff**
119 **Activation) and that this target threshold should be 60 days?**

120 A. No.

121 **Q. Please explain your response.**

122 A. I construe Mr. Cosme’s suggestion to apply to “regular” (i.e., non-expedited) projects with
123 generating capacity greater than 25kW. Those cases should not be added to LUMA’s
124 proposed Performance Metrics Targets. These types of DG Interconnection Projects are
125 more technically complex and individualized. Therefore, these projects require a more
126 iterative process with greater input from customers and developers, which is more
127 challenging to measure and track. Furthermore, there is no penalty for developers' delayed
128 responses to LUMA’s inquiries, so projects mostly depend on the developer’s interest in
129 completing the case. Furthermore, these non-expedited cases comprise less than 1% of the
130 overall NEM project application volume.

131 The steps for processing Distributed Generating (DG) cases above 25 kW capacity are
132 specified as a function of the voltage level they propose to interconnect. The process for
133 voltage level cases at the Distribution voltage level (i.e., 13.2 kV or below) is described in
134 Regulation 8915 – Section IV, Article C, and for cases at the Transmission voltage level
135 (i.e., 38 kV and 115 kV), they are specified in Regulation 8916 – Section IV.

136 Irrespective of their voltage level, they have a similar process, as they are not expedited

137 projects and require constant interaction between the customer and the utility. The main
138 steps for these cases are the following:

- 139 1. Evaluation- This phase consists of revising all technical documentation and
140 interconnection strategies submitted by the developer. Also, proposed equipment and
141 regulatory compliance are reviewed, including an engineering analysis of the circuit to
142 determine the impact of the proposed generation. The culmination of this phase ends with
143 an evaluation letter (this letter has a term of one year) submitted by the Business
144 Transformation office. This letter will include information on all the requirements the
145 project needs to comply with, including any additional technical requirements outside of
146 the ones specified in the Regulation. To the extent there is missing information or a need
147 for clarification of submitted documents, there could be interaction with the developer to
148 provide such information.
- 149 2. Blueprint Endorsement- This phase consists of a review of the submitted blueprint,
150 protection diagrams (if applicable), and compliance with the evaluation letter. Depending
151 on the level of complexity of the proposed projects, revisions to the blueprint and
152 regulatory compliance strategies might be needed and, as such, the interaction between
153 developer and utility. This phase concludes with the issuance of endorsed blueprints (these
154 have a term of two years).
- 155 3. Electrical Construction - This phase consists of the physical construction of the distributed
156 generator. At the same time, and if necessary, LUMA will make network upgrades to
157 interconnect the project reliably. Once the developer completes the construction of DG, it
158 will notify LUMA of the completion of labor to proceed with the Inspection Phase.

159 4. Inspection phase- Once construction is complete and notified by the developer, relay
160 settings, testing, and commissioning of the system are performed in close coordination with
161 the different LUMA teams. To the extent these commissioning tests do not yield the
162 expected results, they must be repeated in coordination with the utility. Once this phase is
163 completed, the distributed generator can operate in the customers' facility.

164 5. Approval phase- This phase culminates the project. The agreement documents are signed
165 by both parties (the customer and LUMA), and all the documentation is reviewed.

166 Setting any target for completion of the process for Interconnection Projects, whether it is
167 60 days or some other target time is not feasible. Each one of the five steps listed above
168 requires interaction with the customer and / or his contractor. That interaction is heavily
169 dependent on the time the customer (or his contractor) takes to complete their part of the
170 process, whether it is an information request from LUMA or completion of a construction
171 step by the customer and unrealistic to predict average times for such few projects. Mr.
172 Cosme's proposed threshold target for Interconnection Projects of 60 days would not
173 accommodate all the variables that the customer may input into the process. These
174 variables are outside of LUMA's control and measuring their influence on the process and
175 the time it would take to interconnect would not reasonably result in measuring LUMA's
176 performance on Interconnection Projects. These Interconnection Projects are much more
177 technically complex than the NEM projects that are 25Kw or less.

178 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Cosme's recommendation on page 3, lines 99-103, of his pre-**
179 **filed testimony, that the Energy Efficiency and Demand Response (EE&DR) metrics**
180 **should be segmented by each consumer class impacted by the EE&DR program?**

181 **A. No.**

182 **Q. Please state and explain your response.**

183 A. PREPA has never implemented Energy Efficiency and Demand Response (EE & DR)
184 programs; therefore, a baseline metric by customer class does not exist. As a result, there
185 is a high degree of uncertainty about the market readiness for these types of programs.
186 LUMA has no data on how customers from Puerto Rico as a whole or in the different
187 consumer classes will react to energy efficiency offers, rebate price points, or the price of
188 energy-efficient goods. The Transition Period Program (“TPP”) for Energy Efficiency and
189 Demand Side Response programs is meant to understand market readiness. At this time,
190 segmenting the target by customer class does not make sense and would hamper the ability
191 to assess the market. In the TPP, LUMA has proposed quick-start programs that provide
192 opportunities for customers to participate across the different classes and have the potential
24 193 to be scaled up and enhanced as funding is increased. The TPP quick-start programs will
194 provide a greater understanding of the Puerto Rico market, customer needs and
195 preferences, and how to best address barriers to adoption across LUMA’s customer classes.
196 It is important to note that EE/DR programs are not fully funded since an Energy Efficiency
197 Rider has not been implemented.

198 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Cosme’s recommendation on page 3, lines 106-109, of his pre-**
199 **filed testimony, that the recommended EE&DR metric be recorded as soon as the**
200 **Transition Period of the EE&DR program commences in Puerto Rico but its**
201 **effectiveness deferred during the Transition Period?**

202 A. Yes, the EE&DR metric should be recorded (documented & tracked) as soon as the TPP
203 program commences. LUMA agrees that the EE&DR metrics, as incentive performance
204 metrics, should be deferred during the transition period and not be effective until after the

205 TPP program ends. It is premature to track performance for the proposed metrics. Energy
206 Efficiency and Demand Response programs have not been utilized in Puerto Rico before
207 by PREPA or LUMA. The Transition Period Program for EE & DR (dated June 21, 2002,
208 filed under NEPR-MI-2021-0006) is a pilot meant to overcome the start-up challenges
209 outlined in the report under section 1.1. In addition, the TPP program, as outlined, cannot
210 be fully deployed until a funding mechanism (such as an EE rider) is approved and
211 implemented. Other funding sources (federal or otherwise) will be pursued; however, they
212 are not guaranteed or consistent.

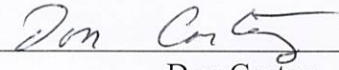
213 **Q. Does this complete your testimony?**

214 **A. Yes.**

ATTESTATION

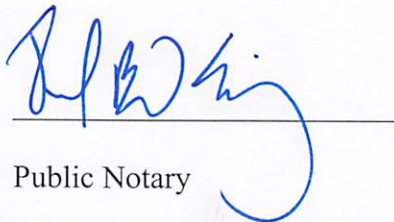
Affiant, Mr. Don Cortez, being first duly sworn, states the following:

The prepared Rebuttal Testimony constitutes my Rebuttal in the above-styled case before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau. I he would give the answers set forth in the Rebuttal Testimony if asked the questions included in the Rebuttal Testimony. The facts and statements provided herein are my Rebuttal Testimony and are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.


Don Cortez

Acknowledged and subscribed before me by Mr. Don Cortez in his capacity as VP of Utility Transformation of LUMA Energy, of legal age, married, and resident of San Juan, Puerto Rico, who I have identified through his Passport issued by the United States No. 565976915.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 23rd day of January 2023.


Public Notary

