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

IN RE: PERFORMANCE METRICS TARGETS FOR LUMA ENERGY SERVCO, LLC **CASE NO. NEPR-AP-2020-0025**

SUBJECT: Request for Authorization to Substitute Pre-Filed Testimonies

MOTION REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TO SUBSTITUTE PRE-FILED TESTIMONIES

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 September 9, 2022, LUMA filed the testimony of Mr. Jorge Meléndez, which was accepted in an Order issued on September 10, 2022. The testimony covers the performance metrics related to safety, specifically: OSHA Recordable Incident Rate, OSHA Fatalities, OSHA Severity Rate, and OSHA Days Away, Restricted and Transfer Rate ("OSHA DART Rate") (jointly, "safety metrics").
- 2. On February 1, 2022, LUMA submitted a rebuttal testimony executed by Mr. Meléndez to respond to those portions of the pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry ("Mr. Irizarry") on behalf of the Local Environmental and Civil Organizations ("LECO"), filed on November 16, 2021.
- 3. LUMA hereby informs that Mr. Curtis Clark, Functional Lead, Emergency Preparedness for LUMA ServCo, LLC, has been designated by LUMA as the witness to testify in

support of, and in connection with, the safety metrics. Mr. Meléndez is no longer employed with the company. As stated in his testimony, Mr. Clark was a part of the LUMA team in charge of reviewing the baselines and targets for safety metrics to be included in the Revised Annex IX to the Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution System Operation and Maintenance Agreement ("T&D OMA") submitted to this Energy Bureau. *See* Direct Testimony of January 24, 2023, lines 20-24. Further, since June 2021, Mr. Clark has been in charge of preparing, verifying, and submitting the Health, Safety, and Environmental performance metrics, including the metrics reported to the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau in Case NEPR-MI-2019-0007. *Id.* lines 17-20. Mr. Clark is the person authorized by LUMA to provide testimony on the safety metrics.

- 4. Mr. Clark has adopted the testimonies offered by Mr. Meléndez on September 9, 2021, and February 1, 2022, and has not altered the substance of the original testimonies. The variations to Mr. Meléndez's pre-filed testimonies are the responses to the questions that pertain to the academic and professional background of the witness, *see id.*, lines through 33 in both testimonies, and lines 42 through 45 in the Direct Testimony, as well as the disclosure of any previous appearances before this Energy Bureau to provide testimony as a witness, *see* Direct Testimony, lines 46-48. Also, limited portions of the Direct Testimony were edited to correct a hanging sentence and typographical errors. *See* Exhibit 1. Those revisions are shown in the redline comparisons submitted in Exhibit 3 of this Motion.
- 5. Secondly, LUMA respectfully informs that due to changes in the internal and management structure of LUMA's Vegetation Management program, the person currently authorized to offer testimony on vegetation management is Diane Watkins, Vice President of

Vegetation and Work Management. Thus, LUMA requests authorization to substitute its prior witness, Mr. Brent Bolzenius, for Mrs. Watkins. Specifically, LUMA requests authorization to substitute the testimonies by Mr. Bolzenius of February 1, 2022, April 27, 2022, and October 28, 2022, for the testimonies included herewith, executed by Mrs. Watkins.

- 6. In the testimonies by Mrs. Watkins submitted with this Motion, Mrs. Watkins has adopted the testimonies previously submitted by Mr. Bolzenius. The variations to Mrs. Bolzenius' pre-filed testimonies are the responses to the questions that pertain to the academic and professional background of the witness, as well as the disclosure of any previous appearances before this Energy Bureau to provide testimony as a witness, and references to the materials reviewed to assume the prior pre-filed testimonies. Also, in Response to question 19 of the Direct Testimony (originally filed on October 28, 2022), a revision was made by the witness in the explanation of the targets. *See* Exhibit 2. As the witness may explain in the hearing, the revision is to correct an error. *See* Exhibit 3. Other non-substantive revisions may be identified in the redlines submitted as Exhibit 3 of this Motion.
- 7. In view of the foregoing, LUMA respectfully requests that this Energy Bureau receive and accept the Pre-Filed Testimonies of Mr. Curtis Clark in substitution of the testimonies that were filed on September 9, 2021, and February 1, 2022, by Mr. Jorge Mélendez. Secondly, LUMA respectfully requests that this Energy Bureau receive and accept the Pre-Filed Testimonies of Mrs. Diane Watkins in substitution of the testimonies that were filed on February 1, 2022, April 27, 2022, and October 28, 2022, by Mr. Brent Bolzenius.

8. This request is done in good faith and responds to LUMA's need to substitute the witnesses available to provide testimony on the performance metrics related to safety and the proposed vegetation management metric.

WHEREFORE, LUMA respectfully requests that the Energy Bureau receive and accept the Pre-Filed Testimonies of Mr. Curtis Clark and Mrs. Diane Watkins submitted as Exhibits to this Motion.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

We hereby certify that we 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 Katiuska 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 Climatica, Alianza Comunitaria Ambientalista del Sureste, Inc., Coalicion 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, rstgo2@gmail.com, pedrosaade5@gmail.com.. iessica@bufetenotificaciones@bufete-emmanuelli.com, emmanuelli.com; rolando@bufete-emmanuelli.com.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 26th day of January 2023.



DLA Piper (Puerto Rico) LLC

500 Calle de la Tanca, Suite 401 San Juan, PR 00901-1969 Tel. 787-945-9107 Fax 939-697-6147

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/s/ Yahaira De la Rosa Algarín Yahaira De la Rosa Algarín RUA NÚM. 18,061 yahaira.delarosa@us.dlapiper.com

Exhibit 1

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

IN RE:

CASE NO.: NEPR-AP-2020-0025

PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR LUMA ENERGY SERVCO, LLC

Direct Testimony of
Mr. Curtis Clark
Functional Lead, Emergency Preparedness, LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC
January 24, 2023¹

¹ This testimony was originally submitted by Mr. Jorge Meléndez on September 9, 2021.

- 1 Q. Please state your name.
- 2 A. My name is Curtis Clark.
- 3 Q. Please state your business mailing address, title, and employer.
- 4 A. My business address is PO Box 363508, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-3508. I am the
- 5 Functional Lead of Emergency Preparedness at LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC.
- 6 Q. Please state your educational background.
- 7 A. I have a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Alberta in
- 8 Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and a Master of Science in Environmental Management from
- 9 Royal Roads University in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.
- 10 Q. Please state your professional experience.
- I have worked in various roles in environmental, safety, quality, and emergency response 11 A. 12 within utilities and energy companies for the prior 14 years. I worked approximately 13 13 years for ATCO's natural gas and electricity utility subsidiaries. I joined LUMA in March, 2020 and participated in LUMA's Front-End Transition Period from June, 2020 through 14 15 June, 2021 as Functional Lead, Environment within the Health, Safety, Environment and 16 Quality Department. Starting on June 2021, I transitioned to the role of Functional Lead, 17 Health, Safety, and Environment Programs. Throughout my roles with LUMA since June 18 2021, I have been in charge of preparing, verifying and submitting the Health, Safety, and 19 Environmental performance metrics, including the metrics reported to the Puerto Rico 20 Energy Bureau in Case NEPR-MI-2019-0007. I was also a part of the LUMA team in 21 charge of reviewing the baselines and targets for safety metrics to be included in the 22 Revised Annex IX to the Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution System Operation and 23 Maintenance Agreement ("T&D OMA") submitted to this Energy Bureau on February 25,

- 24 2021 and August 18, 2021.
- 25 Q. Please describe your work experience prior to joining LUMA.
- Prior to joining LUMA, I was responsible for managing an environmental and quality 26 A. 27 department at an ATCO natural gas subsidiary. The role included managing a team of 28 professionals in ensuring organizational environmental and quality systems were 29 established to minimize the operational impact to the environment and to ensure that work 30 completed conformed to customer and regulatory requirements. Part of the role included 31 validating and approving the organizational health, safety, environmental and quality 32 metric data for submission to senior leadership and external stakeholders, including 33 shareholders and government agencies.
- Q. On whose behalf are you testifying before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau.
- A. My testimony is on behalf of LUMA as part of the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau ("Energy Bureau"), Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Board proceeding

 Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025, the Performance Targets for LUMA Energy ServCo,

 LLC.
- 39 Q. Are there any exhibits attached to your testimony?
- 40 A. Yes, there is one exhibit attached to my testimony:
- a. Exhibit A: KPI Metrics Safety
- 42 Q. Do you hold any professional licenses, and if so, which?
- A. I am a licensed Professional Engineer under the Association of Professional Engineer and
 Geoscientists of Alberta. I am also a Project Management Professional with the Project
 Management Institute.
- 46 Q. Have you previously testified or made presentations before the Energy Bureau?

47	A.	Yes. I testified at the Technical Conference held on October 18, 2022 in case <i>In re</i>
48		LUMA's Initial Budgets, Case NEPR-MI-2021-0004.
49	Q.	Which documents did you consider for your testimony?
50	A.	I considered the following documents:
51		a. LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets Revised filing submitted on August 18, 2021,
52		in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025,
53		b. The Resolutions and Order issued by the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau on April 8, 2021,
54		May 21, 2021, and July 2, 2021, in Case NEPR-MI-2019-0007,
55		c. Motion resubmitting LUMA's comments on Performance Baselines and Metrics in
56		Case No. NEPR-MI-2019-0007 submitted February 5, 2021 as revised on February 8,
57		2021,
58		d. PREPA OSHA 300, 300A and 301 logs,
59		e. PREPA Casi Casi report, and
60		f. PREPA incident's log spreadsheet.
61	Q.	What is the purpose of your direct testimony?
62	A.	My testimony is in support of LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets Revised filing to be
63		filed in this proceeding on August 18, 2021 ("LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets")
64		on performance metrics related to safety, specifically:
65		a. OSHA Recordable Incident Rate – which is a calculation using total number of OSHA
66		recordable incidents. An OSHA recordable incident is an injury or illness that results
67		in one or more of the following: death, days away from work, restricted work or transfer
68		to another job, medical treatment beyond first aid, loss of consciousness, a significant
69		injury or illness diagnosed by a physician or other licensed health care professional.

70	b.	OSHA Fatalities – which as per OSHA requires, considers all work-related fatalities be
71		reported to OSHA within eight (8) hours. The industry standard target is 0 fatalities,
72		which has determined the Baseline and Target Performance Levels,

- c. OSHA Severity Rate— which is used to measure the severity of workplace injuries and is commonly used to measure safety performance across the utility industry. Its calculation considers the total number of restricted and lost time days incurred as a result of a work-related injury, and
- d. OSHA Days Away, Restricted and Transfer Rate ("OSHA DART Rate") which is a calculation that considers the total number of injury cases that resulted in either lost time, restricted time, or a transfer from the employee's regular job.

Q. Please describe the methodology for the Safety Performance Metrics.

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- A. The methodology is aligned with OSHA requirements. As part of the OSHA requirements, every year employers must report to OSHA critical metrics that evidence their health and safety performance.
 - The reporting of these metrics is closely monitored by OSHA and the industries are subject to scrutiny based on their performance. These metrics are managed, tracked, and reported to ensure a safe & healthy workplace. Therefore, the primary value of these metrics is to evaluate and quantify the company's safety performance. The description for each of the metrics is as follows:
 - a. OSHA Recordable Incident Rate: is the number of work-related OSHA recordable injury cases. The formula = (number of injuries and illnesses X 200,000) / Employee hours worked]
 - b. OSHA Fatalities: is the number of work-related fatalities.

98	Q.	Wh	at data, if any, was analyzed for the Safety Performance Metrics?
97			restricted cases x 200,000) /# of hours worked.
96		d.	DART Rate is the number of work-related injuries- The formula = (# of work-loss or
95			of lost workdays or restricted x 200,000)/ actual hours worked by all employees, and
94			of total work-related industry cases with severity days. The formula = (Total number
93		c.	OSHA Severity Rate is calculated on the basis of the OSHA Severe Injuries number

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- 99 A. Health and Safety Performance Metrics were established taking into consideration the 100 PREPA OSHA 300 and 301 Logs and the PREPA Injury and Illness Data Reports including 101 a Casi Casi report that PREPA began recording at the end of 2019. The data provided 102 includes records from GENCO, Administration, and Transmission & Distribution 103 ("T&D"). The first step during the analysis was to segregate the data to reflect T&D and 104 Administration only and exclude generation.
- 105 Q. How was the available data analyzed to calculate the baseline for these Safety 106 **Performance Metrics?**

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- Α. The segregated data for the time period proposed in the Energy Bureau's Resolution and Order of May 21, 2021, was evaluated (2020 FY). Also, the cases or reportable injuries were reviewed, and recordable injury reports were validated. In LUMA's review process the following evidence was found that raises questions on the reliability of the data that PREPA provided for Safety Metrics and that LUMA understands the Energy Bureau considered in its Resolution and Order of May 21, 2021:
- 113 1. New incident log for 2020 (Casi Casi) – A number of incidents and near misses included 114 on a new report entitled 'Casi Casi.' These incidents were not classified as OSHA 115 recordable injuries in the calculation of PREPA's original safety metrics submission.

116	However, based on the information on the Casi Casi repo
117	have been recorded on the OSHA logs because they were
118	that included time out of work and/or medication. This
119	decision to include the relevant Casi Casi incidents
120	recordability in the calculations on the baseline numbers
121	in the Energy Bureau based on PREPA's reported data
122	incidents. I include two examples of incidents included of
123	demonstration:
124	○ Example 1 – on 1/03/2020 employee was involved
125	resulting on 10 days out of work
126	o Example 2 – on 5/6/2020 an employee was struck b
127	laceration on the right ear. Employee received 5 st
128	Based on a review of the data, the following information
129	report but not included in the metrics data prepared by P
130	was available to the Energy Bureau in issuing the Resoluti
131	o 58 recordable injuries (for a revised total of 300 re-
132	o 57 recordable injuries that resulted in lost workd
133	recordable injuries that resulted in lost workdays)

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ort, most of the incidents should injuries with medical treatment information was crucial on our that had evidence of OSHA instead of the numbers provided a, which exclude all Casi Casi on the Casi Casi report here for

- d on an official vehicle accident
- by an insulated stick resulting on itches.

n was included in the Casi Casi REPA that LUMA understands ion and Order of May 21, 2021:

- cordable injuries)
- lays (for a revised total of 235
- o A total of 510 lost workdays (for a revised total of 1990 lost workdays) See Exhibit 121 A, Worksheet Casi Casi 2019 2020 - N, and
- The total number of hours worked was based on half of the total number of hours worked in 2019 (LUMA did not have monthly hours worked for the 2019 calendar

138		year) plus the monthly hours worked from January 1 to June 30, 2021 - See Exhibit
139		125 A, Worksheet Casi Casi 2019 2020 – N.
140	Q.	What is your assessment of the data provided by PREPA to the Energy Bureau in
141		connection with Safety Metrics?
142		Evidence gathered during the front-end transition indicates that historical safety data
143		compiled by PREPA contains inaccuracies. Although historical data for PREPA is
144		available dating back to 2002, the detailed records to support that data are not available. In
145		addition, interviews with individuals from the PREPA Occupational Health and Safety
146		responsibility suggested that the supplied information contained inaccuracies. We also
147		identified differences in the raw data that PREPA provided and OSHA records. Most of
148		the Health & Safety data is collected and manually entered an excel spreadsheet, which
149		may result in data transcription errors when manipulating data.
150		Also, PREPA was historically using an erroneous formula for Severity Rate. PREPA was
151		using: Lost days/Total Incidents. The correct formula is: (Total Lost days and
152		restricted/Total actual worked hours) X 200,000. Lastly, the aggregated data also includes
153		Generation which should not be considered for LUMA.

Finally, LUMA requested from PREPA but did not receive, the reports of with the Corporación del Fondo del Seguro del Estado to determine if the recordable injury details match. The data that was used in the Resolution and Order of the Energy Bureau on May 21, 2021 in Case No. NEPR-MI-2019-0007, has not been compared to the reports of the Corporación del Fondo del Seguro del Estado. There is a significant risk with the variable of "Lost Days". The determination for Lost Days comes from the Fondo del Seguro del Estado. The Fondo de Seguro del Estado is a government owned and operated organization.

161	In Puerto Rico, the Fondo de Seguro del Estado must be used. However, there is little to
162	no challenging of the outcomes of Fondo de Seguro del Estado and little to no modified
163	work or restricted work

164 Q. Why did LUMA propose different baselines for the Safety Performance Metrics?

As previously stated, LUMA understands that the Energy Bureau's baselines were calculated using a different Fiscal Year period and safety data that was inaccurate based on OSHA standards. The baseline proposed by LUMA is calculated using the health and safety data that is compliant with OSHA standards.

Q. In brief, what are your recommendations for the baselines applicable to LUMA'sSafety Metrics?

A.

LUMA believes that PREPA understated Safety Performance Metrics beginning in January 2020 with the creation of the Casi Casi report. Inclusion of appropriate data from the Casi Casi report increases PREPA's Safety Performance Metrics to levels consistent with prior periods and more accurately represents PREPA's historical performance. As a result, LUMA requests that PREB approves LUMA's adjustment to the Safety Performance Metrics baselines inclusive of relevant incidents from the Casi Casi report.

The transparency and accuracy in the metrics reported is critical to avoid scrutiny from federal and local agencies. Reporting mistaken health and safety metrics creates a misconception on how the business is performing related to critical aspects such as the well-being of our employees, along with the opportunity to implement performance improvement plans based on the trending data.

Q. How were LUMA's targets set for the Safety Performance Metrics?

183 A. LUMA removed the GENCO incidents and added the relevant incidents in the Casi-Casi
184 report to the data on the PREPA OSHA recordable injury log for the FY2019 and 2020.
185 The proposed targets are laid out in Tables 2-9, 2-10, 2-11 and 2-12.

A.

OSHA Recordable Incident Rate target improvements were first compared to EEI industry standards then by assessing feasibility from PREPA's current state related to health and safety matters. A strategy was developed to lead LUMA to an Incident Reduction near 50% from the baseline in Year 3. Similar approaches were taken for OSHA Fatalities and OSHA DART Rate in terms of setting targets based on the goal to improve safety systems and processes.

OSHA Severity targets rely significantly on external factors outside of LUMA's control. For that reason, targets were set with the goal to improve performance, but providing flexibility to the extenuating circumstances that exist on a case-by-case basis.

Q. How will the improvements be achieved for the Safety Performance Metrics?

As explained in Section 3 of LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets Revised Filing, there are several opportunities for improvements from the creation and application of a safety plan involving a safety culture, training, assessing training needs, development of a safety training plan, analysis of metrics trends and causes and identification of prevention strategies, and design an incident reporting system and process for analysis and follow up. All of these opportunities will boost the health and safety program.

LUMA has prioritized objectives and initiatives to increase the level of safety for employees. The initiatives are supported by the programs in the Initial Budgets approved by the Energy Bureau, including establishing a software system for incident management,

no-harm culture training and enhanced HSE&Q training programs and will also be

206		supported by operational federally funded programs of the approved System Remediation
207		Plan.
208	Q.	What is your request to the Energy Bureau?
209	A.	I request that the LUMA Safety Performance Metrics baselines and targets as detailed in
210		LUMA's Revised Performance Metrics Targets Filing be approved as requested.
211	Q.	Does this complete your testimony?
212	A.	Yes.

ATTESTATION

Affiant, Mr. Curtis Clark, being first duly sworn, states the following:

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

A85: Unit N. 824

Acknowledged and subscribed before me by Mr. Curtis Clark, in his capacity as Functional Lead, Emergency Preparedness of LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC, of legal age, legally married and resident of San Juan, Puerto Rico, who is personally known to me.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 24th day of January 2023.

Public Notary



Direct Testimony

Exhibit A

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

IN RE:

CASE NO.: NEPR-AP-2020-0025

PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR LUMA ENERGY SERVCO, LLC

Rebuttal Testimony of Mr. Curtis Clark Functional Lead, Emergency Preparedness, LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC January 24, 2023¹

¹ This Rebuttal Testimony was originally offered by Mr. Jorge Meléndez and filed in this proceeding on February 1, 2022.

- 1 Q. Please state your name.
- 2 A. My name is Curtis Clark
- 3 Q. Please state your business mailing address, title, and employer.
- 4 A. My business address is PO Box 363508 San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-3508. I am the
- 5 Functional Lead of Emergency Preparedness for LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC.
- 6 Q. Please state your educational background.
- 7 A. I have a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Alberta in
- 8 Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and a Master of Science in Environmental Management from
- 9 Royal Roads University in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.
- 10 Q. Please state your professional experience.
- I have worked in various roles in environmental, safety, quality, and emergency response 11 A. within utilities and energy companies for the prior 14 years. I worked approximately 13 12 13 years for ATCO's natural gas and electricity utility subsidiaries. I joined LUMA in March, 14 2020 and participated in LUMA's Front-End Transition Period from June, 2020 through 15 June, 2021 as Functional Lead, Environment within the Health, Safety, Environment and 16 Quality Department. Starting on June 2021, I transitioned to the role of Functional Lead, 17 Health, Safety, and Environment Programs. Throughout my roles with LUMA since June 18 2021, I have been in charge of preparing, verifying and submitting the Health, Safety, and 19 Environmental performance metrics, including the metrics reported to the Puerto Rico 20 Energy Bureau in Case NEPR-MI-2019-0007. I was also a part of the LUMA team in 21 charge of reviewing the baselines and targets for safety metrics to be included in the 22 Revised Annex IX to the Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution System Operation and 23 Maintenance Agreement ("T&D OMA") submitted to this Energy Bureau on February 25.

- 24 2021 and August 18, 2021.
- 25 Q. Please describe your work experience prior to joining LUMA.
- 26 A. Prior to joining LUMA, I was responsible for managing an environmental and quality 27 department at an ATCO natural gas subsidiary. The role included managing a team of professionals in ensuring organizational environmental and quality systems were 28 29 established to minimize the operational impact to the environment and to ensure that work 30 completed conformed to customer and regulatory requirements. Part of the role included 31 validating and approving the organizational health, safety, environmental and quality 32 metric data for submission to senior leadership and external stakeholders, including 33 shareholders and government agencies.
- 34 Q. On whose behalf are you testifying before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau.
- A. My testimony is on behalf of LUMA as part of the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau ("Energy Bureau"), Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Board proceeding

 Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025, the Performance Targets for LUMA Energy ServCo,

 LLC.
- 39 Q. Are there any exhibits attached to your testimony?
- 40 A. No.
- 41 Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?
- A. To respond to those portions of the pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry ("Mr. Irizarry"), on behalf of the Local Environmental and Civil Organizations ("LECO"), filed on November 16, 2021, in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025, regarding LUMA's proposed work-related safety metrics on OSHA Recordable Incident Rate, OSHA Fatalities, OSHA Severity Rate, and OSHA DART Rate. Specifically, I will address

Mr. Irizarry's recommendation number 6 on LUMA's proposed safety metrics to impose penalties if minimum standards are not met and that a comparison with similar jurisdictions should be conducted to establish the minimum standard, set forth on page 8, lines 11-16 and page 64, lines 20-25 of his direct pre-filed testimony, Mr. Irizarry's testimony and statements on page 48, lines 1-12 on safety metrics, and his proposal that the Energy Bureau should adopt public safety metrics in this proceeding, stated on page 25, lines 8-13 of his pre-filed testimony. I also testify to further support LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets filing of September 24, 2021 ("LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets") on performance metrics related to safety.

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

57 A. Yes, I did.

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

- a. LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets Revised filing submitted on September 24,
 2021, in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025,
- b. The Resolutions and Order issued by the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau on April 8, 2021,
 May 21, 2021, and July 2, 2021, in Case NEPR-MI-2019-0007,
 - c. The pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry of November 16, 2021, filed in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025 and his expert report, which is an exhibit of his pre-filed testimony,
 - d. The responses provided by Mr. Agustín Irizarry to LUMA's First and Second Sets of Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents notified on January 13, 2022, and
 - e. Published Inspection Report by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration

- 70 (OSHA) found publicly online in the following link
 71 https://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/establishment.inspection_detail?id=1522938.015.
- Q. Do you agree with recommendation number 6 by Mr. Irizarry on page 8, lines 11-14, page 48, lines 8-10, and page 64, lines 20-23 of his pre-filed testimony, where he proposes that the safety metrics be used only to impose penalties if minimum standards are not met?
- 76 A. No.

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- 77 Q. Please explain your response.
 - I disagree with Mr. Irizarry's recommendation that the Energy Bureau impose penalties in connection with the safety metrics. First, like all utilities and other employers, LUMA falls under OSHA regulations and is subject to penalties and fines for noncompliance. Imposition of additional penalties will not promote incremental improvement in performance and could instead amount to double or multiple penalties. Second, LUMA's proposed safety metrics serve purposes different from those served by penalties, such as the ones OSHA has authority to impose. Incentives for safety metrics encourage the utility to improve safety metrics beyond the minimum threshold, whereas penalties are only useful for deterring poor performance in this area. LUMA's proposed metrics, baselines, and targets will allow LUMA and the Energy Bureau to assess LUMA's safety performance over time. The purpose of the performance metrics is to measure performance, not to deter conduct which is the main purpose served by penalties. Third, LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets on safety, submitted for consideration by the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau, were adopted within the competitive negotiated processes conducted by the Puerto Rico Public-Private Partnerships Authority that led to the execution of the Puerto Rico

Transmission and Distribution System Operation and Maintenance Agreement of June 22, 2020 (T&D OMA). Per Section 14.1 (k) of the T&D OMA and as explained in the Revised Annex IX to the T&D OMA, the T&D OMA can be canceled for failure to meet three (3) Key Performance Metrics (including OSHA Fatalities and OSHA Severity Rate) during three (3) or more consecutive Contract Years provided that no such failure shall have been excused by a Force Majeure Event, an Outage Event or Owner Fault. This is the severest of penalties. To my knowledge, other utilities do not face a similar type of penalty. The proposed Key Performance Metric on OSHA fatalities with a baseline and target of zero (0) fatalities, is a good example of the unsoundness of Mr. Irizarry's proposal that penalties be imposed if minimum standards are not met. This Key Performance Metric tracks all work-related recordable incidents. For example, if LUMA were to experience a higher recordable incidents rate than described in the baseline during three consecutive Contract Years LUMA could be faced with the harshest of penalties, which is the cancellation of the T&D OMA. It is unreasonable to advocate for the imposition of an additional penalty. The additional penalty proposed by Mr. Irizarry serves no purpose and does not further performance-based incentives interests.

- Q. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's recommendation on page 8, lines 14-16, page 48, lines 10-12, and page 64, lines 23-25 of his pre-filed testimony that Puerto Rico OSHA rules should be consulted and a comparison with similar jurisdictions should be conducted to establish the minimum standard?
- 113 A. No.

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- 114 Q. Please explain your response.
- 115 A. OSHA does not set minimum performance standards, baselines, or targets to impose

penalties. OSHA is not in the business of setting specified percentages in the reduction of recordable incidents or fatalities that a utility must meet. OSHA sets standards that must be met. On a case-by-case basis, OSHA investigates recordable incidents and imposes penalties if it determines that the employer incurred violations. Also, OSHA does not impose penalties for all recordable incidents, nor does OSHA impose penalties for failure to meet minimum performance standards. Lastly OSHA standards in Puerto Rico are consistent with other OSHA jurisdictions. Mr. Irizarry is mistaken in suggesting that Puerto Rico OSHA rules or those in other jurisdictions should be consulted to establish minimum performance standards to impose penalties on LUMA.

- 125 Q. Please provide an example of circumstances in which an incident recordable with

 126 OSHA occurs, but OSHA does not impose a penalty against the employer or utility.
- 127 A. One published example is found publicly in the **OSHA** website, 128 https://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/establishment.inspection_detail?id=1522938.015, for Black Warrior Electric Membership Corporation, where OSHA investigated a fatality in 129 the workplace and closed its investigation without imposing a penalty on the employer as 130 131 there were no findings of an OSHA violation, which was an electric power utility.
- Q. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 48, lines 1-6 of his pre-filed testimony, that the purpose of employee safety (labor safety) is to ensure that employees are not subjected to excessive risks?
- 135 A. No.

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- 136 Q. Please explain your response.
- 137 A. The statement on avoidance of excessive risks is incorrect. The term "excessive risks"

 138 employed by Mr. Irizarry is not part of OSHA's framework nor, in my experience, used in

- the utility industry to measure safety performance by a utility. In my experience, OSHA seeks to eliminate all risks. LUMA's safety metrics are designed to induce performance in a manner that eliminates all risks.
- Q. Do you have a response to Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 48, lines 2-4, that it is a very bad idea to provide a financial incentive to a company for merely complying with basic moral, legal, and ethical obligations such as employee safety?
- 145 A. Yes.
- 146 Q. Please explain your response.
- A. Safety incentive metrics help utilities encourage employees to share the organization's goals for safety for all employees. Incentives utilize objective historical data designed to meet performance standards on safety, bearing in mind legal and regulatory standards.

 LUMA's performance metrics on safety are designed to track performance according to applicable OSHA requirements and to comply with Puerto Rico public policy to provide safe electric power services, which safety starts with LUMA's employees.
- Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's proposal that the Energy Bureau consider and approve a public safety metric on *Incidents, Injuries, and Fatalities*, which purpose is described as an "indicator of incidents, injuries and fatalities associated contact with the electric system by members of the public," as stated on page 25, lines 8-13 of his pre-filed testimony?
- 158 A. No.
- 159 Q. Please explain your response.
- 160 A. The safety of the public is very important to LUMA. As a result, LUMA has and will

 161 continue to invest specifically in the education of the public regarding electrical safety.

However, LUMA cannot control the behaviors of third-party contractors and the public with respect to the electric power system. Incidents due to public wrongdoing violation do not imply any LUMA wrongdoing. For many public safety incidents, legal processes are conducted to determine responsibility after an extensive review of the relevant facts, and the process may take an extended period. As a result, LUMA strongly feels that public safety is not conducive to metric setting and should not be considered in this proceeding. Additionally, LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets were adopted within the competitive negotiated processes that resulted in the execution of the T&D OMA and revised in accordance with the procedures set forth in the T&D OMA. LUMA's proposal does not envision adding public safety metrics for the first three years of operations further than what is proposed in the T&D OMA. The public safety metric category proposed by Mr. Irizarry on incidents, injuries, and fatalities is not aligned with the T&D OMA.

174 Q. Does this complete your testimony?

175 A. Yes.

ATTESTATION

Affiant, Mr. Curtis Clark, being first duly sworn, states the following:

The prepared Rebuttal Testimony constitutes my Rebuttal Testimony 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 that are included in the Rebuttal Testimony. I further state that the facts and statements provided herein are my Rebuttal Testimony and, to the best of my knowledge, are true and correct.

Curtis Clark

Afffidavit No. §33

Acknowledged and subscribed before me by Mr. Curtis Clark, in his capacity as Functional Lead, Emergency Preparedness, LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC, of legal age, legally married and resident of San Juan, Puerto Rico, who is personally known to me.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 24th day of January 2023.

Public Notary



Exhibit 2

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

IN RE:

CASE NO.: NEPR-AP-2020-0025

PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR LUMA ENERGY SERVCO, LLC

Direct Testimony of
Mrs. Diane Watkins
Vice President, Vegetation and Work Management, LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC
January 24, 2023¹

^{1 1} This testimony was initially submitted by Brent Bolzenius, LUMA's Director of Vegetation Management, on October 28, 2022.

- 1 Q1. Please state your name, business address, title, and employer.
- 2 A1. My name is Diane Watkins. My business address is PO Box 363508, San Juan, Puerto
- Rico, 00936-3508. I am Vice President, Vegetation and Work Management for LUMA
- 4 Energy ServCo, LLC.
- 5 Q2. On whose behalf are you testifying before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau (the
- 6 "Energy Bureau").
- 7 A2. My testimony is on behalf of LUMA Energy LLC and LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC, as
- 8 part of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Aboard Puerto Rico
- 9 Energy Bureau (Energy Bureau) proceeding NEPR-AP-2020-0025, the Performance
- Targets for LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC.
- 11 Q3. Are there any exhibits attached to your testimony?
- 12 A3. No, there are no exhibits attached to my testimony.
- 13 Q4. What is your educational background?
- 14 A4. I graduated from Arizona State University in December 1999 with a Bachelor of Science
- in Engineering (B.S.E.) degree in Electrical Engineering. I graduated again from Arizona
- State University in August 2007 with a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)
- degree.
- 18 Q5. What is your professional experience?
- 19 A5. I have over 20 years of professional experience in the utility industry. In October 2022, I
- joined LUMA Energy as Vice President of Vegetation and Work Management.
- 21 Q6. Please describe your work experience prior to joining LUMA.
- 22 A6. Prior to joining Luma, I was the Director of Wildfire Mitigation at Xcel Energy in Denver,
- Colorado. In that role, I led the company's strategic development and execution of the

wildfire mitigation plan. The plan included enhanced vegetation management practices, system hardening, and conservative operations in high-risk threat areas, among other activities. I also held a previous role at Xcel Energy in Federal Regulatory Affairs, where I prepared tariff compliance and position documents submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), represented the company's positions on distributed energy resource issues at the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), and served as Chief Compliance Officer for FERC Standards of Conduct. Prior to my work in Federal Regulatory Affairs, I was the Manager of Substation Field Engineering, where I led a team of over 20 engineers who provided field support for the maintenance of over 1200 substations in eight (8) states. Before Xcel Energy, I held a variety of electric utility engineering and leadership roles at David Evans and Associates and Salt River Project, both in Phoenix, Arizona.



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- I am a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and
- the current Vice Chair of the IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) Technical Council.
- In 2016, I served as Editor of the Substations Chapter of the 17th Edition of the McGraw-
- 39 Hill Standard Handbook for Electrical Engineers.
- 40 Q7. Do you hold any professional licenses, and if so, which?
- 41 A7. Yes, I am registered as a Professional Engineer (P.E.) in Electrical Engineering by the
- 42 State of Arizona.
- 43 Q8. Have you previously testified or made presentations before the Energy Bureau?
- 44 A8. No
- 45 Q9. Which documents did you consider for your testimony?
- 46 A9. I considered the following documents:

47		LUMA's Revised Annex IX to the Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution
48		System Operation and Maintenance Agreement (T&D OMA) filed with this
49		Energy Bureau on September 23, 2021, in this proceeding
50		• The T&D OMA
51		• The Revised Annex IX to the T&D OMA filed on October 28, 2022, in this
52		proceeding
53		• LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) filed with this Energy Bureau on
54		August 5, 2021, Case In re In Re: Revisión del Programa Comprensivo de
55		Manejo de Vegetación de la Autoridad de Energía Eléctrica, NEPR-MI-2019-
56		0005
57		• The written testimony of Agustín Irizarry provided on behalf of LECO on
58		November 17, 2021, and his testimony of March 22, 2022, filed in this proceeding
59		• The testimonies by Mr. Brent Bolzenius, filed in this proceeding, filed on
60		February 1 st , 2022, and April 27 th , 2022
61	Q10.	What is the purpose of your Direct Testimony?
62	A10.	The purpose of my testimony is to explain a performance metric for vegetation
63		management that has been included in the Revised Annex IX to the T&D OMA in
64		attention to an order of this Energy Bureau. LUMA is presenting "Vegetation
65		Maintenance Miles Completed (230kV, 115kV, 39kV, primary Distribution Lines)" for
66		consideration in compliance with the Energy Bureau's Resolution and Order issued on
67		August 1, 2022.
68	Q11.	Please describe the performance metric for the Vegetation Maintenance Miles
60		Completed

70	A11.	The metric monitors the number of line miles completed for vegetation maintenance work
71		each fiscal year along 230kV, 115kV, 38kV lines, and primary Distribution lines.
72	Q12.	Describe what type of vegetation maintenance work is included in this performance
73		metric.
74	A12.	Vegetation maintenance represents a continuous and repetitive process. These activities
75		are classified into 3 categories:
76		Reactive: Work that cannot be planned or scheduled but requires immediate
77		attention. This work is typically related to service interruptions and outages.
78		• Corrective: Work that is difficult to plan for but, once identified, can be
79		efficiently scheduled. This work is generated by customer requests, LUMA
80		operations and/or LUMA staff.
81		• Preventative: Work that can be specifically planned for and prioritized, scheduled,
82		and managed on a project basis. It represents the largest portion of Vegetation
83		Management in the O&M budget.
84	Q13.	What is the objective of the Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed performance
85		metric?
86	A13.	The objective is to reduce the impact of vegetation near electric utility infrastructure
87		resulting in improvements in the safety & reliability of the Transmission & Distribution
88		(T&D) system. As the metric will allow LUMA to track progress on the Vegetation
89		Management Plan and incentivizes improved system safety and reliability by promoting
90		vegetation maintenance along transmission and distribution lines, it is my position that if

the Energy Bureau rules that a Vegetation Management metric should be added to the

Revised Annex IX to the T&D OMA, this should be the metric utilized for vegetation

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93		management. I incorporate by reference other testimonies in this proceeding, originally
94		filed on February 1, 2022, and April 27, 2022, by Mr. Brent Bolzenius, and which I am
95		filing with this Energy Bureau today, that explain LUMA's position on vegetation
96		management performance metrics suggested by intervenors, including that vegetation
97		management metrics are already included in the SAIDI and SAIFI performance metrics.
98	Q14.	Explain how the performance metric on Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed
99		will result in improvements in the safety & reliability of the T&D system.
100	A14.	As Vegetation can often cause electrical outages in Puerto Rico, increasing the
101		Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed will assist in reducing interruptions of
102		electrical service in tandem with LUMA's other efforts to improve reliability in order to
103		provide safe and reliable service to LUMA's customers.
104	Q15.	Please describe the methodology for the performance metric on Vegetation
105		Maintenance Miles Completed.
106	A15.	The performance metric target takes into account projections of vegetation maintenance
107		miles possible to complete given the availability of resources, budgets, vegetation
108		conditions, and required day-to-day operational support.
109	Q16.	Explain why only primary Distribution lines were included in the metric.
110	A16.	Examples of secondary Distribution lines include street light service lines and pole-to-
111		house service drops, among others. These types of lines have a small overall impact on
112		the reliability of the system; and the maintenance miles data associated with secondary
113		Distribution lines are difficult to identify and track.
114	Q17.	What data was examined to develop the Vegetation Management Metric?

115	A17.	First, the actual recent historical number of Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed
116		was reviewed. Then, LUMA's working knowledge of the T&D system, existing
117		vegetation conditions, and industry vegetation management best practices was considered
118		to project forward a reasonable target for future performance.
119	Q18.	What considerations were made to determine the targets for 1,600 miles in Year 1,
120		1,800 miles in Year 2, and 2,000 miles in Year 3?
121	A18	Historical data was used to set targets while considering empirical and working
122		knowledge of the T&D system. We considered that in Fiscal Year 2022, as described in
123		LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan, much of LUMA's vegetation management
124		activities were focused on reactive and corrective work in the first six months of
125		operations due to the overall condition of vegetation clearances on the T&D system. The
126		targets also consider that in quarters three and four of Fiscal Year 2022, LUMA initiated
127		and transitioned to more planned vegetation maintenance and reclamation as an
128		increasing amount of reactive and corrective work was resolved. We also considered the
129		ongoing transition from reactive and corrective work during Fiscal Year 2023 as the
130		portion of planned preventative work to the total vegetation maintenance work completed
131		is increasing.
132		Finally, the targets consider that planned preventative work generally requires less time
133		per mile to complete. Therefore, in future years as reactive work is decreased year over
134		year, LUMA will be able to increase its yearly Vegetation Maintenance Miles Cleared
135		target as reflected in the Revised Annex IX filing.
136	Q19.	Explain how the minimum performance levels were established?
137	A19.	The minimum performance is set at 10% of the annual target goal.

138	Q20.	What actions will LUMA take to meet the target	ts?
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- 139 A20. LUMA will continue to take several actions to meet the targets such as continuing to shift 140 from the reactive/corrective remediation measures to more preventative reclamation of 141 vegetation operations along the T&D system, continuing to seek and implement 142 operational improvements, and seeking opportunities to utilize federal funding sources.
- 143 Q21. In brief, what are your recommendations?
- 144 A21. It is recommended that if the Energy Bureau determines that a vegetation management
 145 metric be included in the Revised Annex IX to the T&D OMA, the Energy Bureau adopt
 146 the Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed metric as proposed by LUMA in Annex
 147 IX. The metric will allow LUMA to track progress on the VMP and incentivizes
 148 improved system safety and reliability by promoting vegetation maintenance along
 149 transmission and distribution lines.
- 150 Q22. Does this complete your testimony?
- 151 A22. Yes.

ATTESTATION

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

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

Diane Watkins

Affidavit No	557	

Acknowledged and subscribed before me by Mrs. Diane Watkins in her capacity as Vice President, Vegetation and Work Management, 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 24 day of January, 2023.



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

IN RE:

CASE NO.: NEPR-AP-2020-0025

PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR LUMA ENERGY SERVCO, LLC

Rebuttal Testimony of
Mrs. Diane Watkins
Vice President, Vegetation & Work Management, LUMA Energy ServCo LLC
January 24, 2023¹

¹ This testimony was initially submitted by Brent Bolzenius, LUMA's Director of Vegetation Management, on February 17, 2022.

- 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 mailing address is PO Box 363508, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-3508. I am
- 5 the Vice President, Director of Vegetation & Work Management for LUMA Energy
- 6 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
- 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
- joined LUMA Energy as Vice President of Vegetation and Work Management.
- 15 O. 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
- wildfire mitigation plan. The plan included enhanced vegetation management practices,
- 19 system hardening, and conservative operations in high-risk threat areas, among other
- activities. I also held a previous role at Xcel Energy in Federal Regulatory Affairs, where
- I prepared tariff compliance and position documents submitted to the Federal Energy
- Regulatory Commission (FERC), represented the company's positions on distributed
- 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 17 th Edition of the McGraw-
33	Hill Standard Handbook for Electrical Engineers.

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 of Arizona.
- Q. Have you previously testified or made presentations before the Puerto Rico EnergyBureau?
- 39 A. No.
- 40 Q. On whose behalf are you testifying before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau?
- A. My testimony is on behalf of LUMA as part of the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau ("Energy Bureau"), Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Board proceeding Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025, the Performance Targets for LUMA Energy ServCo,
- 44 LLC.
- 45 Q. Are there any exhibits attached to your testimony?
- 46 A. No.

47	Q.	What is the	purpose	of your	rebuttal	testimony?
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- 48 A. To respond to those portions of the pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry ("Mr.
- Irizarry") on behalf of the Local Environmental and Civil Organizations ("LECO"), filed
- on November 16, 2021, in this proceeding, regarding his proposed metric on Enhanced
- Vegetation Management.
- 52 Q. Did you consider any documents for your rebuttal testimony?
- 53 A. Yes, I did.

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- Q. Which documents did you consider for your rebuttal testimony?
- 55 a. LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets Revised filing submitted on September 24, 56 2021, in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025,
 - b. The pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry of November 16, 2021, filed in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025 and his expert report, which is an exhibit of his pre-filed testimony,
 - c. The responses provided by Mr. Agustín Irizarry to LUMA's First and Second Sets of Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents notified on January 13, 2022, and
 - d. The responses provided by Mr. Agustín Irizarry to the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau's Requirements for Information, notified on December 20, 2021.
- O. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's proposal for the Energy Bureau to adopt a metric on enhanced vegetation management, as stated on page 25, lines 16-18 of his direct pre-filed testimony?
- 68 A. No.
- 69 Q. Please explain your response.

LUMA disagrees with such a proposal. First, an enhanced vegetation management 70 A. incentive metric is not necessary. The existent operational metrics subject to incentives, 71 such as SAIDI and SAIFI, will show any reduction of outages to customers and includes 72 the results of a utility's vegetation management program. The addition of an enhanced 73 vegetation management incentive metric, as proposed, would be duplicative of other 74 technical metrics. It should also be noted that vegetation management incentive metrics do 75 not in themselves provide for better reliability to the customer, and a more comprehensive 76 methodology like SAIDI and SAIFI is more appropriate. 77 78 Second, Mr. Irizarry's proposal is based on the California Public Utilities Commission's ("CPUC") adoption of safety performance metrics after it placed the Pacific Gas and 79 Electric Company ("PG&E") into the first step of the CPUC's Enhanced Oversight and 80 Enforcement Process. The CPUC's action was based on PG&E's failure to sufficiently 81 prioritize clearing vegetation on its highest-risk power lines as part of its wildfire mitigation 82 work in 2020. The metrics referenced for PG&E were additional parameters added after a 83 wildfire. The CPUC designed the Enhanced Oversight and Enforcement Process as a 84 condition for approving PG&E's plan for exiting bankruptcy in May 2020. These efforts 85 to monitor PG&E were part of many actions the CPUC took with respect to PG&E's 86 bankruptcy, system safety, and mitigating wildfire threats. The vegetation safety issues 87 were very different from those encountered in Puerto Rico. 88 89 From an applicability standpoint, one state in the United States with particular circumstances or probationary measures due to a catastrophic event does not dictate that 90

Q. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's proposal on page 25, lines 16-18 of his pre-filed

these incentive metrics are -relative or applicable to Puerto Rico.

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testimony, that the proposed metric should measure the electric miles lines annually subjected to tree trimming divided by the total electric line miles?

95 A. No.

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O. Please explain your response.

Mr. Irizarry's proposal tries to address a complex issue in a very simplistic way and fails to consider other equally important factors. Meaningful aspects of a vegetation management program include safety, customers, outage events and frequency, tree density, schedules, and specific vegetation types, among other areas. Tracking one unit or metric will not directly correlate to the success of a whole vegetation management program. The purpose of any utility's vegetation management program is to manage vegetation to reduce outages to acceptable levels. The prevention of all vegetation-caused outages is nearly impossible. Tracking miles alone can focus on the most negligible amounts of required vegetation to capture "miles" while not targeting work on areas of greater vegetation densities and the most significant impact despite being associated with lower amounts of miles. The effects of unmanaged vegetation often have varied impacts on different types of transmission and distribution infrastructure beyond transmission and distribution lines. For example, outages caused by vegetation at other facilities, such as substations, can have a greater impact on a higher number of customers than on a remote distribution line in a remote area.

Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 25, lines 16-18, of his pre-filed testimony that an enhanced vegetation management metric reduces voltage fluctuations, improves public safety, and eliminates damage to lines during storms?

115 A. No.

Q.

Q. Please explain your response.

A.

Mr. Irizarry's statement draws a direct correlation between vegetation management and the reduction of voltage fluctuations, which is not entirely correct. One single statistic alone does not speak to the success of the whole vegetation management program. Tracking line miles in itself does not promote or eliminate outages during storms. Outages during a storm can occur for many reasons outside vegetation (example: blowing debris, flooding, and broken infrastructure). Additionally, in general, the way to reduce vegetation outages and harden the grid during storms is to increase the clearances between conductors and vegetations, which is not addressed when solely addressing line miles. Further, voltage fluctuations are caused by a range of issues that are not solely the result of vegetation-related outages. They can be caused by but are not limited to insufficient generation or equipment failures due to historically neglected infrastructure.

Q. Do you have a response to Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 35, line 16, of his prefiled testimony in which he states that the Energy Bureau has recognized the value of enhanced vegetation management?

131 A. Yes, I do.

A.

Q. Please state and explain your response.

LUMA does not dispute the value of vegetation management programs. The Energy Bureau has a dedicated proceeding to vegetation management in Case No. NEPR-MI-2019-0005. LUMA has submitted a Vegetation Management Plan in said proceeding, which is currently before the Energy Bureau for its approval. However, this does not necessitate the need to earn an incentive in vegetation management. LUMA believes the Energy Bureau's monitoring of vegetation management through the current docket (NEPR-

139	MI-2019-0005) is a more constructive measure.
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- 140 Q. Do you have a response to Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 35, line 17-21, that LUMA

 141 has refused to provide information on planned trimmed miles, trim acreage, and

 142 widening miles?
- 143 A. Yes, I do.
- 144 Q. Please state and explain your response.
- 145 A. Mr. Irizarry's characterization of LUMA's responses to the discovery requests issued by
 146 the Energy Bureau is improper. LUMA could not provide the requested information during
 147 discovery to the Energy Bureau as this information had not been developed at the time of
 148 the request. LUMA is open to regular reporting on agreed-upon information to provide
 149 progress and effectiveness of LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan. Once again, this
 150 does not require an incentive performance metric in vegetation management.
- 151 Q. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's proposal for the Energy Bureau to set penalties for 152 failure to fulfill the planned tasks, as stated on page 35, lines 21-23 of his direct pre-153 filed testimony?
- LUMA disagrees with Mr. Irizarry's proposal. LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan 154 A. 155 establishes the basis to transition from PREPA's practices into a more effective and efficient Vegetation Management Program and guides its management and organization. 156 However, the implementation of LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan requires initial 157 investments. It also requires continuous improvement through refinements and adjustments 158 to accommodate changing objectives and conditions. The expectation is that 159 160 implementation of the Vegetation Management Plan, over time, will reduce the cost and intensity of the vegetation management work required while at the same time improving 161

system reliability and safety. Despite the effort to focus solely on implementing and executing the Vegetation Management Plan, there are still times for more reactive and correct work as a result of outages, reliability, customer, public safety, or storm restoration to address conditions or critical/emergency circumstances. A penalty-based mechanism would incentivize the utility not to be agile and responsive to customer needs. It would result in incentivizing LUMA not to prioritize vegetation management work orders based on the circumstances at the time.

The Vegetation Management Plan recognizes that events will occur when planned preventive vegetation maintenance does not suffice, and corrective, agile, and responsive maintenance will be required. The expectation is that, over time, corrective vegetation maintenance will be performed as necessary as a one-off exception rather than a mode of operation based on localized reliability issues. Also, reactive vegetation maintenance will occur in response to tree-initiated faults, interruptions, and outages.

Contrary to what Mr. Irizarry states in his responses to the discovery requests issued by the Energy Bureau, Puerto Rico is not under or subject to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) as it relates to vegetation management. FERC and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)² requirements are generally only applicable for those lines greater than 200kV and part of the overall bulk electric system in the continental portions of North America. Since NERC does not have jurisdiction over Puerto Rico 's electric grid, there should not be any penalty to LUMA for not meeting standards that are not applicable to the system LUMA is operating. "LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan

² NERC is a not-for-profit international regulatory authority responsible to administrate regulations and measurements to ensure the effectively operate the Bulk Electrical System ("BES") across the continental United States, Canada, and the northern portion of Baja California, Mexico. Puerto Rico is not part of the BES.

for the high voltage transmission system (230 and 115 kV) will generally be aligned with 183 the NERC standard."3 184 LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan cannot be converted to metrics and baselines, such 185 as "trimmed and inspected miles for both the transmission and distribution system," as Mr. 186 Irizarry proposes in his responses to the discovery requests issued by the Energy Bureau. 187 The Vegetation Management Plan's purpose is not to supply metrics but to outline the 188 189 strategy, processes, procedures, and timelines. Failure to complete any required tasks under LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan will not necessarily translate to customer impacts 190 such as an immediate increase in voltage fluctuations, worse public safety or more damage 191 to lines during storms. As such, the imposition of penalties would not promote the 192 193 improvement of customer-centric outcomes. 194 O. Does this complete your testimony?

¹⁹⁵ A. Yes.

³ LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan, page 20, https://energia.pr.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2021/04/Petition-Submitting-Vegetation-Management-Plan-Final-April-11-2021-NEPR-MI-2019-0005.pdf

ATTESTATION

Affiant, Mrs. 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. I further state that the facts and statements provided herein are my rebuttal testimony and are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Diane Watkins

Affidavit No. 555

Acknowledged and subscribed before me by Mrs. Diane Watkins in her capacity as Director of Vegetation Management of LUMA Energy, 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 24th day of January 2023.

Public Notary

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

IN RE:

CASE NO.: NEPR-AP-2020-0025

PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR LUMA ENERGY SERVCO, LLC

Rebuttal Testimony of
Mrs. Diane Watkins
Vice President, Vegetation & Work Management, LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC
January 24, 2023¹

¹ This testimony was initially submitted by Brent Bolzenius, LUMA's Director of Vegetation Management, on April 27, 2022.

- 1 Q. Please state your name.
- 2 A. My name is Diane Watkins.
- 3 O. Please state your business mailing address, title, and employer.
- 4 A. My business mailing address is PO Box 363508, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-3508. I am
- 5 the Vice President of Vegetation & Work Management for LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC.
- 6 Q. Please state your educational background.
- 7 A. I graduated from Arizona State University in December 1999 with a Bachelor of Science
- 8 in Engineering (B.S.E.) degree in Electrical Engineering. I graduated again from Arizona
- 9 State University in August 2007 with a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)
- degree.
- 11 Q. Please state your professional experience.
- 12 A. I have over 20 years of professional experience in the utility industry. In October 2022, I
- joined LUMA Energy as Vice President of Vegetation and Work Management.
- 14 Q. Please describe your work experience prior to joining LUMA.
- 15 A. Prior to joining Luma, I was the Director of Wildfire Mitigation at Xcel Energy in Denver,
- 16 Colorado. In that role, I led the company's strategic development and execution of the
- wildfire mitigation plan. The plan included enhanced vegetation management practices,
- system hardening, and conservative operations in high-risk threat areas, among other
- activities. I also held a previous role at Xcel Energy in Federal Regulatory Affairs, where
- I prepared tariff compliance and position documents submitted to the Federal Energy
- 21 Regulatory Commission (FERC), represented the company's positions on distributed
- 22 energy resource issues at the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), and
- served as Chief Compliance Officer for FERC Standards of Conduct. Prior to my work in

24		Federal Regulatory Affairs, I was the Manager of Substation Field Engineering, where I
25		led a team of over 20 engineers who provided field support for the maintenance of over
26		1200 substations in eight (8) states. Before Xcel Energy, I held a variety of electric utility
27		engineering and leadership roles at David Evans and Associates and Salt River Project,
28		both in Phoenix, Arizona.
29		I am a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and
30		the current Vice Chair of the IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) Technical Council.
31		In 2016 I served as Editor of the Substations Chapter of the 17th Edition of the McGraw-
32		Hill Standard Handbook for Electrical Engineers.
33	Q.	Do you hold any professional licenses?
34	A.	Yes, I am registered as a Professional Engineer (P.E.) in Electrical Engineering by the
35		State of Arizona.
36	Q.	Have you previously testified or made presentations before the Puerto Rico Energy
) 37		Bureau?
38	Α.	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.	Are there any exhibits attached to your testimony?
45	A.	No.

What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?

Q.

46

47	A.	To respond to those portions of the additional pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry
48		("Mr. Irizarry") on behalf of the Local Environmental and Civil Organizations ("LECO"),
49		filed on March 22, 2022, in this proceeding, regarding his proposed metric on Vegetation
50		Management.
51	Q.	Did you consider any documents for your rebuttal testimony?
52	A.	Yes, I did.
53	Q.	Which documents did you consider for your rebuttal testimony?
54		a. LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets Revised filing submitted on September 24,
55		2021, in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025,
56		b. The pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry of November 16, 2021, filed in this
57		proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025 and his expert report, which is an exhibit
58		of his pre-filed testimony,
59		c. The additional pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry of March 22, 2022, filed in
60		this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025,
61		d. The responses provided by Mr. Agustín Irizarry to LUMA's First and Second Sets of
62		Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents notified on January 13,
63		2022,
64		e. The responses provided by Mr. Agustín Irizarry to the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau's
65		Requirements for Information notified on December 20, 2021, and
66		f. The responses provided by Mr. Agustín Irizarry to LUMA's Third Set of
67		Interrogatories and Request for Production of Documents notified on April 21, 2022,
68	Q.	Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's recommendations that LUMA should only be
69		rewarded if its performance in the vegetation management area achieves a hard-to-

reach target, as stated on page 13, lines 11-17 and 19-24 of his additional direct prefiled testimony?

72 A. No.

A.

O. Please explain your response.

LUMA disagrees with such a recommendation. Vegetation management aims to ensure safe and reliable service to all customers regardless of access; limitations, or perceived ease of access to vegetation work. Contrary to Mr. Irizzary's concerns, there are many "hard-to-reach targets" along roadside transmission and distribution infrastructure or within short distances of roads. Examples include vegetation located in back yards, and in urban areas where the only access points are through or over a home or building. Consequentially all equipment and debris must pass over or through the domicile to address the tree-risk electrical conductors; or where vegetation is located roadside and where the conditions warrant multiple days of work to remediate risk to the overhead conductor. The Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution (T&D) System is fragile, and the vegetation conditions are poor across the entire island. Whether vegetation work is easily accessible or "hard-to-reach", LUMA is committed to finding the best way to complete the necessary vegetation work regardless if the targets are "hard-to-reach" or considered roadside. The work location is entirely subjective and should not be the only factor in setting goals.

Q. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's recommendation that the Energy Bureau also require LUMA to identify the relative difficulty for vegetation maintenance for each line or region, as stated on page 13, lines 26, and page 14, lines 1-2 of his additional direct pre-filed testimony?

92 A. No.

Q. Please explain your response.

Mr. Irizarry's recommendation is impractical. The "relative difficulty" concept he proposes is entirely subjective. Moreover, Irizarry does not provide a basis for this "concept". There are no industry standards, definitions, or criteria for "relative difficulty" in vegetation management. Additionally, the configuration of most electrical feeders or circuits will have a combination of roadside, backyard, and cross-country sections of line within the same feeder or circuit. Vegetation management on a day-to-day basis is not as categorically encapsulated as Mr. Irizarry tries to portray in his testimony. Mr. Irizzary's concerns that LUMA would only complete easily accessible work is incorrect, LUMA intends to address vegetation management work across the system regardless of the challenges, including access to specific work sites.

Q. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 11, lines 14-24 of his additional pre-filed testimony that tree trimming of lines adjacent to roads and highways is easy as these lines are easy to reach than lines that cross mountainous regions?

107 A. No.

A.

Α.

108 Q. Please explain your response.

Mr. Irizarry's statement characterizes vegetation management in such a manner that, based on what he implies, the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority should have had no problems managing vegetation in the past. The idea that tree trimming of lines adjacent to roads and highways is easy as these lines are easy to reach is incorrect. As stated before, "hard-to-reach targets" in vegetation management can be found everywhere and are not only limited to cross-mountainous regions. Mr. Irizarry's statement comes from a very simplistic understanding of vegetation management and fails to consider challenges present in

- "urban" vegetation management scenarios. 116
- Do you have a response to Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 10, lines 14-15, of his 117 Q. additional pre-filed testimony in which he states that vegetation management is 118 critically important for reliability, resiliency, and public safety? 119
- 120 Α. Yes, I do.
- Please state and explain your response. 121 Q.
- Vegetation management is only one of several things that can impact customer service 122 A. reliability. SAIFI and SAIDI are the metrics that directly indicate the reliability of service 123 to customers and already capture the impact of vegetation management related to service 124 reliability to customers, among many other outage causes. The addition of an enhanced 125 vegetation management incentive metric is duplicative of other technical metrics, such as 126 SAIDI & SAFI. It would lead to a situation where the metric would result in a redundant 127
- 128 incentive structure.
- Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's proposal on page 11, lines 1-10, of his additional 129 Q. pre-filed testimony that the Energy Bureau can set some metrics on LUMA's overall 130 progress on vegetation management using as baselines and benchmarks the responses 131 132 requested by the Energy Bureau in a discovery request?
- 133 No. A.
- 134 Q. Please state and explain your response.
- LUMA believes that metrics regarding vegetation management are already incorporated in 135 Α. the SAIDI and SAIFI metrics performance. Therefore, adding vegetation management 136 137 metrics would be a duplicative, and overly prescriptive effort that would incentivize less than cost-effective spending on reliability improvement. 138

The objectives of most utility vegetation management programs are to address vegetation
in both short-term reliability and long-term cost control. Compliance-based programs
typically address the short-term reliability for compliance with regulations and not the best
value or use of available resources and budgets.

- Q. Do you have a response to Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 11, lines 8-10, of his additional pre-filed testimony in which he states that the Energy Bureau should avoid setting a compliance benchmark and, even more so, a target that offers an incentive, that is a global percentage based on all lines?
- 147 A. Yes, I do.

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- 148 Q. Please state and explain your response.
- 149 A. This would not be good for Puerto Rico. These "commission-based" specifications
 150 typically, in both the short and long run, tend to raise the cost of service; and usually fail
 151 to fully identify or remediate the risks associated with vegetation management along
 152 electrical lines.
- 153 Q. Does this complete your testimony?
- 154 A. Yes.

ATTESTATION

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

The prepared RebuttalTestimony constitutes my rebuttal testimony 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 that are included in the Rebuttal Testimony. I further state that the facts and statements provided herein is the rebuttal testimony and, to the best of my knowledge, are true and correct.

Diane Watkins

Affidavit No. 556

Acknowledged and subscribed before me by Mrs. Diane Watkins in her capacity as Vice President, Vegetation Management, 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 24 day of January, 2023.

Notary Public



Exhibit 3

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

IN RE: CASE NO.: NEPR-AP-2020-0025

PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR LUMA ENERGY SERVCO, LLC

Direct Testimony of

Mr. Jorge Meléndez Curtis Clark

Safety and Training Functional Lead, Emergency Preparedness, LUMA Energy ServCo. LLC

September _____, 2021 January 24, 2023_

¹ This testimony was originally submitted by Mr. Jorge Meléndez on September 9, 2021.

- 1 Q. Please state your name.
- 2 A. My name is Jorge Meléndez Curtis Clark.
 - 3 Q. Please state your business mailing address, title, and employer.
- 4 A. My business address is PO Box 363508, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-3508. I am the
- 5 Safety and Training Department Functional Lead of Emergency Preparedness at LUMA
- 6 Energy ServCo, LLC.
 - 7 Q. Please state your educational background.
- 8 A. I have a bachelor's degree from Marshall University, WV with concentration in
- 9 accounting studies. Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of
- Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and a Master of Science in Environmental
- Management from Royal Roads University in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.
- 12 Q. Please state your professional experience.
- 13 A. I have approximately twenty one years of professional experience in the Occupational
- Safety and Health in the Power and Energy Industry. In 2003, I joined the Quanta
- Services Safety, Environmental, Health and Quality Department as a Corporate Training
- 16 and Safety Manager Lead.
- 17 A. I have worked in various roles in environmental, safety, quality, and emergency response
- within utilities and energy companies for the prior 14 years. I worked approximately 13
- 19 years for ATCO's natural gas and electricity utility subsidiaries. I joined LUMA in
- March, 2020 and participated in LUMA's Front-End Transition Period from June, 2020
- through June, 2021 as Functional Lead, Environment within the Health, Safety,
- Environment and Quality Department. Starting on June 2021, I transitioned to the role of
- Functional Lead, Health, Safety, and Environment Programs. Throughout my roles with

LUMA since June 2021, I have been in charge of preparing, verifying and submitting the

Health, Safety, and Environmental performance metrics, including the metrics reported to

the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau in Case NEPR-MI-2019-0007. I was also a part of the

LUMA team in charge of reviewing the baselines and targets for safety metrics to be

included in the Revised Annex IX to the Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution

System Operation and Maintenance Agreement ("T&D OMA") submitted to this Energy

Bureau on February 25, 2021 and August 18, 2021.

31 Q. Please describe your work experience prior to joining LUMA.

A. I have worked for several years developing, evaluating, and maintaining safety programs throughout all Quanta Services Companies. In addition, participated and/or lead many incidents investigations. Prior to joining LUMA, I was responsible for managing an environmental and quality department at an ATCO natural gas subsidiary. The role included managing a team of professionals in ensuring organizational environmental and quality systems were established to minimize the operational impact to the environment and to ensure that work completed conformed to customer and regulatory requirements.

Part of the role included validating and approving the organizational health, safety, environmental and quality metric data for submission to senior leadership and external stakeholders, including shareholders and government agencies.

42 Q. On whose behalf are you testifying before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau.

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

Q. Are there any exhibits attached to your testimony? 47 Yes, there is one exhibit attached to my testimony: A. 48 a. Exhibit A: KPI Metrics - Safety 49 50 Q. Do you hold any professional licenses, and if so, which? 51 I hold the Certified Utility Safety Professional (CUSP) and Certified Health and Safety A. 52 Technician (CHST) certifications. am a licensed Professional Engineer under the 53 Association of Professional Engineer and Geoscientists of Alberta. I am also a Project 54 Management Professional with the Project Management Institute. 55 Q. Have you previously testified or made presentations before the Energy Bureau? 56 No Yes. I testified at the Technical Conference held on October 18, 2022 in case *In re* A. 57 LUMA's Initial Budgets, Case NEPR-MI-2021-0004. Which documents did you consider for your testimony? 58 Q. I considered the following documents: 59 A. 60 a. LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets Revised filing submitted on August 18, 2021, in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025, 61 b. The Resolutions and Order issued by the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau on April 8, 62 2021, May 21, 2021, and July 2, 2021, in Case NEPR-MI-2019-0007, 63 c. Motion resubmitting LUMA's comments on Performance Baselines and Metrics in 64 Case No. NEPR-MI-2019-0007 submitted February 5, 2021 as revised on February 8, 65 2021, 66 67 d. PREPA OSHA 300, 300A and 301 loglogs, 68 e. PREPA Casi Casi report, and PREPA incident's log spreadsheet. 69

Q. What is the purpose of your direct testimony?

- A. My testimony is in support of LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets Revised filing to be filed in this proceeding on August 18, 2021 ("LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets")
- on performance metrics related to safety, specifically:
 - a. OSHA Recordable Incident Rate which is a calculation using total number of OSHA recordable incidents. An OSHA recordable incident is an injury or illness that results in one or more of the following: death, days away from work, restricted work or transfer to another job, medical treatment beyond first aid, loss of consciousness, a significant injury or illness diagnosed by a physician or other licensed health care professional,
 - b. OSHA Fatalities which as per OSHA requires, considers all work-related fatalities
 be reported to OSHA within eight (8) hours. The industry standard target is 0
 fatalities, which has determined the Baseline and Target Performance Levels,
 - c. OSHA Severity Rate— which is used to measure the severity of workplace injuries and is commonly used to measure safety performance across the utility industry. Its calculation considers the total number of restricted and lost time days incurred as a result of a work-related injury, and
 - d. OSHA Days Away, Restricted and Transfer Rate ("OSHA DART Rate") which is a calculation that considers the total number of injury cases that resulted in either lost time, restricted time, or a transfer from the employee's regular job.

90 Q. Please describe the methodology for the Safety Performance Metrics.

91 A. The methodology is aligned with OSHA requirements. As part of the OSHA requirements, every year employers must report to OSHA critical metrics that evidence

their health and safety performance. Some of those metrics and their associated calculations are:

The reporting of these metrics is closely monitored by OSHA and the industries are subject to scrutiny based on their performance. These metrics are managed, tracked, and reported to ensure a safe & healthy workplace. Therefore, the primary value of these metrics is to evaluate and quantify the company's safety performance. The description for each of the metrics is as follows:

- a. OSHA Recordable Incident Rate: is the number of work-related OSHA recordable injury cases. The formula = (number of injuries and illnesses X 200,000) / Employee hours worked]
- b. OSHA Fatalities: is the number of work-related fatalities,

- c. OSHA Severity Rate is calculated on the basis of the OSHA Severe Injuries number of total work-related industry cases with severity days. The formula = (Total number of lost workdays or restricted x 200,000)/ actual hours worked by all employees, and
- d. DART Rate is the number of work-related injuries- The formula = (# of work-loss or restricted cases x 200,000) /# of hours worked.

Q. What data, if any, was analyzed for the Safety Performance Metrics?

Health and Safety Performance Metrics were established taking into consideration the
PREPA OSHA 300 and 301 Logs and the PREPA Injury and Illness Data Reports
including a Casi Casi report that PREPA began recording at the end of 2019. The data
provided includes records from GENCO, Administration, and Transmission &
Distribution ("T&D"). The first step during the analysis was to segregate the data to

reflect T&D and Administration only and exclude generation.

A.

Q. How was the available data analyzed to calculate the baseline for these Safety Performance Metrics?

- The segregated data for the time period proposed in the Energy Bureau's Resolution and Order of May 21, 2021, was evaluated (2020 FY). Also, the cases or reportable injuries were reviewed, and recordable injury reports were validated. In LUMA's review process the following evidence was found that raises questions on the reliability of the data that PREPA provided for Safety Metrics and that LUMA understands the Energy Bureau considered in its Resolution and Order of May 21, 2021:
- 1. New incident log for 2020 (Casi Casi) A number of incidents and near misses included on a new report entitled 'Casi Casi.' These incidents were not classified as OSHA recordable injuries in the calculation of PREPA's original safety metrics submission. However, based on the information on the Casi Casi report, most of the incidents should have been recorded on the OSHA logs because they were injuries with medical treatment that included time out of work and/or medication. This information was crucial on our decision to include the relevant Casi Casi incidents that had evidence of OSHA recordability in the calculations on the baseline numbers instead of the numbers provided in the Energy Bureau based on PREPA's reported data, which exclude all Casi Casi incidents. I include two examples of incidents included on the Casi Casi report here for demonstration:
 - Example 1 on 1/03/2020 employee was involved on an official vehicle accident resulting on 10 days out of work

o Example 2 – on 5/6/2020 an employee was struck by an insulated stick resulting 137 on laceration on the right ear. Employee received 5 stitches. 138 139 Based on a review of the data, the following information was included in the Casi Casi report but not included in the metrics data prepared by PREPA that LUMA understands 140 was available to the Energy Bureau in issuing the Resolution and Order of May 21, 2021: 141 58 recordable injuries (for a revised total of 300 recordable injuries) 142 o 57 recordable injuries that resulted in lost workdays (for a revised total of 235 143 recordable injuries that resulted in lost workdays) 144 A total of 510 lost workdays (for a revised total of 1990 lost workdays) - See 145 Exhibit 121 A, Worksheet Casi Casi 2019 2020 – N, and 146 The total number of hours worked was based on half of the total number of hours 147 worked in 2019 (LUMA did not have monthly hours worked for the 2019 148 calendar year) plus the monthly hours worked from January 1 to June 30, 2021 -149 See Exhibit 125 A, Worksheet Casi Casi 2019 2020 – N. 150 What is your assessment of the data provided by PREPA to the Energy Bureau in 151 Q. connection with Safety Metrics? 152 Evidence gathered during the front-end transition indicates that historical safety data 153 compiled by PREPA contains inaccuracies. Although historical data for PREPA is 154 155 available dating back to 2002, the detailed records to support that data are not available. In addition, interviews with individuals from the PREPA Occupational Health and Safety 156 157 responsibility suggested that the supplied infoinformation contained inaccuracies. We

also identified differences in the raw data that PREPA provided and OSHA records. Most of all-the Health & Safety data is collected and manually entered an excel spreadsheet, which may result in data transcription errors when manipulating data.

A.

Also, PREPA was historically using an erroneous formula for Severity Rate. PREPA was using: Lost days/Total Incidents. The correct formula is: (Total Lost days and restricted/Total actual worked hours) X 200,000. Lastly, the aggregated data also includes Generation which should not be considered for LUMA.}

Finally, LUMA requested from PREPA but did not receive, the reports of with the Corporación del Fondo del Seguro del Estado to determine if the recordable injury details match. The data that was used in the Resolution and Order of the Energy Bureau on May 21, 2021 in Case No. NEPR-MI-2019-0007, has not been compared to the reports of the Corporación del Fondo del Seguro del Estado. There is a significant risk with the variable of "Lost Days". The determination for Lost Days comes from the Fondo del Seguro del Estado. The Fondo de Seguro del Estado is a government owned and operated organization. In Puerto Rico, the Fondo de Seguro del Estado must be used. However, there is little to no challenging of the outcomes of Fondo de Seguro del Estado and little to no modified work or restricted work

Q. Why did LUMA propose different baselines for the Safety Performance Metrics?

As previously stated, LUMA understands that the Energy Bureau's baselines were calculated using a different Fiscal Year period and safety data that was inaccurate based on OSHA standards. The baseline proposed by LUMA is calculated using the health and safety data that is compliant with OSHA standards.

Q.	In brief, what are your recommendations for the baselines applicable to LUMA's
	Safety Metrics?

A. LUMA believes that PREPA understated Safety Performance Metrics beginning in January 2020 with the creation of the Casi Casi report. Inclusion of appropriate data from the Casi Casi report increases PREPA's Safety Performance Metrics to levels consistent with prior periods and more accurately represents PREPA's historical performance. As a result, LUMA requests that PREB approves LUMA's adjustment to the Safety Performance Metrics baselines inclusive of relevant incidents from the Casi Casi report. The transparency and accuracy in the metrics reported is critical to avoid scrutiny from federal and local agencies. Reporting mistaken health and safety metrics creates a misconception on how the business is performing related to critical aspects such as the well-being of our employees, along with the opportunity to implement performance improvement plans based on the trending data.

Q. How were LUMA's targets set for the Safety Performance Metrics?

A. LUMA removed the GENCO incidents and added the relevant incidents in the Casi-Casi
195 report to the data on the PREPA OSHA recordable injury log for the FY2019 and 2020.
196 The proposed targets are laid out in Tables 2-9, 2-10, 2-11 and 2-12.

OSHA Recordable Incident Rate target improvements were first compared to EEI industry standards then by assessing feasibility from PREPA's current state related to health and safety matters. A strategy was developed to lead LUMA to an Incident Reduction near 50% from the baseline in Year 3. Similar approaches were taken for OSHA Fatalities and OSHA DART Rate in terms of setting targets based on the goal to improve safety systems and processes.

OSHA Severity targets rely significantly on external factors outside of LUMA's control.

For that reason, targets were set with the goal to improve performance, but providing flexibility to the extenuating circumstances that exist on a case-by-case basis.

Q. How will the improvements be achieved for the Safety Performance Metrics?

As explained in Section 3 of LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets Revised Filing, there are several opportunities for improvements from the creation and application of a safety plan involving a safety culture, training, assessing training needs, development of a safety training plan, analysis of metrics trends and causes and identification of prevention strategies, and design an incident reporting system and process for analysis and follow up. All of these opportunities will boost the health and safety program.

LUMA has prioritized objectives and initiatives to increase the level of safety for

employees. The initiatives are supported by the programs in the Initial Budgets approved by the Energy Bureau, including establishing a software system for incident management, no-harm culture training and enhanced HSE&Q training programs and will also be supported by operational federally funded programs of the approved System Remediation Plan.

Plan.

A.

Q. What is your request to the Energy Bureau?

- A. I request that the LUMA Safety Performance Metrics baselines and targets as detailed in
 LUMA's Revised Performance Metrics Targets Filing be approved as requested.
- 222 Q. Does this complete your testimony?
- 223 A. Yes.

ATTESTATION

Affiant, Mr. Jorge Meléndez Curtis Clark, being first duly sworn, states the following:

The prepared Direct Testimony constitutes my direct testimony in the above-styled case before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau. Affiant states that he would give the answers set forth in the Direct Testimony if asked the questions that are included in the Direct Testimony. Affiant further states that, The facts and statements provided herein is his direct testimonyare my Direct Testimony and to the best of hismy knowledge are true and correct.

Acknowledged and subscribed before me by Mr. Jorge Meléndez Curtis Clark, in his capacity as Safety and Training Functional Lead, Emergency Preparedness of LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC, of legal age, legally married and resident of San Juan, Puerto Rico, who is personally known to me.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this —24th day of September 2021 January 2023.

Public Notary

Direct Testimony

Exhibit A

Summary report: Litera Compare for Word 11.2.0.54 Document comparison done on

Litera Compare for word 11.2.0.54 Document comparison done on			
1/26/2023 2:02:39 PM			
Style name: DLAPiper			
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GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO PUERTO RICO PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATORY BOARD PUERTO RICO ENERGY BUREAU

IN RE:

CASE NO.: NEPR-AP-2020-0025

PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR LUMA ENERGY SERVCO, LLC

Rebuttal Testimony of

Mr. Jorge Meléndez Curtis Clark

 $\underline{\mathsf{Safety} \ \mathsf{and} \ \mathsf{Training}}\underline{\mathsf{Functional}} \ \underline{\mathsf{Lead}}, \underline{\mathsf{Emergency} \ \mathsf{Preparedness}}, \mathsf{LUMA} \ \mathsf{Energy} \ \mathsf{ServCo}_{\overline{\tau}_{\underline{\mathsf{Z}}}} \ \mathsf{LLC}$

February 1, 2022

January 24, 2023¹

<u>1</u> This Rebuttal Testimony was originally offered by Mr. Jorge Meléndez and filed in this proceeding on February 1, 2022.

- 1 Q. Please state your name.
- 2 A. My name is Jorge Meléndez.Curtis Clark
 - 3 Q. Please state your business mailing address, title, and employer.
- 4 A. My business address is PO Box 363508 San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-3508. I am the
- 5 Safety and Training Department Functional Lead atof Emergency Preparedness for LUMA
- 6 Energy ServCo-, LLC.
 - 7 Q. Please state your educational background.
- 8 A. I have a bachelor's degree from Marshall University, WV, with a concentration in
- 9 accounting studies. Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of
- Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and a Master of Science in Environmental
- Management from Royal Roads University in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.
- 12 Q. Please state your professional experience.
- 13 A. Have approximately twenty one years of professional experience in Occupational Safety
- 14 and Health in the Power and Energy Industry. In 2003, I joined the Quanta Services
- Safety, Environmental, Health, and Quality Department as a Corporate Training and
- 16 Safety Manager Lead.
- 17 A. I have worked in various roles in environmental, safety, quality, and emergency response
- within utilities and energy companies for the prior 14 years. I worked approximately 13
- 19 years for ATCO's natural gas and electricity utility subsidiaries. I joined LUMA in
- March, 2020 and participated in LUMA's Front-End Transition Period from June, 2020
- through June, 2021 as Functional Lead, Environment within the Health, Safety,
- Environment and Quality Department. Starting on June 2021, I transitioned to the role of

23 Functional Lead, Health, Safety, and Environment Programs. Throughout my roles with 24 LUMA since June 2021, I have been in charge of preparing, verifying and submitting the 25 Health, Safety, and Environmental performance metrics, including the metrics reported to 26 the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau in Case NEPR-MI-2019-0007. I was also a part of the 27 LUMA team in charge of reviewing the baselines and targets for safety metrics to be 28 included in the Revised Annex IX to the Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution 29 System Operation and Maintenance Agreement ("T&D OMA") submitted to this Energy 30 Bureau on February 25, 2021 and August 18, 2021.

- 31 Q. Please describe your work experience prior to joining LUMA.
- 32 I have worked for several years developing, evaluating, and maintaining safety programs Α. throughout all Quanta Services Companies. In addition, I participated and/or led many 33 34 investigations. Prior to joining LUMA, I was responsible for managing an 35 environmental and quality department at an ATCO natural gas subsidiary. The role 36 included managing a team of professionals in ensuring organizational environmental and 37 quality systems were established to minimize the operational impact to the environment 38 and to ensure that work completed conformed to customer and regulatory requirements. 39 Part of the role included validating and approving the organizational health, safety, 40 environmental and quality metric data for submission to senior leadership and external 41 stakeholders, including shareholders and government agencies.
- 42 Q. On whose behalf are you testifying before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau.
- A. My testimony is on behalf of LUMA as part of the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau ("Energy Bureau"), Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Board proceeding

- 45 Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025, the Performance Targets for LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC.
- 46 Q. Are there any exhibits attached to your testimony?
- 47 A. No.
- 48 Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?
- 49 Α. To respond to those portions of the pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry ("Mr. Irizarry"), on behalf of the Local Environmental and Civil Organizations ("LECO"), filed on 50 51 November 16, 2021, in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025, regarding LUMA's 52 proposed work-related safety metrics on OSHA Recordable Incident Rate, OSHA Fatalities, OSHA Severity Rate, and OSHA DART Rate. Specifically, I will address Mr. 53 Irizarry's recommendation number 6 on LUMA's proposed safety metrics to impose 54 penalties if minimum standards are not met and that a comparison with similar 55 56 jurisdictions should be conducted to establish the minimum standard, set forth on page 57 8, lines 11-16 and page 64, lines 20-25 of his direct pre-filed testimony, Mr. Irizarry's testimony and statements on page 48, lines 1-12 on safety metrics, and his proposal that 58 59 the Energy Bureau should adopt public safety metrics in this proceeding, stated on page 25, lines 8-13 of his pre-filed testimony. I also testify to further support LUMA's 60 Performance Metrics Targets filing of September 24, 2021 ("LUMA's Performance 61 62 Metrics Targets") on performance metrics related to safety.
- 63 Q. Did you consider any documents for your rebuttal testimony?
- 64 A. Yes, I did.
- 65 Q. Which documents did you consider for your rebuttal testimony?

- a. LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets Revised filing submitted on September 24,
 2021, in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025,
- b. The Resolutions and Order issued by the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau on April 8, 2021,
 May 21, 2021, and July 2, 2021, in Case NEPR-MI-2019-0007,
- 70 c. The pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry of November 16, 2021, filed in this
 71 proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025 and his expert report, which is an exhibit
 72 of his pre-filed testimony,
 - d. The responses provided by Mr. Agustín Irizarry to LUMA's First and Second Sets of Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents notified on January 13, 2022, and
 - e. Published Inspection Report by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration

 (OSHA) found publicly online in the following link

 https://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/establishment.inspection_detail?id=1522938.015.
- Q. Do you agree with recommendation number 6 by Mr. Irizarry on page 8, lines 11-14, page 48, lines 8-10, and page 64, lines 20-23 of his pre-filed testimony, where he proposes that the safety metrics be used only to impose penalties if minimum standards are not met?
- 83 A. No.

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- 84 Q. Please explain your response.
- A. I disagree with Mr. Irizarry's recommendation that the Energy Bureau impose penalties in connection with the safety metrics. First, like all utilities and other employers, LUMA

falls under OSHA regulations and is subject to penalties and fines for noncompliance. Imposition of additional penalties will not promote incremental improvement in performance and could instead amount to double or multiple penalties. Second, LUMA's proposed safety metrics serve purposes different from those served by penalties, such as the ones OSHA has authority to impose. Incentives for safety metrics encourage the utility to improve safety metrics beyond the minimum threshold, whereas penalties are only useful for deterring poor performance in this area. LUMA's proposed metrics, baselines, and targets will allow LUMA and the Energy Bureau to assess LUMA's safety performance over time. The purpose of the performance metrics is to measure performance, not to deter conduct which is the main purpose served by penalties. Fourth, Third, LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets on safety, submitted for consideration by the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau, were adopted within the competitive negotiated processes conducted by the Puerto Rico Public-Private Partnerships Authority that led to the execution of the Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution System Operation and Maintenance Agreement of June 22, 2020 (T&D OMA). Per Section 14.1 (k) of the T&D OMA and as explained in the Revised Annex IX to the T&D OMA, the T&D OMA can be canceled for failure to meet three (3) Key Performance Metrics (including OSHA Fatalities and OSHA Severity Rate) during three (3) or more consecutive Contract Years provided that no such failure shall have been excused by a Force Majeure Event, an Outage Event or Owner Fault. This is the severest of penalties. To my knowledge, other utilities do not face a similar type of penalty. The proposed Key Performance Metric on OSHA fatalities with a baseline and target of zero (0) fatalities, is a good

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example of the unsoundness of Mr. Irizarry's proposal that penalties be imposed if minimum standards are not met. This Key Performance Metric tracks all work-related recordable incidents. For example, if LUMA were to experience a higher recordable incidents rate than described in the baseline during three consecutive Contract Years LUMA could be faced with the harshest of penalties, which is the cancellation of the T&D OMA, it is unreasonable to advocate for the imposition of an additional penalty. The additional penalty proposed by Mr. Irizarry serves no purpose and does not further performance-based incentives interests.

- Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's recommendation on page 8, lines 14-16, page 48, lines 10-12, and page 64, lines 23-25 of his pre-filed testimony that Puerto Rico OSHA rules should be consulted and a comparison with similar jurisdictions should be conducted to establish the minimum standard?
- 121 A. No.

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Q.

- 122 Q. Please explain your response.
 - OSHA does not set minimum performance standards, baselines, or targets to impose penalties. OSHA is not in the business of setting specified percentages in the reduction of recordable incidents or fatalities that a utility must meet. OSHA sets standards that must be met. On a case-by-case basis, OSHA investigates recordable incidents and imposes penalties if it determines that the employer incurred violations. Also, OSHA does not impose penalties for all recordable incidents, nor does OSHA impose penalties for failure to meet minimum performance standards. Lastly OSHA standards in Puerto Rico are consistent with other OSHA jurisdictions. Mr. Irizarry is mistaken in suggesting that

- Puerto Rico OSHA rules or those in other jurisdictions should be consulted to establish minimum performance standards to impose penalties on LUMA.
- 133 Q. Please provide an example of circumstances in which an incident recordable with OSHA occurs, but OSHA does not impose a penalty against the employer or utility.
- 135 Α. published example is found publicly the website, One in OSHA https://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/establishment.inspection_detail?id=1522938.015, 136 Black Warrior Electric Membership Corporation, where OSHA investigated a fatality in 137 138 the workplace and closed its investigation without imposing a penalty on the employer 139 as there were no findings of an OSHA violation, which was an electric power utility.
- 140 Q. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 48, lines 1-6 of his pre-filed
 141 testimony, that the purpose of employee safety (labor safety) is to ensure that
 142 employees are not subjected to excessive risks?
- 143 A. No.
- 144 Q. Please explain your response.
- 145 A. The statement on avoidance of excessive risks is incorrect. The term "excessive risks"

 146 employed by Mr. Irizarry is not part of OSHA's framework nor, in my experience, used in

 147 the utility industry to measure safety performance by a utility. In my experience, OSHA

 148 seeks to eliminate all risks. LUMA's safety metrics are designed to induce performance in

 149 a manner that eliminates all risks.
- Do you have a response to Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 48, lines 2-4, that it is a very bad idea to provide a financial incentive to a company for merely complying with basic moral, legal, and ethical obligations such as employee safety?

- 153 A. Yes.
- 154 Q. Please explain your response.
- A. Safety incentive metrics help utilities encourage employees to share the organization's goals for safety for all employees. Incentives utilize objective historical data designed to meet performance standards on safety, bearing in mind legal and regulatory standards.

 LUMA's performance metrics on safety are designed to track performance according to applicable OSHA requirements and to comply with Puerto Rico public policy to provide safe electric power services, which safety starts with LUMA's employees.
 - Q. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's proposal that the Energy Bureau consider and approve a public safety metric on *Incidents, Injuries, and Fatalities*, which purpose is described as an "indicator of incidents, injuries and fatalities associated contact with the electric system by members of the public," as stated on page 25, lines 8-13 of his pre-filed testimony?
- 166 A. No.

Α.

- 167 Q. Please explain your response.
 - The safety of the public is very important to LUMA. As a result, LUMA has and will continue to invest specifically in the education of the public regarding electrical safety. However, LUMA cannot control the behaviors of third-party contractors and the public with respect to the electric power system. Incidents due to public wrongdoing violation do not imply any LUMA wrongdoing. For many public safety incidents, legal processes are conducted to determine responsibility after an extensive review of the relevant facts, and the process may take an extended period. As a result, LUMA strongly feels that

public safety is not conducive to metric setting and should not be considered in this proceeding. Additionally, LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets were adopted within the competitive negotiated processes that resulted in the execution of the T&D OMA and revised in accordance with the procedures set forth in the T&D OMA. LUMA's proposal does not envision adding public safety metrics for the first three years of operations further than what is proposed in the T&D OMA. The public safety metric category proposed by Mr. Irizarry on incidents, injuries, and fatalities is not aligned with the T&D OMA.

- 183 Q. Does this complete your testimony?
- 184 A. Yes.

ATTESTATION

Affiant, Mr. Jorge Meléndez Curtis Clark, being first duly sworn, states the following: The prepared Rebuttal Testimony constitutes my Rebuttal Testimony in the above-styled case before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau. Affiant states that he would give the answers set forth in the Rebuttal Testimony if asked the questions that are included in the Rebuttal Testimony. Affiant further states that the facts and statements provided herein is his direct testimony are my Rebuttal Testimony and, to the best of his my knowledge, are true and correct. se MeléndezCurtis Clark Afffidavit No. Acknowledged and subscribed before me by Mr. Jorge Meléndez Curtis Clark, in his capacity as Safety and TrainingFunctional Lead-of, Emergency Preparedness, LUMA Energy ServCo-, LLC, of legal age, legally married and resident of LoízaSan Juan, Puerto Rico, who is personally known to me. In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this ^{1st}₂4th day of February 2022January 2023. Public Notary

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

IN RE: CASE NO.: NEPR-AP-2020-0025

PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR LUMA ENERGY SERVCO, LLC

Direct Testimony of

MrMrs. Brent Bolzenius Diane Watkins

Director Vice President, Vegetation and Work Management, LUMA Energy ServCo. LLC

October 28 January 24, 2022

^{1 1} This testimony was initially submitted by Brent Bolzenius, LUMA's Director of Vegetation Management, on October 28, 2022.

1	Q1.	Please state your name, business address, title, and employer.
2	A1.	My name is Brent Bolzenius Diane Watkins. My business address is PO Box 363508, San
3		Juan, Puerto Rico ₂ 00936-3508. I am the Director Vice President, Vegetation and Work
4		Management for LUMA Energy <u>ServCo, LLC</u> .
5	Q2.	On whose behalf are you testifying before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau (the
6		"Energy Bureau").
7	A2.	My testimony is on behalf of the LUMA Energy LLC and LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC,
8		as part of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Aboard Puerto
9		Rico Energy Bureau (Energy Bureau) proceeding NEPR-AP-2020-0025, the Performance
10		Targets for LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC.
11	Q3.	Are there any exhibits attached to your testimony?
12	A3.	No, there are no exhibits attached to my testimony:
13	Q4.	What is your educational background?
14	A4.	I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Forestry from the University of Missouri having graduated
15		December 2003. I also hold graduated from Arizona State University in December 1999
16		with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering (B.S.E.) degree in Electrical Engineering. I
17		graduated again from Arizona State University in August 2007 with a Master of Business
18		Administration from Black Hills State University having graduated in May 2014(M.B.A.)
19		<u>degree</u> .
20	Q5.	What is your professional experience?
21	A5.	I have approximately 18 over 20 years of professional experience vegetation management
22		in the United States Utility Industry with multiple notable utilities. In January 2021, I

joined LUMA's Vegetation management department as a Director. in the utility industry.

In October 2022, I joined LUMA Energy as Vice President of Vegetation and Work

Management.

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Q6. Please describe your work experience prior to joining LUMA.

Prior to joining LUMALuma, I managed the overall vegetation programs at two of Xcel Energy's operating companies in Colorado, Texas & New Mexico. Furthermore, prior to Xcel Energy, I spent over 5 years in a leadership role at Black Hills Energy, a utility who's three vegetation management programs over three states were centralized and where tree-caused outages were reduced by 70% during my tenure. Prior Roles included: supervision of all vegetation management activities related to vegetation contractors, their financial management, safety, and work planning at Ameren Union Electric in Missouri and Aguila (merged with Evergy) in Missouri.was the Director of Wildfire Mitigation at Xcel Energy in Denver, Colorado. In that role, I led the company's strategic development and execution of the wildfire mitigation plan. The plan included enhanced vegetation management practices, system hardening, and conservative operations in high-risk threat areas, among other activities. I also held a previous role at Xcel Energy in Federal Regulatory Affairs, where I prepared tariff compliance and position documents submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), represented the company's positions on distributed energy resource issues at the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), and served as Chief Compliance Officer for FERC Standards of Conduct. Prior to my work in Federal Regulatory Affairs, I was the Manager of Substation Field Engineering, where I led a team of over 20 engineers who provided

45		field support for the maintenance of over 1200 substations in eight (8) states. Before
46		Xcel Energy, I held a variety of electric utility engineering and leadership roles at David
47		Evans and Associates and Salt River Project, both in Phoenix, Arizona.
48		I am a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and
49		the current Vice Chair of the IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) Technical Council.
50		In 2016, I served as Editor of the Substations Chapter of the 17th Edition of the
51		McGraw-Hill Standard Handbook for Electrical Engineers.
52	Q7.	Do you hold any professional licenses, <u>and</u> if so, which?
53	A7.	Yes. Two Credentials from the International Society of Arboriculture: Certified Arborist
54		& Utility Specialist and one from the Project Management Institute as a Project
55		Management Professional. , I am registered as a Professional Engineer (P.E.) in Electrical
56		Engineering by the State of Arizona.
57	Q8.	Have you previously testified or made presentations before the Energy Bureau?
58	<u>A8.</u>	<u>No</u>
59	A8.	Yes. I have testified in the following proceedings before this Energy Bureau:
60		a. In Re: Review of Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority's Comprehensive Vegetation
61		Management Program, Case No. NEPR-MI-2019-0005 in an August 13, 2021 Technical
62		Conference, and
63		b. In RE Review of LUMA's Initial Budgets, Case NEPR MI-2021-0004, in a September 13, 2022
64		Technical Conference.
65	Q9.	Which documents did you consider for your testimony?
66	A9.	I considered the following documents:
67		• LUMA's Revised Annex IX to the Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution

89		Comp	pleted.
88	Q11.	Please	e describe the performance metric for the Vegetation Maintenance Miles
87		Augus	st 1, 2022.
86		consid	deration in compliance with the Energy Bureau's Resolution and Order issued on
85		Maint	enance Miles Completed (230kV, 115kV, 39kV, primary Distribution Lines)" for
84		attenti	ion to an order of this Energy Bureau. LUMA is presenting "Vegetation
83		manag	gement that has been included in the Revised Annex IX to the T&D OMA in
82	A10.	The p	urpose of my testimony is to explain a performance metric for vegetation
81	Q10.	What	is the purpose of your Direct Testimony?
80			February 1 st , 2022, and April 27 th , 2022 .
79		•	My prior The testimonies by Mr. Brent Bolzenius, filed in this proceeding, filed on
78			November 17, 2021, and his testimony of March 22, 2022, filed in this proceeding
77		•	The written testimony of Agustín Irizarry provided on behalf of LECO on
76			NEPR-MI-2019-0005
75			Manejo de Vegetación de la Autoridad de Energía Eléctrica,
74			August 5, 2021, Case In re In Re: Revisión del Programa Comprensivo de
73		•	LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) filed with this Energy Bureau on
72			proceeding
71		•	The Revised Annex IX to the T&D OMA to be filed on October 28, 2022, in this
70		•	The T&D OMA
69			Energy Bureau on September 23, 2021, in this proceeding
68			System Operation and Maintenance Agreement (T&D OMA) filed with this

90	A11.	The metric monitors the number of line miles completed for vegetation maintenance
91		work each fiscal year along 230kV, 115kV, 38kV lines, and primary Distribution lines.

- Q12. Describe what type of vegetation maintenance work is included in this performance metric.
- 94 A12. Vegetation maintenance represents a continuous and repetitive process. These activities are classified into 3 categories:
 - Reactive: Work that cannot be planned or scheduled but requires immediate attention. This work is typically related to service interruptions and outages.
 - Corrective: Work that is difficult to plan for, but, once identified, can be efficiently scheduled. This work is generated by customer requests, LUMA operations and/or LUMA staff.
 - Preventative: Work that can be specifically planned for and prioritized, scheduled, and managed on a project basis. It represents the largest portion of Vegetation
 Management in the O&M budget.
 - Q13. What is the objective of the Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed performance metric?
 - A13. The objective is to reduce the impact of vegetation near electric utility infrastructure resulting in improvements in the safety & reliability of the Transmission & Distribution (T&D) system. As the metric will allow LUMA to track progress on the Vegetation Management Plan and incentivizes improved system safety and reliability by promoting vegetation maintenance along transmission and distribution lines, it is my position that if the Energy Bureau rules that a Vegetation Management metric should be added to the Revised Annex IX to the T&D OMA, this should be the metric utilized for vegetation

ļ13		management. I incorporate by reference my prior testimonies in this proceeding,
14		originally filed on February 1, 2022, and April 27th 27, 2022, where I explained by Mr.
15		Brent Bolzenius, and which I am filing with this Energy Bureau today, that explain
116		LUMA's position on vegetation management performance metrics suggested by
117		intervenors, including that vegetation management metrics are already included in the
118		SAIDI and SAIFI performance metrics.
119	Q14.	Explain how the performance metric on Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed
120		will result in improvements in the safety & reliability of the T&D system.
121	A14.	As Vegetation can often cause electrical outages in Puerto Rico, increasing the
122		Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed will assist in reducing interruptions of
123		electrical service in tandem with LUMA's other efforts to improve reliability in order to
124		provide safe and reliable service to LUMA's customers.
125	Q15.	Please describe the methodology for the performance metric on Vegetation
126		Maintenance Miles Completed.
127	A15.	The performance metric target takes into account projections of vegetation maintenance
128		miles possible to complete given the availability of resources, budgets, vegetation
129		conditions, and required day-to-day operational support.
130	Q16.	Explain why only primary Distribution lines were included in the metric.
31	A16.	Examples of secondary Distribution lines include street light service lines and pole to
32		housepole-to-house service drops, among others. These types of lines have a small
133		overall impact on the reliability of the system; and the maintenance miles data associated
134		with secondary Distribution lines are difficult to identify and track.

135	Q17.	What data did you examine was examined to develop the Vegetation Management
136		Metric?
37	A17.	I began with a review of First, the actual recent historical number of Vegetation
38		Maintenance Miles Completed was reviewed. Then, I considered LUMA's working
139		knowledge of the T&D system, existing vegetation conditions, and industry vegetation
40		management best practices was considered to project forward a reasonable target for
141		future performance.
42	Q18.	What considerations were made to determine the targets for 1,600 miles on in Year
43		1, 1,800 miles in Year 2, and 2,000 miles in Year 3?

144	A18	Historical data was used to set targets while considering empirical and working
45		knowledge of the T&D system. <u>IWe</u> considered that in Fiscal Year 2022, as described in
146		LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan, much of LUMA's vegetation management
147		activities were focused on reactive and corrective work in the first six months of
148		operations due to the overall condition of vegetation clearances on the T&D system. The
149		targets also consider that in quarters three and four of Fiscal Year 2022, LUMA initiated
150		and transitioned to more planned vegetation maintenance and reclamation as an
51		increasing amount of reactive and corrective work was resolved. <u>IWe</u> also considered the
152		ongoing transition from reactive and corrective work during Fiscal Year 2023 as the
53		portion of preventative planned preventative work to the total vegetation maintenance
154		work completed is increasing.
55		Finally, the targets consider that preventative planned preventative work generally
156		requires less time per mile to complete. Therefore, in future years as reactive work is
157		decreased year over year, LUMA will be able to increase its yearly Vegetation
158		Maintenance Miles Cleared target as reflected in the Revised Annex IX filing.
159	Q19.	Explain how the minimum performance levels were established?
60	A19.	Consistent with other metrics in LUMA's Revised Annex IX to the T&D OMA, the The
161		minimum performance is set at 10% of the annual target goal.
162	Q20.	What actions will LUMA take to meet the targets?
163	A20.	LUMA will continue to take several actions to meet the targets such as continuing to shift
164		from the reactive/corrective remediation measures to more preventative reclamation of
165		vegetation operations along the T&D system, continuing to seek and implement
166		operational improvements, and seeking opportunities to utilize federal funding sources.

167	Q21.	In brief, what are your recommendations?
168	A21.	It is recommended that if the Energy Bureau determines that a vegetation management
169		metric be included in the Revised Annex IX to the T&D OMA, the Energy Bureau adopt
170		the Vegetation Maintenance Miles Completed metric as proposed by LUMA in Annex
171		IX. The metric will allow LUMA to track progress on the VMP and incentivizes
172		improved system safety and reliability by promoting vegetation maintenance along
173		transmission and distribution lines.
174	Q22.	Does this complete your testimony?
175	A22.	Yes.

ATTESTATION

The prepared Direct Testimony constitutes my direct testimony in the above-styled case bef the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau. Affiant states that he would give the answers set forth in Direct Testimony if asked the questions that are included in the Direct Testimony. Affia further states state that the facts and statements provided herein is his direct testimony in Direct Testimony and to the best of his my knowledge are true and correct.	
	Brent Bolzenius Diane Watkins
Affidavit	No
Acknowl	edged and subscribed before me by Mr. Brent Bolzenius in his Mrs. Diane Watkin
her capa	city as Director Vice President, Vegetation and Work Management, LUMA End
ServCo I	LC, of legal age, singlemarried, and resident of Bayamón San Juan, Puerto Rico, wh
personall	y known to mel have identified through her Driver's License issued by the St
<u>Colorado</u>	, No. 14-212-1265.
In	Bayamón San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 28th 24 day of October 2022. January 2023

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

IN RE:

CASE NO.: NEPR-AP-2020-0025

PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR LUMA ENERGY SERVCO, LLC

Rebuttal Testimony of

MrMrs. Brent Bolzenius Diane Watkins

<u>Director Vice President</u>, Vegetation <u>& Work Management</u>, LUMA Energy ServCo LLC

February 1, 2022

January 24, 2023¹

¹ This testimony was initially submitted by Brent Bolzenius, LUMA's Director of Vegetation Management, on February 17, 2022.

- 1 Q. Please state your name.
- 2 A. My name is Brent Bolzenius Diane Watkins.
 - 3 Q. Please state your business mailing address, title, and employer.
- 4 A. My business mailing address is PO Box 363508, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-3508. I am
- 5 the <u>Vice President</u>, Director of Vegetation <u>& Work</u> Management for LUMA Energy <u>ServCo</u>
- 6 <u>LLC</u>.
 - 7 Q. Please state your educational background.
- 8 A. I hold a Bachelor Degree in Forestry fromgraduated from Arizona State University of
- 9 Missouri having graduated in December 2003. Lalso hold a Masters 1999 with a Bachelor
- of Science in Engineering (B.S.E.) degree in Electrical Engineering. I graduated again from
- 11 <u>Arizona State University in August 2007 with a Master</u> of Business Administration from
- 12 Black Hills State University having graduated in May 2014(M.B.A.) degree.
- 13 Q. Please state your professional experience.
- 14 A. I have approximately 18 over 20 years of professional experience in vegetation
- 15 management in the United Statesthe utility industry with multiple notable utilities. In
- 16 January 2021. In October 2022, I joined LUMA Energy as Vice President of Vegetation
- 17 and Work Management.
- 18 Q. Please describe your work experience prior to joining LUMA.
- 19 A. Prior to joining LUMALuma, I managed the overall vegetation programs at two of Xcel
- 20 Energy's operating companies in Colorado, Texas, and New Mexico. Furthermore, prior
- 21 to Xcel Energy, I spent over 5 years in a leadership role at Black Hills Energy, a utility
- 22 whose three vegetation programs over three states were centralized and where

Missouri and Aquilla (merged with Evergy) in Missouri. was the Director of Wildfire Mitigation at Xcel Energy in Denver, Colorado. In that role, I led the company's strategic development and execution of the wildfire mitigation plan. The plan included enhanced vegetation management practices, system hardening, and conservative operations in high-risk threat areas, among other activities. I also held a previous role at Xcel Energy in Federal Regulatory Affairs, where I prepared tariff compliance and position documents submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), represented the company's positions on distributed energy resource issues at the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), and served as Chief Compliance Officer for FERC Standards of Conduct. Prior to my work in Federal Regulatory Affairs, I was the Manager of Substation Field Engineering, where I led a team of over 20 engineers who provided field support for the maintenance of over 1200 substations in eight (8) states. Before Xcel Energy, I held a variety of electric utility engineering and leadership roles at David Evans and Associates and Salt River Project, both in Phoenix, Arizona. I am a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and the current Vice Chair of the IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) Technical Council. In 2016, I served as Editor of the Substations Chapter of the 17th Edition of the McGraw-Hill Standard Handbook for Electrical Engineers.

Q. Do you hold any professional licenses?

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46 47 Management Professional..., I am registered as a Professional Engineer (P.E.) in Electrical 48 Engineering by the State of Arizona. 49 Q. Have you previously testified or made presentations before the Puerto Rico Energy 50 Bureau? 51 Α. 52 Management Plan held on August 13, 2021No. On whose behalf are you testifying before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau? 53 Q. 54 My testimony is on behalf of LUMA as part of the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau ("Energy Α. 55 Bureau"), Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Board proceeding 56 Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025, the Performance Targets for LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC. 57 Q. Are there any exhibits attached to your testimony? 58 No. Α. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony? 59 Q. To respond to those portions of the pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry ("Mr. 60 Α. Irizarry") on behalf of the Local Environmental and Civil Organizations ("LECO"), filed on 61 November 16, 2021, in this proceeding, regarding his proposed metric on Enhanced 62 Vegetation Management. 63 Did you consider any documents for your rebuttal testimony? 64 Q. Yes, I did. 65 Α. Which documents did you consider for your rebuttal testimony? 66 Q.

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Α.

- a. LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets Revised filing submitted on September 24, 2021, in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025,
- b. The pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry of November 16, 2021, filed in this
 proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025 and his expert report, which is an exhibit
 of his pre-filed testimony,
 - c. The responses provided by Mr. Agustín Irizarry to LUMA's First and Second Sets of Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents notified on January 13, 2022, and
- d. The responses provided by Mr. Agustín Irizarry to the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau's Requirements for Information, notified on December 20, 2021.
- Q. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's proposal for the Energy Bureau to adopt a metric on enhanced vegetation management, as stated on page 25, lines 16-18 of his direct pre-filed testimony?
- 80 A. No.

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- 81 Q. Please explain your response.
- A. LUMA disagrees with such a proposal. First, an enhanced vegetation management incentive metric is not necessary. The existent operational metrics subject to incentives, such as SAIDI and SAIFI, will show any reduction of outages to customers and includes the results of a utility's vegetation management program. The addition of an enhanced vegetation management incentive metric, as proposed, would be duplicative without other technical metrics. It should also be noted that vegetation management incentive

metrics do not in themselves provide for better reliability to the customer, and a more comprehensive methodology like SAIDI and SAIFI is more appropriate.

Second, Mr. Irizarry's proposal is based on the California Public Utilities Commission's ("CPUC") adoption of safety performance metrics after it placed the Pacific Gas and Electric Company ("PG&E") into the first step of the CPUC's Enhanced Oversight and Enforcement Process. The CPUC's action was based on PG&E's failure to sufficiently prioritize clearing vegetation on its highest-risk power lines as part of its wildfire mitigation work in 2020. The metrics referenced for PG&E were additional parameters added after a wildfire. The CPUC designed the Enhanced Oversight and Enforcement Process as a condition for approving PG&E's plan for exiting bankruptcy in May 2020. These efforts to monitor PG&E were part of many actions the CPUC took with respect to PG&E's bankruptcy, system safety, and mitigating wildfire threats. The vegetation safety issues were very different from those encountered in Puerto Rico.

From an applicability standpoint, one state in the United States with particular circumstances or probationary measures due to a catastrophic event does not dictate that these incentive metrics are -relative or applicable forto Puerto Rico.

- Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's proposal on page 25, lines 16-18 of his pre-filed testimony, that the proposed metric should measure the electric miles lines annually subjected to tree trimming divided by the total electric line miles?
- 107 A. No.

Q.

- 108 Q. Please explain your response.
- 109 A. Mr. Irizarry's proposal tries to address a complex issue in a very simplistic way and fails

to consider other equally important factors. Meaningful aspects of a vegetation management program include safety, customers, outage events and frequency, tree density, schedules, and specific vegetation types, among other areas. Tracking one unit or metric will not directly correlate to the success of a whole vegetation management program. The purpose of any utility's vegetation management program is to manage vegetation to reduce outages to acceptable levels. The prevention of all vegetation-caused outages is nearly impossible. Tracking miles alone can focus on the most negligible amounts of required vegetation to capture "miles" while not targeting work on areas of greater vegetation densities and the most significant impact despite being associated with lower amounts of miles. The effects of unmanaged vegetation often have varied impacts on different types of transmission and distribution infrastructure beyond transmission and distribution lines. For example, outages caused by vegetation at other facilities, such as substations, can have a greater impact on a higher number of customers than on a remote distribution line in a remote area.

- Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 25, lines 16-18, of his pre-filed testimony that an enhanced vegetation management metric reduces voltage fluctuations, improves public safety, and eliminates damage to lines during storms?
- 127 A. No.

Q.

- 128 Q. Please explain your response.
- A. Mr. Irizarry's statement draws a direct correlation between vegetation management and the reduction of voltage fluctuations, which is not entirely correct. One single statistic alone does not speak to the success of the whole vegetation management program.

Tracking line miles in itself does not promote or eliminate outages during storms. Outages during a storm can occur for many reasons outside of vegetation (example: blowing debris, flooding, and broken infrastructure). Additionally, in general, the way to reduce vegetation outages and harden the grid during storms is to increase the clearances between conductors and vegetations, which is not addressed when solely addressing line miles. Further, voltage fluctuations are caused by a range of issues that are not solely the result of vegetation-related outages. They can be caused by but are not limited to insufficient generation or equipment failures due to historically neglected infrastructure.

- Do you have a response to Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 35, line 16, of his pre-filed testimony in which he states that the Energy Bureau has recognized the value of enhanced vegetation management?
- 144 A. Yes, I do.

Q.

- 145 Q. Please state and explain your response.
 - A. LUMA does not dispute the value of vegetation management programs. The Energy Bureau has a dedicated proceeding to vegetation management in Case No. NEPR-MI-2019-0005. LUMA has submitted a Vegetation Management Plan in said proceeding, which is currently before the Energy Bureau for its approval. However, this does not necessitate the need to earn an incentive in vegetation management. LUMA believes the Energy Bureau's monitoring of the vegetation management through the current docket (NEPR-MI-2019-0005) is a more constructive measure.
 - Q. Do you have a response to Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 35, line 17-21, that LUMA

- has refused to provide information on planned trimmed miles, trim acreage, and widening miles?
- 156 A. Yes, I do.

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157 Q. Please state and explain your response.

pre-filed testimony?

- 158 Α. Mr. Irizarry's characterization of LUMA's responses to the discovery requests issued by the Energy Bureau is improper. LUMA could not provide the requested information 159 160 during discovery to the Energy Bureau as this information had not been developed at the 161 time of the request. LUMA is open to regular reporting on agreed-upon information to 162 provide progress and effectiveness of LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan. Once 163 again, this does not require an incentive performance metric in vegetation management. 164 Q. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's proposal for the Energy Bureau to set penalties for 165 failure to fulfill the planned tasks, as stated on page 35, lines 21-23 of his direct
 - LUMA disagrees with Mr. Irizarry's proposal. LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan establishes the basis to transition from PREPA's practices into a more effective and efficient Vegetation Management Program and guides its management and organization. However, the implementation of LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan requires initial investments. It also requires continuous improvement through refinements and adjustments to accommodate changing objectives and conditions. The expectation is that implementation of the Vegetation Management Plan, over time, will reduce the cost and intensity of the vegetation management work required while at the same time improving system reliability and safety. Despite the effort to focus solely on

implementing and executing the Vegetation Management Plan, there are still times for more reactive and correct work as a result of outages, reliability, customer, public safety, or storm restoration to address conditions or critical/emergency circumstances. A penalty-based mechanism would incentivize the utility not to be agile and responsive to customer needs. It would result in incentivizing LUMA not to prioritize vegetation management work orders based on the circumstances at the time.

The Vegetation Management Plan recognizes that events will occur when planned preventive vegetation maintenance does not suffice, and corrective, agile, and

preventive vegetation maintenance does not suffice, and corrective, agile, and responsive maintenance will be required. The expectation is that, over time, corrective vegetation maintenance will be performed as necessary as a one-off exception rather than a mode of operation based on localized reliability issues. Also, reactive vegetation maintenance will occur in response to tree-initiated faults, interruptions, and outages.

Contrary to what Mr. Irizarry states in his responses to the discovery requests issued by the Energy Bureau, Puerto Rico is not under or subject to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) as it relates to vegetation management. FERC and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) requirements are generally only applicable for those lines greater than 200kV and part of the overall bulk electric system in the continental portions of North America. Since NERC does not have jurisdiction over Puerto Rico 's electric grid, there should not be any penalty to LUMA for not meeting

standards that are not applicable to the system LUMA is operating. "LUMA's Vegetation

⁴² NERC is a not-for-profit international regulatory authority responsible to administrate regulations and measurements to ensure the effectively operate the Bulk Electrical System ("BES") across the continental United States, Canada, and the northern portion of Baja California, Mexico. Puerto Rico is not part of the BES.

Management Plan for the high voltage transmission system (230 and 115 kV) will generally be aligned with the NERC standard."23 LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan cannot be converted to metrics and baselines, such as "trimmed and inspected miles for both the transmission and distribution system," as Mr. Irizarry proposes in his responses to the discovery requests issued by the Energy Bureau. The Vegetation Management Plan's purpose is not to supply metrics but to outline the strategy, processes, procedures, and timelines. Failure to complete any required tasks under LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan will not necessarily translate to customer impacts such as an immediate increase in voltage fluctuations, worse public safety or more damage to lines during storms. As such, the imposition of penalties would not promote the improvement of customer-centric outcomes. Does this complete your testimony?

Q.

208 Α. Yes.

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²³ LUMA's Vegetation Management Plan, page 20, https://energia.pr.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2021/04/Petition-Submitting-Vegetation-Management-Plan-Fina I-April-11-2021-NEPR-MI-2019-0005.pdf

ATTESTATION

Affiant, Mr. Brent Bolz following:	enius <u>Mrs. Diane Watkins</u> , be	ing first duly sworn, states the
Puerto Rico Energy Bureau. Rebuttal Testimony if asked t	Affiant states that hele wou the questions included in the statements provided herein	al in the above-styled case before a ld give the answers set forth in a e Rebuttal Testimony. Affiant furt are hismy rebuttal testimony and a
Bolzenius Diane Watkins		Brent
Watkins in her capacity as Di singlemarried, and resident of	rector of Vegetation Manag f Bayamón, <u>San Juan</u> Puerto	<mark>lr. Brent Bolzenius in his</mark> Mrs. Dia ement of LUMA Energy, of legal a Rico, who is personally known to r
	river's License issued by the S co, this 1st24 th day of Februar	<u>State Colorado, No. 14-212-1265</u> . y 2022 <u>January 2023</u> .
Public Notary		

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

CASE NO.: NEPR-AP-2020-0025

IN RE:

PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR LUMA ENERGY SERVCO, LLC

Rebuttal Testimony of

Direct Testimony of

MrMrs. Brent Bolzenius Diane Watkins

 $\underline{\mathsf{Director}}\underline{\mathsf{Vice}}\,\,\underline{\mathsf{President}},\,\mathsf{Vegetation}\,\,\underline{\&\,\,\mathsf{Work}}\,\,\underline{\mathsf{Management}},\,\mathsf{LUMA}\,\,\mathsf{Energy}\,\,\mathsf{ServCo}_{\underline{\iota}}\,\,\mathsf{LLC}$

April 27 January 24, 2022 2023¹

¹ This testimony was initially submitted by Brent Bolzenius, LUMA's Director of Vegetation Management, on April 27, 2022.

- 1 Q. Please state your name.
- 2 A. My name is Brent Bolzenius Diane Watkins.
 - 3 Q. Please state your business mailing address, title, and employer.
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- 5 the Director Vice President of Vegetation & Work Management for LUMA Energy ServCo,
- 6 <u>LLC</u>.
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- 18 Q. Please describe your work experience prior to joining LUMA.
- 19 A. Prior to joining LUMALuma, I managed the overall vegetation programs at two of Xcel
- 20 Energy's operating companies in Colorado, Texas, and New Mexico. Furthermore, prior
- to Xcel Energy, I spent over 5 years in a leadership role at Black Hills Energy, a utility
- 22 whose three vegetation programs over three states were centralized and where

23		tree-caused outages were reduced by 70% during my tenure. Prior roles included:
24		supervision of all vegetation management activities related to vegetation contractors,
25		their financial management, safety, and work planning at Ameren Union Electric in
26		Missouri and Aquilla (merged with Evergy) in Missouri. was the Director of Wildfire
27		Mitigation at Xcel Energy in Denver, Colorado. In that role, I led the company's strategic
28		development and execution of the wildfire mitigation plan. The plan included enhanced
29		vegetation management practices, system hardening, and conservative operations in
30		high-risk threat areas, among other activities. I also held a previous role at Xcel Energy in
31		Federal Regulatory Affairs, where I prepared tariff compliance and position documents
32		submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), represented the
33		company's positions on distributed energy resource issues at the Midcontinent
34		Independent System Operator (MISO), and served as Chief Compliance Officer for
35		FERC Standards of Conduct. Prior to my work in Federal Regulatory Affairs, I was the
36		Manager of Substation Field Engineering, where I led a team of over 20 engineers who
37		provided field support for the maintenance of over 1200 substations in eight (8) states.
38		Before Xcel Energy, I held a variety of electric utility engineering and leadership roles at
39		David Evans and Associates and Salt River Project, both in Phoenix, Arizona.
40		I am a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and
41		the current Vice Chair of the IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) Technical Council.
42		In 2016 I served as Editor of the Substations Chapter of the 17th Edition of the
43		McGraw-Hill Standard Handbook for Electrical Engineers.
44	Q.	Do you hold any professional licenses?
45	A.	Yes . Two credentials from the International Society of Arboriculture: Certified Arborist &

46		Utility Specialist and one from the Project Management Institute as a Project
47		Management Professional. , I am registered as a Professional Engineer (P.E.) in Electrical
48		Engineering by the State of Arizona.
49	Q.	Have you previously testified or made presentations before the Puerto Rico Energy
50		Bureau?
51	A.	Yes, I made a presentation during a Technical Conference on LUMA's Vegetation
52		Management Plan held on August 13, 2021. No
53	Q.	On whose behalf are you testifying before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau?
54	A.	My testimony is on behalf of LUMA as part of the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau ("Energy
55		Bureau"), Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Board proceeding
56		Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025, the Performance Targets for LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC.
57	Q.	Are there any exhibits attached to your testimony?
58	A.	No.
59	Q.	What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?
60	A.	To respond to those portions of the additional pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry
61		("Mr. Irizarry") on behalf of the Local Environmental and Civil Organizations ("LECO"),
62		filed on March 22, 2022, in this proceeding, regarding his proposed metric on Vegetation
63		Management.
64	Q.	Did you consider any documents for your rebuttal testimony?
65	A.	Yes, I did.
66	Q.	Which documents did you consider for your rebuttal testimony?

- a. LUMA's Performance Metrics Targets Revised filing submitted on September 24, 2021, in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025,
 - b. The pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry of November 16, 2021, filed in this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025 and his expert report, which is an exhibit of his pre-filed testimony,
- 72 c. The additional pre-filed testimony of Mr. Agustín Irizarry of March 22, 2022, filed in 73 this proceeding, Case No. NEPR-AP-2020-0025,
 - d. The responses provided by Mr. Agustín Irizarry to LUMA's First and Second Sets of Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents notified on January 13, 2022,
 - e. The responses provided by Mr. Agustín Irizarry to the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau's Requirements for Information notified on December 20, 2021, and
 - f. The responses provided by Mr. Agustín Irizarry to LUMA's Third Set of Interrogatories and Request for Production of Documents notified on April 21, 2022,
- Q. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's recommendations that LUMA should only be rewarded if its performance in the vegetation management area achieves a hard-to-reach target, as stated on page 13, lines 11-17 and 19-24 of his additional direct pre-filed testimony?

 A. No.
- 85 Q. Please explain your response.

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A. LUMA disagrees with such a recommendation. Vegetation management aims to ensure safe and reliable service to all customers regardless of access; limitations, or perceived

ease of access to vegetation work. Contrary to Mr. Irizzary's concerns, there are many "hard-to-reach targets" along roadside transmission and distribution infrastructure or within short distances of roads. Examples include vegetation located in back yards, and in urban areas where the only access points are through or over a home or building. Consequentially all equipment and debris must pass over or through the domicile to address the tree risktree-risk electrical conductors; or where vegetation is located roadside and where the conditions warrant multiple days of work to remediate risk to the overhead conductor. The Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution (T&D) System is fragile, and the vegetation conditions are poor across the entire island. Whether vegetation work is easily accessible or "hard-to-reach", LUMA is committed to finding the best way to completingcomplete the necessary vegetation work regardless if the targets are "hard-to-reach" or considered road-side-roadside. The work location is entirely subjective and should not be the only factor in setting goals.

- Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's recommendation that the Energy Bureau also require LUMA to identify the relative difficulty for vegetation maintenance for each line or region, as stated on page 13, lines 26, and page 14, lines 1-2 of his additional direct pre-filed testimony?
- 105 A. No.

Α.

Q.

- 106 Q. Please explain your response.
 - Mr. Irizarry's recommendation is impractical. The "relative difficulty" concept he proposes is entirely subjective. Moreover, Irizarry does not provide a basis for this "concept". There are no industry standards, definitions, or criteria for "relative

difficulty" in vegetation management. Additionally, the configuration of most electrical feeders or circuits will have a combination of roadside, backyard, and cross-country sections of line within the same feeder or circuit. Vegetation management on a day-to-day basis is not as categorically encapsulated as Mr. Irizarry tries to portray in his testimony. Mr. Irizzary's concerns that LUMA would only complete easily accessible work is incorrect, LUMA intends to address vegetation management work across the system regardless of the challenges, including access to specific work sites.

- Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 11, lines 14-24 of his additional pre-filed testimony that tree trimming of lines adjacent to roads and highways is easy as these lines are easy to reach than lines that cross mountainous regions?
- 120 A. No.

Α.

Q.

- 121 Q. Please explain your response.
 - Mr. Irizarry's statement characterizes vegetation management in such a manner that, based on what he implies, the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority should have had no problems managing vegetation in the past. The idea that tree trimming of lines adjacent to roads and highways is easy as these lines are easy to reach is incorrect. As stated before, "hard-to-reach targets" in vegetation management can be found everywhere and are not only limited to eross-mountainous regions. Mr. Irizarry's statement comes from a very simplistic understanding of vegetation management and fails to consider challenges present in "urban" vegetation management scenarios.
 - Q. Do you have a response to Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 10, lines 14-15, of his additional pre-filed testimony in which he states that vegetation management is

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- 133 A. Yes, I do.
- 134 Q. Please state and explain your response.
- A. Vegetation management is only one of several things that can impact customer service reliability. SAIFI and SAIDI are the metrics that directly indicate the reliability of service to customers and already captures capture the impact of vegetation management related to service reliability to customers, among many other outage causes. The addition of an enhanced vegetation management incentive metric is duplicative of other technical metrics, such as SAIDI & SAFI-and. It would lead to a situation where the metric would result in a redundant incentive structure.
 - Q. Do you agree with Mr. Irizarry's proposal on page 11, lines 1-10, of his additional pre-filed testimony that the Energy Bureau can set some metrics on LUMA's overall progress on vegetation management using as baselines and benchmarks the responses requested by the Energy Bureau in a discovery request?
- 146 A. No.

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- 147 Q. Please state and explain your response.
- A. LUMA believes that metrics regarding vegetation management are already incorporated in the SAIDI and SAIFI metrics performance. Therefore, adding vegetation management metrics would be a duplicative, and overly prescriptive effort that would incentivize less than cost-effective spending on reliability improvement.
- The objectives of most utility vegetation management programs are to address vegetation in both short-term reliability and long-term cost control. Compliance-based

154		programs typically address the short-term reliability for compliance with regulations and
155		not the best value or use of available resources and budgets.
156	Q.	Do you have a response to Mr. Irizarry's statement on page 11, lines 8-10, of his
157		additional pre-filed testimony in which he states that the Energy Bureau should avoid
158		setting a compliance benchmark and, even more so, a target that offers an incentive,
159		that is a global percentage based on all lines?
160	A.	Yes, I do.
161	Q.	Please state and explain your response.
162	A.	This would not be good for Puerto Rico. These "commission-based" specifications
163		typically, in both the short and long run, tend to raise the cost of service; and usually fail
164		to fully identify or remediate the risks associated with vegetation management along
165		electrical lines.
166	Q.	Does this complete your testimony?
167	A.	Yes.

ATTESTATION

follo	Affiant, Mr. Brent Bolzenius Mrs. Diane Water Diane Water Brent Bolzenius Mrs. Diane Water Bolzenius Mrs. Diane Mrs.	tkins, being first duly sworn, states the
in the give the R	prepared Rebuttal Testimony Rebuttal Testimor he above-styled case before the Puerto Rico E the answers set forth in the Rebuttal Testimon Rebuttal Testimony. Affiant I further states state his is the rebuttal testimony and to the best of mis knowledge.	Energy Bureau. Affiant states that he wo ny if asked the questions that are included that the facts and statements provided her
		Brent Bolzenia
		<u>Diane Watkins</u>
Affic	davit No.	
capac of le	mowledged and subscribed before me by Mr. Bracity as Director of Vice President, Vegetation Negal age, singlemarried, and resident of Bayam wn to me have identified through her Driver' 212-1265.	Management -of , LUMA Energy <u>ServCo L</u> nón <u>San Juan</u> , Puerto Rico, who is person
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<u>14-2</u> :	In San Juan Bayamón, Puerto Rico, this 27 th 2	<u>24</u> day of April 2022 <u>January, 2023</u> .
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Add	66
Delete	44
Move From	0
Move To	0
Table Insert	0
Table Delete	0
Table moves to	0
Table moves from	0
Embedded Graphics (Visio, ChemDraw, Images etc.)	0
Embedded Excel	0
Format changes	0
Total Changes:	110