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STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: DA 22-0064

Exhibit I

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ATTORNEYS FOR PROPOSED RESPONDENT-INTERVENOR

MONTANA SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, ROSEBUD COUNTY

MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL)	Case No. DV-19-34
INFORMATION CENTER, and SIERRA)	
CLUB,)	Judge: Hon. Katherine M. Bidegaray
)	
Petitioners,)	
)	
v.)	DECLARATION OF SHANNON
)	BROWN
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF)	
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY,)	
MONTANA BOARD OF)	
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW, WESTERN)	
ENERGY CO., NATURAL RESOURCE)	
PARTNERS, L.P., INTERNATIONAL)	
UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS,)	
LOCAL 400, and NORTHERN)	
CHEYENNE COAL MINERS)	
ASSOCIATION,)	
)	
Respondents,)	
)	
and)	
)	
TALEN MONTANA, LLC,)	
)	
Proposed Respondent-Intervenor.)	

I, Shannon Brown, declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

1. I am over 18 years of age.
2. I reside in Montgomery County, Texas.
3. I make this Declaration in support of Talen Montana, LLC's ("Talen Montana")

Motion to Intervene as Respondent.

4. I make this Declaration based upon personal knowledge. The basis of my personal knowledge is as follows: Since May 2018, I have served as senior director of asset management at Talen Energy Supply, LLC ("Talen"), an indirect corporate parent of Talen Montana. In that capacity, I have represented Talen Montana on various committees relating to Units 3 and 4 of the Colstrip Steam Electric Station ("Units 3&4"), including committees providing oversight for the supply of coal to Units 3&4 and the operation of Units 3&4. My responsibilities related to coal supply include profit and loss of the power generation, coal supply contract negotiations, managing commercial and contractual issues arising under Talen Montana's coal supply agreement, approving invoices, and otherwise administering the coal supply agreement between Talen Montana and Westmoreland Rosebud Mining, LLC ("Westmoreland"). Through my role, I have gained extensive knowledge and experience regarding Unit 3&4's coal needs and the supply of coal from Rosebud Mine to Units 3&4.

5. The Colstrip Steam Electric Station ("CSES") is a coal-fired power plant in Colstrip, Montana that depends on coal to generate power. CSES Units 1&2 were retired in early 2020. Units 3&4 are the remaining active coal-fired units, and they each have a net generating capacity of approximately 740 MW. Units 3&4's current capacity is therefore approximately 1,480 MW.

6. Talen Montana is the operator and a co-owner of Units 3&4. Talen Montana's ownership interest is 30% of Unit 3.

7. As operator of Units 3&4, Talen Montana is responsible for day-to-day operations and power generation activities, long-term scheduling and planning, compliance with permits, management of environmental liabilities, and otherwise acting on behalf of the Units 3&4 co-owners.

8. NorthWestern Corporation (d/b/a NorthWestern Energy) is another co-owner of CSES Units 3&4.

9. A significant amount of Talen Montana's and NorthWestern Energy's power generated by CSES Units 3&4 is supplied to Montana customers, including homeowners, commercial and industrial facilities, municipalities, and other customers.

10. Rosebud Mine has been and is currently the exclusive supplier of coal to Units 3&4. CSES Units 3&4 typically burn 500,000 to 600,000 tons of coal per month.

11. With respect to Talen Montana's ownership interest in Units 3&4 specifically, Talen Montana and Westmoreland currently have a contract in place through 2025 requiring Westmoreland to supply coal from Rosebud Mine to Units 3&4. The contract is a full requirements contract obligating Westmoreland to supply all coal required by Talen Montana for its interest in Units 3&4. Talen Montana is obligated to purchase from Westmoreland all coal for its interest in Units 3&4, with a limited exception for test burns of coal from other mines.

12. Without sufficient coal supply from Rosebud Mine to CSES, Units 3&4 will be unable to run at full capacity. If the coal supply from Rosebud Mine is completely halted, CSES has only about 25-30 days of coal stored on-site, meaning that Unit 3&4 operations could cease in a month or less.

13. Talen Montana's ability to obtain replacement coal for CSES Units 3&4 is extremely limited. Talen Montana does not have rail unloading facilities that would enable transport of coal to CSES by rail, and any construction of such facilities would take significant time and would be extremely expensive. Trucking coal to CSES presents other logistical challenges related to transporting large volumes of coal over long distances. Further, Talen Montana would need to do test burns for any new alternative coal source to assess its viability for combustion at CSES Units 3&4.

14. If CSES Units 3&4 operations cease or are substantially curtailed, Talen Montana's corporate affiliates that supply power from Units 3&4 to the market may not be able to meet their existing contractual obligations to Montana customers.

15. Moreover, it is unclear how reliably Montana customers or Talen Montana will be able to obtain replacement power from other sources. The ability to obtain replacement power is complicated by recent retirements of other coal-fired power plants in the region as well as increased reliance in Montana and elsewhere on non-dispatchable renewable energy sources that cannot be turned "on and off" to meet demand. Additionally, the drought has limited the supply of hydropower in the west and hydropower may be further limited in the winter months due to freezing temperatures.

16. At minimum, reducing or eliminating Units 3&4 operations as a result of coal supply issues is likely to result in increased energy prices. Shutting down Units 3&4 operations would also have a direct impact on the approximately 250 employees at CSES.

17. In the worst case, in the event of surging energy demand due to winter weather event, brown outs or black outs could result and some Montana residents could lose at least

temporary access to power. The longer that Units 3&4 remains out of operation or operates at a reduced capacity, the more likely it is that replacement power will not be consistently available.

18. The other Units 3&4 co-owners distribute power from Units 3&4 outside the state of Montana, so the impacts of shutting down or reducing Units 3&4 capacity would be felt outside of Montana as well.

Executed this 12th day of November, 2021.



Shannon Brown