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EXHIBIT NO. 4

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Northern Indiana Public Service Company LLC  
Indiana Crossroads Wind Generation LLC

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EXHIBITS

VERIFIED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF PATRICK N. AUGUSTINE

1 Q1. Please state your name, professional position, and business address.

2 A1. My name is Patrick N. Augustine. I am a Principal in Charles River Associates'  
3 Energy Practice. My business address is 1201 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20004.

4 Q2. On whose behalf are you submitting this direct testimony?

5 A2. I am submitting this testimony on behalf of Northern Indiana Public Service  
6 Company LLC ("NIPSCO").

7 Q3. Please briefly describe your educational and business experience.

8 A3. I received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard University and received a  
9 Master of Environmental Management degree from the Nicholas School of the  
10 Environment at Duke University. I have been employed by Charles River  
11 Associates ("CRA") for four years and have worked in the energy consulting  
12 industry for over thirteen years. Prior to joining CRA, I worked at Pace Global  
13 Energy Services, now a Siemens business, for over nine years, performing the roles  
14 of analyst, project manager, and director. At CRA, in my role as Principal I oversee  
15 the maintenance of the firm's power market modeling tools and processes, I

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1 manage consulting assignments in the power and utilities sectors, and I supervise  
2 junior staff in performing market, policy, and strategic analyses for our clients.

3 **Q4. Please describe CRA and the work you perform in more detail.**

4 A4. CRA is a consulting firm that offers economic, financial, and strategic expertise to  
5 support our clients in business decisions, regulatory and litigation proceedings,  
6 and market and policy analysis. My professional experience within CRA's energy  
7 practice has focused on power market analysis and utility resource planning work  
8 to support project developers, electric utilities, investors, and lenders in energy  
9 market forecasting, power asset valuation, and utility portfolio planning. This  
10 work involves energy market research and analysis and the use of market models,  
11 particularly those that simulate the competitive electric power markets and those  
12 used for electric utility portfolio dispatch analysis and cost accounting.

13 **Q5. Have you previously testified before this or any other regulatory commission?**

14 A5. Yes. I previously filed testimony before the Indiana Utility Regulatory  
15 Commission ("Commission") in Cause No. 45194 (NIPSCO / Rosewater joint  
16 petition for approval of Rosewater Project); Cause No. 45195 (NIPSCO request for  
17 approval of Jordan Creek Wind Power Purchase Agreement); Cause No. 45196  
18 (NIPSCO request for approval of Roaming Bison Wind Power Purchase

1 Agreement); and Cause No. 45159 (NIPSCO request for approval to, among other  
2 things, modify its rates and charges for electric utility service. I have also provided  
3 testimony and appeared before the Kentucky Public Service Commission with  
4 regard to an application for approval of an environmental compliance plan and  
5 associated cost recovery in Case No. 2012-00063; on behalf of a power generating  
6 asset owner before the Michigan Public Service Commission in the course of a  
7 Certificate of Need proceeding in Case No. U-17429; and before the Public Utilities  
8 Commission of Ohio with regard to the power market forecasts used in a  
9 distribution modernization plan in Case No. 18-1875-EL-GRD.

10 **Q6. What is the purpose of your direct testimony in this proceeding?**

11 A6. The purpose of my testimony is to discuss the preferred portfolio from NIPSCO's  
12 Integrated Resource Plan submitted October 31, 2018 (the "2018 IRP") and how  
13 the assumptions associated with the new wind resource options modeled in the  
14 2018 IRP compare with the cost of NIPSCO's investment in a wind generation joint  
15 venture, Indiana Crossroads Wind Generation LLC (the "Joint Venture").

16 **Q7. Are you sponsoring any attachments to your direct testimony?**

17 A7. Yes. I am sponsoring the public version of NIPSCO's 2018 IRP, attached hereto as  
18 Attachment 4-A. NIPSCO hired CRA to perform the analysis and modeling for

1 the IRP, and the portfolio analysis produced in Section 9 of the IRP was prepared  
2 by me or under my direction and supervision.

3 **Q8. Please provide an overview of NIPSCO's preferred portfolio from the 2018 IRP**  
4 **and how it was developed.**

5 A8. NIPSCO's preferred portfolio retires all four coal units at the R.M. Schahfer  
6 Generating Station ("Schahfer") in 2023 and retires the Michigan City Generating  
7 Station ("Michigan City") coal plant in 2028. The preferred portfolio includes the  
8 following capacity replacements over time: 125 megawatts ("MW") of energy  
9 efficiency and demand side management peak load savings by 2023, growing to  
10 370 MW by 2038; approximately 1,100 MW of installed capacity ("ICAP")<sup>1</sup> wind  
11 representing 157 MW of unforced capacity ("UCAP")<sup>2</sup> entering into service in 2020  
12 and 2021; approximately 2,100 MW of ICAP solar representing about 1,050 MW of  
13 UCAP in 2023, along with additional generic solar over the long-term; and 175  
14 MW of ICAP solar plus storage capacity representing approximately 90 MW of

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<sup>1</sup> Installed capacity or ICAP represents the nameplate capacity of a resource and the maximum amount of output that can be produced at any given time.

<sup>2</sup> Unforced capacity or UCAP represents the expected capacity available during the system peak. For renewable resources, MISO relies on historical operational data during peak hours or generic planning numbers based on a system-wide effective load carrying capability analysis. The 2018 IRP developed UCAP numbers based on bidder responses to the All-Source RFP (where available) and generic estimates of approximately 15% of ICAP for wind resources and 50% of ICAP for solar resources.

1 UCAP in 2023. Section 9.3 of the 2018 IRP provides additional detail associated  
2 with the preferred replacement portfolio.

3 The plan was developed through substantial quantitative and qualitative analysis,  
4 including the use of an all-source request for proposal ("All-Source RFP")  
5 solicitation (discussed in greater detail by Witness Lee) to identify the most  
6 relevant types of resources available in the market, along with their associated  
7 costs. Within the 2018 IRP, NIPSCO performed retirement and replacement  
8 assessments using robust scenario and risk-based (stochastic) analyses and scored  
9 the various portfolio alternatives against a number of cost, risk, environmental,  
10 and reliability metrics to arrive at the preferred portfolio. NIPSCO also evaluated  
11 the impact each of the retirement and replacement alternatives would have on  
12 local communities and NIPSCO's employees.

13 **Q9. Please provide an overview of the 2018 IRP's Short Term Action Plan as it relates**  
14 **to the replacement resources in the preferred portfolio.**

15 **A9.** Part of the Short Term Action Plan, which is outlined in detail in Section 9.4 of the  
16 2018 IRP, relates to selecting and acquiring replacement projects to fill the capacity  
17 gap that develops as a result of the planned retirements in 2023 in the preferred  
18 portfolio. In the Short Term Action Plan, NIPSCO identified a phased-in approach

1 to selecting and acquiring these replacement resources. The plan calls for initially  
2 prioritizing replacement resources with expiring or declining tax credits, followed  
3 by another All-Source RFP to acquire resources to fill the remainder of the 2023  
4 supply requirement. The prioritized replacement resources are wind projects  
5 looking to qualify for the federal production tax credit ("PTC"), which is expiring  
6 over the next few years, as described in more detail by Witness Campbell. The  
7 prioritization of these resources in the Short Term Action Plan is based on the 2018  
8 IRP's finding that procuring wind resources that qualify for the PTC saves  
9 customers nearly \$500 million on a net present value basis compared to a portfolio  
10 that relies solely on solar plus storage resources to fill the 2023 capacity gap.

11 **Q10. What specific wind resources were included in NIPSCO's preferred portfolio?**

12 A10. The preferred portfolio included two wind resource additions. The first was an  
13 asset acquisition of 600 MW of ICAP (90 MW of UCAP) in 2020. The second was  
14 a power purchase agreement ("PPA") of 501 MW of ICAP (67 MW of UCAP) in  
15 2021.

16 **Q11. How did NIPSCO use the All-Source RFP to determine the cost and operational**  
17 **performance assumptions of wind resources in its IRP?**

18 A11. As part of the IRP input development process, CRA organized the various bids

1 received in the All-Source RFP into groupings or tranches according to technology,  
2 whether the bid was for a PPA or an asset acquisition, the bid's commitment  
3 duration, and the bid's costs and operational characteristics. This approach  
4 allowed for the efficient development of planning-level assumptions that could be  
5 transparently shared with stakeholders and deployed in the IRP models. This  
6 process resulted in the development of distinct wind sale and PPA tranches, which  
7 were eligible to be selected in the portfolio analysis in part or as a whole block of  
8 capacity. Section 4-10 of the 2018 IRP describes this process in more detail.

9 **Q12. What specific assumptions were used for the wind tranches that were selected**  
10 **in the preferred plan in the 2018 IRP?**

11 A12. The asset acquisition of 600 MW of ICAP (90 MW of UCAP) was assumed to enter  
12 into service in the middle of 2020, with an acquisition price of \$1,442/kilowatt  
13 ("kW") (in 2020 dollars) and a capacity factor of approximately 41%. Fixed  
14 operations and maintenance ("FOM") costs were assumed to be approximately  
15 \$42/kW-yr (in 2017 dollars), with ongoing capital expenditures of \$11/kW-yr (in  
16 2017 dollars). Property taxes were assumed to be 2.16% of the net book value of  
17 the plant over time. The PPA of 501 MW of ICAP (67 MW of UCAP) was assumed  
18 to enter into service in the middle of 2021 with a twenty-year contract duration, a

1 fixed nominal PPA price of \$25.54/MWh, and a capacity factor of approximately  
2 42%.

3 **Q13. Are you able to compare the total cost of the Joint Venture with the total costs**  
4 **of these tranche-level inputs used in the 2018 IRP modeling?**

5 A13. Yes. I made such a comparison through the development of a levelized cost of  
6 electricity ("LCOE") calculation for each of the 2018 IRP resource options and the  
7 302.4 MW Joint Venture. The LCOE develops a levelized, all-in cost of a given  
8 resource option over a pre-defined analysis period on a per MWh basis. This  
9 approach allows for a direct comparison of the costs of the different wind projects  
10 over an extended time frame by distilling all key parameters related to costs and  
11 operational performance into a single dollar per MWh number.

12 **Q14. Please explain the inputs that are required to perform an LCOE calculation.**

13 A14. For an owned resource, the following input parameters are included: the  
14 acquisition cost of the project in dollars per kW, adjusted for the contribution of a  
15 tax equity partner that can realize the benefits of federal tax incentives; NIPSCO's  
16 weighted average cost of capital ("WACC") and capital structure projected as of  
17 December 31, 2019; the expected FOM costs and ongoing capital expenditures over  
18 the thirty-year planning horizon; the expected property taxes over time; cash



1        payments to the tax equity partner; and the expected generation output in MWh  
2        for the resource over time.

3        For a PPA resource, the following input parameters are included: the PPA price in  
4        dollars per MWh over the term of the contract; the expected generation output in  
5        MWh for the resource over time; and the expected market cost to replace the  
6        generation output after the expiration of the PPA contract term if it falls within the  
7        thirty-year planning horizon. The expected difference between the nodal price at  
8        the project and NIPSCO's load node is an input for both owned and PPA resources  
9        in order to quantify the expected congestion risk over time, as discussed further  
10       by Witness Campbell.

11    **Q15. What LCOE values did you calculate for the two wind resource tranches**  
12       **incorporated in the 2018 IRP's preferred portfolio?**

13    A15. The thirty-year LCOE of the 2020 wind acquisition was calculated to be  
14       \$38.99/MWh, based on the acquisition price, capacity factor, FOM costs, ongoing  
15       capital expenditures, and property taxes summarized above and an assumed  
16       thirty-year project life. The thirty-year LCOE of the 2021 wind PPA was calculated  
17       to be \$32.63/MWh based on the twenty-year PPA price summarized above plus an  
18       additional ten years of market-based energy costs to evaluate the total cost of

energy over the full planning horizon.

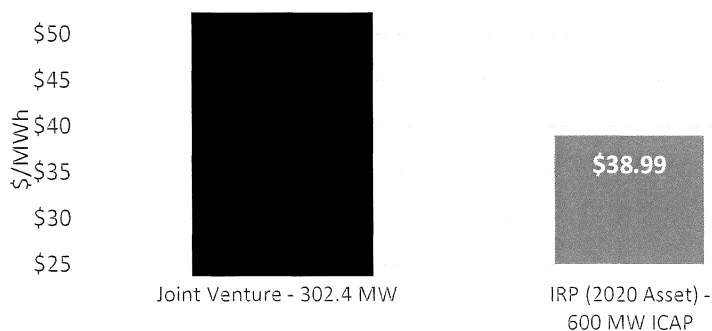
**Q16. What LCOE values did you calculate for the Joint Venture?**

A16. The thirty-year LCOE of the Joint Venture was calculated to be \$[REDACTED]/MWh. This is based on an acquisition cost of \$1,690/kW, a capacity factor of [REDACTED]%, and a thirty-year project life.

**Q17. How does the LCOE value for the owned wind resource tranche incorporated in the 2018 IRP's preferred portfolio compare with the LCOE of the Joint Venture?**

A17. Figure 1 illustrates that the LCOE of the Joint Venture is above the LCOE of the owned resource tranche by \$[REDACTED]/MWh. This premium is driven largely by the difference between 100% PTC eligibility for 2020 projects assumed in the IRP and 80% PTC eligibility for 2021 projects such as the Joint Venture.

**Figure 1. Levelized cost of wind energy**



1   **Q18. What is the expected impact of the premium versus the IRP owned resource**  
2       **tranche on a net present value of revenue requirements ("NPVRR") basis?**

3   A18. For all of the expected MWh generated by the Joint Venture wind project over a  
4       thirty year time period, a \$[REDACTED]/MWh premium would equate to approximately  
5       [REDACTED] in NPVRR for NIPSCO. This represents about [REDACTED]% of the total  
6       projected \$500 million in customer savings that can be realized through the  
7       addition of PTC-eligible wind to NIPSCO's portfolio, approximately 800 MW of  
8       which have already been approved by the Commission at costs fully  
9       commensurate with the IRP assumptions.

10   **Q19. How does the relief requested in this proceeding support the conclusions of the**  
11       **2018 IRP and its Short Term Action Plan?**

12   A19. The operational and cost characteristics of the Joint Venture are broadly consistent  
13       with the assumptions for new wind resources used in the 2018 IRP, which  
14       developed a preferred portfolio with approximately 1,100 MW (ICAP) of wind  
15       additions in the 2020-2021 time period. On an LCOE basis, the cost of the Joint  
16       Venture is higher than the comparable owned resource tranche in the 2018 IRP,  
17       although this difference only amounts to an expected increase in the NPVRR of  
18       approximately \$[REDACTED], which is far less than the savings associated with

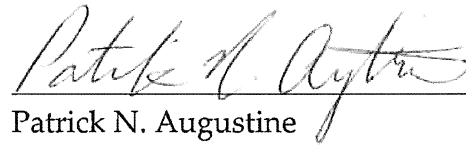
1 early wind additions projected for NIPSCO's customers in the 2018 IRP's preferred  
2 portfolio. Furthermore, the generation-weighted average LCOE of this project  
3 plus the three wind projects previously approved by the Commission for NIPSCO  
4 (\$[REDACTED]/MWh) is only about \$2/MWh higher than the average LCOE of the two  
5 wind tranches used in the 2018 IRP (\$36.07/MWh). The Short Term Action Plan  
6 called for prioritizing the acquisition of such wind projects prior to the phase-out  
7 of the PTC based on the finding that this produces substantial savings for  
8 NIPSCO's customers. Thus, the addition of the Joint Venture to NIPSCO's  
9 portfolio in 2021 is fully supportive of and consistent with the conclusions of the  
10 2018 IRP and the recommended Short Term Action Plan.

11 **Q20. Does this conclude your prefiled direct testimony?**

12 A20. Yes.

## VERIFICATION

I, Patrick N. Augustine, Principal at Charles River Associates, affirm under penalties of perjury that the foregoing representations are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

  
Patrick N. Augustine

Dated: October 22, 2019