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January 18, 2005

## VIA FACSIMILE AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Ms. Annette Taylor Legal Secretary Oregon Public Utility Commission 550 Capitol Street NE, Suite 215 PO Box 2148 Salem, OR 97308-2148

te: UM 1121 – Applicants' Response to Motion to Lift Protective Order

Dear Ms. Taylor:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket are the original and five copies of Applicants' Response to Motion to Lift Protective Order.

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

frush Wallace

Sårah K. Wallace

Enclosure

cc: UM 1121 Service List

PORTLAND

SEATTLE

271382/1/JAC/102215-0001

1 BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION 2 OF OREGON 3 **UM 1121** 4 5 In the Matter of 6 OREGON ELECTRIC UTILITY COMPANY, LLC. APPLICANTS' RESPONSE TO et al., MOTION TO LIFT PROTECTIVE 7 ORDER Application for Authorization to Acquire Portland 8 General Electric Company 9 10 Oregon Electric Utility Company, LLC, et al. ("Applicants"), respectfully submit this 11 response to the "Motion to Lift Protective Order" (the "Motion") filed by Portland Building 12 Owners and Managers Association ("BOMA") on December 27, 2004. Applicants' response is 13 supported by the Declaration of James M. Barrett ("Barrett Decl."), filed herewith. 14 INTRODUCTION 15 BOMA's Motion requests that the Commission: (1) lift the Protective Order in its 16 entirety; or, in the alternative, (2) declassify CUB/100, 105-110, and 112. Both requests are 17 inappropriate. BOMA's challenge to the entry of a protective order in UM 1121 is untimely by 18 more than nine months. Until now, BOMA opposed neither Applicants' March 8, 2004 request 19 for a protective order, nor the Administrative Law Judge's ("ALJ's") March 10, 2004 ruling that 20 granted that request. By failing to object to the protective order at the appropriate time, BOMA 21 ratified it and, as a result, its request to lift the order in its entirety must be denied. 22 With respect to BOMA's alternative request to declassify CUB/100, 105-110, and 112, 23 Chief ALJ Grant already noted that Applicants appear to have satisfied the request by voluntarily 24 declassifying confidential documents on January 10, 2005. Applicants agree with Judge Grant 25 that BOMA's alternative request has been satisfied and is now moot.

26

#### **BACKGROUND FACTS**

Applicants filed a Motion for Protective Order on March 8, 2004, concurrently with their application to exercise influence over Portland General Electric. No party filed an opposition to Applicants' request. See Barrett Decl. at ¶ 2.

On March 10, 2004, the ALJ entered a Standard Protective Order. *See* Order No. 04-139, UM 1121. Any party could have appealed the Order pursuant to OAR 860-014-0091. *Id.* No party appealed the Order. *See Barrett Decl. at* ¶ 3.

Section 15 of the Standard Protective Order set out a procedure by which any party could have challenged the designation of particular information or documents as confidential. BOMA made no use of this procedure at any time with respect to any documents, including those specified in this Motion. See Barrett Decl. at  $\P 4$ .

The ALJ held an evidentiary hearing on October 20 and 21, 2004. The parties generally stipulated to the admission of each other's testimony and exhibits, and such stipulations at the very least implicitly included a waiver of objections regarding confidentiality designations. For example, ICNU and CUB objected to the confidentiality designation of certain information not at issue here before stipulating to its admission. *See* Hearing Tr. at 192:7-197:23; *Post-hearing Report*, UM 1121 (Oct. 26, 2004). The ALJ resolved those objections and closed the evidentiary record. *Id.* BOMA's counsel attended the evidentiary hearing and did not raise any objections to confidentiality designations. *See Barrett Decl. at* ¶ 5.

On January 5, 2005, the Willamette Week newspaper published excerpts of confidential documents that an intervenor improperly had disclosed. Applicants believe that the published excerpts were used in a misleading fashion. On January 10, 2005, Applicants declassified the confidential documents so that the public could evaluate them fairly and in context. The declassified documents include CUB/105 through CUB/110 and CUB/112, all of which are at issue here. See Barrett Decl. at  $\P$  6; Ex. A.

#### **ARGUMENT**

The ALJ should reject BOMA's request that the ALJ certify its Motion to the full commission. As demonstrated below, not only are some issues moot, the ALJ has all the authority it needs to consider and reject the Motion. *See* OAR 860-012-0035(g) (ALJ has authority to decide procedural matters).

I. THE ALJ'S DECISION TO ENTER A STANDARD PROTECTIVE ORDER IN UM 1121 WAS PROPER, AND BOMA CANNOT CHALLENGE IT NOW.

BOMA first attacks the legitimacy of the protective order entered in this docket, baldly asserting that "neither the Commission nor the ALJ considering the motion for a protective order required the Applicants to bring forth substantial evidence in support of the motion" and that the ALJ entered an order "without a factual analysis of the evidence and findings of fact." *Motion at 2*. BOMA's challenge lacks merit and is untimely.

The ALJ was authorized to enter a protective order in this docket, if only to facilitate discovery. See OAR 860-012-0035(k). The Commission's rules required BOMA to file a timely opposition to either the Applicants' motion for a protective order or the ALJ's ruling on that motion (if not both). See OAR 860-013-0050(2)(d) (allowing 15 days to respond to a motion); OAR 860-014-0091(2) (allowing 10 days to request certification of an ALJ ruling). BOMA chose to do nothing and cannot now, nine months later, attack the validity of an order that all parties have relied upon to protect their confidential information. See Zenith Radio Corp. v. Matsushita Elec. Industrial Co. ("Zenith Radio"), 529 F. Supp. 866, 875 (E.D. Pa. 1981)

The Commission has explained that the primary by-product, if not a purpose, of the protective order is to facilitate discovery by avoiding document-by-document battles over protection, and "if a judge, magistrate, or special master had to rule upon countless invocations of [the civil rules protecting confidential information] the progress of complex cases would be severely impeded." See Re Investigation into the Cost of Providing Telecommunications Services, UM 351, Order No. 91-500 (Apr. 21, 1991).

(party ratifies protective order by failing to challenge it and allowing other parties to designate voluminous documents as confidential without objection).<sup>2</sup>

Moreover, BOMA's eleventh-hour request for wholesale declassification is highly disruptive and would require the parties to engage in the time-consuming and expensive task of briefing each decision to protect a document. BOMA has the burden of justifying such an extraordinary undertaking. See Zenith Radio, 529 F. Supp. at 893 ("A party seeking wholesale declassification must first attempt to justify the investment of judicial and private resources demanded by such an exercise."). Far from meeting that burden, BOMA's counsel conceded that, prior to filing this Motion, she had "only read some of the documents" filed in this docket. See Barrett Decl. at ¶ 7, Ex. B (emphasis added). In other words, BOMA apparently has never taken the time to review the evidentiary record to determine the accuracy of its claims regarding alleged "inconsistencies" between Applicants' public statements and confidential material, even though those claims are the basis for its Motion. See Motion at 2. The Commission must ignore a motion that, in blatant disregard of its rules, is not based on "the best of the knowledge, information, and belief of [BOMA's counsel], formed after reasonable inquiry." OAR 860-013-0065(b).

# II. BOMA'S CHALLENGE TO THE CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS OF CUB/100, 105-110, AND 112 IS MOOT

On January 11, 2005, Chief ALJ Grant issued a ruling allowing Applicants additional time to respond to this Motion in part because Applicants had appeared to satisfy BOMA's alternative request to declassify specific documents by voluntarily making those documents available to the public. *See Ruling*, UM 1121 (Jan. 11, 2005). Judge Grant further observed:

Zenith Radio is not an Oregon case and was decided under federal law. However, the Oregon Court of Appeals cited it as providing guidance in "determining whether material that has become part of a judicial record should remain subject to a protective order." Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon v. Oregon Public Utility Commission, 128 Or. App. 650, 660 (1994).

stipulations at the very least implicitly included a waiver of objections regarding confidentiality designations. For example, ICNU and CUB objected to the confidentiality designation of certain information before stipulating to its admission. *See* Hearing Tr. at 192:7-197:23; *Post-hearing Report*, UM 1121 (Oct. 26, 2004). The ALJ resolved those objections and closed the evidentiary record. *Id.* BOMA's counsel attended the evidentiary hearing and did not raise any objections to confidentiality designations.

- 6. On January 5, 2005, the Willamette Week newspaper published excerpts of confidential documents that an intervenor improperly had disclosed. Applicants believe that the published excerpts were used in a misleading fashion. On January 10, 2005, Applicants declassified the confidential documents so that the public could evaluate them fairly and in context. The declassified documents include CUB/105 through CUB/110 and CUB/112, all of which are at issue here. A true and correct copy of the January 10, 2005 letter from Lisa Rackner to ALJs Logan and Smith identifying the declassified documents is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 7. On January 6, 2005, BOMA's counsel wrote an e-mail in which she conceded that, prior to filing a motion to lift the protective order, she had "only read some of the documents" filed in this docket. A true and correct copy of that e-mail is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

I HEREBY DECLARE THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENT IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, AND THAT I UNDERSTAND IT IS MADE FOR USE AS EVIDENCE IN COURT AND IS SUBJECT TO PENALTY FOR PERJURY.

DATED this 18th day of January, 2005.

James M. Barrett



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January 10, 2005

#### VIA FACSIMILE AND OVERNIGHT MAIL

Honorable Kathryn A. Logan Honorable Christina M. Smith Administrative Law Judges Oregon Public Utility Commission 550 Capitol Street NE, Suite 215 Salem, OR 97308-2148

Re: UM 1121: Change of Confidentiality Designation for Certain Documents in the Record

Dear Judges Logan and Smith:

As you are aware, last Wednesday the Willamette Week newspaper published an article in which it announced that it had obtained Applicants' confidential documents filed in this case from one of the intervenors. In that article, Willamette Week selectively disclosed and discussed portions of those documents in what we believe to be a misleading fashion. We understand and appreciate the Commission's acknowledgment that such unauthorized disclosure does not waive Applicants' right to continue to claim confidential status for those documents. However, as a practical matter, Applicants have determined that, at this point, they and the public will be better served if interested persons can review the confidential documents in their entirety in order to evaluate them fairly and in context. For this reason, the Applicants have changed the confidentiality designation of the following documents from "confidential" to "public." All of these documents are part of the official record in this proceeding and are described using the appropriate exhibit number.

- Oregon Electric/101, Davis/1-2
- Oregon Electric/203, Wheeler/3, 11-13, 25, 28-29
- Staff/202, Morgan/25-165, 169-183,188-189, 196-224, 226-462, 590-592, 597-608
- Staff/302, Durrenberger/1-230, 232-238
- Staff/800, Conway/12
- Staff/1000, Durrenberger/3
- CUB/104, Jenks-Brown/1-2

EXHIBIT A - Page 1 of 3

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Honorable Kathryn A. Logan Honorable Christina M. Smith January 10, 2005 Page 2

- CUB/105, Jenks-Brown/1-13
- CUB/106, Jenks-Brown/1
- CUB/107, Jenks-Brown/1-2
- CUB/108, Jenks-Brown/1
- CUB/109, Jenks-Brown/1
- CUB/110, Jenks-Brown/1-4
- CUB/112, Jenks-Brown/1-2
- CUB/205, Dittmer/1
- CUB/207, Dittmer/1
- CUB/301, Jenks-Brown/1
- CUB/302, Jenks-Brown/1-3
- ICNU/102, Schoenbeck/1-7
- ICNU/104, Schoenbeck/1-22
- ICNU/106, Schoenbeck/1-12
- ICNU/107, Schoenbeck/1-13
- ICNU/108, Schoenbeck/1-3
- ICNU/109, Schoenbeck/1
- ICNU/110, Schoenbeck/1
- ICNU/111, Schoenbeck/1-43
- ICNU/203, Antonuk-Vickroy/1-14
- ICNU/204, Antonuk-Vickroy/1-3
- ICNU/510, pages 1-4 (cross-examination exhibit)
- ICNU/802, pages 1-2 (cross-examination exhibit)
- ICNU/803, page 1 (cross-examination exhibit)
- ICNU/804, page 1 (cross-examination exhibit)
- ICNU/902, Transcript of the Deposition of Kelvin L. Davis, all confidential pages and exhibits
- ICNU/903, pages 1-24 (cross-examination exhibit)

EXHIBIT A - Page 2 of 3

# **ATERWYNNELL**

Honorable Kathryn A. Logan Honorable Christina M. Smith January 10, 2005 Page 3

- ICNU/904, pages 1-2 (cross-examination exhibit)
- ICNU/905, pages 1-24 (cross-examination exhibit)

With the removal of the confidential designations for the above documents, only the following five confidential exhibits remain in the official record. The Applicants do not have the unilateral authority to change the confidentiality designations of these exhibits.

- Exhibit Staff/202, Morgan/463-502, 575-589
- Exhibit CUB/203, Dittmer/1
- Exhibit CUB/204, Dittmer/1
- Exhibit ICNU/202, Antonuk-Vickroy/1
- ICNU/806, pages 18, 26-27, 35, 38, 42, 44, 47-49, 51-57, 81, 83, 94 (cross-examination exhibit)

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Lisa F. Rackner

Jarah Wallace for

cc: UM 1121 Service List

Bryan Conway

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Date:

1/6/05 4:53PM

Subject:

Re: UM 1121 OREGON ELECTRIC UTILITY ACQUISITION OF PGE - Public

Disclosure o...

oh for Pete's sake. in response to a query by yet another reporter. Liust now, for the first time opened staff's testimony, which does (as the reporter suggested) contain presumably confidential documents, but please be aware of the following.

- 1. the WW article referenced docs with water marks. the exhibits or docs attached to staff's testimony does not.
- 2. I resent the level of debate about what I did (filed the Motion) and didn't do (actually didn't have the docs, did no data requests, and got no data response) and for being apparently singled out for consideration. I am assuming that'd it will be ultimately verified and think the debate detracts from the important issue.

I think the issue is less who did "leak" and more what the documents say. I put forth BOMA's position on what the documents say and continue to believe that the public has a right to assess the truth and veracity of various public statements. If the documents are simply speculative or incidental as has been suggested in the press, there is no basis for the protective order. If they are not speculative and are germane, they ought to be available. However, I didn't leak them, did not get any except with pre filed testimony, and frankly have only read some of the documents. Let's talk about what's important - is this the right solution for the PGE situation?

Ann Fisher

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE UM 1121

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of **APPLICANTS' RESPONSE TO MOTION TO LIFT PROTECTIVE ORDER** was served via U.S. Mail on the following parties on January 18, 2005:

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