## June 25, 2004

## BY E-MAIL AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Cheryl Walker Oregon Public Utility Commission PO Box 2148 Salem, OR 97308-2148

Re: UM 1121 –Oregon Electric Utility Company, et al., to Acquire Portland

General Electric Company

Dear Ms. Walker:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are six copies of a letter to Chair Lee Beyer, Commissioners Ray Baum and John Savage from City Commissioner Jim Francesconi.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Benjamin Walters

Benjamin Walters Senior Deputy City Attorney

BEW:lw Attachments

cc: UM 1121 Service List

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that six copies of the attached letter to Chair Lee Beyer, Commissioners

Ray Baum and John Savage were sent to:

KATHRYN LOGAN, ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON 550 CAPITOL STREET, NE SALEM OR 97310

on June 25, 2004, contained in a sealed envelope, with postage paid, and deposited in the post office at Portland, Oregon. In addition, on June 25, 2004, copies were electronically mailed to the individuals shown to have an e-mail address on the Service List maintained by the Public Utility Commission, or if not by e-mail, then by mailing a correct copy thereof, contained in a sealed envelope, with postage paid, and deposited in the Post Office at Portland, Oregon.

/s/ Benjamin Walters

Benjamin Walters, OSB #85354 Senior Deputy City Attorney Of Attorneys for City of Portland

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# PORTLAND, OREGON

### OFFICE OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Jim Francesconi, Commissioner 1221 S.W. Fourth Avenue Portland, Oregon 97204-1994 (503) 823-3008 FAX: (503) 823-3017

June 24, 2004

Lee Beyer, Chair Ray Baum, Commissioner John Savage, Commissioner Oregon Public Utility Commission 550 Capitol St. NE #215 PO Box 2148 Salem, OR 97308-2148

Dear Chair Beyer and Commissioners Baum and Savage:

ENRON officials exploited every family, every small business and every company in our city. Because of this irresponsible and unethical behavior, I am eager to remove ENRON's grasp from Portland General Electric (PGE).

Though I am eager for PGE's sale, I ask that you carefully consider the offers that come before you. On one hand, we must ensure that we set the bar high by requiring any purchaser to provide a deal that truly benefits Portland's ratepayers. On the other hand, we must ensure that PGE is sold to another party, so that PGE doesn't end up going to ENRON's creditors.

Obviously you only have one bid in front of you at this time, so as you evaluate Texas Pacific Group's bid to acquire PGE, I encourage you to:

1) Require lower rates. Some studies have indicated that a voluntary purchase of PGE by the City could result in a 4 to 10 percent rate reduction. You should consider using this as a benchmark of evaluating their proposal.

2) Stability. Require PGE to continue to make specific capital investments in distribution, transmission and power generation to ensure the long-term

stability.

3) Increase green power. Require a commitment to additional efficiency and renewable resources such as wind, geothermal and solar. Insist that renewable and green power be included in the mix of energy resources and do not allow the entire cost differential to be passed onto the customers.

4) Require more low-income assistance. PacifiCorp provided significant relief to low-income residents beyond the requirements of SB 1149 and PGE's bills are 30

percent higher.

Fing fence" PGE from the corporate parent by not allowing any of the merger costs into PGE rates, require maintenance of an adequate capital structure and advance notice of any delivering of utility cash up the corporate chain and require real local control by the local board.

6) Require real service commitments and customer guarantees. Require a written transition plan detailing areas for investment to improve performance and to do a measurably better job of keeping the lights on.

7) Require a specific and substantial commitment to philanthropy to continue

PGE's proud tradition of giving to the community.

8) Prohibit a resale of PGE within the next 5 years so as to give some stability to the customers.

We must do all we can to assure that the public benefits of this sale to our citizens are substantial and real. A sale with real and substantial public benefits would foreclose the possibility that PGE would be spun off to creditors. The city has serious reservations about a proposed spin off of PGE to Enron's creditors, particularly given that it would not be consummated for many years. Such an approach would leave PGE's future in the hands of Enron for a prolonged period, continue uncertainty over PGE's future, and leave PGE's ownership open to future acquisition proposals.

If there are not sufficient public benefits, then this merger must fail. Then we will have to assume the risk of the breakup of PGE or perhaps the creditors will change their mind and consider a voluntary sale to the city in a manner that will protect the citizens of Portland from the risks of assuming the liabilities of PGE, including Trojan.

Let's cross that bridge when and if we get to it. In the meantime, let us focus on getting the best deal we can for the ratepayers.

Sincerely,

Jim Francesconi City Commissioner