

ISSUED: August 17, 2005

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 1209

In the Matter of)
)
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY HOLDINGS)
COMPANY) MEMORANDUM
)
Application for Authorization to Acquire)
Pacific Power & Light, dba PacifiCorp.)

**DISPOSITION: SCHEDULE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT MEETINGS
ESTABLISHED; MODERATOR SELECTED**

On August 10, 2005, a telephone conference was held. The following parties made appearances: Staff, NRDC, CUB, ICNU, Idaho Power, MEHC, and RNP. The parties discussed a schedule for public comment meetings. The schedule is established as follows:

Deadline to submit posterboard materials	September 23
Portland Open House	October 3
Bend Open House	October 6
Klamath Falls Open House	October 10
Medford Open House & Town Hall	October 11
Pendleton Open House	October 13
Portland Town Hall	October 25

The town halls will begin at 6:30 p.m. Notices specifying the time and place of each meeting will be sent at a later date.

In addition, Kristi Wallis has been selected to serve as Moderator. Ms Wallis first served as a litigator for ten years and has specialized in facilitating energy processes for the past ten years, particularly in the electric industry. She was selected from the PacifiCorp list of potential candidates for the Multi-State Process Neutral. References included Stefan Brown, Public Utility Commission; Steve Weiss, NW Energy Coalition; and Michael Early, Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities. Each spoke glowingly of her abilities to be neutral, moderate contentious negotiations, and keep discussions on track. PacifiCorp expressed concern about her experience in transmission

issues that it believes may be contrary to its position in this docket. However, Ms. Wallis has been involved in processes on both sides of the transmission issue, and she was selected due to her qualifications and others' testimonies to her neutrality as a facilitator. If PacifiCorp's concern arises during the course of the process, it may raise the issue again and steps may be taken to mitigate those concerns.

Ms. Wallis has facilitated many other processes, including the Lewis River project in which she signed a contract with PacifiCorp to conduct the facilitation among the parties, but acted as a neutral. The same mechanism will apply in this case: PacifiCorp is responsible for signing a contract with, and compensating, the Moderator, but any contract must require neutrality throughout the process and adhere to the job description and goals set forth by the Commission. If any problems arise, Chief ALJ Michael Grant will be the contact person, and will keep any disputes separate from the parallel hearings process.

If Ms. Wallis cannot be retained for any reason, PacifiCorp should contact the Commission. Settlement conference dates may be changed or modified by agreement of the parties and in coordination with the Moderator.

Dated at Salem, Oregon, this 17th day of August, 2005.

Christina M. Smith
Administrative Law Judge

OPEN HOUSE FORMAT

Open house meetings will be held in this docket to provide information and obtain public comments in a non-confrontational setting. In an open house meeting, there is no set program; people can come and go as they please. Public comment may be submitted by written note cards, which will be provided, or orally to a court reporter. A schedule is provided in the enclosed memorandum. In addition, notices of the open house meetings will also be sent and will reflect any changes in the schedule. Each open house opens to the public at 6:30 p.m.

These kinds of meetings are held in a large open space, such as a school gym. Each station consists of three posters and a person to answer questions and provide additional information. We will have a greeter at the door to welcome participants, explain the layout, hand out and receive comment cards (participants may fill out cards for comments or unanswered questions), and talk to participants as they leave.

A maximum of 9 poster stations will be set up, each one on its own table, with handouts. Each station should address a limited number of issues of public concern, so the information can be easily absorbed. One set of posterboards consists of three posters with three messages, followed by three supporting fact points (see below). The messages should be clear and precise – 7 to 12 words long, no more than sixth grade reading level, with no jargon or acronyms.

Issue		
Key Message 1	Key Message 2	Key Message 3
Fact A	Fact A	Fact A
Fact B	Fact B	Fact B
Fact C	Fact C	Fact C

In this docket, the PUC will have 2 stations (one for the ALJ, one for Staff), Applicant will have a station, PacifiCorp will have a station, and each Intervenor may have a station if it elects to have one and notifies the ALJ by September 23, 2005. Parties are encouraged to develop poster boards to explain their point of view. If a party chooses to participate, it is responsible for creating and printing its own poster boards. The boards must be approved by the ALJ before the open houses, so that the boards fit the format of the meetings and are easy to understand. Parties are also encouraged to supplement their posters with detailed handouts.

Please e-mail draft poster boards to christina.smith@state.or.us. The deadline for draft poster boards is September 23, 2005. ALJ Smith will have final approved boards returned to the parties by September 27, 2005. Intervenors whose petitions have been submitted and granted by September 23, 2005, may have poster board stations.

Standard size poster boards are 20" x 30". The PUC uses Hunt foam boards to back the poster boards. If you are having formatting difficulties, please e-mail your draft boards in Word format, and we can return the e-mail in a format consistent with the PUC poster boards so that they can easily be printed.