

ITEM NO. CA4

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: January 23, 2007**

REGULAR _____ CONSENT X EFFECTIVE DATE January 1, 2007

DATE: January 11, 2007

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Jerry Murray

THROUGH: Lee Sparling, Ed Busch, and JR Gonzalez

SUBJECT: PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC: Approval of Metering Test and Inspection Policy.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the revised metering test and inspection policy submitted by Portland General Electric on November 6, 2006.

DISCUSSION:

Oregon Administrative Rule 860-023-0015 requires that the Commission approve the testing and inspection schedules and policy of each energy utility, to assure revenue metering accuracy. This approval pertains to laboratory standardizing equipment, new meters, reinstalled meters, in-service metering systems, obsolete meters and associated metering equipment.

On November 6, 2006, Portland General Electric (PGE) submitted a proposed new metering test and inspection policy, requesting Commission approval. The only section in PGE's policy being revised is Section 8, entitled "In-Service Periodic Meter Testing." The relevant changes are shown below. Language additions are shown in bold, underlined lettering. Deletions are shown with strike-through.

8. In-Service Periodic Meter Testing

(a) PURPOSE:

The purpose of this testing and verification program is to identify and correct inaccurate and defective metering systems. Additionally, this

program is to detect inaccurate meter groups and yield statistical information on which to base future maintenance and testing.

This in-service program includes watt-hour and demand meters that are self-contained and instrument transformer rated meters equipped with demand registers, including multi-function demand.

(b) METHOD:

Meters and metering systems covered under this test program will be tested **and inspected at a minimum of 12-year intervals** in accordance with ANSI C12.1-1995. ~~The meters on primary voltage services will be tested every 5 years and substation metering will be tested annually.~~ **Large Commercial/Industrial customers served by substation metering will receive annual meter testing and inspection. Commercial/Industrial customers that have an average load greater than 1 MW will receive bi-annual meter testing and inspection. The meters on services with an average load between 500 kW and 1 MW will be tested and inspected every 5 years.** Meters will be divided into groups based on PGE equipment type and manufacturer.

An acceptable meter shall be defined as one that yields an as-found average accuracy of 100 + 2 percent. ANSI C12.1-1995, Method 1, will be the basis of calculations for weighted percent registration.

All meters with an error greater than + 5 % in as-found testing will be declared uniquely defective and removed from service. The test results of these meters will be excluded from the statistical analysis only if the cause of the error can be attributed to external causes or outside forces (i.e., vandalism, tampering, lightning, corrosive environment, etc.).

PGE has stated that its revised policy complies with OAR 860-023-0015 and with the PUC's Electric Utility Metering Policy, issued on July 20, 2000. Staff is in agreement with PGE's revised policy, as it will result in metering systems of large commercial and industrial customers being tested, inspected and monitored more frequently. This change is consistent with sound utility practice.

Staff also has reviewed PGE's 2005 annual metering report and data. Staff's review of PGE's metering quality assurance program indicates that PGE is following acceptable

industry practices and is in compliance with Commission regulations and policy. Staff reviews have not discovered any issues or discrepancies that would preclude the Commission from approving the company's submitted policy.

Copies of PGE's policy and cover letter are available by contacting Jerry Murray at phone 503-378-6626 or by e-mail at jerry.murray@state.or.us.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Approve the revised metering test and inspection policy submitted by Portland General Electric on November 6, 2006, effective on January 1, 2007.