

October 25, 2016

## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Public Utility Commission of Oregon 201 High Street SE, Suite 100 Salem, OR 97301-1166

Attn: Filing Center

RE: UM \_\_\_\_PacifiCorp's Application for Waiver of OAR 860-038-0640, Compliance Filing Requirement for 2017

PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power submits for filing its Application for Waiver of OAR 860-038-0640, which requires electric utilities to file an audit report in compliance with the Direct Access Code of Conduct.

PacifiCorp respectfully requests that all data requests regarding this matter be addressed to:

By email (preferred): datarequest@pacificorp.com

By regular mail: Data Request Response Center

**PacifiCorp** 

825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000

Portland, Oregon 97232

Please direct informal questions with respect to this filing to Natasha Siores at 503-813-6583.

Sincerely,

R. Bryce Dalley

Vice President, Regulation

Enclosure

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

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In the Matter of

PACIFICORP d/b/a PACIFIC POWER

Application for Waiver of OAR 860-038-0640, Compliance Filing Requirements for 2017

APPLICATION OF PACIFICORP

- 1 Under OAR 860-038-0001(4), PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power (PacifiCorp or
- 2 Company) requests that the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) waive the
- 3 compliance requirement contained in OAR 860-038-0640 for June 1, 2017.
- 4 OAR 860-038-0640 requires electric companies to file an independent third-party report that
- 5 assesses the Company's compliance with the Direct Access Code of Conduct (Code of
- 6 Conduct) contained in OAR 860-038-0500 through OAR 860-038-0620. In support of this
- 7 Application, PacifiCorp states as follows:
- 8 1. The rules governing direct access are contained in OAR 860 Division 38.
- 9 OAR 860-038-0001(4) allows the Commission to provide relief from the direct access rules
- 10 for good cause shown. As further explained below, good cause exists to waive the
- requirement that PacifiCorp engage an independent third party to review compliance with the
- 12 Code of Conduct for the calendar years 2015 and 2016 and submit a report detailing the
- 13 findings from the review.

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2. Communications regarding this Application should be addressed to:

Oregon Dockets
PacifiCorp
825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000
Portland, OR 97232
oregondockets@pacificorp.com

Matthew McVee PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000 Portland, Oregon 97232 matthew.mcvee@pacificorp.com 1 In addition, PacifiCorp requests that all data requests regarding this Application be

2 sent to the following:

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3 By email (preferred): <u>datarequest@pacificorp.com</u>

4 By regular mail: Data Request Response Center

PacifiCorp

825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000

Portland, Oregon 97232

8 Informal questions may be directed to Natasha Siores, State Regulatory Affairs

9 Manager at (503) 813-6583.

The Commission designed the Code of Conduct to protect against market

abuses and anti-competitive practices by electric companies in the Oregon retail electric

markets.<sup>1</sup> To meet these objectives, the Code of Conduct contains rules governing, among

other things, sharing customer information, cross-subsidization between competitive

operations and regulated operations, access to transmission and distribution facilities, and

joint marketing practices.<sup>2</sup> To ensure compliance with the Code of Conduct, electric

companies must engage an independent reviewer to prepare a report detailing such

17 compliance, and file the report by June 1 of each odd-numbered year.<sup>3</sup>

18 4. The Company sought similar waivers for the 2011, 2013 and 2015 compliance

years. The Commission granted the waivers in Order No. 11-134 (docket UM 1527), Order

No. 12-423 (docket UM 1624) and Order No. 14-354 (docket UM 1705). Circumstances

remain substantially similar to the previous requests for waiver of compliance with

22 OAR 860-038-0640.

5. Good cause exists to grant PacifiCorp a waiver of the requirement to obtain

24 third-party review of compliance with the Code of Conduct and the requirement to file a

<sup>2</sup> See OAR 860-038-0520 through -0600.

UM —PacifiCorp's Application for Waiver of OAR 860-038-0640

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OAR 860-038-0500.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> OAR 860-038-0640.

- 1 report documenting such compliance for the 2017 compliance year. Before 2009, for each
- 2 odd-numbered year, PacifiCorp enlisted an independent third party to review compliance
- 3 with the Code of Conduct, and filed a report detailing such compliance with the Commission.
- 4 The third-party reviewer typically interviewed key personnel, reviewed documentation,
- 5 reviewed critical processes and then prepared a report based on these assessments. The
- 6 Company filed these reports by June 1 in 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009. Each of these reports
- 7 found the Company to be in compliance with the Code of Conduct.
- 8 6. The Company has robust and thorough business practices to ensure
- 9 compliance with the Code of Conduct. Customer service representatives and regional
- business managers receive targeted training on customer-related issues and the Code of
- 11 Conduct. Each October, prior to the enrollment period, a group of 25 call center
- 12 representatives are trained by the Direct Access program manager and are provided with
- copies of the training for reference. Customers contacting the Company's call center about
- 14 Direct Access reach the specially trained Direct Access representatives by using voice menu
- prompts. All other customer service representatives are provided communication advising
- them of the open enrollment period, reminding them about the specific group of agents
- trained to answer questions, and how to direct calls to those call center agents.
- The regional business managers and regulation employees receive additional
- 19 training specifically designed to answer customer's questions without providing advice or
- 20 inadvertently influencing the customer's choice. Training materials are reviewed and
- 21 updated each year to include any new company offerings, discuss specific timing and
- scheduling for enrollment, and provide employees with a refresher on Direct Access related
- 23 information. The regional business managers also work with the Company's Direct Access

- subject matter experts when addressing specific Direct Access issues with their customers.
- 2 Subject matter experts include representatives from the Company's regulation, legal, and
- 3 customer service departments, and they are available to assist with Direct Access and Code
- 4 of Conduct issues. The following table lists the Company's subject matter experts:

Subject Matter Expert	Topic(s) of Expertise	Department
Siu Kee Wong	Direct Access and Direct	Customer Service
(Direct Access program manager)	Access Code of Conduct	
Bryce Dalley	Direct Access and Direct	Regulation
	Access Code of Conduct	
Natasha Siores	Direct Access and Direct	Regulation
	Access Code of Conduct	
Joelle Steward	Direct Access and Direct	Regulation
	Access Code of Conduct	
Etta Lockey	Direct Access and Direct	Legal
	Access Code of Conduct	
Jason Hoffman	Direct Access and Direct	Regulation-
	Access Code of Conduct	Customer Advocacy

- 5 8. Additionally, all newly hired PacifiCorp employees receive training on non-
- 6 discriminatory access to transmission and wholesale distribution facilities as required by the
- 7 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Standards of Conduct within 30 days of
- 8 commencing employment. FERC Standards of Conduct training is an ongoing yearly
- 9 requirement for all existing employees.
- 9. Further, PacifiCorp did not have any Oregon Affiliates<sup>4</sup> during the time period
- that would be covered by the report to be filed June 1, 2017, lowering the risk that PacifiCorp
- would be found inconsistent with the Code of Conduct. In docket UM 1527, the
- 13 Commission Staff report dated April 5, 2011, recommending approval of the 2011
- compliance audit waiver agreed "... that the risk of non-compliance with the rules is
- significantly mitigated..." with the lack of Oregon affiliates. The Commission Staff made a
- similar finding in its report to the Commission in docket UM 1705.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> An Oregon Affiliate is an affiliate engaged in the sale or marketing of electricity services or directly related products in an Oregon retail market. OAR 860-038-0005(44).

1 10. In the Company's 2013 general rate case, docket UE 263, Staff members 2 performed a thorough review and analysis of all elements in PacifiCorp's filing, including 3 affiliate transactions, noting no issues with affiliate relationships or cost allocations. Further, 4 in the Staff Audit Report of PacifiCorp (Audit Number: 2016-01) dated August 16, 2016, 5 Staff conducted an extensive operational audit over the third and fourth quarter of 2015, 6 including the submission of 173 data requests and a PacifiCorp presentation by finance and 7 operations teams during a Staff site visit. Among the items reviewed during the audit were 8 affiliate transactions and cost allocations with reliance on PacifiCorp's Annual Affiliate 9 Interest report. There were no issues noted regarding affiliate relationships or cost allocations. 10 11 11. The Commission maintains the opportunity to review the Company's 12 relationships and transactions with affiliates through various mechanisms. PacifiCorp 13 annually files an affiliated interest report, which provides details of transactions with all

relationships and transactions with affiliates through various mechanisms. PacifiCorp annually files an affiliated interest report, which provides details of transactions with all affiliates. New affiliated interest transactions are filed timely throughout the year. Thus, granting a waiver of the Code of Conduct third-party review and report requirement will not impede the Commission's ability to request information or investigate potential issues.

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WHEREFORE, PacifiCorp respectfully requests that the Commission grant a waiver from the requirements in OAR 860-038-0640 for the report due June 1, 2017. Previous reports filed under this provision demonstrate PacifiCorp's consistent compliance with the Code of Conduct. Such a waiver will not harm customers or potential competitors because the Commission will continue to be able to monitor and investigate the Company's compliance with the Code of Conduct.

DATED: October 25, 2016

Matthew McVee

Assistant General Counsel

Pacific Power

Counsel for PacifiCorp