



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
GENERAL COUNSEL DIVISION

March 8, 2006

Michele Mhoon
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings
Public Utility Commission of Oregon
PO Box 2148
Salem, OR 97308-2148

RE: UG 167 Status Report

Dear Judge Mhoon:

In my letter to you of February 22, 2006, I stated that the parties were working towards settlement and that I would report further to you about the status of the discussions by today.

I can only speak for staff as I have not had communication from the other parties about this matter. From staff's perspective, we ask for a second extension of approximately 30 days (until April 14, 2006) to try to reach settlement with the company and the intervening parties. I do not want to reveal details of the negotiations, but staff remains still hopeful that a second extension will allow the parties to reach settlement. However, staff also recognizes the need to move this case forward. As such, staff expects that if settlement cannot be reached by April 14th, staff's next status report to you on or before that date will include a request for a prehearing conference to set future events, including the filing of testimony and a hearing.

Sincerely,

Michael T. Weirich
Assistant Attorney General
Regulated Utility & Business Section

C: all parties
MTW:nal/GENP4345

1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

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3 I certify that on March 8, 2006, I served the foregoing upon the parties hereto by
4 electronic mail and by sending a true, exact and full copy, postage prepaid, by regular mail, or by
5 shuttle mail/hand delivery to those parties accepting paper service.

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