

June 25, 2008

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Oregon Public Utility Commission 550 Capitol Street NE, Suite 215 Salem, OR 97301-2551

Attention: Vikie Bailey-Goggins

Administrator, Regulatory Operations

Re: **Docket UM 1147** – Motion for Clarification of Order No. 08-263

PacifiCorp, d.b.a. Pacific Power, encloses for filing a Motion for Clarification in the above-referenced matter.

Informal questions may be directed to Joelle Steward at (503) 813-5542.

Sincerely,

Indies L. Kelly

Andrea L. Kelly

Vice President, Regulation

Enclosure

Cc: UM 1147 Service List

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

UM 1147

In the Matter of

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

Staff Request to Open an Investigation Related to Deferred Accounting.

PACIFIC POWER MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION OF ORDER NO. 08-263

- Pursuant to OAR 860-013-0031, PacifiCorp d.b.a. Pacific Power ("Company")
 respectfully submits this Motion for Clarification of the Public Utility Commission of
 Oregon's ("Commission") Order No. 08-263, issued May 22, 2008.
- 4 In support of this Motion, the Company states as follows:
- Order No. 08-263 sets a new interest rate to be applied to all amortized deferred accounts. The Commission adopted the Blended Treasury Rate plus 100 basis points, to be calculated annually by January 10.²
 - 2. Further, the Commission determined, "the Blended Treasury Rate in effect when the Commission authorizes amortization of a deferred account shall be applied to the deferred account beginning on the date of the Commission's approval of the amortization and continuing throughout the entire period of amortization." (Emphasis added.)
 - 3. However, the Commission also noted its agreement with Staff's argument that applying the new interest rate to balances in existing amortizing deferred accounts would be similar to the current practice of applying a utility's Authorized Rate of Return ("AROR"), which is generally updated in a general rate case and the new AROR is applied to amortizing

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¹ Docket No. UM 1147, Order No. 08-263, p. 15.

² Id. The Blended Treasury Rate must be calculated annually by January 10 using rates published on the first two Thursdays of the preceding December.

deferred accounts. The Commission stated, "the principle is the same: an authorized interest

rate for amortized deferred accounts may be adjusted at any time."5

Requiring the interest rate in effect at the time amortization is authorized to be

4 applied for the entire amortization period, compared with the statement that an authorized

interest rate for amortized deferred accounts may be adjusted at any time, presents ambiguity,

for which the Company requests clarification. The order seems to require a change in the

current practice of updating the interest rate applied to amortizing deferred accounts

whenever there is a change in AROR by stating that the interest rate will be in effect for the

entire amortization period, which may exceed one year. However, the order also implies that

the interest rate could change at any time. PacifiCorp does not believe that the filed

comments of any party contemplated that the interest rate would apply to the entire

amortization period unless the Commission ordered an exception. Issuing a clarification of

how the new interest rate should be applied would enable the Company and others to better

ensure compliance with Order No. 08-263.

WHEREFORE, PacifiCorp moves that the Commission clarify Order No. 08-263 to

provide guidance on how the new interest rate should be applied.

DATED: June 25, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle R. Mishoe

Legal Counsel Pacific Power

Counsel for PacifiCorp

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⁴ Order No. 08-263 at 15.

⁵ Id.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 25th day of June, 2008, I caused to be served, via E-Mail and US Mail (to those parties who have not waived paper service), a true and correct copy of the foregoing document on the following named person(s) at his or her last-known address(es) indicated below.

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