

October 10, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Public Utility Commission of Oregon Attn: Filing Center 201 High Street SE, Suite 100 Salem, OR 97301-3398

Re: UM 1631—PacifiCorp's Application for a Partial Waiver of Oregon Administrative Rules 860-021-0330(1)(a), 860-021-0405(3) and (5), and 860-021-0420

PacifiCorp submits for filing the attached Application for a Partial Waiver of Oregon Administrative Rules 860-021-0330(1)(a), 860-021-0405(3) and (5), and 860-021-0420.

Informal inquiries regarding this filing may be directed to Jennifer Angell, Regulatory Project Manager, at (503) 331-4414.

Sincerely,

Shelley McCoy Director, Regulation

Shilly McCory

Enclosure

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

UM 1631

In the Matter of

PACIFICORP d/b/a PACIFIC POWER

Application for Partial Waiver of OARs 860-021-0330(1)(a), 860-021-0405(3) and (5), and 860-021-0420.

APPLICATION OF PACIFICORP FOR A PARTIAL WAIVER

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I. INTRODUCTION

Under Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 860-021-0005, PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power (PacifiCorp or Company) requests that the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) waive the requirements contained in OARs 860-021-0330(1)(a), 860-021-0405(3) and (5), and 860-021-0420 through December 31, 2022. This waiver is necessary and in the public interest to allow PacifiCorp to complete the system configuration changes and testing required to implement those changes.

II. NOTICE

All notices and communications regarding this Application should be addressed to:

Oregon Dockets Ajay Kumar

PacifiCorp Senior Attorney, PacifiCorp

825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000 825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000

Portland, OR 97232 Portland, OR 97232

oregondockets@pacificorp.com ajay.kumar@pacificorp.com

In addition, PacifiCorp requests that all data requests regarding this Application be

sent to the following:

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

By regular mail: Data Request Response Center

PacifiCorp

825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000

Portland, Oregon 97232

Informal questions may be directed to Jennifer Angell, Regulatory Projects Manager, at (503) 331-4414.

III. BACKGROUND

On June 10, 2022, following an informal collaborative process between Staff, community advocates and the investor-owned utilities, the Commission issued Order No. 22-214, approving Staff's recommendation to open the AR 653 rulemaking docket. AR 653 began the formal rulemaking process to consider permanent changes to Division 21 rules concerning protections to residential customers and low-income customers. The Commission held two rulemaking hearings on July 21, 2022, and September 1, 2022, and requested several rounds of comments, concluding on September 7, 2022. The Commission issued Order No. 22-353 on September 29, 2022, adopting revisions to the existing Division 21 rules with immediate effect.

Among the changes adopted through this rulemaking, the Commission made the following revisions to the rules: OAR 860-021-0330(1)(a) now prohibits an electric utility with remote reconnection capabilities from assessing a low-income residential customer a reconnection fee for the first two reconnections in a calendar year; OAR 860-021-0405(3) now requires energy utilities provide all residential customers a 20-day written notice prior to disconnecting service for nonpayment; and OAR 860-021-0420 now requires the energy utility to waive the first field visit charge to low-income residential customers.

IV. DISCUSSION

The rules governing utility regulation are contained in Chapter 860, Division 21 of the OAR. The Commission is allowed to provide relief from the utility regulation rules for good cause shown.¹ As further explained below, good cause exists for a partial waiver of the requirements in OARs 860-021-0330(1)(a), 860-021-0405(3) and (5), and 860-021-0420 through December 31, 2022.

PacifiCorp supports the Division 21 rule revisions and is able to comply with most of the changes immediately through minor system changes and training. However, there are a few rule revisions that will require system configuration changes and testing to implement. Specifically, the assessment of reconnect fees and field visit charges (OAR 860-021-0330(1)(a) and OAR 860-021-0420) are currently applied when work is performed and is not tied directly to the type of customer (residential or non-residential). Further, the revised rules require that we identify the customer as low-income, which creates additional complexity in the required system changes. With regards to the revisions in OAR 860-021-0405(3) and (5) to change the notice requirement to residential customer from 15 days to 20 days, PacifiCorp is currently testing the change and identifying necessary system changes to accommodate the extended due date of the notice within the Company's billing system.

Good cause exists to grant PacifiCorp a partial waiver of the requirements in OARs 860-021-0330(1)(a), 860-021-0405(3) and (5), and 860-021-0420. Customers should not be harmed by the approval of this waiver because it will simply extend the processes that were in place prior to adoption of these rules. PacifiCorp is simply requesting a slight to delay to allow for the appropriate implementation of these rules. PacifiCorp expects its implementation of these changes to be completed by January 1, 2023. As noted earlier, PacifiCorp has implemented the other revisions that were adopted by the Commission as part of the Division 21 rulemaking. Upon completion of the necessary system enhancements

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¹ OAR 860-021-0005.

needed to comply with OARs 860-021-0330(1)(a), 860-021-0405(3) and (5), and 860-021-0420, the Company will notify the Commission's Consumer Services Division that the system enhancements have been completed and the Company is complying with the adopted, revised rules.

V. REQUEST FOR RELIEF

PacifiCorp respectfully requests that the Commission grant a partial waiver from the requirements in OARs 860-021-0330(1)(a), 860-021-0405(3) and (5), and 860-021-0420 for the reasons identified in this waiver through December 31, 2022.

Respectfully submitted this 10th day of October, 2022.

Ajay Kumar, (/

Senior Attorney, OSB#183903 825 NE Multnomah St, Suite 2000

Portland, OR 97232

 $Attorney\ for\ Pacifi Corp$