

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: April 6, 2021

REGULAR CONSENT EFFECTIVE DATE May 1, 2021

DATE: March 23, 2021

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Curtis Dlouhy

THROUGH: Bryan Conway, John Crider, and Matt Muldoon **SIGNED**

SUBJECT: PACIFIC POWER:
(Docket No. UM 1631)
Petition for a Waiver of OAR 860-027-0070(1) to extend the Annual Report filing deadline to May 31, 2021.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Pacific Power's (PacifiCorp, PAC, or Company) request for a limited waiver of OAR 860-027-0070(1) and extend the Annual Report deadline until May 31, 2021.

DISCUSSION:

Issue

Whether the Commission should approve PacifiCorp's request for a limited waiver of OAR 860-027-0070(1) and extend the Annual Report deadline until May 31, 2021.

Applicable Rule

OAR 860-027-0070(1) requires all electric, gas, water, and steam heat utilities to submit their Annual Report, also known as the Oregon FERC Form 1 Supplement, by May 1 of each year.

Under OAR 860-027-0000(2), the Commission can grant waivers of Division 27 rules for good cause shown.

Analysis

Background

On February 18, 2021, the Company submitted a waiver under the UM 1631 docket to extend the deadline to file its annual report until May 31, 2021. In its application, the company states that it has routinely requested this waiver and has received approval from the commission each year since 2010.¹

Conditions Necessitating the Waiver

In its filing, the Company notes that the waiver is necessary to process all the required data from each of its six state jurisdictions in which it operates.

Staff Analysis

Although similar requests have been approved since 2010, Staff still conducted research into the history of PacifiCorp's annual reporting practices as a form of due diligence.

Staff began by researching PacifiCorp's history of its Annual Reports in Oregon.² Staff notes that since 2012, when the reports could first be filed electronically, PacifiCorp has indeed filed its Annual Report after the May 1 deadline in most years. Staff also notes that the Commission has approved an extension of this deadline, with the two most recent approvals coming in Commission Order No. 20-140 and Commission Order No. 19-152. The Commission granted the waiver in past years and the Company had no problem filing their Annual Report by the agreed-upon deadline.

Staff then inquired about whether the Company receives similar treatment from the commissions in the six other states in which it operates. Three of the six states, including Oregon, regularly grant PacifiCorp an extension, and two of the six have granted PacifiCorp a permanent extension. The lone exception is Utah, due to its simplified filing requirements.³

Therefore, Staff believes that approving PacifiCorp's waiver request is not only consistent with past Oregon commission actions, but also consistent across all commissions in which PacifiCorp operates.

¹ See PacifiCorp's February 18, 2021, filing under Docket No. UM 1631.

² PacifiCorp's Annual Reports can be found in RE 68.

³ See Part (b) of PacifiCorp's response to Staff Information Request No. 3.

PAC Docket No. UM 1631
March 23, 2021
Page 3

Conclusion

The Commission should approve Pacific Power's request for a limited waiver of OAR 860-027-0070(1) and extend its Annual Report deadline until May 31, 2021.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Approve Pacific Power's request for a limited waiver of OAR 860-027-0070(1) and extend the Annual Report deadline until May 31, 2021.