

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: June 29, 2016

REGULAR X CONSENT EFFECTIVE DATE June 30, 2016

DATE: June 13, 2016

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Jason R. Salmi Klotz 

THROUGH: Jason Eisdorfer  and Michael Dougherty 

SUBJECT: UM 1631 PacifiCorp and PGE Joint Petition for Waiver:
Joint Petition of Pacific Power and Portland General Electric for a Waiver of OAR 860-085-0050(1) and request to set a new filing date for companies' greenhouse gas emissions report.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve PacifiCorp's and Portland General Electric Company's (collectively, the Companies), joint request for additional time, from July 1 until August 26, to submit their respective reports concerning estimated rate impacts associated with meeting certain greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.

DISCUSSION:

Issue

Whether the Companies have shown good cause in support of their joint request for additional time, from July 1 until August 26, to submit their respective required reports.

Applicable Law

OAR 860-085-0050(1) requires each regulated electric and natural gas company to submit a report to the Commission by July 1 of even-numbered years. Each utility's report must present estimates of, and analysis methods used and assumptions made, in estimating the customer rate impacts associated with meeting specified energy consumption-based greenhouse gas emission reduction goals for Oregon. In turn, Oregon Laws 2009, Chapter 751, Section 9 requires the Commission to submit its own rate impact/emissions report to the appropriate interim legislative committee prior to November 1 of each even-numbered year.

Discussion

The Companies request additional time, from July 1 until August 26, 2016, to perform the analysis required for their required greenhouse gas emission reports. The Companies state that this additional time will allow them to focus their efforts on the analysis required for the upcoming July 15, 2016, deadline to submit their respective Renewable Portfolio Implementation Plans (RPIPs). The Companies request the Commission waive the July 1 filing deadline set forth in OAR 860-085-0050(1) and allow the Companies to file the rate impact/greenhouse gas emission reports no later than August 26, 2016.

The Companies' requested extension requires Staff to conduct its analysis of the PGE and PacifiCorp reports on a shortened timeline, thereby reducing the time Staff, and ultimately the Commission, has to prepare and submit their report to the Legislative Assembly. However, Staff does not take issue with the additional work burden presented by utilities' request because Staff is confident it will be able to complete its analysis of the reports, and to present this analysis to the Commission, in a timely fashion. Staff also wants to allow each utility the time they state they require to provide as complete and sufficient RPIP as possible.

Conclusion

Staff concludes that granting the Companies' request for a filing extension of August 26, 2016 will not compromise the quality of the report the Commission will submit to the legislature on November 1, 2016. Staff therefore recommends granting PacifiCorp and PGE's request.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Approve the Companies' joint request for additional time, from July 1 until August 26, 2016 to submit their respective reports concerning estimated customer rate impacts associated with meeting certain greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.