



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Public Utility Commission

201 High St SE Suite 100

Salem, OR 97301

### Mailing Address: PO

Box 1088 Salem, OR

97308-1088

### Consumer Services

1-800-522-2404

Local: 503-378-6600

### Administrative Services

503-373-7394

August 17, 2017

### *Via Electronic Filing and US Mail*

OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
ATTENTION: FILING CENTER  
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SALEM OR 97302-1088

**RE: Docket No. UE 319–In the Matter of PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, Request for a General Rate Revision.**

Enclosed for filing is Staff Rebuttal Testimony in UE 319, together with a Certificate of Service and UE 319 Service List.

Exhibit 1601 is confidential and is provided to parties who have signed Protective Order No. 17-057.

/s/ Kay Barnes  
(503) 378-5763  
Email: [kay.barnes@state.or.us](mailto:kay.barnes@state.or.us)

UE 319 – SERVICE LIST

<b>CALPINE SOLUTIONS</b>	
GREGORY M. ADAMS (C) RICHARDSON ADAMS, PLLC	PO BOX 7218 BOISE ID 83702 greg@richardsonadams.com
GREG BASS CALPINE ENERGY SOLUTIONS, LLC	401 WEST A ST, STE 500 SAN DIEGO CA 92101 greg.bass@calpinesolutions.com
KEVIN HIGGINS (C) ENERGY STRATEGIES LLC	215 STATE ST - STE 200 SALT LAKE CITY UT 84111-2322 khiggins@energystrat.com
<b>FRED MEYER UE 319</b>	
KURT J BOEHM (C) BOEHM KURTZ & LOWRY	36 E SEVENTH ST - STE 1510 CINCINNATI OH 45202 kboehm@bkllawfirm.com
JODY KYLER COHN BOEHM, KURTZ & LOWRY	36 E SEVENTH ST STE 1510 CINCINNATI OH 45202 jkyler@bkllawfirm.com
<b>INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS OF NORTHWEST UTILITIES</b>	
MYRALEIGH ALBERTO (C) DAVISON VAN CLEVE	333 SW TAYLOR STE 400 PORTLAND OR 97204 maa@dvclaw.com
BRADLEY MULLINS (C) MOUNTAIN WEST ANALYTICS	333 SW TAYLOR STE 400 PORTLAND OR 97204 brmullins@mwanalytics.com
TYLER C PEPPE (C) DAVISON VAN CLEVE, PC	333 SW TAYLOR SUITE 400 PORTLAND OR 97204 tcp@dvclaw.com
<b>OREGON CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD</b>	
OREGON CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD	610 SW BROADWAY, STE 400 PORTLAND OR 97205 dockets@oregoncub.org
ROBERT JENKS (C) OREGON CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD	610 SW BROADWAY, STE 400 PORTLAND OR 97205 bob@oregoncub.org
ELIZABETH JONES (C) OREGON CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD	610 SW BROADWAY, STE 400 PORTLAND OR 97206 liz@oregoncub.org
<b>PACIFICORP UE 319</b>	
PACIFICORP, DBA PACIFIC POWER	825 NE MULTNOMAH ST, STE 2000 PORTLAND OR 97232 oregondockets@pacificorp.com
MATTHEW MCVEE PACIFICORP	825 NE MULTNOMAH PORTLAND OR 97232 matthew.mcvee@pacificorp.com
<b>PGE UE 319</b>	
STEFAN BROWN (C) PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC	121 SW SALMON ST, 1WTC0306 PORTLAND OR 97204 stefan.brown@pgn.com

DOUGLAS C TINGEY (C) PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC	121 SW SALMON 1WTC1301 PORTLAND OR 97204 doug.tingey@pgn.com
JAY TINKER (C) PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC	121 SW SALMON ST 1WTC-0306 PORTLAND OR 97204 pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com
<b>SBUA UE 319</b>	
JAMES BIRKELUND (C) SMALL BUSINESS UTILITY ADVOCATES	548 MARKET ST STE 11200 SAN FRANCISCO CA 94104 james@utilityadvocates.org
DIANE HENKELS (C) CLEANTECH LAW PARTNERS PC	420 SW WASHINGTON ST STE 400 PORTLAND OR 97204 dhenkels@cleantechlaw.com
<b>STAFF UE 319</b>	
STEPHANIE S ANDRUS (C) PUC STAFF--DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	BUSINESS ACTIVITIES SECTION 1162 COURT ST NE SALEM OR 97301-4096 stephanie.andrus@state.or.us
MARIANNE GARDNER (C) PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON	PO BOX 1088 SALEM OR 97308-1088 marianne.gardner@state.or.us
SOMMER MOSER (C) PUC STAFF - DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	1162 COURT ST NE SALEM OR 97301 sommer.moser@doj.state.or.us
<b>WALMART UE 323</b>	
VICKI M BALDWIN (C) PARSONS BEHLE & LATIMER	201 S MAIN ST STE 1800 SALT LAKE CITY UT 84111 vbaldwin@parsonsbehle.com
STEVE W CHRISS (C) WAL-MART STORES, INC.	2001 SE 10TH ST BENTONVILLE AR 72716-0550 stephen.chriss@wal-mart.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

UE 319

I certify that I have, this day, served the foregoing document upon all parties of record in this proceeding by delivering a copy in person or by mailing a copy properly addressed with first class postage prepaid, or by electronic mail pursuant to OAR 860-001-0180, to the following parties or attorneys of parties.

Dated this 17th day of August, 2017 at Salem, Oregon



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Kay Barnes  
Public Utility Commission  
201 High Street SE Suite 100  
Salem, Oregon 97301-3612  
Telephone: (503) 378-5763

CASE: UE 319  
WITNESS: LANCE KAUFMAN

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF  
OREGON**

**STAFF EXHIBIT 1600**

**Rebuttal Testimony**

**August 17, 2017**

1 **Q. Please state your name, occupation, and business address.**

2 A. My name is Dr. Lance Kaufman. I am a Senior Economist employed in the  
3 Energy Rates, Finance and Audit Division of the Public Utility Commission of  
4 Oregon (OPUC). My business address is 201 High Street SE., Suite 100,  
5 Salem, Oregon 97301.

6 **Q. Have you previously provided testimony in this case?**

7 A. Yes, I have provided testimony in Staff/200 and Staff/700.

8 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

9 A. The purpose of this testimony is to present evidence on the cost allocation  
10 impacts of energy efficiency (EE) measures. Staff finds that over a broad  
11 range of assumptions the system benefits of EE measures are allocated to  
12 schedules that pay for the EE. This analysis informs Staff's recommendation  
13 on the proposal of the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) to address what  
14 CUB believes to be an unfair distribution of costs and benefits of EE.

15 **Q. Did you prepare an exhibit for this docket?**

16 A. Yes. I prepared exhibit Staff/1601, consisting of 5 pages.

17 **Q. How is your testimony organized?**

18 A. My testimony is organized as follows:

19 Issue 1: Cost Allocation of EE System Benefits ..... 2

**ISSUE 1: COST ALLOCATION OF EE SYSTEM BENEFITS****Q. Please summarize this issue and your analysis.**

A. The Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) is concerned that residential and small commercial customer classes pay disproportionately more for EE than other customer classes and do not receive a fair proportion of the system benefits of EE.<sup>1</sup> CUB is particularly concerned because Senate Bill 838 (2007) (SB 838) limits the amount that Portland General Electric (PGE) can collect for EE from customers whose annual load is one aMW or more. Under SB 838, PGE can collect from these large customers no more than what is authorized under SB 1149 (1999), but can and does recover amounts in excess of the public purpose charge from other customer classes.

Staff has tested CUB's hypothesis by identifying the impact of EE on both system costs and on customer-class cost allocations using PGE's current cost allocation models. Staff finds that under a broad range of assumptions, customer classes that are served by EE capture all energy and capacity cost savings associated with the EE. Furthermore, customer classes served by EE capture additional cost allocation benefits beyond just energy savings by the nature of how rate spread is developed and are thereby better off in an overall sense.

The reason this occurs is that many system costs are allocated based on each schedule's share of the system's energy and capacity. When EE is invested disproportionately in a single customer class, that customer class's

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<sup>1</sup> CUB/100, Jenks/10 at lines 12 to 14.

1 share of system energy and capacity is reduced. Consequently, the customer  
2 classes that receive EE measures are allocated a smaller portion of system  
3 costs. The table below illustrates the mechanics of this.

	[A]	[B] Allocation Without EE		[D]	[E]	[F] Allocation With EE		[H]
	Load	Allocation Factor	System Cost w/o EE	System Cost with EE	Load	Allocation Factor	System Cost w/o EE	System Cost with EE
Small Customers	400	40%	\$ 24,000	\$ 21,600	300	33%	\$ 20,000	\$ 18,000
Large Customers	600	60%	36,000	\$ 32,400	600	67%	40,000	36,000
Total	1000		60,000	54,000	900		60,000	54,000

4  
5 The table above demonstrates that if the impact on allocation factors is not  
6 considered, EE measures for small customers could appear to benefit large  
7 customers (see column D of the table). However, after the impact of allocations is  
8 taken into account, large customers receive no benefit from small customer EE.

9 This analysis has three important implications related to CUB's SB 838  
10 proposal:

- 11 1. There is not currently an equity discrepancy that would justify  
12 shifting costs from less than one average MW customers to greater  
13 than one average MW customers.
- 14 2. If the cost savings associated with EE were substantially larger  
15 than current estimates, it is possible for large customers to receive  
16 a portion of the system benefit generated by SB 838 EE measures.  
17 In this scenario there may be a legitimate equity concern that would  
18 support some remedial action.
- 19 3. If less than one average MW customers fund EE measures for  
20 larger than one average MW customers, less than one average



1 MW customers will not receive the associated system benefits that  
2 they have paid for through EE investments in larger than one  
3 average MW customers.

4 **Q. Please summarize your findings and recommendation regarding CUB's**  
5 **EE proposal.**

6 A. Staff agrees with CUB that SB 838 funds are not used to provide EE measures  
7 for large customers. However, Staff analysis shows that the customer class  
8 receiving EE measures captures the full system benefit of EE measures.  
9 These two findings indicate large customers do not receive the system benefits  
10 of SB 838-funded EE, and that CUB's proposal is not needed at this time.

11 Staff acknowledges that it is possible that some remedial action may be  
12 needed in future years if large customers begin receiving direct benefits of EE  
13 measures funded by small customers. The testimony in Staff/1700 identifies  
14 one potential mechanism to accomplish CUB's goal of equitable rate treatment,  
15 in the event that large customers receive direct benefits from EE funded by  
16 small customers.

17 **Q. Please describe CUB's concern and proposal in more detail.**

18 A. Residential and small commercial customers pay for relatively more  
19 legislatively funded EE than other customer classes.<sup>2</sup> This is due to SB 838's  
20 restrictions on collecting EE funds from large customers.<sup>3</sup> CUB asserts that if  
21 EE is cost effective then it should result in system benefits and believes that

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<sup>2</sup> CUB/100, Jenks/10 at lines 12 through 14.

<sup>3</sup> CUB/100, Jenks/4 lines 7 through 12.

1 the customers who pay for EE should receive all of the system benefits of EE.<sup>4</sup>  
2 CUB does not believe this is occurring now and proposes an adjustment that  
3 redistributes system benefits.<sup>5</sup> However, CUB's proposal does not account for  
4 the current cost allocation impacts of EE.

5 **Q. How are the system benefits of EE currently allocated?**

6 A. In general, the long-standing Commission-adopted approach for rate spread  
7 and rate design results in the allocation of the system benefits of EE to the  
8 customer class that receives the EE. This is demonstrated by comparing how  
9 revenue requirement is currently spread to customer classes with how a  
10 hypothetical revenue requirement would have been spread if load were served  
11 with a generation resource rather than an EE resource. A precise evaluation of  
12 the allocation of system benefits is hampered by the need to make certain  
13 assumptions about the hourly EE savings and about the system costs if the  
14 energy were served through generation. However, under a broad range of  
15 assumptions regarding both system benefits and EE shape, the customer class  
16 receiving EE also captures the system benefits of the EE.

17 **Q. Please provide a high level summary of how Staff determined the**  
18 **allocation impact of EE system benefits.**

19 A. Staff evaluates the cost allocation impacts of EE by comparing the revenue  
20 requirement allocated to each schedule with and without load served by EE.  
21 The scenario where load is served by EE is represented by the filed case in

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<sup>4</sup> CUB/100, Jenks/10 at lines 18 and 19.

<sup>5</sup> CUB/100, Jenks/12 lines 12 to 21.

1 UE 319. The scenario where load is not served by EE involves increasing the  
2 revenue requirement by the avoided cost of a specific amount of EE and  
3 increasing customer load and demand by the same amount of EE. If the  
4 revenue requirement for schedules not served by EE decreases when EE is  
5 present, than there is a valid basis to claim that customer classes receiving EE  
6 are not capturing the system benefits of EE.

7 **Q. Please walk through a base case example of how the system benefits**  
8 **of EE impact cost allocations.**

9 A. In the base case example I compare cost allocations when Schedule 7  
10 residential customers are served by 1,000,000 MWh of EE with a scenario in  
11 which the same load is served by generation. I make the following  
12 assumptions:<sup>6</sup>

- 13 • EE MWh are spread across months proportionately to actual Schedule 7  
14 load.
- 15 • EE is flat within each month. This means that EE savings are identical  
16 within each hour of the month.
- 17 • The avoided cost of EE is equal to the marginal energy and capacity costs  
18 filed by PGE in this docket.<sup>7</sup>

19 I apply these assumptions to PGE's rate-spread and rate-design model. This  
20 model is used to divide PGE's total revenue requirement among different rate  
21 schedules based on the Commission's long-standing approach to cost

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<sup>6</sup> The significance of these assumptions is explained in a following Q&A.

<sup>7</sup> As provided in PGE/1300 Workpaper "MCEnergy.xlsx".

1 allocation. Staff uses the model to compare a hypothetical scenario without EE  
2 to the actual results filed by PGE in the current rate case. The hypothetical  
3 scenario involves adding load and adding costs to serve that load. The result of  
4 doing this in the cost allocation manual is that total costs are higher, and the  
5 percent of costs allocated to each schedule changes. Under the base case  
6 assumptions Schedule 7 fully captures the benefit of EE savings. The total  
7 annual avoided cost is calculated as \$48.4 million in system benefits.<sup>8</sup>  
8 However, the EE reduces Schedule 7 revenue requirement in total by  
9 \$61.0 million.<sup>9</sup> This shows that the allocation impacts of the EE reduce  
10 Schedule 7 revenue requirement sufficiently to capture all of the EE system  
11 benefit and allow Schedule 7 to capture additional benefit through \$12.6 million  
12 reduced allocation of non-production costs.

13 **Q. What is the additional \$12.6 million reduction in non-production costs**  
14 **and why does this result occur?**

15 A. The additional \$12.6 million reduction is an ancillary benefit of EE. It does not  
16 represent a system savings. It is a reallocation of costs from customers with  
17 EE to customers without EE. The result occurs because reduced energy use  
18 also reduces cost allocations for common and joint costs, transmission costs,  
19 and any other costs that are allocated on the basis of energy use; that is, costs  
20 beyond just generation costs. Customer classes with lower loads are allocated  
21 lower amounts of these costs.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Staff/1600, Kaufman/1.

<sup>9</sup> Staff/1600, Kaufman/1.

<sup>10</sup> Staff/1600, Kaufman/4 and 5.

1 **Q. Please explain the significance of the assumptions that you made.**

2 A. The first two assumptions identify the impact of EE on load. This allows the  
3 calculation of the EE contribution to coincident peak load. The contribution to  
4 coincident peak determines the amount of capacity costs avoided by EE and  
5 the allocation impacts of EE. If EE is assumed to contribute more to the  
6 coincident peak, then the avoided cost of EE will increase and the allocation  
7 impacts of EE will increase.

8 The third assumption identifies the system benefits of EE and is used to  
9 calculate the hypothetical revenue requirement if the load avoided by EE is  
10 served by generation resources.

11 **Q. How do your results change if the avoided capacity cost of EE is**  
12 **lower?**

13 A. One possible reason the avoided cost of EE may be lower than in the base  
14 case is that the system did not need to procure additional capacity resources to  
15 meet load. To test the impacts of EE in this scenario, Staff tested a variant of  
16 the base case with the incremental avoided capacity cost of EE set to zero.  
17 This assumption reduces the total avoided cost of 1,000,000 MWh from  
18 \$48.4 million to \$32.3 million. The result is that Schedule 7 cost allocations  
19 with EE are \$52.3 million lower than without EE.<sup>11</sup> Again, the resulting  
20 outcome has the entire system benefit of EE allocated to Schedule 7.  
21 However, the non-production allocation impacts increase from a \$12.6 million

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<sup>11</sup> Staff/1600, Kaufman/1.

1 benefit to a \$20 million benefit for Schedule 7.<sup>12</sup> Placing no value on avoided  
2 capacity cost would be consistent with a scenario where PGE is not capacity  
3 deficient even with the EE load on the system.

4 An alternative test that takes into account lower avoided capacity costs is  
5 to assume that EE contribution is flat across all hours of the year. This reduces  
6 the capacity contribution of 1,000,000 MWh from 150 MW to 112 MW. This  
7 test differs from eliminating the cost of capacity because it also modifies the  
8 allocation of embedded costs through different monthly peak profiles. The  
9 reduced capacity contribution lowers the avoided cost from \$48.4 million to  
10 \$44.1 million.<sup>13</sup> All system benefits are captured by Schedule 7, and non-  
11 production allocation benefit increases from \$12.6 million to \$13.2 million.<sup>14</sup>

12 **Q. How do your results change if the avoided cost of EE is higher than in**  
13 **the base case?**

14 A. If the avoided cost of EE is higher, the system benefit associated with EE  
15 would also be higher. One way to model higher avoided costs is to assume  
16 that EE contributes a greater amount to the system peak. Staff modified the  
17 assumed load shape of EE resources to contribute to the top 12 hours within  
18 each day for January, July, August, and December. This increases system  
19 benefits to \$124 million.<sup>15</sup> However, due to the substantial impact that capacity  
20 reductions have on cost allocations, Schedule 7 continued to capture all

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<sup>12</sup> Staff/1600, Kaufman/1.

<sup>13</sup> Staff/1600, Kaufman/1.

<sup>14</sup> Staff/1600, Kaufman/1.

<sup>15</sup> Staff/1600, Kaufman/1.

1 system benefits, as well as an additional \$20 million in non-production  
2 benefits.<sup>16</sup>

3 An alternative approach to testing higher avoided costs is to assume that  
4 capacity resources are more expensive. If capacity costs are modeled at  
5 265 percent of the level in PGE's opening testimony, all system benefits would  
6 be captured by Schedule 7, with no additional non-production allocation  
7 benefit. Under the assumed EE load shape, this level of capacity cost  
8 represents the switching point, where CUB's argument may begin to hold. If  
9 capacity costs are greater than 265 percent of what is currently deemed  
10 reasonable, large customers may be receiving system benefits associated with  
11 small customer EE. However, it seems unlikely that the avoided cost of  
12 capacity is this high.

13 **Q. Your base case scenario assumed all EE measures are installed within**  
14 **a single schedule. What is the impact if you assign the EE to another**  
15 **schedule, or spread the EE across multiple schedules?**

16 A. In general, the results are similar if EE is assigned to another schedule or  
17 across multiple EE schedules.

18 **Q. Please summarize the results of the sensitivities applied to the base**  
19 **case analysis.**

20 A. Staff tested a broad range of assumed EE load shapes and avoided costs.

21 The only scenario that results in residential customers not capturing the full  
22 benefit of EE is a scenario in which the cost of new capacity is very high, nearly

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<sup>16</sup> Staff/1600, Kaufman/1.

1 three times the current expectations. This means that CUB's concern that  
2 large customers capture system benefits associated with SB 838 funding is not  
3 valid as long as SB 838 measures are not installed for large customers.

4 **Q. Has your model considered incremental benefits associated with EE?**

5 A. Staff has not explicitly modeled system savings associated with avoided  
6 Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) compliance costs, miscellaneous  
7 transmission and distribution savings, or other incremental benefits associated  
8 with EE. However, the sensitivity analysis used to test higher capacity costs  
9 demonstrates that the primary result holds in the face of additional system  
10 benefits. Staff welcomes other parties to validate the Staff model and propose  
11 enhancements.

12 **Q. How should this analysis inform the Commission's decision on the**  
13 **SB 838 issues that CUB raises?**

14 A. The analysis supports a finding that there is not an equity issue associated with  
15 large customers not contributing to SB 838 EE measures as long as large  
16 customers do not receive energy services from SB 838 EE measures funded  
17 by customers less than 1aMW. Therefore, remedial action is not necessary at  
18 this time. If avoided capacity and energy values are much higher than  
19 currently modeled, large customers may realize a system benefit due to the  
20 efficiency investments of other rate classes. Staff proposed an approach to  
21 redistribute this benefit in Exhibit 1700. If Energy Trust were to fund large  
22 customer EE beyond what is funded today through SB 1149 using SB 838



1 funds, there may be a need to address equity issues as those customers who  
2 fund SB 838 would not realize those system benefits.

3 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

4 A. Yes.

CASE: UE 319  
WITNESS: LANCE KAUFMAN

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF  
OREGON**

**STAFF EXHIBIT 1601**

**Exhibits in Support  
Of Rebuttal Testimony**

**NON-CONFIDENTIAL**  
**August 17, 2017**

**Staff Exhibit 1601 is confidential and**

**Is subject to Protective Order No.17-057.**

CASE: UE 319  
WITNESS: MAX ST. BROWN

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF  
OREGON**

**STAFF EXHIBIT 1700**

**Rebuttal Testimony**

**August 17, 2017**

1 **Q. Please state your name, occupation, and business address.**

2 A. My name is Max St. Brown. I am a Senior Utility Economist employed in the  
3 Energy Rates, Finance and Audit Division of the Public Utility Commission of  
4 Oregon (OPUC). My business address is 201 High Street SE., Suite 100,  
5 Salem, Oregon 97301.

6 **Q. Have you previously provided testimony in this case?**

7 A. Yes, please see Staff Exhibit 1300.

8 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

9 A. I respond to the Oregon Citizen Utility Board's (CUB) "Energy Efficiency  
10 Subsidy" issue.

11 **Q. Please summarize Staff's findings?**

12 A. Staff finds that, to date, CUB's proposed SB 838 Energy Efficiency (EE)  
13 adjustment is unwarranted. If circumstances change in the future, Staff  
14 supports the spirit of CUB's model, but proposes a modification to compute the  
15 SB 838 EE adjustment on an embedded-cost-differential basis rather than a  
16 marginal-cost-differential basis. At a future date, this methodology could result  
17 in a transfer payment from customers larger than 1 aMW to customers smaller  
18 than 1 aMW in excess of \$2 million. Staff recommends no transfer payment in  
19 the 2018 test year.

20 **Q. How is your testimony organized?**

21 A. My testimony is organized as follows:

22 Issue 1, Response to CUB Issue "Energy Efficiency Subsidy" ..... 2

1           **ISSUE 1, RESPONSE TO CUB ISSUE “ENERGY EFFICIENCY SUBSIDY”**

2           **Q. Please summarize CUB’s argument that industrial customers are**  
3           **benefiting from energy efficiency that they are not paying for.**

4           A. CUB’s concern stems from the requirement in SB 838 (2007) that Portland  
5           General Electric (PGE) cannot collect any amounts for EE in excess of that  
6           collected under the Public Purpose Charge from customers whose load is more  
7           than 1 aMW. CUB is concerned that customers over 1 aMW are receiving a  
8           benefit from EE paid for by SB 838 funds even though they do not contribute.  
9           CUB argues that EE is a lower cost resource than electricity generation and  
10          that the savings of EE versus electricity generation are currently allocated to all  
11          customer classes rather than just the customer classes that pay for the EE.  
12          Specifically, CUB argues that residential and small commercial customers fund  
13          proportionally more for EE due to the provision in SB 838 that EE funding from  
14          customers above 1 aMW are capped, but do not receive the same  
15          proportionate share of the benefits.

16          **Q. What is CUB’s proposed remedy?**

17          A. CUB proposes two alternatives:  
18                  1. Include EE in PGE’s marginal cost study; or  
19                  2. Credit customers for the energy they are avoiding purchasing in 2018  
20                  (minus the cost of the corresponding EE).<sup>1</sup>

21          **Q. Why is this topic important?**

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<sup>1</sup> CUB/100, Jenks/12.

1 A. The cap on EE funds that PGE can collect from its largest customers comes  
2 with a cap on the EE that can be provided to these customers. EE provided to  
3 large industrial customers can be the most cost-effective. This means that the  
4 cap in SB 838 can result in PGE not being able to obtain the most cost  
5 effective EE. Staff agrees with CUB that a limit on cost-effective EE is  
6 particularly concerning in light of the EE mandates in Oregon's 2016 Senate  
7 Bill 1547.<sup>2</sup> More than just the participants in EE programs should be  
8 interested in EE because it can reduce the need for new generation  
9 investments, avoid transmission and distribution system costs, and lower  
10 system emissions.

11 **Q. Please summarize Staff's response to CUB's issue?**

12 A. Staff makes three points:

- 13 1. First, CUB's analysis ignores the fact that reducing load through EE  
14 alters PGE's marginal cost of service study by reallocating a greater  
15 share of system costs to schedules that are not reducing load through  
16 EE. In Staff Exhibit 1600, Staff witness Lance Kaufman demonstrates  
17 that under a wide range of scenarios, this reallocation effect ensures  
18 that customers smaller than 1 aMW capture a benefit from SB 838 EE at  
19 least as large as the system benefit.
- 20 2. Second, if the system benefits of EE were greatly increased, then  
21 customers larger than 1 aMW could indeed see spillover benefits from  
22 other Schedule's SB 838 EE. This scenario is unlikely, because it would

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<sup>2</sup> CUB/100, Jenks/7.

1 require the costs of energy and capacity to be much higher than all  
2 identified estimates. Nonetheless, if it were determined that customers  
3 larger than 1 aMW did indeed see a spillover benefit from SB 838 EE,  
4 then Staff supports using CUB's second proposed alternative of  
5 spreading credits based on value with the caveat that an embedded-  
6 cost-basis is used instead of a marginal-cost-basis.

7 3. Third, if at a future date SB 838 funds are used for EE projects for  
8 customers larger than 1 aMW yet those customers continue to not  
9 contribute to SB 838 funds, then CUB's second proposed alternative  
10 would spread credits based on value as a mechanism to reflect that  
11 customers smaller than 1 aMW have paid for EE investments in larger  
12 than 1 aMW customers and are entitled to the associated system  
13 benefits. While we recognize that this could be equitably appropriate,  
14 Staff is not sure if this approach would comport with the restrictions in  
15 SB 838 related to larger than 1 aMW customers funding additional EE or  
16 receiving additional benefits.

17 **Q. Related to CUB's first alternative to include EE in PGE's marginal cost**  
18 **study, is Staff aware of any other utility that has done this?**

19 A. No, Staff performed a brief internet search for utilities in other states that  
20 explicitly incorporate EE into their rate spread and did not find any.

21 **Q. Does Staff agree with CUB that including EE in PGE's marginal cost**  
22 **study is a viable strategy to address the concern raised in CUB's**  
23 **testimony?**



1 A. Staff does not think so. CUB's UE 283 proposal, which it reiterates in UE 319,  
2 does "not strictly speaking, include EE as a resource in the marginal cost of  
3 energy."<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, Staff's analysis focuses on CUB's second proposed  
4 alternative of spreading credits based on value. As described below, Staff  
5 modifies CUB's proposed marginal-cost differential adjustment into an  
6 embedded cost differential type adjustment, which has been utilized for other  
7 purposes in past Oregon PUC filings.

8 **Q. At this time, is either of CUB's proposed alternatives necessary?**

9 A. No, because customers under 1 aMW already receive a benefit larger than the  
10 revenue requirement delta between SB 838 EE and all other resources. Thus,  
11 as described in Staff witness Lance Kaufman's Exhibit 1600 testimony, CUB is  
12 trying to fix a problem that doesn't exist.

13 **Q. If further analysis showed that customers smaller than 1 aMW are not**  
14 **receiving the full system benefit of SB 838 EE, does Staff agree with**  
15 **CUB's second alternative to credit customers with the value of the EE**  
16 **they purchase?**

17 A. Yes, the embedded cost differential adopted for PacifiCorp's multi-state  
18 allocations in Docket UM 1050 provides a historical precedent for spreading  
19 credits based on value. Staff believes that CUB's proposal, with some  
20 modifications, would be a fair method to recognize the purchase of EE as a  
21 lower cost resource.

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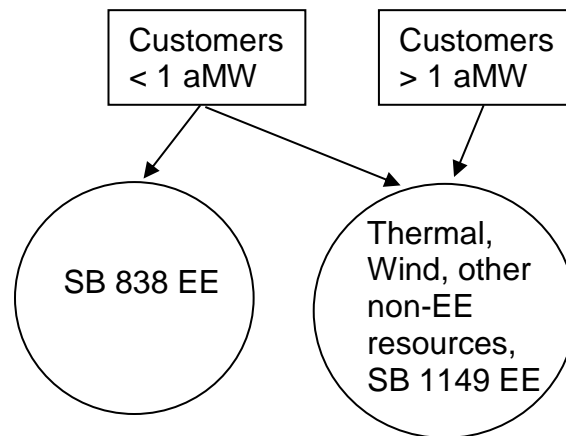
<sup>3</sup> Lines 14-15 of ICNU/400, Al-Jabir/10 in the UE 283 General Rate Case.

1 **Q. What modifications to CUB's proposal to credit customers with the**  
2 **value of the EE they purchase does Staff propose?**

3 A. In CUB's marginal cost computation, customers are avoiding the costs of a  
4 hypothetical new supply side resource, but in reality, existing resources  
5 comprise revenue requirement. Thus, an embedded cost differential is a better  
6 measure to spread costs incurred, and Staff uses that approach.

7 **Q. How does Staff's embedded cost differential work?**

8 A. Similar to CUB's computation, each customer class pays for its actual  
9 resources used, including EE. The diagram below provides an overview:



10

11 As in the diagram above, because customers below 1 aMW contribute to  
12 both sources of EE funding, SB 1149 and SB 838, it is fair for those  
13 customers to receive an equivalently larger share of the benefits (lower  
14 associated revenue requirement) of EE.

15 **Q. How are the cost savings of EE and embedded cost differential**  
16 **computed?**

1 A. In Staff's embedded cost differential computation, the revenue requirement of  
2 EE is compared to an approximation of the hypothetical revenue requirement  
3 were that EE to not exist. The delta is the cost savings, which are distributed in  
4 a revenue-neutral manner between rate schedules.

5 The embedded cost differential is computed by the following formula:

6 
$$ECD = (\text{cost of SB 838 EE} \div \text{mWh} - \text{cost of all other sources of power} \div \text{mWh}) * \text{SB 838 EE mWh}$$

7 **Q. Can you give an example of Staff's model?**

8 A. Yes, below is a hypothetical example of how Staff's model allows procurement  
9 of all cost-effective EE.

10 **Q. How does Staff compute the MWh available from EE during the test**  
11 **year?**

12 A. For simplicity, Staff used CUB's assumption that EE savings are accumulated  
13 for ten years.<sup>4</sup> Staff recommends updating the model using the Energy Trust  
14 of Oregon's (ETO) actual weighted average measure life data because some  
15 projects have shorter or longer lives. For example, an HVAC economizer has a  
16 five-year life and an energy-efficient showerhead has a 15-year life. However,  
17 Staff believes that ten years is a reasonable approximation for purposes of this  
18 testimony.

19 **Q. For illustrative purposes, please compute the 2018 test year amounts**  
20 **of EE included in rates?**

21 A. As described above, customers smaller than 1 aMW are receiving the benefit  
22 from SB 838, so Staff's model should not be applied unless further analysis

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<sup>4</sup> See CUB's response to ICNU DR 7.

1 proves otherwise. Nonetheless, for illustrative purposes, in the counterfactual  
2 scenario where customers smaller than 1 aMW are not capturing the full  
3 benefit of EE funded by SB 838, then Staff's model would provide an additional  
4 credit to the customers providing the funding. To develop the following  
5 example, the first step is to identify the SB 838 EE amounts being included in  
6 rates for the test year. The Staff estimate uses a ten-year average as a  
7 representative amount. To obtain this average Staff divides the average  
8 revenue requirement of SB 838 EE over 10 years up to 2018 by the cumulative  
9 quantity of SB 838 EE provided in CUB/100, Jenks/12. This provides an  
10 embedded cost of EE of \$32.92 per MWh, which is somewhat higher than the  
11 levelized cost of EE used in CUB's computations of \$26.10 per MWh.

12 **Q. How does Staff approximate the hypothetical revenue requirement of**  
13 **the Company's generation power cost from non-EE sources?**

14 A. The embedded cost differential in this case is the cost of SB 838 EE being  
15 included in the test year rates paid by customers smaller than 1 aMW as  
16 compared to all other sources of power. There are two components in Staff's  
17 calculation of the costs of all other sources of power. The first component is  
18 fuel cost, for which Staff uses the embedded generation net variable power  
19 cost. The second component is the fixed cost of plant that is avoided through  
20 EE. To compute this, Staff uses the embedded fixed generation cost  
21 decremented by 44 percent, recognizing that EE does not reduce peak  
22 capacity on a one-to-one basis.

1           The 44 percent decrement is computed assuming that half of fixed  
2           generation costs are incurred for energy and half are incurred for capacity. Of  
3           the costs incurred for capacity, Staff assumes that only 12 percent of those  
4           costs are avoided with EE. Thus:

$$1 - (0.50 + 0.50 * 0.12) = 44\%$$

6           Staff's 12 percent assumption is a guess, which Staff recommends should  
7           be updated when the ETO provides a more accurate figure from its ongoing  
8           study.<sup>5</sup>

9           **Q. How are savings spread?**

10          A. Each schedule is credited with the generation that is offset by EE. Schedules  
11          that contribute to EE funding, are allocated the delta between EE cost and  
12          embedded generation.

13          **Q. Are there any shortcomings of this approach?**

14          A. Yes, Staff's schedules-based approach does not specifically account for  
15          customers above 1 aMW. This is a moot point for Schedules 89 and 90 where  
16          all customers exceed 1 aMW, but it creates potential complications for  
17          Schedule 85 where only some customers have loads exceeding 1 aMW. Staff  
18          is open to considering alternative approaches that address this Schedule 85  
19          issue proposed by CUB or other parties.

20          **Q. What are Staff's hypothetical results?**

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<sup>5</sup> See page 28 of ETO's 2016 Annual Report which states, "[ETO] coordinated with utilities to quantify demand reduction benefits of energy efficiency."

1 A. The following table illustrates that using the assumptions described above for  
 2 EE in 2018, if SB 838 EE system benefits were counterfactually not fully  
 3 captured in net by customers smaller than 1 aMW, Staff’s model would indicate  
 4 that approximately \$2 million should be transferred from customers larger than  
 5 1 aMW to customers smaller than 1 aMW to ensure that the customers whose  
 6 annual load is more than 1 aMW are not receiving the direct benefits of SB 838  
 7 funding.

Schedule	Net Rev. Req.Effect of Conservation Credit
Sch 7	-\$1,173,806.71
Sch 15	-\$16,809.91
Sch 32	-\$276,141.71
Sch 38	-\$26,263.92
Sch 47	-\$4,156.20
Sch 49	-\$3,240.09
Sch 83	\$15,500.96
Sch 85-S	\$99,953.98
Sch 89-S	\$428,827.89
Sch 90-P	\$1,072,176.39
Sch 91/95	-\$115,209.61
Sch 92	-\$831.07

8  
 9 In the table above, customers larger than 1 aMW are not paying for SB 838  
 10 EE, rather, the delta between EE and traditional resources is being allocated to  
 11 the schedules that fund SB 838 EE. This adjustment is a correction to align  
 12 benefits with costs. As CUB describes, the Schedules that are currently  
 13 contributing the most to SB 838 EE see a slight rate decrease under this  
 14 proposal. Again, this adjustment should only be applied at some future date if

1 customers smaller than 1 aMW were not in net capturing the full system benefit  
2 of SB 838 EE.

3 **Q. Could this model be used if SB 838 funding were to be used on EE**  
4 **projects for customers larger than 1 aMW?**

5 A. In that scenario, customers smaller than 1 aMW would be purchasing a  
6 different mix of resources than PGE's other customers. Thus, it would be  
7 appropriate for smaller customers to pay for the actual resources they use,  
8 including lower cost SB 838 EE. However, the transfer payment scheme  
9 advocated by Staff may not be consistent with SB 838's statutory prohibition on  
10 EE funding from customers larger than 1 aMW.

11 **Q. At this time, is Staff advocating any changes to rate spread?**

12 A. No, as described above, customers smaller than 1 aMW receive the direct  
13 benefit from their EE funding, thus CUB's proposed adjustment is unwarranted.  
14 If, at a future date customers larger than 1 aMW receive a direct benefit from  
15 SB 838 funding, then using CUB's model with modifications to compute costs  
16 on an embedded-cost basis rather than on a marginal-cost basis – i.e. Staff's  
17 model described above, is a reasonable approach. Other reasonable  
18 approaches likely exist, and Staff is open to considering other models if and  
19 when customers smaller than 1 aMW cease to capture the full benefits in net of  
20 SB 838 EE.

21 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

22 A. Yes.

CASE: UE 319  
WITNESS: MARIANNE GARDNER

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF  
OREGON**

**STAFF EXHIBIT 1800**

**Rebuttal Testimony**

**August 17, 2017**



1 **Q. Please state your name, occupation, and business address.**

2 A. My name is Marianne Gardner. I am a Senior Requirement Analyst employed  
3 in the Energy Rates, Finance and Audit Division of the Public Utility  
4 Commission of Oregon (OPUC). My business address is 201 High Street SE.,  
5 Suite 100, Salem, Oregon 97301.

6 **Q. Have you previously provided testimony in this case?**

7 A. Yes, please see Staff Exhibit 400.

8 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

9 A. To report that Staff and other parties to the docket have reached an agreement  
10 in principle resolving all but one of the issues raised in the non-NVPC portion of  
11 Portland General Electric Company (PGE)'s general rate case.<sup>1</sup> The one  
12 remaining issue is whether the Commission should adopt one Oregon Citizens'  
13 Utility Board's proposals to remedy what CUB perceives as an unfair allocation  
14 of energy efficiency costs and benefits between customers with loads that  
15 exceed 1 aMW and those will loads under 1 aMW.<sup>2</sup>

16 Staff witnesses Max St. Brown and Lance Kaufman present testimony on  
17 the CUB proposal in Staff Exhibit Nos. 1600 and 1700. Because Staff has  
18 reached an agreement in principle regarding all other issues in this case, Staff  
19 presents no testimony in addition to this testimony and the testimony in Staff  
20 Exhibit Nos. 1600 and 1700.

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<sup>1</sup> As previously reported, parties have also reached an agreement in principle regarding the NVPC issues raised in PGE's general rate case. (See June 26, 2017 PGE Motion to Suspend Net Variable Power Costs Procedural Schedule).

<sup>2</sup> CUB/100, Jenks/2-13.

1

2 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

3 A. Yes.