OF OREGON

UA 144

In the Matter of

WASCO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

ORDER

Application for Allocation of Exclusive Service Territory in and around Klondike, Oregon.

DISPOSITION: APPLICATION APPROVED

On February 11, 2009, the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) received an Application for Allocation of Exclusive Service Territory from Wasco Electric Cooperative, Inc (WEC). The Application, filed pursuant to ORS 758.435, requests allocation of exclusive rights to unallocated territory mostly adjacent to WEC's existing territory located near Klondike, Oregon in Sherman County (Klondike Area). WEC currently provides electric service to three WEC members at four locations in the unallocated Klondike area; PacifiCorp has exclusive service territory and distribution facilities located to the west of the requested Klondike area.

BACKGROUND

WEC is an electric cooperative that provides retail electric service in Wasco, Sherman, Morrow, Gilliam, Jefferson and Crook Counties, as well as in adjacent unallocated areas. WEC currently and for many years has provided electric service to the following four retail customers in the Klondike area: Mid-Columbia Producers, the Weedman Ranch, and the Welk and Hilderbrand residences.¹

NOTICE

Legal notice of this matter was published in *The Dalles Chronicle* on March 1 and March 8, 2009. No requests for hearing were received.

¹ Maps and legal descriptions of the Klondike Area are attached to WEC's application.

DISCUSSION

On April 14, 2009, Commission Staff (Staff) filed a memorandum supporting WEC's Application. Staff noted that WEC provides utility service to customers through distribution of electricity by entering into a long-term, take-or-pay power supply agreement with the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). Under the power supply agreement, BPA provides firm power to WEC for all of WEC's current loads, including service to WEC members in the Klondike area. Staff concluded that WEC's territory allocation changes are acceptable and not contrary to the public interest, and that WEC can provide service economically to the Klondike Area by providing exclusive electric utility service and preventing the duplication of facilities.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons cited above, the proposed allocation of service territory is reasonable and not contrary to the public interest. Pursuant to ORS 758.435, WEC's application should be approved in its entirety.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that WEC's Application for Exclusive Service Territory for the area near Klondike, Oregon is approved.

Made, entered and effective

MAY 0 6 2009

Lee Beyer
Chairman

Commissioner

Ray Baum
Commissioner

A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order pursuant to ORS 756.561. A request for rehearing or reconsideration must be filed with the Commission within 60 days of the date of service of this order. The request must comply with the requirements in OAR 860-014-0095. A copy of any such request must also be served on each party to the proceeding as provided by OAR 860-013-0070(2). A party may appeal this order by filing a petition for review with the Court of Appeals in compliance with ORS 183.480-183.484.