

ISSUED: February 3, 2006

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

AR 500

In the Matter of a Rulemaking to Amend OAR)
860-021-0120, pertaining to Meter Readings and)
Bill Forms, and to Amend OAR 860-021-0405,)
pertaining to Notice of Pending Disconnection of)
Residential Electric or Gas Utility Service.)

RULING

DISPOSITION: TIME FOR FINAL ORAL COMMENTS EXTENDED.

After the Commission meeting of January 26, 2006, but prior to filing the amended rules with the Secretary of State, it came to Staff’s attention that one of the amendments resulted in an unintended consequence. Specifically, the amended language in Section 7 requires utilities to make a good faith effort to contact the customer at least three business days prior to disconnection. The initial intent was to contact the customer at least three days prior to disconnection only for utilities using remote disconnect technology. Utilities not using remote disconnect technology would follow the current practice of contacting customers on the day of disconnection via a site visit. The adopted language in Section 7 must be changed in order to clarify this distinction.

To resolve this issue, the rule docket will again come before the Commission on February 21, 2006. It is necessary to extend the comment period so that comments may be made to the Commission. While comments filed after any deadline are not to be considered, the deadline may be extended as long as it is extended to all interested agencies and persons. *See* ORS 183.335(14).

The deadline for final oral comments is the conclusion of the February 21, 2006, regular public meeting of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon.

Dated at Salem, Oregon, this 3rd day of February 2006.

Michelle M. Mhoon
Administrative Law Judge