



Portland General Electric Company
121 SW Salmon Street • Portland, Oregon 97204
PortlandGeneral.com

August 29, 2017

Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Attn: Filing Center
201 High Street, S.E.
P.O. Box 1088
Salem, OR 97308-1088

RE: Advice No. 17-16, Schedule 115 Low-Income Assistance, Removal of Expiration Date

Portland General Electric Company (PGE) submits this filing pursuant to Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 757.205 and 757.210, and Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 860-022-0025, for filing a proposed tariff sheet associated with Tariff P.U.C. No. 18, with a requested effective date of **October 5, 2017**:

Eighth Revision of Sheet No. 115-1

The purpose of this filing is to remove the expiration date for the temporary increase to the low income assistance charge in compliance with Oregon House Bill (HB) 2004 (2013), 3257 (2015), and 2134 (2017). Removing the expiration date for the temporary increase is consistent with HB 2004, which removed the 12- and 24-month limitations for the collection of the additional \$5 million originally set forth in Senate Bill 863 (2011). Continuing the collection of the \$5 million after October 4, 2017 will be consistent with HB 3257 and HB 2134.

HB 3257 changed the expiration date for the low income bill payment assistance described in ORS 757.612 program to January 2, 2018. Note that in the last update of Schedule 115, in Advice No. 15-21, PGE requested and the Commission approved, to extend the collection of the additional funds through October 4, 2017. However, because HB 2004 removed the 12- and 24- month limitation and HB 3257 changed the expiration date to January 2, 2018, PGE now believes the request in Advice No. 15-21 should have been to extend the collection through January 2, 2018. Removing the expiration date as requested in this advice filing will correct this and avoid a gap in low income bill payment assistance funding to Oregon Housing and Community Services and eligible low income customers.

HB 2134 combines the amounts for low income bill payment assistance to be collected by electric utilities that include \$15 million described in ORS 757.612(7)(b) and the \$5 million described in Sections 3 and 4, Chapter 566 Oregon Laws 2011. HB 2134 becomes effective January 2, 2018. This combined \$20 million is already being collected by PGE and Pacific Power. PGE anticipates updating Schedule 115 to reflect the impact of HB 2134 in late 2017, for an effective date of January 2, 2018.

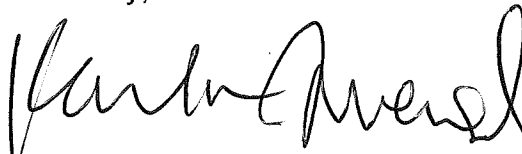
To satisfy the requirements of OAR 860-022-0025, PGE responds as follows:

PGE will continue to collect the additional low income assistance from approximately 775,897 residential customers until the supplemental assistance sunset date of January 2, 2018.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding this filing, please contact Kalia Savage at (503) 464-7432.

Please direct all formal correspondence and requests to the following email address pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karla Wenzel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and a long, sweeping underline.

Karla Wenzel
Manager, Pricing & Tariffs

Enclosure

**SCHEDULE 115
LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this rate schedule is to implement the low-income bill payment assistance provisions in accordance with Section 1(7)(b) of Senate Bill 461 (Chapter 837, Oregon Laws 2007) and in accordance to House Bill 3257 (2015 regular session) that extends the temporary increase in energy assistance collections from residential customers.

APPLICABLE

To all bills for Electricity Service calculated under all rate schedules and contracts, except those Customers explicitly exempted. Based on House Bill 3633 (Chapter 819, Oregon Laws 2001) provisions, this rate schedule is also applicable to Direct Service Industries (DSIs) located within the Company's service territory.

ADJUSTMENT RATES

The applicable Adjustment Rates are listed below. As specified in House Bill 3633 (Chapter 819, Oregon Laws 2011), Customers will not be required to pay more than \$500 per month per Site for low-income Electricity bill payment assistance.

<u>Schedules</u>	<u>Adjustment Rate</u>
7	\$0.50 per month \$0.34 per month ¹
All other Schedules, including DSIs	0.050¢ per kWh for the first 1,000,000 kWh

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. On a monthly basis, on or before the last day of the month, the Company will forward an amount to the Oregon Housing and Community Services Department (OHCS) based on billings to Customers for the previous month less a reserve for uncollectable amounts.
2. Senate Bill 863 (Chapter 566, Oregon Laws 2011) allows for a temporary increase in bill payment assistance. Section (3)(1) requires the OPUC to direct electric companies to collect a combined total of an additional \$5 million per 12-month period from its residential customers. House Bill 2004 (2013 regular session) extended the temporary collection of low-income assistance funds twenty-four months. House Bill 2004 further amended Section (3) eliminating the special economic conditions as the determinate for the collection of these additional funds. With the passage of House Bill 3257 (2015 regular session), the temporary collection of low income assistance funds has been extended an additional twenty-four months.
3. The Company will collect its portion of the combined total of the additional \$5 million between electric companies per each 12-month period from its residential customers. This supplemental energy assistance will sunset on January 2, 2018.

(C)

¹ HB3257 extends the collection of SB 863 low income funding. Calculation is based on a 2016 projected residential customer count.