

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

UE 394

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC  
COMPANY,

BENCH REQUEST

Request for a General Rate Revision.

The following questions are intended to facilitate a complete understanding of 2020 Labor Day wildfire deferral costs incurred in calendar year 2020, as well as Portland General Electric's wildfire mitigation and vegetation management plans and budget. The first four questions are directed at PGE. The fifth and sixth questions are directed at all parties. Responses are due no later than 3:00 p.m. on March 7, 2022. Any party may file a reply to a response by 3:00 p.m. on March 14, 2022.

1. List (a) dollars budgeted on vegetation management in each of the last three years (2019-2021) and (b) actual dollars spent on vegetation management in each of the last three years (2019-2021). Please include a high-level explanation of any variances.
2. List (a) dollars budgeted on wildfire mitigation in each of the last three years (2019-2021) and (b) actual dollars spent on wildfire mitigation in each of the last three years (2019-2021). Please include a high-level explanation of any variances.
3. Does PGE have any metrics in place to measure the effectiveness over time of vegetation management, including both the traditional program and the proposed Enhanced Vegetation Management and Advanced Wildfire Risk Reduction programs, and wildfire mitigation programs unrelated to vegetation management? If so, describe those metrics and the company's resulting conclusions. If not, what metrics would most accurately demonstrate the effectiveness of the company's programs?
4. Describe any issues PGE has had in obtaining skilled vegetation management labor or specialized equipment. Has PGE been forced to curtail or to run behind projected pace on any vegetation management spending due to an inability to hire skilled labor and equipment on the company's preferred schedule? Please also detail any plans the company has developed to ensure that the company will be able to obtain a sufficient labor force to carry out its plans for vegetation management including climbable trees and wildfire mitigation.

5. Please address whether the parties considered a reporting and/or deferral with a balancing account-based mechanism to ensure funds annually budgeted for wildfire mitigation and vegetation management are dedicated to those purposes and effectively spent. Identify any concerns with this approach.
6. Refer to PGE/2900, Tooman-Ferchland/27. Please provide a breakdown of the wildfire deferral costs incurred in CY 2020, separately identifying the costs deemed prudent or reasonable and subject to amortization by the parties, and the total remaining disputed costs.

Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2022, at Salem, Oregon.



---

Alison Lackey  
Administrative Law Judge