

December 4, 2007

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Oregon Public Utility Commission 550 Capitol Street NE, Suite 215 Salem, OR 97310-2551

Attn: Vikie Bailey-Goggins, Administrator

Regulatory and Technical Support

RE: Application of PacifiCorp for a Deferred Accounting Order

For Network Damage from December 2007 Storm

Docket UM

Enclosed for filing by PacifiCorp d.b.a. Pacific Power is an original and five copies of an Application for a Deferred Accounting Order for Network Damage from the December 2007 Storm. A copy of the enclosed Notice has been served on all parties in Docket UE 179 as indicated on the attached Certificate of Service.

Informal inquiries may be directed to Joelle Steward at (503) 813-5542.

Very truly yours,

Andrea L. Kelly

Vice President, Regulation

Andrea L. Kelley 13

Enclosures

cc: Service List UE 179

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

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OIVE	

In the Matter of the Application of PACIFICORP for a Deferred Accounting Order For Network Damage from December 2007 Storm

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PACIFICORP'S APPLICATION FOR DEFERRED ACCOUNTING

I. INTRODUCTION

Under ORS 757.259 and OAR 860-027-0300, PacifiCorp dba Pacific Power (or the Company) applies to the Commission for an order authorizing the Company to defer from the date of this Application forward the costs associated with network damage from a powerful and sustained rain and windstorm that initially struck Oregon on December 2, 2007.

II. NOTICE

Communications regarding this application should be addressed to:

	Natalie Hocken
Oregon Dockets	General Counsel
PacifiCorp	Pacific Power
825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000	825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000
Portland, OR 97232	Portland, OR 97232
Telephone: (503) 813-5542	Telephone: (503) 813-7205
Email: oregondockets@pacificorp.com	Email: natalie.hocken@pacificorp.com

In addition, PacifiCorp respectfully requests that all data requests regarding this matter be addressed to:

By email (preferred)	datarequest@pacificorp.com
By regular mail	Data Request Response Center PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232
By facsimile	(503) 813-6060

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1 III. DEFERRED ACCOUNTING RULE REQUIREMENTS

The following information is provided pursuant to the requirements set forth in OAR 860-027-0300(3).

4 A. Description of Utility Expense.

- Starting December 2, 2007, Oregon experienced a severe rain and windstorm with
- 6 winds topping 125 mph in the coast range and headlands and rain that caused extensive
- 7 flooding of the coast and other parts of Oregon. The storm downed trees and power lines
- 8 throughout the state. An estimated 160,000 customers had service interruptions throughout
- 9 the Pacific Power service territory.
- The storm caused significant damage to Pacific Power's transmission and distribution
- 11 network throughout the state. Pacific Power's first priority has been customer safety and
- power restoration so a complete assessment of the damages is not yet available. Based upon
- the nature and extent of the damage observed; however, Pacific Power believes that its
- 14 network has suffered extensive damage. Without a clearer understanding of the nature and
- scope of the damage, Pacific Power is unable to determine which losses, if any, are covered
- 16 by insurance.

17 B. Reasons for Deferral.

- Pacific Power's request for deferral results from damage caused by a severe and
- 19 extraordinary storm. In establishing generic guidelines for deferred accounting in UM
- 20 1147, the Commission made clear that deferred accounting was designed to cover costs
- associated with this type of unanticipated and undeniably serious triggering event. See In
- re Investigation Related to Deferred Accounting, Order No. 05-1070, Docket UM 1147
- 23 (2005).
- 24 This Application for deferred accounting permits the Commission to support Pacific
- 25 Power's efforts to respond responsibly to the December 2007 storm by immediately
- addressing all safety and service concerns, and conducting subsequent assessment of

Page 2 - PACIFICORP'S APPLICATION FOR DEFERRED ACCOUNTING

- damage and repairs costs and options. In UM 1147, the Commission made clear that it had 1 2 discretion and flexibility to allow deferred accounting to encourage utility behavior consistent with good regulatory policy. Order No. 05-1070 at 2. 3 4 ORS 757.259(2)(e) allows the deferral of utility expenses or revenues where 5 necessary to match appropriately the costs borne by and the benefits received by customers. This standard requires flexibility and an examination of the facts of the case. Order No. 6 05-1070 at 4-5. This request seeks to align the costs of Pacific Power's network service 7 with the benefits customers receive from such service. 8 9 C. Proposed Accounting. During the period of deferral, Pacific Power proposes to account for the deferred 10 costs of the storm by recording the deferral in Account 182.3, Other Regulatory Assets. 11 12 Pacific Power requests that in accordance with ORS 757.259(3), it be allowed to accrue interest on the unamortized balance at a rate equal to its weighted average cost of capital 13 most recently approved by the Commission. Amortization of the balance would be 14 considered in a subsequent proceeding coincident with inclusion in rates. 15 16 **D**. Estimate of Amounts. Pacific Power will supplement this Application with an estimate of the costs of the storm damage as soon as these are available. In the event the costs are fully covered by insurance, Pacific Power will withdraw this Application. 19
- 17 18
- 20 E. Notice.
- A copy of the Notice of Application and a list of persons served with the Notice are 21 22 attached to this Application as Exhibit A.

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IV. CONCLUSION

Pacific Power respectfully requests that, in accordance with ORS 757.259, the Commission authorize the Company to defer the costs described in this Application.

DATED: December 4, 2007.

Natalie L. Hocken

General Counsel, Pacific Power

Counsel for PacifiCorp

EXHIBIT A

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4		UTILITY COMMISSION	
5	OF OREGON UM		
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7	In the Matter of Application of PACIFICORP for a Deferred Accounting	NOTICE OF APPLICATION	
8	Order For Network Damage from December 2007 Windstorm		
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10	On December 4, 2007, Applicant PacifiCorp dba Pacific Power applied to the Public		
11	Utility Commission of Oregon (the "Commiss	ion") for authorization to use deferred	
12	2 accounting. Pursuant to ORS 757.259, Pacific Power proposes to defer for later recovery		
13	3 costs associated with network damage from a powerful and sustained rain and windstorm that		
14	4 initially struck Oregon on December 2, 2007.		
15	The granting of the Application will not authorize a change in rates, but will permit		
16	5 the Commission to consider allowing such deferred accounts in rates in a subsequent		
17	proceeding.		
18	Interested persons can obtain a copy of	the Application by contacting:	
19	Joelle Steward		
20	PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah St.,	Ste. 2000	
21	Portland, OR 97232		
22	Telephone: (503) 813-55	042	
23	Any person may submit to the Commis	sion written comment on the Application, in	
24	accordance with procedures prescribed by the	Commission. The deadline for comments on	
25	25 the Application is January 3, 2008.		
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1	DATED this Value day of May of
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3	Natalie L. Hocken
4	Natalie L. Hocken Vice President & General Counsel Pacific Power
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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Application on the following named person(s) on the service list for Pacific Power's last General Rate Case, Docket UE 179, on the date indicated below by e-mail and/or first class mail addressed to said person(s) at his or her last known address indicated below:

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Dated: December 4, 2007

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Debbie DePetris

Supervisor, Regulatory Administration