

January 22, 2008

## 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 Operations

RE: Application of PacifiCorp for a Deferred Accounting Order

Enclosed for filing by PacifiCorp d.b.a. Pacific Power is an Application for a Deferred Accounting Order to defer the costs associated with the independent evaluators for the solicitation process in Docket UM 1360. 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

**Enclosures** 

cc: Service List UE 179

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION 1 **OF OREGON** 3 UM /UM 1360 In the Matter of the Application of PACIFICORP for a Deferred Accounting PACIFICORP'S APPLICATION FOR Order DEFERRED ACCOUNTING In the Matter of PACIFICORP's Request for Proposals for Flexible Resources starting in 2012 through 2017 4 I. INTRODUCTION Pursuant to ORS 757.259 and OAR 860-02 5 6 7-0300, PacifiCorp, d.b.a. Pacific Power ("Company") applies to the Public Utility 7 Commission of Oregon ("Commission") for an order authorizing the Company to defer 8 from the date of this Application forward the costs associated with the independent 9 evaluators ("IEs") selected and approved by the Commission for the Company's 10 solicitation process for flexible resources staring in 2012 through 2017 which the Company 11 will refer to as the 2008 All Source Request for Proposal ("2008 RFP"). 12 II. NOTICE 13 Communications regarding this application should be addressed to: PacifiCorp Oregon Dockets Natalie Hocken 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Vice President & General Counsel Portland, OR 97235 Pacific Power Email: oregondockets@pacificorp.com 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000

Portland, OR 97235 Phone: (503) 813-7205

Email: natalie.hocken@pacificorp.com

Page 1 – PacifiCorp's Application for Deferred Accounting

1	In addition, PacifiCorp respectfully requests that all data requests regarding this		
2	matter be addressed to:		
3	By email (preferred)	datarequest@pacificorp.com	
4 5 6 7	By regular mail	Data Request Response Center PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232	
8	By facsimile	(503) 813-6060	
9	Informal inquiries may be directed to Joelle Steward, State Regulatory Manager, a		
10	(503) 813-5542.		
11	III. DEFERRED ACCOUNTING RULE REQUIREMENTS		
12	The following information is provided pursuant to the requirements set forth in OAI		
13	860-027-0300(3).		
14	A. Description of Utility Expense.		
15	On December 24, 2007 PacifiCorp filed an application requesting the Commission to		
16	open a new docket for approval of a solicitation process for the 2008 RFP and requesting		
17	selection of the Oregon IEs under the competitive bidding guidelines established in Docker		
18	No. UM 1182, Order No. 06-0446 ("RFP Order"). This filing was assigned Docket No.		
19	UM 1360.		
20	Guideline 5 of the RFP Order requires an IE in all RFPs. Guideline 5 provides that a		
21	utility may request deferred accounting to track the costs of an IE for later inclusion in		
22	rates. Consistent with Guideline 5 and based on a recommendation from the Commission		
23	Staff to reappoint the same independent evaluators, the Company requested that parties to		
24	Docket No. UM 1208 advise the Company of their position on reappointment of the same		
25	independent evaluators. Commission Staff, Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon, NIPPC		
26	Renewable Northwest Project, Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities and Northwest		

Energy Coalition all responded to the Company's request supporting the recommendation that Boston Pacific Company, Inc. ("Boston Pacific") and Accion Group ("Accion") be recommended to the Commission for selection as the independent evaluators for the 2008 RFP. Boston Pacific and Accion have also indicated a willingness to perform this function for the 2008 RFP, if reappointed. Given the support for retaining the same IEs, the

Company requested reappointment of Boston Pacific and Accion.

At the Commission Public Meeting on January 8, 2008, the Commission approved Staff's recommendation and selected Boston Pacific and Accion as the Oregon IEs. *See* Staff Report, Docket No. UM 1360 (January 8, 2008 Public Meeting). The Commission also approved Staff's recommendation that the Commission direct PacifiCorp to negotiate a contract with Boston Pacific and the Accion consistent with the RFP Order and subject to Staff's review. Order No. 08-019.

PacifiCorp has provided draft contracts to the IEs and Commission Staff for review and intends to execute the contract with the Oregon IEs as soon as practicable. This application seeks deferred accounting for all costs incurred under this contract. Because the Commission may direct PacifiCorp to employ the Oregon IEs even if the Commission does not approve the 2008 RFP, PacifiCorp seeks deferred accounting irrespective of the Commission's decision on approval of the 2008 RFP.

### B. Reasons for Deferral.

ORS 757.259(2)(e) allows the deferral of utility expenses or revenues where necessary to match appropriately the costs borne by and benefits received by ratepayers. This request seeks to align the costs of the Oregon IEs and the services that the Oregon IEs will perform on behalf of customers. In its RFP Order, the Commission specifically approved of the use of deferred accounting to match the customer costs and benefits of an IE in this manner.

Page 3 – PacifiCorp's Application for Deferred Accounting

### C. Proposed Accounting.

1

- 2 During the period of deferral, PacifiCorp proposes to account for the deferred costs of
- 3 the Oregon IE by recording the deferral in Account 182.3, Other Regulatory Assets.
- 4 PacifiCorp requests that in accordance with ORS 757.259(3), it be allowed to accrue
- 5 interest on the unamortized balance at a rate equal to its weighted average cost of capital
- 6 most recently approved by the Commission. Amortization of the balance would be
- 7 considered in a subsequent proceeding coincident with inclusion in rates.

### 8 D. Estimate of Amounts.

- 9 PacifiCorp anticipates that the cost of the IE will be approximately \$700,000. It
- should be noted that this figure is an estimate based on costs associated with the 2012 RFP
- and will be updated as better information becomes available to the Company.

#### 12 E. Notice.

- A copy of the Notice of Application and a list of persons served with the Notice are
- attached to this Application as Exhibit A.

## IV. CONCLUSION

- 2 PacifiCorp respectfully requests that, in accordance with ORS 757.259, the
- 3 Commission authorize the Company to defer the costs described in this Application.

DATED: January 22, 2008.

1

Natalie L. Hocken

Vice President & General Counsel,

Pacific Power

Counsel for PacifiCorp



1 2				
3	<b>UM</b>	_/UM 1360		
	In the Matter of the Application of PACIFICORP for a Deferred Accounting Order	NOTICE OF APPLICATION		
	In the Matter of PACIFICORP's Request for Proposals for Flexible Resources starting in 2012 through 2017			
4				
5	On January 22, 20008, Applicant PacifiCorp, d.b.a. Pacific Power ("Company")			
6	applied to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon ("Commission") for authorization to use			
7	deferred accounting.			
8	The Company proposes to defer from the date of the application forward the costs			
9	associated with the independent evaluators ("IEs") selected and approved by the Commission			
10	for the Company's solicitation process for flexible resources staring in 2012 through 2017			
11	which the Company will refer to as the 2008 All Source Request for Proposal ("2008 RFP")			
12	The Company expects the annual deferral amounts could be up to \$700,000. The Company			
13	requests that the deferral continue no longer than twelve months from the date of this filing.			
14	The granting of the Application will not authorize a change in rates, but will permit			
15	the Commission to consider allowing such deferred amounts in rates in a subsequent			
16	proceeding.			
17	Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Application by contacting:			
18 19 20 21 22 23	Joelle Steward PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232 Phone: (503) 813-5542			

- 1 Any person may submit to the Commission written comment on the Application, in
- 2 accordance with the procedures prescribed by the Commission. The deadline for comments
- 3 on the application is February 18, 2008.

DATED: January 22, 2008.

Valde L. Halen / J.
Natalie L. Hocken

Vice President & General Counsel

Pacific Power

### **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 first class mail addressed to said person(s) at his or her last known address indicated below:

## Service List UE 179

Jim Deason Attorney at Law 1 SW Columbia St., Suite 1600 Portland, Or 97258-2014 iimdeason@comcast.net

Michael L. Kurtz Boehm Kurtz & Lowry 36 E. Seventh St., Suite 1510 Cincinnati, OH 45202 mkurtz@bkllawfirm.com

Edward A. Finklea Cable Huston Benedict Haagensen & Lloyd 1001 SW 5<sup>th</sup>, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97204 <u>Efinklea@chbh.com</u>

OPUC Dockets Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon 610 SW Broadway, Suite 308 Portland, OR 97205 dockets@oregoncub.org

Irion A. Sanger Davison Van Cleve 333 SW Taylor, Suite 400 Portland, OR 97204 ias@dvclaw.com

Jason W. Jones Department of Justice 1162 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301-4096 jason.w.jones@state.or.us Kurt J. Boehm Boehm Kurtz & Lowry 36 E. Seventh St., Suite 1510 Cincinnati, OH 45202 kboehm@bkllawfirm.com

James T. Selecky Brubaker & Associates, Inc. 1215 Fern Ridge Parkway, Suite 208 St. Louis, MO 63141 jtselecky@consultbai.com

Richard Lorenz
Cable Huston Benedict Haagensen & Lloyd
1001 SW 5<sup>th</sup>., Suite 2000
Portland, OR 97204
rlorenz@chbh.com

Jim Abrahamson Community Action Directors of Oregon P.O. Box 7964 Salem, OR 97301 jim@cado-oregon.org

Melinda J. Davison Davison Van Cleve 333 SW Taylor, Suite 400 Portland, OR 97204 mail@dvclaw.com

Michael T. Weirich
Department of Justice
1162 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301-4096
Michael.weirich@doj.state.or.us

Andrea Fogue League of Oregon Cities P.O. Box 928 1201 Court St. NE, Suite 200 Salem, OR 97308 afogue@orcities.org

Lon L. Peters
Northwest Economic Research, Inc.
607 SE Manchester Place
Portland, OR 97204
lpeters@pacifier.com

Benjamin Walters
City of Portland – Office of City Attorney
1221 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, Rm 430
Portland, OR 97204
bwalters@ci.portland.or.us

David Tooze
Portland City of Energy Office
721 NW 9<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 350
Portland, OR 97209-3447
dtooze@ci.portland.or.us

Douglas C. Tingey Portland General Electric 121 SW Salmon St., 1WTC13 Portland, OR 97204 Doug.tingey@pgn.com Katherine A. McDowell McDowell & Rackner PC 520 SW Sixth Ave, Suite 830 Portland, OR 97204 Katherine@mcd-law.com

Joelle Steward PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232 Joelle.steward@pacificorp.com

Richard Gray
City of Portland – Office of Transportation
1221 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, Rm 430
Portland, OR 97204
Richard.gray@pdxtrans.org

Patrick Hager Portland General Electric 121 SW Salmon St. 1WTC0702 Portland, OR 97204 Pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com

Ariel Son

Coordinator, Administrative Services