

825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Portland, Oregon 97232

October 3, 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 1368. 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,

Indrea L Cult Andrea L. Kelly

Vice President, Regulation

Enclosures cc: Service List UE 179

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

# UM \_\_\_\_/UM 1368

In the Matter of the Application of PACIFICORP for a Deferred Accounting Order

In the Matter of PacifiCorp's Request for Approval of a 2008R-1 Solicitation Process for New Renewable Resources

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### PACIFICORP'S APPLICATION FOR DEFERRED ACCOUNTING

### I. INTRODUCTION

Under ORS 757.259 and OAR 860-027-0300, PacifiCorp. d.b.a. Pacific Power 2 3 ("Company") applies to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon ("Commission") for an 4 order authorizing the Company to defer from the date of this Application forward the costs associated with an independent evaluator ("IE") selected by the Commission for the 5 6 Company's solicitation process for renewable resources known as the 2008R-1 Request for 7 Proposals ("2008R-1 RFP") to the extent these costs are not otherwise recovered through 8 bidder success fees as set forth in the approved 2008R-1 RFP. 9 **II. NOTICE** 10 Communications regarding this application should be addressed to:

PacifiCorp Oregon DocketsMichelle Mishoe825 NE Multnomah, Ste 2000Legal Counsel, Pacific PowerPortland, OR 97235825 NE Multnomah, Ste 1800Email: oregondockets@pacificorp.comPortland, OR 97235Phone: (503) 813-5977Email: michelle.mishoe@pacificorp.com

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 In addition, PacifiCorp respectfully requests that all data requests regarding this

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 matter be addressed to:

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 By email (preferred)

 datarequest@pacificorp.com

1 2 3 4	By regular mail Data Request Response Center PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232
5	Informal inquiries may be directed to Joelle Steward, State Regulatory Manager, at
6	(503) 813-5542.
7	III. DEFERRED ACCOUNTING RULE REQUIREMENTS
8	The following information is provided pursuant to the requirements set forth in OAR
9	860-027-0300(3).
10	A. Description of Utility Expense.
11	On March 4, 2008 PacifiCorp filed its application for approval of the 2008R-1 RFP
12	with the Commission, under the competitive bidding guidelines established in Docket No.
13	UM 1182, Order No. 06-0446 ("RFP Order"). This filing was assigned Docket No. UM
14	1368.
15	Guideline 5 of the RFP Order requires an Independent Evaluator ("IE") in all RFPs.
16	Guideline 5 provides that a utility may request deferred accounting to track the costs of an
17	IE for later inclusion in rates. Also in the application for approval of the 2008R-1 RFP, the
18	Company included a draft request for proposals for an Oregon IE. After receiving
19	comments from Commission Staff, <sup>1</sup> the Company issued the final IE RFP on March 20,
20	2008. Staff recommended selecting Boston Pacific Company, Inc. ("Boston Pacific") as the
21	IE for the 2008R-1 RFP. Staff based this recommendation on several reasons, one being
22	Boston Pacific receiving the highest ranking based on the scoring criteria contained in the
23	IE RFP. At the Commission Public Meeting on May 6, 2008, the Commission approved
24	Staff's recommendation and selected Boston Pacific. See Staff Report, Docket No. UM
25	1368 (May 6, 2008 Public Meeting). The Commission also approved Staff's
26	recommendation that the Commission direct PacifiCorp to negotiate a contract with Boston

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> No other party provided comments on the RFP for an IE.

Pacific consistent with the RFP Order and subject to Staff's review. PacifiCorp executed
 the contract with the Oregon IE and regularly consults with the Oregon IE under the terms
 of the contract.

At the September 18, 2008 Public Meeting, the Commission approved the 2008R-1 4 5 RFP (See Order No. 08-476). The 2008R-1 RFP requires successful bidders to submit a fee, which will be used to cover the costs of the Oregon IE. Because the Company expects the 6 7 costs to be covered be the successful bidders' fees, the Company does not expect the 8 deferral to be necessary absent unexpected circumstances (e.g. lack of sufficient successful 9 bidders to cover the full cost). Therefore, this application seeks deferred accounting for 10 costs incurred under the Oregon IE contract only to the extent such costs are not otherwise 11 recovered from the successful bidders.

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#### 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 customers. This request seeks to align the costs of the Oregon IE and the services that the Oregon IE performs 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.

### 19 C. Proposed Accounting.

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

26 D. Estimate of Amounts.

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PacifiCorp anticipates that the cost of the IE will be approximately \$500,000.

1 E. Notice.

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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**

5 PacifiCorp respectfully requests that, in accordance with ORS 757.259, the

6 Commission authorize the Company to defer the costs described in this Application.

DATED: October 3, 2008.

Michelle Mishoe Legal Counsel, Pacific Power

Counsel for PacifiCorp

**EXHIBIT** A

#### **BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON**

### UM \_\_\_\_ /UM 1368

In the Matter of the Application of PACIFICORP for a Deferred Accounting Order

In the Matter of PacifiCorp's Request for Approval of a 2008R-1 Solicitation Process for New Renewable Resources

## **NOTICE OF APPLICATION**

On October 3, 2008, Applicant PacifiCorp, d.b.a. Pacific Power ("Company") applied 1 2 to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon ("Commission") for authorization to use 3 deferred accounting.

4 The Company proposes to defer from the date of the application forward the costs associated with an independent evaluator ("IE") selected by the Commission for the 5 6 Company's 2008R-1 Request for Proposals for Renewable Resources that are not otherwise 7 recovered through the bidder success fee mechanism. The Company expects the annual 8 deferral amounts could be up to \$500,000. The Company requests that the deferral continue 9 no longer than twelve months from the date of this filing.

10 The granting of the Application will not authorize a change in rates, but will permit 11 the Commission to consider allowing such deferred amounts in rates in a subsequent 12 proceeding.

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Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Application by contacting:

- 14 Joelle Steward PacifiCorp 15 825 NE Multnomah Street 16 Lloyd Center Tower, Suite 2000 17 18 Portland, OR 97232
- Phone: (503) 813-5542 19

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 October 28, 2008.

DATED: October 3, 2008.

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Michelle Mishoe Legal Counsel Pacific Power

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing document on the parties of record from PacifiCorp's last general rate case, Docket UE 179, on the date indicated below by email and first-class mail, addressed to said parties at his or her last-known address(es) indicated below.

### Service List UE-179

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DATED: October 3, 2008.

Ariel Son

Coordinator, Administrative Services