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August 25, 2017

### **VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Attention: Filing Center
Public Utility Commission of Oregon
201 High Street SE, Suite 100
P.O. Box 1088
Salem, Oregon 97308-1088

Re: Docket UM 1892 – Portland General Electric Company Application for Waiver of the Competitive Bidding Guidelines.

### Dear Filing Center:

Attached for filing in the above-captioned docket is Portland General Electric Company's Application for Waiver of the Competitive Bidding Guidelines including Direct Testimony of Jay Tinker, Brett Greene and James Lindsay. Confidential copies will be sent via overnight delivery to the Commission.

Please contact this office with any questions.

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Very truly yours,

### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

### **OF OREGON**

#### **UM 1892**

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY,

Application for Waiver of the Competitive Bidding Guidelines.

PGE'S APPLICATION FOR WAIVER OF THE COMPETITIVE BIDDING GUIDELINES

Pursuant to Order No. 14-149, and the Commission's August 8, 2017 acknowledgment of Portland General Electric Company's (PGE or Company) 2016 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), PGE respectfully requests that the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) waive the Request for Proposals (RFP) requirement in the Competitive Bidding Guidelines<sup>1</sup> (Guidelines) to allow the Company to engage in bilateral negotiations to procure medium-term capacity from owners of existing generating resources in the Pacific Northwest. This Application for Waiver of the Competitive Bidding Guidelines (Application) is supported by the testimony of PGE witnesses Jay Tinker, Brett Greene, and James Lindsay.

### 10 I. INTRODUCTION

On August 8, 2017, this Commission acknowledged PGE's 2016 IRP, as modified, and directed the Company to pursue bilateral negotiations to determine how much of its 561 MW capacity need could be filled with medium-term agreements with existing resources in the Pacific Northwest.<sup>2</sup> PGE originally had proposed to issue one or

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the Matter of Public Utility Commission of Oregon, Investigation Regarding Competitive Bidding, Docket No. UM 1182, Order No. 14-149, App'x A (Apr. 30, 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As of the date of this filing, the Commission's written order has not yet been issued.

more RFPs to fill its capacity need, and to acquire renewables. However, in response to concerns voiced by the Commission, Staff, and stakeholders, PGE reached out to owners of existing hydro and thermal resources in the Pacific Northwest to gauge their available capacity and interest in negotiating bilaterally for medium-term agreements. The result was that the Company identified a number of unique and compelling opportunities to acquire capacity through bilateral negotiations.<sup>3</sup>

PGE has since followed up with these resources by soliciting indicative offers, which it has subjected to a rigorous evaluation process. The Company carefully analyzed each indicative offer, using price and non-price scoring and portfolio analysis, consistent with the Competitive Bidding Guidelines. Applying this methodology, PGE has identified a final shortlist of the offers that performed best in its analyses and has selected the top-performing offers for which it now seeks to negotiate. If negotiations are successful, the Company hopes to finalize agreements for approximately 350 to 450 MW of capacity within three to six months of receiving Commission approval of the waiver.<sup>4</sup> PGE believes that adding this amount of capacity will address the Company's need in the medium term, after consideration of recently executed qualifying facility (QF) contracts, and in view of the Company's need to acquire battery storage resources, as well as its plan to acquire additional renewable resources.<sup>5</sup>

The Commission's Guidelines allow a utility to request a waiver of the RFP requirements on a case-by-case basis. There are four reasons why the Commission should grant PGE's request.

In addition, the offers discussed in this filing are indicative only. The terms and conditions would require significant negotiation before agreements could be finalized. However, for ease of reference, indicative offers will sometimes be referred to as "offers."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As explained in more detail below, the Company plans to acquire the existing medium-term resources discussed in this filing through bilateral negotiations. At the current stage of the process, PGE has solicited offers, and engaged in only limited negotiations with some of the parties. Nevertheless, for ease of reference, the current solicitation process and the offers received to date will be referred to as "bilateral negotiations" and "bilaterally negotiated offers," respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> PGE/200, Greene/2, 8-9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> PGE/200, Greene/2.

• First, PGE believes that bilateral negotiations currently may be the best, and possibly the only method of acquiring capacity from existing resources in the Pacific Northwest, particularly hydro. Several of the resources for which the Company has received offers are time-limited, and the Company understands that the owners of hydro resources, in particular, would be reluctant to participate in a traditional RFP process. For this reason, if a waiver is not granted, PGE's customers could lose out on these cost-effective resources.

- Second, the Commission, Staff, and stakeholders support PGE's use of bilateral negotiations to acquire medium-term capacity from existing resources, and the Commission has specifically directed PGE to engage in bilateral negotiations and report back with the results.
- Third, the process by which PGE has and will continue to evaluate the offers is, to a great extent, comparable to the process specified by the Competitive Bidding Guidelines and is consistent with the policy goals behind the Guidelines. PGE has taken pains to ensure that the solicitation process is comprehensive and transparent, and that the scoring process is thorough, exacting, and unbiased. Importantly, each of the resources on PGE's shortlist scored higher—meaning that it exhibits lesser cost and risk—than a "reference point" high-efficiency gas plant. As a result, the Commission can be assured that, if PGE is able to complete negotiations and acquire resources on the shortlist, customers will benefit from least-cost resources and fair and reasonable rates.
- And fourth, an application of Staff's proposed criteria for evaluating waiver requests demonstrates that PGE's request is reasonable.

Finally, it is important to note that, in addition to qualifying for a waiver, PGE's bilateral negotiation process qualifies for both exceptions to the RFP requirement in the Guidelines, because the resources for which PGE proposes to negotiate represent a time-

limited and unique opportunity for customers, and because the bilateral negotiations have been acknowledged by the Commission in the Company's IRP. For this reason, the Company *could* pursue bilateral negotiations without seeking a waiver. However, the Company believes it is preferable to make this Application, to provide the Commission, Staff, and stakeholders with comprehensive information regarding the bilateral negotiation and scoring processes, and to provide opportunities for feedback before any acquisitions are completed. Despite the time-limited character of the indicative offers received, the Company has determined that the limited delay caused by the waiver request likely will not compromise its ability to successfully negotiate capacity resource agreements.

For all of the above reasons, PGE's Application should be granted.

### II. BACKGROUND

In its 2016 IRP, PGE identified a capacity need due to a variety of factors, including the planned cessation of coal-fired operations at Boardman at the end of 2020.<sup>6</sup> To address that need, the Company, through its IRP Action Plan, proposed to issue one or more RFPs to acquire the needed capacity; the Action Plan also included the possibility that it might enter short and/or mid-term contracts to maintain resource adequacy.<sup>7</sup> However, in the course of their review, the Commission, Staff, and stakeholders expressed concern regarding the impacts of future uncertainties on the acquisition of long-term resources, and urged PGE instead to explore opportunities to meet its need in the medium term through bilateral negotiations for existing resources, particularly hydro resources.<sup>8</sup> In response to the parties' concerns, PGE agreed to explore the availability of medium-term capacity from existing hydro resources, and expanded the scope of its

<sup>6</sup> PGE/100, Tinker /2-3.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> IRP Chapter 13.2 at p.343.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/3.

outreach to include other types of existing capacity in the region, in order to ensure that it located the least-cost, least-risk, medium-term resources for its customers.9

To investigate the types of opportunities available, PGE contacted owners of existing capacity resources in the Pacific Northwest to determine whether they had available capacity and whether they would be willing to engage in bilateral negotiations. 10 This outreach revealed that, due to a variety of market circumstances, many owners of such resources were interested in negotiating with PGE, and that potentially compelling and unique opportunities were available for capacity volumes between 100 and 650 MW over terms of five to twenty years. 11 PGE also confirmed that, due to the specific nature of the resource and the seller entities, owners of existing hydro operations were reluctant to bid into a utility RFP—a fact which is borne out by PGE's experience with past RFPs.<sup>12</sup> PGE's outreach confirmed that bilateral negotiations could meet its needs and also provide access to hydro resources it otherwise might not be able to acquire. 13

PGE engaged extensively with potential sellers to help them understand what PGE is seeking and to encourage them to refine and improve their offers.<sup>14</sup> The discussions began with an in-person meeting with each potential seller to discuss PGE's ideal product and the seller's specific needs. 15 PGE then sent the sellers draft term sheets containing PGE's preferred agreement structures and terms, and also invited them to offer additional products that could fit PGE's identified need. 16

Potential counterparties responded with indicative offers, including ownership options and power purchase agreements in terms of five to twenty years, which varied in

<sup>9</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/3; PGE/200, Greene/4-5.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> PGE/200, Greene/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> PGE/200, Greene/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> PGE/200, Greene/4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> PGE/200, Greene/4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> PGE/200, Greene/5, 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> PGE/200, Greene/5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> PGE/200, Greene/5-7; Confidential PGE/201.

detail and content.<sup>17</sup> After PGE's subject-matter experts reviewed the offers, PGE provided potential counterparties with general feedback about how to improve their offered terms, and allowed the parties to refresh their offers.<sup>18</sup> During this process, most offers were improved in price and/or terms, one initial offer was withdrawn, and two new offers were received.<sup>19</sup> By the conclusion of this initial solicitation process, the Company had received 17 indicative offers from 7 separate parties, totaling approximately 2450 MW of capacity.<sup>20</sup>

PGE conducted a rigorous evaluation of the indicative offers received, which was designed to adhere as closely as possible—given the special circumstances of the bilateral negotiations—to the Competitive Bidding Guidelines.<sup>21</sup> PGE's interdisciplinary scoring team thoroughly and objectively evaluated each offer using a methodology consistent with the provisions of Guideline 9.<sup>22</sup> First, consistent with Guideline 9a, the team calculated a price score for each offer, which accounted for the energy value and also the capacity and flexibility value of the offered product.<sup>23</sup> Inclusion of the capacity and flexibility values helped PGE to assess each offer accurately and distinguish between the diverse offers received.<sup>24</sup>

Next, the scoring team assigned a non-price score to each offer, which accounted for development and operational criteria, physical characteristics of the resource, power delivery assurances, and the potential counterparty's financial stability.<sup>25</sup> The price and non-price scores were summed to yield each offer's individual score.<sup>26</sup> As a point-of-

<sup>17</sup> PGE/200, Greene/8.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> PGE/200, Greene/8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> PGE/200, Greene/8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> PGE/200, Greene/8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/3, 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/5-6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/3-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/8-9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/9.

reference, PGE also evaluated and scored in the same manner the expected costs and characteristics of a new, high-efficiency, natural-gas CCCT.<sup>27</sup>

Finally, consistent with Guideline 9b, PGE's scoring team also conducted portfolio analysis to study how the size and term of the offers met PGE's need and to determine the effect of the resources under consideration on overall system costs and risks. The portfolio analysis evaluated 39 different combinations of offers under 27 possible carbon-price, natural-gas-price, and hydro-conditions futures. Gaps in a portfolio's size or term were filled with the point-of-reference CCCT to normalize the portfolios for analysis. PGE also ranked each portfolio according to risk metrics used in the 2016 IRP. Importantly, the offers with the best individual scores also appeared most often in the top portfolios thus confirming the individual score results.

Based on its analysis, PGE has put together a final shortlist comprised of those offers that exceeded the performance of the point-of-reference gas plant.<sup>34</sup> The final shortlist encompasses approximately 1100 MW of cumulative capacity, or approximately three times the quantity PGE is seeking to obtain through bilateral negotiations, which ensures that PGE maintains leverage in its negotiations and is able to acquire sufficient resources, even if negotiations for some offers are unsuccessful.<sup>35</sup> PGE proposes to initially negotiate with the top-performing offers on the shortlist.<sup>36</sup>

At present, PGE has non-binding term sheets for each indicative offer on the final shortlist.<sup>37</sup> If the Commission grants this Application, then PGE will continue

<sup>27</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/9.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/10-12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/13.

<sup>31</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/14; Confidential PGE/301, Tables 1 & 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Confidential PGE/301, Table 4; PGE/300, Lindsay/15; PGE/200, Greene/9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> PGE/200, Greene/9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> PGE/200, Greene/8.

1 negotiations with the counterparties on the shortlist, with the goal of executing

2 agreements within three to six months of receiving the waiver.<sup>38</sup> If the bilateral

negotiations are unsuccessful, PGE would then update and seek guidance from the

4 Commission.<sup>39</sup>

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From the beginning of this process, PGE has kept the Commission and stakeholders informed about its efforts to explore available opportunities and its intent to pursue bilateral negotiations and seek a waiver, via comments in the IRP docket and meetings with Staff and stakeholders. The Commission, Staff, and stakeholders have been supportive of PGE's approach. And, at the August 8 Public Meeting regarding the IRP, the Commission directed PGE to complete bilateral negotiations to acquire capacity

### III. LEGAL STANDARD

and to report back to the Commission regarding the outcome of those efforts.<sup>42</sup>

The Commission first adopted the Competitive Bidding Guidelines for acquisition of major resources in 1991.<sup>43</sup> The Commission reaffirmed the Guidelines in 2006, in Order No. 06-446.<sup>44</sup> The goals of the Guidelines are to:

- 1. Provide the opportunity to minimize long-term energy costs, subject to economic, legal and institutional constraints;
- 2. Complement Oregon's integrated resource planning process;
- Not unduly constrain utility management's prerogative to acquire new resources;
- 4. Be flexible, allowing the contracting parties to negotiate mutually beneficial exchange agreements; and

<sup>39</sup> PGE/200, Greene/9.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> PGE/200, Greene/8-9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/4-6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> In the Matter of an Investigation Regarding Competitive Bidding, Docket No. UM 1182, Order No. 06-446 at 2 (Aug. 8, 2006).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Order No. 06-446 at 2. The Commission also made slight modifications to the goals of the Guidelines.

1	5. Be understandable and fair.
2	The most recent version of the Guidelines is contained in Order No. 14-149.49
3	Guideline 2 provides that a utility is not required to issue an RFP when there is "a time-
4	limited resource opportunity of unique value to customers," where an "[a]cknowledged
5	IRP provides for an alternative acquisition method," or when the Commission grants a
6	waiver on a case-by-case basis. <sup>47</sup>
7	IV. DISCUSSION
8	PGE's Application for a waiver should be approved for the following reasons:
9	Bilateral negotiations currently may be the best, and possibly the only
10	method, of acquiring capacity from existing resources in the Pacific
11	Northwest, particularly hydro;
12	• The Commission, Staff, and stakeholders support the bilateral negotiation
13	process;
14	PGE's solicitation and scoring process for the bilateral negotiations.
15	adheres to many of the Guidelines' requirements for an RFP and is
16	consistent with the policy goals behind the Guidelines; and
17	PGE's Application is reasonable, according to the criteria for waiver of the
18 19	Guidelines recommended by Commission Staff.
20 21 22	A. <u>Bilateral negotiations currently may be the best, and possibly the only, method of acquiring capacity from existing resources in the Pacific Northwest, particularly hydro.</u>
23	The opportunities PGE has identified through bilateral negotiations represen
24	unique and compelling opportunities, which may not be available to PGE if a waiver is
25	not granted. The indicative offers PGE has received are not exclusive or have only

<sup>45</sup> Order No. 06-446 at 2.

order No. 30 4-16 at 2.

46 In the Matter of an Investigation Regarding Competitive Bidding, Docket No. UM 1182, Order No. 14-149 App'x A (Apr. 30, 2014).

47 Order No. 14-149, App'x A at 1 (Guideline 2).

limited exclusivity periods and could become unavailable if not pursued in a timely fashion.<sup>48</sup> PGE is not the only utility in the Pacific Northwest that will be losing a substantial amount of coal-fired generation capacity in the coming years, and there may be significant competition in the market for the resources PGE currently is seeking to acquire.<sup>49</sup> As a result, if PGE were to embark on a lengthy RFP process, its opportunity to acquire these resources could be lost.

Moreover, it is highly likely that bilateral negotiations may be the only method by which PGE can obtain the hydro resources on the shortlist. As discussed in the testimony of Brett Greene, several of the owners of these hydro resources have expressed reluctance to bid into a utility RFP.<sup>50</sup> Hydro resources often are subject to particular biological and fish management requirements that make it difficult for them to fit within a form contract in an RFP.<sup>51</sup> And hydro owners generally are consumer-owned utilities and/or government agencies that must demonstrate their sales achieve best value for their constituents; this is difficult to do when bidding into another utility's RFP where the value of the next best resource is not known.<sup>52</sup> Significantly, PGE's past RFPs confirm that limited participation from hydro resources can be expected.<sup>53</sup> Thus, if the Company is not able to move forward with its negotiations quickly or instead is required to issue an RFP to fill its capacity need, customers could lose the benefit of these unique and time-limited hydro resources.

### B. The Commission, Staff, and stakeholders support the bilateral negotiation process.

PGE's plan to pursue existing capacity originally was proposed by the parties to the IRP docket.<sup>54</sup> In response, PGE publicly announced its intent to pursue bilateral

<sup>49</sup> See PGE/100, Tinker/2-3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> PGE/200, Greene/8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> PGE/200, Greene/4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> PGE/200, Greene/4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> PGE/200, Greene/4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> PGE/200, Greene/4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/3.

negotiations on multiple occasions, including through its written comments and in remarks at the August 8 Public Meeting regarding its IRP.<sup>55</sup> The Commission and the parties have endorsed PGE's approach, and the Commission explicitly directed the Company to complete the negotiations and report back with the results.<sup>56</sup> In sum, a waiver is warranted because PGE has been clear about its intent to make this filing and pursue bilateral negotiations to fill its capacity need and has received the Commission's support for this approach. Indeed, granting PGE's Application would complement the Commission's handling of the Company's IRP, which is a goal of the Guidelines.<sup>57</sup>

#### C. PGE's bilateral negotiation process is consistent with important aspects of the Competitive Bidding Guidelines, as well as their underlying policy objectives.

A waiver is appropriate because the solicitation and scoring process undertaken by PGE is consistent with many of the Guidelines' requirements for an RFP, as well as the policy objectives underlying the Guidelines. As fully discussed in the testimony of James Lindsay, the Company has undertaken a rigorous evaluation of the indicative offers received.<sup>58</sup> PGE's scoring methodology is consistent with Guideline 9a's requirement to prepare an initial shortlist comparing each individual resource's costs, benefits, and risks on both a price and non-price basis.<sup>59</sup> It also comports with Guideline 9b's requirement to evaluate short-listed bids using a portfolio analysis to test expected costs and risks. 60 PGE did not submit a benchmark resource, thereby mitigating the concerns addressed by Guidelines 3, 4, and 8.61 Conversely, PGE did score a highefficiency CCCT, to provide a point of reference, and determined that all of the offers on the final shortlist exceeded the reference point's score. 62

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/4-6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Order No. 06-446 at 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/5-14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/3, 5-6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/3, 5, 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/10.

<sup>62</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/9.

Although PGE did not use an Independent Evaluator in solicitation or scoring, the Company is providing all of the data and calculations underlying its scoring to Staff<sup>63</sup> so that they may thoroughly understand and independently review the Company's evaluation and results.<sup>64</sup> PGE's analysis largely adheres to the requirements of the Guidelines, and demonstrates that all offers on the final shortlist represent the least-cost, least-risk resources to meet PGE's acknowledged capacity need in the medium-term.<sup>65</sup>

Finally, PGE's bilateral negotiation process furthers the Guidelines' policy goal of flexibility, to allow parties to negotiate mutually beneficial agreements.<sup>66</sup> PGE made adjustments to its evaluation process and methodology due to the particular character of the medium-term offers and to address the need for a shorter timeline.<sup>67</sup> Given that PGE's evaluation substantially complies with the Guidelines, and that its actions further the Guidelines' goals, PGE's Application should be granted.

### D. <u>Application of Staff's evaluation criteria demonstrates that PGE's waiver request is reasonable.</u>

In Docket UM 1773, Staff proposed that the Commission use the following five criteria to evaluate the reasonableness of a waiver request:

- 17 1. Is the justification of the need for the waiver warranted?
  - 2. Is an Independent Evaluator used in the process?
- Were stakeholders engaged throughout the process?
- Was fairness of the process preserved?
- 21 5. As a whole, was the RFP process clear and transparent?<sup>68</sup>

<sup>66</sup> Order No. 06-446 at 2.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> PGE will be filing a motion for entry of a modified protective order that limits disclosure of certain highly confidential information to parties other than Staff.

<sup>64</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/9; PGE/300, Lindsay/18.

<sup>65</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/5-15.

<sup>67</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/15-18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> In the Matter of Portland General Electric Co. Petition for Partial Waiver of Competitive Bidding Guidelines and Approval of Request for Proposals (RFP) Schedule, Docket No. UM 1773, Order No. 16-221, App'x A at 9-10 (June 8, 2016).

An analysis of PGE's Application, in view of these criteria, demonstrates that a waiver is warranted.

### 1. Criterion 1: Is the justification of the need for the waiver warranted?

PGE has justified the need for a waiver. In UM 1773, Staff indicated that the Commission should grant a waiver only if the utility can demonstrate that the procurement is needed, which can be clearly established through an acknowledged IRP.<sup>69</sup> The resource need that is the subject of this solicitation process is identified in PGE's 2016 IRP and was acknowledged by the Commission, and the Commission also has directed and supported PGE's proposed use of bilateral negotiations.<sup>70</sup> In addition, PGE has shown that, if a waiver is not granted, customers may lose out on the opportunity to acquire the cost-effective resources presented in the bilateral negotiations.

### 2. Criterion 2: Is an Independent Evaluator used in the process?

PGE is not using an Independent Evaluator to monitor the bilateral negotiation process, but believes that the process is transparent and fair nevertheless. The Guidelines rely on an Independent Evaluator to ensure that the process is unbiased, and accessible to all participants.<sup>71</sup> In this case, PGE is not issuing an RFP to the general market, and instead has reached out to the potential participants in a carefully defined market segment, with which it is very familiar.<sup>72</sup> In this way, the Company has been able to provide all parties with comprehensive information about negotiation and scoring processes to provide for transparency and confidence. In addition, as discussed above, the Company has subjected all offers to a robust evaluation process.<sup>73</sup> And finally, PGE will provide the parties with the relevant information needed to evaluate the offers and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> Order No. 16-221, App'x A at 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/6-7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> Order No. 14-149 App'x A at 4 (Guideline 10b-e).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> See PGE/200, Greene/5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/5-14.

1	PGE's scoring of the offers, to ensure fairness and accuracy. <sup>74</sup> For these reasons, it	is
2	appropriate for PGE to proceed without an Independent Evaluator.	

### 3. Criterion 3: Were stakeholders engaged throughout the process?

Through PGE's 2016 IRP process, stakeholders were heavily involved in recommending that PGE pursue bilateral negotiations, and PGE has continued to keep the Commission and parties updated as outreach and negotiations have evolved.<sup>75</sup> Most importantly, the testimony and exhibits included in this filing provide the Commission, Staff, and stakeholders with detailed information regarding the solicitation and scoring processes and the scoring results.

### 4. Criterion 4: Was fairness of the process preserved?

PGE has taken pains, throughout the process to ensure fairness—as demonstrated by application of the following criteria developed by Staff to determine whether a solicitation process is fair:

- Will the utility request that the Commission acknowledge the final shortlist of RFP resources?
- Was the RFP open to diversity of ownership and contracting arrangements?
- Was the scoring process fair and transparent?
- Are non-price criteria based on clearly described characteristics?
- Was utility bias further limited by having no benchmark resource being offered?
- Did the company communicate clearly with stakeholders regarding deadlines and proposal requirements?
- Was the company clear about the products they are seeking?<sup>76</sup>

Here, PGE has submitted summaries of the indicative offers received, the scoring results, and the final shortlist for the Commission to review and has identified the preferred offers that it seeks to pursue for potential acquisition.<sup>77</sup> Additionally, PGE considered multiple ownership and contracting arrangements to ensure that fairness was

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> Confidential PGE/202; Confidential PGE/301. See supra n.63.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/3-6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Order No. 16-221, App'x A at 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> Confidential PGE/202; Confidential PGE/301.

achieved.<sup>78</sup> PGE was clear and thorough in its communications with potential counterparties regarding the products that were sought.<sup>79</sup>

Furthermore, PGE used a fair and transparent scoring process that is very similar to that which would be used in an RFP, and fairly and clearly indicated the treatment of non-price criteria used to evaluate competing resource options. Finally, while PGE has long disputed the notion that presence of a benchmark resource leads to utility bias, PGE did not submit a benchmark resource into the solicitation process, thus mitigating any such concerns that parties may have. 81

### 5. Criterion 5: As a whole, was the RFP process clear and transparent?

PGE's bilateral negotiations and evaluation process have been clear and transparent to participants and to the Commission, Staff, and stakeholders. PGE has been clear in its communications with potential counterparties regarding what the Company requires and the timelines for responses. And PGE has met with Staff to keep them informed and has kept the parties to the IRP docket updated about its plans. In addition, the Company fairly and transparently scored each of the offers that PGE received from potential counterparties to ensure that all responses were treated consistently, and the Company is providing the methodology and results of that scoring to the Commission, Staff, and stakeholders.

In sum, the foregoing application of Staff's proposed criteria to PGE's bilateral negotiation process shows that PGE's request for a waiver is reasonable and should be granted.

<sup>79</sup> PGE/200, Greene/5-6, 8; Confidential PGE/201.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> PGE/200, Greene/4-5.

<sup>80</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/2, 5-14.

<sup>81</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/10.

<sup>82</sup> PGE/200, Greene/5-6, 8.

<sup>83</sup> PGE/100, Tinker/6.

<sup>84</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/5-14; Confidential PGE/301.

#### V. **CONCLUSION**

2 This Application and the accompanying testimony and exhibits demonstrate that PGE's request for a waiver of the Guidelines is justified and reasonable, because the 3 resources are time-limited, unique opportunities that may be available only through 4 5 bilateral negotiations, and because the Commission has acknowledged PGE's capacity 6 need and directed PGE to pursue bilateral negotiations to fill that need. Moreover, PGE's process was consistent with the goals of the Guidelines and with the Guidelines 7 8 themselves. Therefore, PGE respectfully requests that the Commission grant PGE's waiver request within 120 days, as required by Guideline 2,85 so that PGE may negotiate 9 10 and execute agreements with the indicative offers on the shortlist to obtain medium-term resources to fill its capacity need.

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DATED: August 25, 2017.

McDowell Rackner Gibson PC

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#### PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

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Attorneys for Portland General Electric Company

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<sup>85</sup> Order No. 14-149, App'x A at 2.

PGE / 100 Witness: TINKER

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

### **UM 1892**

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY,

Application for Waiver of the Competitive Bidding Guidelines.

### DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JAY TINKER PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

August 25, 2017

#### INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

- Q. Please state your name, business address, and position at Portland General
   Electric Company.
- A. My name is Jay Tinker. My business address is 121 SW Salmon Street, One World Trade Center, Mailstop 0303, Portland, OR 97204. My current position at Portland General Electric Company (PGE or Company) is Director of Rates and Regulatory Affairs.

### 7 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

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A. My testimony is offered in support of PGE's Application to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) in which it requests a waiver of the Commission's Competitive Bidding Guidelines<sup>1</sup> (Guidelines) to allow the Company to engage in bilateral negotiations to procure capacity from owners of existing generating resources in the Pacific Northwest to fill PGE's Commission-acknowledged capacity need with medium-term resources. My testimony describes the Company's 2016 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and explains how that plan, and the Commission's review and acknowledgment of the plan, have shaped PGE's efforts to acquire the additional capacity resources that will be used to meet, in the medium term, the capacity need identified in the IRP and acknowledged by the Commission. I also explain why the Company's use of bilateral negotiations,<sup>2</sup> instead of issuing a request for proposals (RFP), is reasonable under the circumstances and justifies a waiver of the Guidelines.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> *In the Matter of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, Investigation Regarding Competitive Bidding*, Docket No. UM 1182, Order No. 14-149, App'x A (Apr. 30, 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As I will explain in more detail below, the Company plans to acquire the existing medium-term resources discussed in this filing through bilateral negotiations. At the current stage of the process, PGE has solicited offers, and engaged in only limited negotiations with some of the parties. Nevertheless, for ease of reference, I will refer to the current solicitation process, and the offers received to date, as "bilateral negotiations" and "bilaterally negotiated offers," respectively.

In addition, the offers discussed in my testimony are indicative only. The terms and conditions would require significant negotiation before agreements could be finalized. However, for ease of reference I will sometimes refer to the indicative offers as "offers."

Q. Please summarize your testimony.

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2 A. In an effort to meet its capacity need with medium-term resources, PGE has 3 obtained indicative offers from owners of existing hydro and thermal resources in the Pacific Northwest and now seeks a waiver of the Guidelines to pursue 4 5 bilateral negotiations and execute definitive agreements. PGE's capacity need was acknowledged by the Commission in PGE's 2016 IRP, and the decision to 6 use bilateral negotiations to fill some or all of that need is directly responsive to 7 8 direction provided by the Commission, which was supported by Staff and 9 stakeholders. PGE has employed a solicitation and scoring process that is 10 reasonable, transparent, and fair, and for the reasons discussed below, justifies a 11 waiver of the RFP requirement in the Guidelines.

### 12 Q. Are there any other witnesses supporting the Company's Application?

A. Yes. Mr. Brett Greene's testimony describes PGE's outreach to potential counterparties and the bilateral negotiation process, and Mr. James Lindsay's testimony describes the scoring methodology that the Company used to evaluate the bilaterally negotiated offers received to date and the results of the Company's evaluation.

### **PGE'S 2016 IRP**

### Q. Why is PGE pursuing additional capacity resources?

19 A. PGE is pursuing additional capacity resources to respond to a need identified in its 2016 IRP and acknowledged by the Commission at its Public Meeting on August 8, 2017. Much of the capacity deficit to be filled is due to the scheduled end of coal-fired operations at the Boardman plant, which is planned for the end of 2020. Other factors contributing to the need include expiring long-term power purchase agreements and projected load growth.

Q. Did PGE's Action Plan in the 2016 IRP include the acquisition of additional capacity resources?

- 1 A. Yes. The Action Plan anticipated that PGE would issue one or more RFPs to
  2 acquire long-term resources, and also might enter short and/or mid-term power
  3 purchase agreements (PPAs) to maintain resource adequacy.<sup>3</sup>
- 4 Q. Why is PGE pursuing medium-term agreements through bilateral negotiations instead of issuing RFPs, as contemplated in the Action Plan?
- 6 A. During review of the IRP, the parties and the Commission expressed concern over 7 future uncertainties, and raised questions regarding how those uncertainties might 8 impact the acquisition of long-term resources. Given these concerns and 9 questions, the parties and the Commission suggested that PGE explore how much of its capacity need could be filled over the medium term with existing resources, 10 11 particularly hydro. In the interest of being responsive and moving forward with 12 the IRP process, PGE agreed to explore the availability of existing capacity 13 resources in the region. When PGE conducted its outreach, it found that, due to a 14 variety of market circumstances, there were potentially compelling and unique 15 opportunities available.
  - Q. How did PGE determine whether medium-term capacity opportunities might be available?
- A. PGE contacted owners of existing capacity resources in the Pacific Northwest to determine whether they had available capacity starting in 2021 and whether they would be willing to engage in bilateral negotiations to reach an agreement to provide capacity to PGE. This market outreach confirmed that there is available capacity in the region that could be acquired to meet PGE's capacity need, in the medium-term. Mr. Greene's testimony provides additional detail about PGE's outreach to owners of existing resources.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> IRP Chapter 13.2 at p.343.

PGE's efforts confirmed that all but one potential seller of hydro capacity would be willing to engage in bilateral negotiations. These discussions also confirmed that the same sellers would be hesitant to bid into a utility RFP, primarily due to the unique nature of the resources and the seller entities (generally consumer-owned utilities and/or government agencies), and their need to demonstrate that any sale achieves the best value for their constituents. Importantly, this reluctance on the part of hydro sellers is consistent with PGE's prior RFP history.

# Q. Did PGE inform parties to the IRP of its intent to pursue bilateral negotiations?

Yes, through its Reply Comments in the IRP, filed on March 31, 2017, PGE indicated its intent to pursue bilateral discussions to determine the feasibility of developing executable agreements to meet PGE's capacity need with medium-term resources. PGE's IRP comments further indicated that, if it was successful, PGE would attempt to negotiate one or more transactions with owners of existing capacity resources in the region. By entering into agreements with owners of existing resources to meet the Commission-acknowledged capacity need in the medium-term, PGE will have the opportunity to analyze the least-cost, least-risk approach to meeting its long-term capacity need again in its next IRP.

In addition, because any transactions resulting from the bilateral negotiations would occur outside of an RFP process, PGE informed the Commission, Staff, and stakeholders that it will submit the final shortlist to the Commission for review along with a request for waiver of the Competitive Bidding Guidelines.

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A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> PGE's Reply Comments at 11-12 (March 31, 2017).

# Q. Were the parties to the 2016 IRP supportive of the Company's decision to pursue bilateral negotiations?

3 A. Yes. For example, Staff commented:

PGE's recent actions to engage in bilateral negotiations with existing dispatchable generators for new capacity in 2021 are a welcome development. Staff appreciates PGE's responsiveness to feedback from Commissioners and stakeholders on this issue. PGE's outreach and subsequent bilateral negotiations have uncovered potential sellers of existing dispatchable capacity that could be in excess of PGE's outstanding, annual capacity needs.<sup>5</sup>

Like Staff, the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (CUB) also was encouraged that PGE "determined that there is available capacity in the Pacific Northwest from owners of existing dispatchable generation to meet PGE's capacity needs." CUB continued, stating that it "looks forward to learning what progress the Company is able to achieve in its bilateral discussions." Renewable Northwest also supported the bilateral negotiations, and the Oregon Department of Energy and the NW Energy Coalition supported PGE's pursuit of existing hydro resources.

# Q. Did PGE continue to update the Commission and parties to the 2016 IRP on its progress?

A. Yes. In its Final Reply Comments, filed with the Commission on June 23, 2017, PGE confirmed that it is pursuing bilateral agreements and attempting to negotiate term sheets with potential counterparties, consistent with Commission, Staff, and stakeholder recommendations. PGE's comments also confirmed that it would apply for a waiver of the Guidelines so that it can complete the transactions

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Staff's Final Comments at 17 (May 12, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> CUB's Final Comments at 1-2 (May 12, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> CUB's Final Comments at 1-2 (May 12, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Final Comments of Renewable Northwest at 14 (May 12, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Final Comments of the Oregon Department of Energy at 7 (May 12, 2017); Final Comments of the NW Energy Coalition at 1 (May 12, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> PGE's Final Reply Comments at 27-28 (June 23, 2017).

outside of an RFP.<sup>11</sup> In addition, during the weeks of July 3 and July 10, PGE met with the Commission to provide an update on the status of its bilateral negotiations.

More recently, the Company filed a response to the Staff Report issued on the IRP, in which PGE confirmed its intent to procure capacity through bilateral negotiations. <sup>12</sup> PGE reiterated this plan in its remarks to the Commission at the August 8 Public Meeting regarding the IRP.

## Q. Has the Commission acknowledged PGE's plans to pursue bilateral negotiations?

10 A. Yes. At the August 8 Public Meeting, the Commission directed PGE to complete 11 bilateral negotiations to acquire capacity and to report back to the Commission 12 regarding the outcome of those efforts.

### REQUEST FOR WAIVER

### Basis for Waiver Request

### Q. What is the basis for PGE's request for waiver of the Guidelines?

15 A. PGE is requesting a waiver of the Competitive Bidding Guidelines, as allowed on 16 a case-by-case basis. PGE is filing for a waiver for several reasons: First, PGE 17 believes that bilateral negotiations currently may be the best, and possibly only, 18 method of acquiring capacity from existing resources in the Pacific Northwest, 19 particularly hydro. As discussed in Mr. Greene's testimony, many of the 20 indicative offers are not exclusive and others contain only limited exclusivity periods. 13 If PGE does not act expeditiously—something that is just not possible 21 22 under the RFP process prescribed in the Guidelines—customers may lose out on 23 an opportunity to obtain cost-effective medium-term capacity. Moreover, PGE 24 believes that the owners of the hydro resources we are seeking to procure would

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> PGE's Final Reply Comments at 28 (June 23, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> PGE's Response to Staff's Report at 3 (August 4, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> PGE/200, Greene/8.

be reluctant to participate in any RFP process, regardless of the timelines involved. Therefore, PGE's customers could lose the benefits of these resources unless we act through bilateral negotiations. *Second*, in the course of reviewing PGE's 2016 IRP, the Commission has acknowledged and directed PGE's plan to seek to acquire capacity from existing resources through bilateral negotiations. *Third*, as discussed in the Application, a waiver is appropriate because PGE's solicitation and scoring processes are consistent with significant aspects of the Guidelines, and further the Guidelines' policy goals. *And fourth*, as discussed below, an application of Staff's evaluation criteria for waivers of the Guidelines demonstrates that a waiver should be granted.

Under Commission precedent there is an exception for the need to follow the Competitive Bidding Guidelines when the utility identifies a time-limited opportunity of unique value, or when an acknowledged IRP provides for an alternative acquisition method. Given this precedent, why are you filing for a waiver?

It is accurate that the Guidelines provide an exception to the need to follow the Guidelines under these circumstances.<sup>14</sup> PGE's Application satisfies both of these conditions, and therefore, PGE *could* pursue the bilateral negotiations first, and then simply file a report with the Commission 30 days after the resource acquisition.<sup>15</sup> However, PGE believes it is important to request the waiver nevertheless given the unique circumstances.

### Q. Please explain.

As a threshold matter, while the opportunities we are pursuing are time-limited,
PGE does not believe that they will be compromised by the relatively short delay
caused by a waiver filing. And importantly, through the waiver request docket,

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Q.

A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Order No. 14-149, App'x A at 1 (Guideline 2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> See id.

we hope to provide the Commission, Staff, and stakeholders with comprehensive information regarding our bilateral negotiation and scoring process, for the sake of transparency and to provide opportunities for feedback.

### Application of Waiver Criteria

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- Q. Has Staff proposed criteria to apply when evaluating the reasonableness of arequest for waiver of the Guidelines?
- 7 A. Yes. In Docket UM 1773 Staff proposed the following five criteria that the Commission should use to evaluate a waiver request:
  - 1. Is the justification of the need for the waiver warranted?
  - 2. Is an Independent Evaluator used in the process?
  - 3. Were stakeholders engaged throughout the process?
- 4. Was fairness of the process preserved?
- 13 5. As a whole, was the RFP process clear and transparent?<sup>16</sup>

PGE believes this is a helpful framework for considering waiver requests; as I will explain below, an evaluation of our Application in view of the criteria demonstrates that a waiver is warranted.

### 17 Q. Criterion 1: Has PGE justified the need for the waiver?

A. PGE has justified the need for a waiver. In UM 1773, Staff indicated that the Commission should grant a waiver only if the utility can demonstrate that the procurement is needed, which can be clearly established through an acknowledged IRP.<sup>17</sup> As I discussed above, the resources that are the subject of this solicitation process are identified in PGE's 2016 IRP, as is the proposed use of bilateral negotiations, and the Commission has acknowledged PGE's capacity need.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> In the Matter of Portland General Electric Co. Petition for Partial Waiver of Competitive Bidding Guidelines and Approval of Request for Proposals (RFP) Schedule, Docket No. UM 1773, Order No. 16-221, App'x A at 9-10 (June 8, 2016).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Order No. 16-221, App'x A at 9.

### Q. Criterion 2: Does the Company intend to utilize an Independent Evaluator to monitor its solicitation process?

3 A. PGE is not using an Independent Evaluator to monitor the bilateral negotiation 4 process, for several reasons. The Guidelines rely on an Independent Evaluator to 5 ensure that the process is fair for all involved. In this case, PGE is not issuing an 6 RFP to the general market and has conducted a robust evaluation process, as 7 described in Mr. Lindsay's testimony. In addition, through this filing, PGE will 8 provide comprehensive information about negotiation and scoring processes to 9 provide for transparency and confidence. And finally, to ensure fairness and 10 accuracy, PGE will provide the Commission, Staff, and stakeholders with the 11 relevant information needed to evaluate the offers and PGE's scoring of the offers. 18 For these reasons, it is appropriate for PGE to proceed without an 12 13 Independent Evaluator.

### 14 Q. Criterion 3: Have stakeholders been engaged throughout the process?

15 A. Through PGE's 2016 IRP process, stakeholders were heavily involved in 16 recommending that PGE pursue bilateral negotiations, and we have kept the 17 Commission and parties updated as outreach and negotiations have evolved. 18 Most importantly, the testimony and exhibits included in this filing provide the 19 Commission, Staff, and stakeholders with detailed information regarding the 20 solicitation and scoring processes and the scoring results.

### Q. Criterion 4: Was fairness of the bilateral negotiation process preserved?

- A. PGE has taken pains, throughout the process to ensure fairness—as demonstrated by an application of the following criteria developed by Staff to determine whether a solicitation process is fair:
  - Will the utility request that the Commission acknowledge the final shortlist of RFP resources?

<sup>18</sup> PGE will be filing a motion for entry of a modified protective order that limits disclosure of certain highly confidential information to parties other than Staff.

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- Was the RFP open to diversity of ownership and contracting arrangements?
  - Was the scoring process fair and transparent?

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- Are non-price criteria based on clearly described characteristics?
  - Was utility bias further limited by having no benchmark resource being offered?
    - Did the company communicate clearly with stakeholders regarding deadlines and proposal requirements?
    - Was the company clear about the products they are seeking?<sup>19</sup>

Here, PGE has submitted the final shortlist for the Commission to review and has identified the top-performing offers with which it intends to negotiate initially. Additionally, as described by Mr. Greene, PGE considered multiple ownership and contracting arrangements, to ensure that fairness was achieved.<sup>20</sup> PGE was clear in its communications with potential counterparties regarding the products that were sought.

As Mr. Lindsay describes in his testimony, PGE used a fair and transparent scoring process that is very similar to that which would be used in an RFP, and which fairly and clearly indicated the treatment of non-price criteria used to evaluate competing resource options.<sup>21</sup> Finally, while PGE has long disputed the notion that presence of a benchmark resource leads to utility bias, PGE did not submit a benchmark resource into the solicitation process, thus mitigating any such concerns that parties may have.

## Q. Criterion 5: As a whole, is the Company's bilateral negotiation process clear and transparent?

Yes. As described by Mr. Greene, PGE has been clear in its communications with potential counterparties regarding what the Company requires and the timelines for responses.<sup>22</sup> And as I described previously, PGE has met with Staff to keep them informed, and has kept the parties to the IRP docket updated about

<sup>21</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/2, 5-14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Order No. 16-221, App'x A at 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> PGE/200, Greene/4-5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> PGE/200, Greene/5-6, 8.

its plans. In addition, Mr. Lindsay's testimony describes how the Company fairly and transparently scored each of the offers that PGE received from potential counterparties to ensure that all responses were treated consistently.<sup>23</sup>

### **NEXT STEPS**

- 4 Q. If PGE's request for a waiver of the Guidelines is approved, when will the agreements be finalized?
- A. Should the Commission grant PGE's requested waiver of the Guidelines, PGE would then, over the next three to six months, work to negotiate and execute definitive agreements with counterparties on the final shortlist.
- Q. After the bilateral negotiations are complete, will PGE update the
   Commission about the results?
- 11 A. Yes, consistent with the Commission's direction from the August 8 Public 12 Meeting, after PGE has engaged in further negotiations with the counterparties on 13 the final shortlist, PGE will provide the Commission with an update. Given that 14 the indicative offers on the shortlist constitute nearly three times the Company's 15 capacity need, we are optimistic that we will be able to materially fill that need in 16 the medium-term through bilateral negotiations. However, if we are unable to 17 materially fill our need through this process, we will work with the Commission 18 to determine whether to fill any remaining material capacity deficit in another 19 way, such as through the traditional RFP procurement process.

### QUALIFICATIONS

- 20 Q. Please summarize your educational background and business experience.
- A. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance and Economics from Portland State University in 1993 and a Master of Science degree in Economics from Portland State University in 1995. In 1999, I obtained the Chartered Financial

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> PGE/300, Lindsay/5-14.

- 1 Analyst (CFA) designation. I have worked in the Rates and Regulatory Affairs
- 2 department at PGE since 1996.
- 3 Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?
- 4 A. Yes.

PGE / 200 Witness: GREENE

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

### **UM 1892**

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY,

Application for Waiver of the Competitive Bidding Guidelines.

### DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRETT GREENE

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

August 25, 2017

#### INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Please state your name, business address, and position at Portland General

- Electric Company.

  A. My name is Brett Greene. My business address is 121 SW Salmon Street, 3 World
  Trade Center, Mailstop 0306, Portland, OR 97204. My current position at
- 5 Portland General Electric Company (PGE or Company) is Director of Structuring,
- 6 Origination & Strategic Analytics.

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Q.

### 7 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

- A. My testimony supports PGE's Application to the Public Utility Commission of
  Oregon (Commission) for a waiver of the Commission's Competitive Bidding
  Guidelines (Guidelines). My testimony describes PGE's bilateral negotiation<sup>2</sup>
  process for existing medium-term capacity resources to meet the acknowledged
  capacity need identified in its 2016 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP).
- 13 Q. Please summarize your testimony.
- A. To address its Commission-acknowledged capacity need with medium-term resources, PGE commenced a bilateral negotiation process, in which the contracts team identified potential capacity acquisitions in the region and obtained offers for a variety of capacity products. PGE solicited offers from potential counterparties by first holding an in-person meeting with each counterparty to discuss the proposed process and to share potential goals and objectives, and then

<sup>1</sup> In the Matter of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, Investigation Regarding Competitive Bidding, Docket No. UM 1182, Order No. 14-149, App'x A (Apr. 30, 2014).

In addition, the offers discussed in my testimony are indicative only. The terms and conditions would require significant negotiation before agreements could be finalized. However, for ease of reference I will sometimes refer to the indicative offers as "offers."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As I will explain in more detail below, the Company plans to acquire the existing medium-term resources discussed in this filing through bilateral negotiations. At the current stage of the process, PGE has solicited offers, and engaged in only limited negotiations with some of the parties. Nevertheless, for ease of reference, I will refer to the current solicitation process, and the offers received to date, as "bilateral negotiations" and "bilaterally negotiated offers," respectively.

sending out term sheets with PGE's preferred structures and terms. After receiving a first round of responses, we worked with the potential counterparties to refine, improve, and supplement the offers to ensure PGE received the most competitive offers. PGE now seeks a waiver of the Guidelines so that it may negotiate one or more transactions to acquire capacity from existing resources in the region to meet its capacity need.

### **BACKGROUND**

Q. What is the capacity need that is driving PGE's acquisition of additional resources?

The Company has a long-term capacity need for 561 MW (240 MW of which must be dispatchable) by 2021, as reflected in PGE's most recent 2016 IRP Reply Comments and acknowledged by the Commission at its August 8, 2017 Public Meeting. As explained by PGE witness Jay Tinker in his testimony, this need is primarily due to the scheduled end of coal-fired operations at the Boardman plant at the end of 2020.<sup>3</sup> The Company intends to meet a significant portion of this acknowledged capacity need with medium-term resources through bilateral negotiations with counterparties owning existing resources in the Pacific Northwest—a strategy that is responsive to direction provided by the Commission and the encouragement from Staff and stakeholders in PGE's 2016 IRP docket. To account for recently executed qualifying facility (QF) contracts, and in view of the Company's need to acquire battery storage resources, as well as its plan to acquire additional renewable resources, PGE now seeks to acquire approximately 350 to 450 MW of capacity through the bilateral negotiation process.

Q. What types of resources is PGE seeking in its bilateral negotiations?

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A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See PGE/100, Tinker/2.

- 1 A. During the Company's 2016 IRP process, the Commissioners, Staff, and other 2 stakeholders encouraged PGE to explore, outside of an RFP, whether there were 3 any opportunities to acquire medium-term capacity in the marketplace to meet its capacity need from existing resources, in particular existing hydro resources. 4 5 Based on that direction and encouragement, PGE agreed to explore any compelling opportunities to acquire existing capacity, particularly while market 6 7 prices are historically low and regional market dynamics are favorable, due in part 8 to the creation of the CAISO Western Energy Imbalance Market (EIM), low 9 natural gas prices, and rapid adoption of solar technology in California. Thus, 10 PGE began contacting the owners of existing capacity resources in the Pacific 11 Northwest to discuss whether they had available capacity—backed by a physical 12 resource—starting in 2021 and, if so, whether they would be willing to engage in 13 bilateral negotiations with PGE.
- Q. Did discussions with the owners of these existing resources confirm to PGE that there was capacity available for purchase?
- 16 A. Yes. These conversations confirmed that there is available capacity in the region 17 that might meet the Company's Commission-acknowledged capacity need with 18 medium-term resources. Specifically, PGE's market outreach revealed that, 19 generally, volumes between 100 and 650 MW are available from each seller 20 beginning in 2021, and in some cases as soon as 2019. Potential capacity 21 purchase durations vary by seller, and include power purchase agreement (PPA) 22 and ownership options, but generally are available for five to twenty years. Thus, 23 PGE's initial outreach indicated that there was sufficient available capacity, 24 subject to successful negotiation of acceptable terms, to meet its Commission-25 acknowledged capacity need with medium-term resources.
- Q. Did you determine that hydro sellers are willing to engage with PGE bilaterally?

A. Yes. Via the stated outreach efforts to regional hydro operators, we determined that most significant operators were willing to engage bilaterally to some extent—probably due to the recent increases in hydro capacity available for purchase resulting from the previously discussed changing market dynamics, including near record low gas prices, growth of the EIM, and the adoption of significant solar generation.

### Q. Did any of the potential sellers express a preference for engaging in bilateral negotiations as opposed to participating in an RFP?

Yes. As I mentioned, the owners of hydro resources generally were willing to engage in bilateral negotiations. At the same time, they expressed reluctance to bid into a utility RFP for two reasons. First, the hydro owners explained that their resources experience unpredictable fuel levels and often are subject to a suite of biological and fish management requirements, which means that they do not always fit well within a form contract that defines what the utility is seeking to buy.

Second, the hydro owners generally are consumer-owned utilities and/or government agencies that seek to demonstrate that any sale they make achieves the best value for their constituents. This is difficult to prove when bidding into another utility's RFP because the value of the next best resource is not known to the selected party.

### Q. Is it likely that potential sellers of hydro capacity would participate in an RFP?

Given their expressed concerns about the RFP process, it appears unlikely. This conclusion is consistent with the Company's prior RFPs, which have seen extremely limited participation by existing hydro resources. For this reason, we determined to move forward with our decision to solicit indicative offers for medium-term capacity resources.

A.

A.

### 1 Q. Did PGE reach out to hydro resources only?

2 A. No. Although some parties to the IRP had encouraged PGE to look only at hydro 3 resources, the Company believes that looking at only one resource type to meet its stated capacity need may reduce the opportunity to obtain the least-cost, least-risk 4 5 resources for its customers. Existing regional thermal projects also provide 6 potential solutions to PGE's capacity shortfall and support long-term regional 7 reliability without increasing the regional greenhouse gas footprint. Therefore, to 8 increase diversity and competition on behalf of customers, the Company 9 broadened the scope of its search to evaluate both hydro and other sources of 10 existing capacity.

#### INITIAL OUTREACH

- 11 Q. How did PGE decide who to contact about potential bilateral negotiations?
- A. PGE reached out to the owners of existing hydro and thermal resources located in the Pacific Northwest that PGE had reason to believe had available capacity for sale that might meet the Company's capacity need.
- 15 Q. How did PGE engage with the potential sellers?
- A. PGE initially conducted exploratory conversations with potential sellers. We met in-person with all potential counterparties to discuss the characteristics of PGE's ideal product, the counterparty's specific needs, and the regulatory process. For those sellers that indicated possible interest and available capacity, PGE personnel began to discuss potential contract structures and terms.

### FORMAT AND TERMS OF INDICATIVE OFFERS

- 21 Q. Did PGE provide the counterparties with draft term sheets?
- A. Yes. PGE sent term sheets to every resource with whom PGE had communicated and who had expressed interest in negotiating. To ensure that PGE analyzed as many options as possible, we explored several agreement structures, including

PGE ownership and non-ownership options. PGE provided each counterparty with proposed term sheets that outlined terms and conditions for agreement structures that could best meet the characteristics identified in the 2016 IRP. PGE requested that each party respond by redlining the term sheets to reflect the party's indicative offer, and also encouraged the counterparties to identify other structures, not noted on the term sheet, that could meet the characteristics of PGE's identified 2016 IRP need. The five terms sheets that PGE provided to counterparties are attached as Confidential Exhibit 201.

### 9 Q. Please describe the draft term sheets provided to hydro resources.

10 A. PGE provided two term sheets to each hydro resource: a "Capacity Exchange 11 Term Sheet" and a "Capacity and Firm Energy Term Sheet."

### 12 Q. Please summarize the Capacity Exchange Term Sheet.

A.

Under this term sheet, PGE would receive a capacity product consisting of firm capacity, firm energy, and return energy associated with a hydro resource for a term of five to seven years. PGE would have access to a predetermined amount of capacity and would be able to call on the energy associated with that capacity as needed. At a later date, PGE would then return the same amount of energy to the counterparty. Pricing under this term sheet would consist of capacity payments from PGE to the counterparty; all energy is assumed to be price-neutral (*i.e.*, PGE would return what it takes). Other terms such as scheduling, timing of return, and quantity of capacity take and return would be subject to negotiation, but the term sheet provided examples and preferences for each. This type of contract provides a dispatchable product that is flexible regarding take and return.

### Q. Please summarize the Capacity and Firm Energy Term Sheet.

A Under this term sheet, PGE would receive a capacity product consisting of firm capacity and firm energy associated with a hydro resource for a term of five to seven years. PGE would have access to a predetermined amount of capacity and

a defined daily amount of energy. PGE would then call on and schedule that
energy each day. Pricing under this term sheet would consist of capacity
payments and energy payments (fixed or index). Other terms such as scheduling
and quantity of capacity would be subject to negotiation, but the term sheet
provided examples and preferences for each.

### 6 Q. Please describe the draft term sheets provided to thermal resources.

7 A. PGE provided three term sheets to each thermal resource: an "Asset Purchase and Sale Term Sheet," a "Form of Joint Ownership Term Sheet," and a "Capacity PPA Term Sheet."

### 10 Q. Please summarize the Asset Purchase and Sale Term Sheet.

11 A. Under this term sheet, PGE would acquire either a portion or the entirety of a
12 thermal resource. This term sheet identifies and describes provisions anticipated
13 to be included in the Asset Purchase and Sale Agreement, including the
14 resource(s) encompassed by the transaction, assurances expected from the
15 counterparty, events that must occur prior to the close of the transaction, and
16 protections against losses incurred by PGE.

### 17 Q. Please summarize the Form of Joint Ownership Term Sheet.

18 A. Under this term sheet, which would be used for transactions in which PGE would
19 acquire less than full ownership in a thermal resource, the parties would establish
20 ownership and operating terms and negotiate a Joint Ownership Agreement to
21 govern each owner's rights and obligations. This term sheet contemplates PGE as
22 the operator of the plant. Examples of provisions included in this term sheet are:
23 plant decision making, operator responsibilities, and dispute resolution.

### 24 Q. Please summarize the Capacity PPA Term Sheet.

25 A. Under this term sheet, PGE would enter into a PPA with a counterparty for capacity and firm energy provided by a thermal resource. This term sheet provides PGE's preferred capacity contract—firm capacity backed by a physical

resource for a term of five to seven years and a capacity of 200 to 400 MW. The term sheet identifies the preferred pricing structure and scheduling increments and practices.

### Q. Can you please summarize the responses PGE received to these term sheets from the counterparties?

A. In all, we received 17 indicative offers from 7 parties, totaling approximately
2450 MW of capacity. Each party responded with a different level of detail, and
some focused on all terms while others focused just on pricing. Some
counterparties provided multiple offers, encompassing different contract
structures. One party ultimately withdrew its offer as a result of uncertainty about
its resource and long-term objectives.

### 12 Q. Did the potential counterparties improve or revise their initial offers?

A. Yes. After review of the initial offers by subject-matter experts, PGE provided potential counterparties with general feedback about how their offered terms compared to those in other offers. PGE allowed the potential counterparties to refresh their offers. During this process, one of the initial offers was withdrawn, as discussed previously, and two new offers were received. Most other initial offers were sharpened or improved in price and/or terms.

### OFFER STATUS AND FUTURE NEGOTIATION

### 19 Q. How did PGE assess the offers?

A. Mr. Lindsay's team scored the offers and developed a final shortlist. The scoring process and results are described in detail in his testimony.<sup>4</sup>

### 22 Q. What is the current status of the offers?

A. Currently, PGE has a non-binding term sheet for each offer, containing the terms scored by Mr. Lindsay's team. Some of the offers contain limited exclusivity

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<sup>4</sup> PGE/300.

periods. A summary of the indicative term sheets is attached as Confidential Exhibit 202.

### 3 Q. How will PGE proceed once its waiver application is approved?

- A. If the Commission grants the waiver requested here, PGE intends to continue negotiations with counterparties on the final shortlist with the goal of executing agreements over the next three to six months with those resources that best meet its capacity need in the medium-term.
- 8 Q. Does PGE intend to negotiate simultaneously with counterparties for all of the offers on the final shortlist?
  - A. No. To enable PGE to maintain leverage in the negotiations and obtain the best available terms and conditions, the final shortlist contains offers totaling almost three times as much capacity as PGE is seeking to fill through bilateral negotiations. Based on the scoring team's analyses, PGE has identified the collection of top-scoring offers that, together, provides approximately PGE's targeted amount of capacity. PGE intends to begin by negotiating for these offers.

Given the amount of capacity on the shortlist, PGE is optimistic that we will be able to materially meet our capacity need through the bilateral negotiation process. If we were to fall short, we would work with the Commission to determine whether to fill any remaining material capacity deficit in another way, such as through the traditional RFP process.

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- 21 Q. Please summarize your educational background and business experience.
- A. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the
  University of Portland in 2000. I received a Master of Science in Taxation from
  Golden Gate University in 2009. I joined PGE in 2010 as Tax Manager and was
  Director of Corporate Finance, Tax and Assistant Treasurer from August 2012 to

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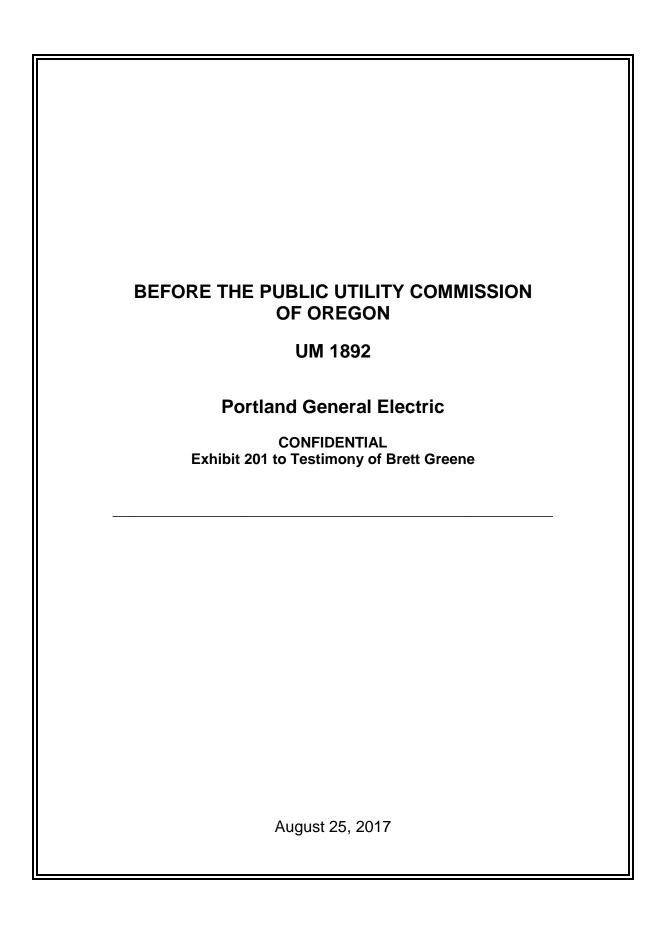
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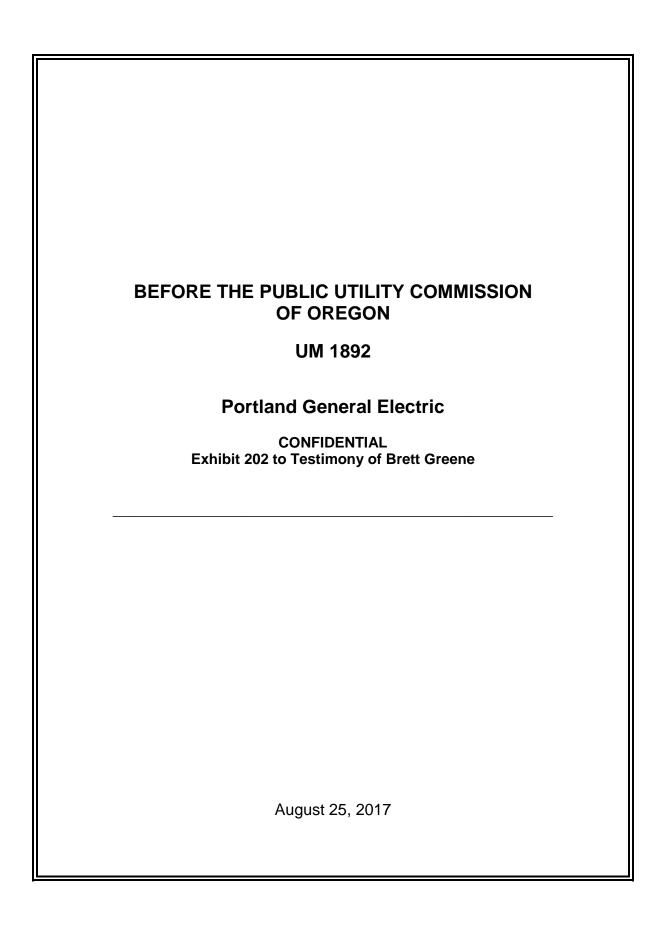
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- 1 April 2016. Since April 2016, I have held the title of Director of Structuring,
- 2 Origination and Strategic Analytics.
- 3 Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?
- 4 A. Yes.



# THIS EXHIBIT IS CONFIDENTIAL PER PROTECTIVE ORDER IN DOCKET UM-1892 AND IS PROVIDED SEPARATELY



# THIS EXHIBIT IS CONFIDENTIAL PER PROTECTIVE ORDER IN DOCKET UM-1892 AND IS PROVIDED SEPARATELY

PGE / 300 Witness: LINDSAY

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

### **UM 1892**

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY,

Application for Waiver of the Competitive Bidding Guidelines.

### DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JAMES LINDSAY

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

August 25, 2017

### INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

- Q. Please state your name, business address, and position at Portland General
   Electric Company.
- A. My name is James Lindsay. My business address is 121 SW Salmon Street,

  Three World Trade Center, Mailstop 0306, Portland, OR 97204. My current

  position at Portland General Electric Company (PGE or Company) is Resource
- 6 Strategy Project Manager.

### 7 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

- 8 A. My testimony is offered in support of PGE's Application to the Public Utility 9 Commission of Oregon (Commission) in which it requests a waiver of the Commission's Competitive Bidding Guidelines (Guidelines)<sup>1</sup> to allow the 10 11 Company to engage in bilateral negotiations to procure capacity from owners of 12 existing generating resources in the Pacific Northwest to fill PGE's Commission-13 acknowledged capacity need with medium-term resources. My testimony describes the process PGE employed to evaluate the indicative offers received 14 from potential counterparties in bilateral negotiations,<sup>2</sup> as well as the outcome of 15 16 the evaluation.
- 17 Q. Please summarize your testimony.
- A. PGE evaluated the indicative capacity offers received through bilateral negotiations to determine the potential resource acquisitions and agreement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> *In the Matter of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, Investigation Regarding Competitive Bidding*, Docket No. UM 1182, Order No. 14-149, App'x A (Apr. 30, 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As explained in Mr. Greene's testimony, the Company plans to acquire the existing medium-term resources discussed in this filing through bilateral negotiations. At the current stage of the process, PGE has solicited offers, and engaged in only limited negotiations with some of the parties. Nevertheless, for ease of reference, I will refer to the current solicitation process, and the offers received to date, as "bilateral negotiations" and "bilaterally negotiated offers," respectively.

In addition, the offers discussed in my testimony are indicative only. The terms and conditions would require significant negotiation before agreements could be finalized. However, for ease of reference I will sometimes refer to the indicative offers as "offers."

structures that offer the best combination of cost and risk for filling the Company's need for capacity by 2021, with medium-term resources. In doing so, the Company employed processes and methodologies that built on the approaches used in our prior resource procurement efforts. And, to the extent possible, our evaluation adhered to the requirements for bid evaluation set forth in the Guidelines. Our process included the evaluation of price and non-price factors for each offer, as well as a robust portfolio analysis. Throughout the process, we adhered to best evaluation practices to achieve transparency, consistency, and fairness, and we developed thorough documentation to be used in this proceeding and in future prudence reviews. Our analysis demonstrates that, over a mediumterm, capacity resources are available with lower total costs than would be expected from the construction of a new capacity resource. PGE has identified a final shortlist of bids that includes eight indicative offers with a cumulative capacity of approximately 1100 MWs. Of those eight indicative offers on the shortlist, we have identified the highest performing resources and ranked the offers accordingly.

### **EVALUATION DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT**

- 17 Q. What were your objectives for the evaluation process?
- A. We had three objectives for our evaluation process. Our primary objective was to fairly evaluate indicative offers for different generating technologies and deal structures. We also sought to ensure that our overall evaluation process was consistent with the criteria adopted in the Guidelines to the greatest possible extent. Finally, we strived to thoroughly document our scoring methodology, evaluation tools and systems, and results, both for use in this filing, and for future rate review.
- Q. Please generally describe the development of the scoring methodology used by PGE to evaluate the bilaterally negotiated offers.

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1 A. To evaluate the offers, the Company used a scoring methodology it has been 2 developing over the past several months. The applied scoring methodology is 3 comparable to the approved methods used in past Request for Proposals (RFP) and includes improvements consistent with methodologies used and described in 4 5 the 2016 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). We initially began developing this methodology for use in our previously anticipated all-resource capacity RFP, 6 7 presented in our IRP. However, when we decided to engage in bilateral 8 negotiations to fill some or all of the capacity need, we determined it would be 9 appropriate to use the new scoring methodology, with some modifications, to 10 evaluate the capacity offers.

### 11 Q. Is the scoring methodology consistent with the Guidelines?

- 12 A. Yes. This methodology is consistent with Guideline 9a's requirement to prepare
  13 an initial shortlist comparing each individual resource's costs, benefits, and risks
  14 on both a price and non-price basis. It also comports with Guideline 9b's
  15 requirement to evaluate short-listed bids using a portfolio analysis to test expected
  16 costs and risks.
- Q. Does the methodology used to evaluate the offers differ from the methodology used to score bids in PGE's 2012 RFP?
- 19 A. The primary components of the bilateral negotiation scoring design Yes. 20 correspond with the scoring methodology used in the 2012 RFP. However, two 21 notable differences distinguish our bilateral scoring design from that used in the 22 previous RFP. First, the bilateral scoring design incorporates flexibility and 23 capacity values, to appropriately assign value to the types of offers received in the 24 bilateral negotiations. Second, the bilateral scoring design evaluates multiple 25 alternate futures within the portfolio analysis to further quantify resource risk.
- Q. Why did you choose to incorporate flexibility and capacity values into the bilateral scoring design?

- 1 A. We chose to assign additional resource values to each offer because we expected 2 to evaluate a more diverse set of resource technologies, fuel supplies, and 3 commercial structures than were evaluated in the 2012 RFP. In particular, we needed a system that could evaluate, on a comparable basis, resources with 4 dissimilar usage—such as resources used for "super peak" conditions and those 5 used on a daily basis. Additionally, the Company needed to fairly compare 6 7 resources with highly flexible operations (including real-time redispatch) to 8 capacity resources that were less flexible (shaped only in day-ahead). In order to 9 best compare the varied offers received, we modified the scoring design to 10 explicitly recognize an offer's capacity value and flexibility value, in addition to 11 the energy value customarily recognized in price scoring. These refinements to 12 our scoring methodology are important to fairly evaluate the diverse resources 13 offered in the bilateral negotiations, and will continue to be important in future 14 competitive solicitations.
- Q. Why will these additional resource values be useful in future competitive solicitations?
- A. PGE expects that the need to correctly quantify the value of capacity resources will increase in a future capacity-constrained power system characterized by robust variable energy generation and integration into organized wholesale energy markets.
- Q. Why did the team choose to evaluate multiple alternate futures in the portfolio analysis?
- A. PGE evaluated multiple futures in its portfolio analysis to better understand the risks associated with different combinations of offers—including a variety of resources, fuel types, and cost structures—across various future conditions.
  - Q. Is the bilateral scoring methodology consistent with the 2016 IRP?

- 1 A. Yes. The scoring methodology applied to the bilaterally negotiated offers
  2 generally incorporates methods used and described in the 2016 IRP.<sup>3</sup> Differences
  3 between methods used in the bilateral evaluation and the 2016 IRP are described
  4 later in this testimony and in the Scoring Procedures document, attached as
  5 Confidential Exhibit 302.
- Q. Does PGE plan to use the same scoring methodology to score bids in futureRFPs?
- A. Yes, PGE intends to propose the use of the same methodology in future RFPs, including a future renewable RFP or capacity RFP, if one should become necessary to fill any remaining capacity need not secured through the bilateral negotiations. Any proposed method would evaluate the risks, costs, and benefits of the resource to be acquired.

### OFFER EVALUATION PROCESS

Q. Please generally describe the overall process PGE used for evaluating the bilateral offers it received.

Consistent with Guideline 9,<sup>4</sup> offers were evaluated using two complementary analyses. First, we scored offers on an individual basis per the direction of Guideline 9a. Next, we conducted a portfolio analysis that included all offers.<sup>5</sup> The portfolio construction and evaluation methods are comparable to those used in PGE's IRP, per Guideline 9b. The results of PGE's individual scoring and portfolio evaluation can be reviewed in Confidential Exhibit 301, Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3. Both evaluations were used to inform the selection of the final

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Specifically, the scoring methodology credits offers for the resource's capacity value in a manner consistent with methods described in Chapter 5. The scoring methodology credits offers for the resource's flexibility value in a manner consistent with the methods described in Section 8.5.1.2. The resources are tested under multiple economic and hydro conditions in a manner consistent with methods described in Chapter 10. Portfolios are evaluated under multiple metrics including those described in Chapter 11.

<sup>4</sup> Order No. 14-149, App'x A at 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Some offers included multiple options. In these cases, only the most competitive variation—as determined by the individual score—was included in portfolio analysis.

- shortlist contained in Confidential Exhibit 301, Table 4, and the top-performing resources within that list. A detailed description of PGE's evaluation process and methods is available in the Scoring Procedures document, attached as Confidential Exhibit 302.
- Q. Please describe PGE's team responsible for evaluating and scoring the
   product offers.
- A. PGE assembled an interdisciplinary team made up of individuals from several departments across the Company. I led the evaluation team, which included members from our Resource Strategy, Integrated Resource Planning, Fundamentals Analysis, Engineering, Financial Analysis, and Legal groups.

### Individual Scoring Process and Methodology

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- 12 Q. Please describe the individual offer analysis.
- 13 A. In the individual offer analysis, we evaluated each offer in isolation, assigning a 14 price and a non-price score. Detailed individual offer scoring results can be found 15 in Confidential Exhibit 301, Table 5.

### 16 Q. How did PGE determine the price score?

- A. For each offer, we calculated the cost-to-benefit ratio over the resource term, that is, the levelized net present value (NPV) of the total resource cost versus the levelized NPV of the relevant market value. This approach is consistent with the requirement in Guideline 9a that the price score be calculated as the ratio of the bid's projected total cost per megawatt-hour to forward market prices using real-levelized or annuity methods.
  - The total resource costs used in the price score include the components of the revenue requirement needed to deliver the resource to PGE. Relevant market value includes the resource's energy value, capacity value, and flexibility value. The cost-to-benefit ratio is independent of the resource term.

We assigned a price score to each offer by converting the cost-to-benefit ratio into a numeric score. The offer with the lowest cost-to-benefit ratio received the maximum score of 600 points. Offers with higher cost-to-benefit ratios received lower scores proportional to the difference between the offer's cost-tobenefit ratio and the best cost-to-benefit ratio.

### Q. How did you calculate the energy value?

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A. The energy value represents the expected net revenues (energy revenue minus energy production cost) through wholesale sales of forecasted generation. This value is based on the market price forecast for the hours in which the resource is dispatched. The forecast was developed using a fundamental market simulation in AURORA, as described in Chapter 10 of the IRP. We determined the energy value by simulating resource commitment and dispatch using AURORA optimization.

### Q. How did you calculate the capacity value?

15 The capacity value is based on the avoided net cost of a new peaking unit of A. 16 comparable capacity contribution. The capacity value for each offer was 17 calculated as the product of its capacity contribution and the avoided fixed costs 18 of a 7FA frame peaking capacity unit, less forecasted net revenues. The 19 framework used to assign capacity value is consistent with the 2016 IRP. Each 20 resource's capacity contribution was calculated using the Renewable Energy Capacity Planning Model (RECAP) following the same framework as described 22 in Chapter 5 of the 2016 IRP.

### Q. How did you calculate the flexibility value?

24 A. The flexibility value reflects any additional value that the resource may bring to 25 PGE's generation portfolio due to its ability to ramp, respond to forecast errors, or 26 provide ancillary services that are not captured by the energy value. Before 27 evaluating the offers, we pre-calculated the flexibility-benefit-per-MW range with

the resource optimization model (ROM) to isolate the flexibility benefits of perfectly flexible products available in various time frames (day-ahead, hourahead, real-time) and various sizes (in MW). This yielded a set of functions used to approximate the flexibility value of each offer in each time frame, according to its "flexible range," or the portion of the resource capacity that could be utilized for flexibility services in that time frame. We found that the total magnitude of flexibility benefit for any resource was relatively small. Nonetheless, we found it important to include flexibility values to best distinguish between products. The methodology employed to evaluate an offer's flexibility value was based on the methodologies used to evaluate energy storage and wind and solar integration costs in the 2016 IRP. Those methods are described in Chapter 8 and Chapter 7 (Section 7.2.1.1) of the 2016 IRP, respectively.

- Q. Did you adjust the prices submitted by counterparties before performing the price score calculation?
- 15 A. Yes, to evaluate offered products with different characteristics on a comparable
  16 basis, prices submitted by the counterparty were adjusted, as appropriate, to
  17 account for a variety of additional costs specific to that resource, including but not
  18 limited to:
  - (1) additional costs associated with delivering the product to PGE;
  - (2) additional costs related to acquisition of firm fuel supply; and
  - (3) required ancillary services not included in product pricing.
  - Q. Please explain how you assigned non-price scores.
- A. We assigned non-price scores using a non-price scoring system we developed for this process, which is comparable to previous non-price scoring methodologies and similar to the approach we would propose to use in future RFPs. Using our approach, we reviewed and awarded points based on the following factors:

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1		(1) Development and operational criteria, including permitting status,		
2		project developer/owner experience, site control, and financing;		
3		(2) Physical characteristics of the resource, including transmission,		
4		interconnection, remedial action scheme (RAS), operations and		
5		maintenance, and resource risks including fuel supply;		
6		(3) Power delivery assurances, including the firmness of the power,		
7		financial guarantees, and liquidated damages; and		
8		(4) The counterparty's financial stability, as measured by PGE's credit		
9		score evaluation using its established methodology, public credit		
10		rating, worth, and corporate structure.		
11		After considering all of these criteria, we assigned each offer a total non-price		
12		score, with 400 points being the maximum possible score.		
13	Q.	How did you determine an individual offer's overall score?		
14	A.	We summed each offer's price and non-price scores to obtain the offer's total		
15		overall score.		
16	Q.	In addition to the offers resulting from the bilateral negotiations, did you also		
17		score a new capacity resource for reference?		
18	A.	Yes, as a point of reference, we evaluated the expected costs associated with a		
19		new, efficient, natural-gas-fired generator. The point-of-reference facility is		
20		based on cost estimates and engineering studies for a new high-efficiency CCCT.		
21		PGE included this potential resource in its individual offer evaluation to provide		
22		an additional comparator, and to help ensure that any bilaterally negotiated offers		
23		that we recommend for acquisition reflect resources that, over a medium term, are		
24		lower cost than constructing a new generator.		
25	Q.	2. Please describe your team's process for ensuring accuracy and documenting		
26		the scoring.		

A. After scoring each offer, we double-checked all entries for completeness and accuracy. Any missing or unclear information in specific offers was clarified via follow up with the owner by the structuring and legal teams. I then reviewed the scores for each offer, along with any supporting material, and worked with scoring team members to facilitate discussions of scoring results as needed.

Our methodology and scoring were documented carefully, and access to the documentation was tightly controlled. Original term sheets were saved into an organized folder structure similar to the web-based archive used in previous RFPs. All exogenous assumptions necessary to evaluate bids were documented, as was the scoring team's rationale, and evaluation work papers were retained.

### Portfolio Analysis

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### Q. Please explain the portfolio analysis.

The portfolio analysis allowed the scoring team to study how the size and term of the offerings met PGE's capacity need and to determine the effect of candidate resources on overall system costs and risks, as directed by Guideline 9b. As suggested by Guideline 9b, our portfolio analysis uses the same methodological framework employed in the IRP. In the portfolio analysis, we evaluated a robust list of portfolios to explore numerous combinations of candidate resources. We then calculated the net present value revenue requirement (NPVRR) of each portfolio across 27 different carbon-regulation, natural-gas-price, and hydro-year futures to assess portfolio cost and risk.

### Q. Please describe the 27 futures evaluated in the portfolio analysis.

A. To better quantify portfolio risk associated with the offers we received, PGE developed forecasted market prices under 27 combinations of national carbon pricing, natural gas pricing, and hydro conditions.

Consistent with the IRP, PGE used three carbon-price estimates. The reference- and high-carbon-price forecasts were based upon Synapse Economics'

forecasts, as detailed in the 2016 IRP. PGE also evaluated a no-carbon-price forecast.

Also, consistent with the IRP as supplemented in PGE's Initial Reply Comments, PGE evaluated three natural-gas-price scenarios—low, reference, and high. All three natural gas forecasts were updated to reflect the most recently available natural gas forecast.

Finally, we evaluated three sets of regional hydro conditions. Our reference-case hydro future assumed the average of 70 historical water years, as was done in the 2016 IRP. We also studied high and low water years.

Prior to receiving the bilateral offers, PGE created 27 futures, based on all possible combinations of the studied carbon, natural gas, and hydro conditions. For instance, the reference-case future included reference-case carbon assumptions, reference-case natural gas assumptions, and average hydro conditions. The 27 futures were used to develop 27 unique market price forecasts.

### Q. How did you compile the portfolios for analysis?

A.

In an effort to create a robust list of portfolios, the scoring team used three complementary techniques. As discussed later in this testimony, all offers received (and not withdrawn) were included in our portfolio analysis.<sup>6</sup>

First, we optimized resource combinations using an Excel-based optimization routine to create portfolios that most closely filled the 2021 bilateral capacity target. Each resource was required to be present in at least one of the 'size-optimized' portfolios. This optimization routine resulted in 11 candidate portfolios.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Where an offer encompassed multiple variants—for instance the possibility of different term lengths—we included only the best variant, as determined by the individual offer scoring, in the portfolio analysis.

Second, we optimized resource combinations to minimize total portfolio costs under reference-case economic conditions. Each resource was required to be present in at least one of the 'cost-optimized' portfolios. This optimization routine generated 11 candidate portfolios.

Third, we identified all possible combinations of resources between 300 and 500 MW of capacity contribution in 2021.<sup>7</sup> Of the 65 possible combinations, we evaluated the 33 portfolios that had the lowest total portfolio costs under reference case conditions.

After combining the three sets of portfolios and removing any duplicate portfolios, a total of 39 candidate portfolios remained. These were evaluated, providing a comprehensive analysis.

### Q. How did you assign value to the portfolios?

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First, PGE quantified the energy value of all candidate offers under each of the 27 futures using the AURORA software. For each of the 39 defined portfolios, the energy values of the component offers were summed. This yielded a total energy value for each portfolio under each future. The results were used to assess portfolio cost under the reference-case future and risk across all futures.

Each portfolio also was evaluated using RECAP to calculate a portfolio-specific capacity value, following the same framework as the IRP. Due to the different periods of availability for the candidate offers (e.g., On-Peak, seasonal, annual) there can be a diversity benefit when resources are combined to meet PGE's capacity needs. While this diversity benefit was found to be small in our bilateral evaluation, the methodology would likely play a larger role in a solicitation evaluating variable energy resources.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Although, as explained in Mr. Greene's testimony, PGE/200, Greene/2, PGE plans to acquire between 350 and 450 MW of capacity through the bilateral negotiations, we broadened the total capacity range from 300 to 500 MW when constructing portfolios in order to ensure a comprehensive analysis.

Each portfolio also was updated to include a portfolio-specific flexibility value. PGE's flexibility value assessment demonstrates that flexibility has a declining marginal benefit to PGE as more flexible resources are added to PGE's system. We account for this declining marginal benefit by assigning each portfolio a unique flexibility value associated with the total flexible range of all resources included in the candidate portfolio. Like the individual offer flexibility value, the magnitude of portfolio flexibility value adjustments was found to be relatively small.

- Q. Are any adjustments to the portfolios required in order to appropriately compare them?
- 11 A. Yes, each portfolio was size and term normalized using a specific fill resource to
  12 ensure all portfolios included sufficient resources to meet the capacity target over
  13 the entire term of PGE's analysis. We used the same gas-fired CCCT that we
  14 scored as the point-of-reference in the individual analysis as the specific fill for
  15 any gaps in the capacity or term of each portfolio.
  - Q. Why did you conclude that the point-of-reference gas-fired CCCT was the best resource for portfolio normalization?
- 18 A. The point-of-reference gas plant reflects the expected costs and performance of a 19 new efficient capacity resource at an existing generation site. It was chosen as a 20 specific fill because it reasonably reflects the fundamental cost associated with 21 capacity replacement following the end of a resource's economic life or term. 22 Relative to the generic 2016 IRP efficient capacity resource, the specific fill 23 demonstrates superior cost and performance due to improved heat rate and 24 reduced project costs. The improved performance of the specific fill minimizes 25 the effect of the term and size normalization by reducing the total net costs related 26 to the inclusion of the specific fill in all portfolios.
  - Q. How do you evaluate offer performance in portfolio analysis?

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A. An offer performs well in portfolio analysis if it is present in many of the topperforming portfolios. To assess portfolio performance, we determined the
NPVRR of the portfolio for each future. All portfolios were ranked according to
risk metrics presented and discussed in the 2016 IRP. Those risk metrics included
reference-case-future cost, severity, variability, and durability. Further
description of these metrics can be found in PGE's 2016 IRP Chapter 11. In
addition, we included and emphasized performance under the cost and risk metric
that is weighted 50% by reference case costs and 50% by standard deviation
results. This cost and risk metric was included in Appendix L of the 2016 IRP
and was discussed in PGE's Initial Reply Comments in that docket.

Those portfolios that were lowest cost, under reference case assumptions, and lowest risk, measured by the standard deviation in the 27 futures, were considered top-performing. The scoring team reviewed which offers were most frequently present in the top-performing portfolios. Confidential Exhibit 301, Table 2 includes summary statistics counting the frequency with which offers are contained in the five top-performing portfolios for all scoring metrics. Further, Confidential Exhibit 301, Table 3 identifies the composition of the lowest cost and lowest risk portfolios under multiple planning horizons and capacity targets.

### **RESULTS**

- Q. How did you determine the best overall set of offers to meet PGE's needs?
- After evaluating each offer using the individual offer scoring analysis described above, the most competitive resources in the individual offer analysis—those which surpassed the point-of-reference's score—were placed on the final shortlist. The initial ranking of resources on the final shortlist was determined by the resources' total price and non-price scores. The final shortlist rankings were then reviewed and confirmed using portfolio analysis results.

PGE's portfolio analysis confirmed that the resources included in the final shortlist were top-performing. Over a medium term, resources that performed best in the individual offer analysis were also present in the top-performing portfolios evaluated across multiple futures in the portfolio analysis. We selected resources totaling approximately 1100 MW of cumulative resource capacity contribution, or nearly three times the capacity target. As discussed in Mr. Greene's testimony, a final shortlist that exceeds PGE's capacity target allows PGE to negotiate competitively and remain able to acquire sufficient resources in the event of offer retraction or negotiation failure.<sup>8</sup>

### 10 Q. How is the final shortlist ranked?

11 A. The final shortlist is ranked in order of competitiveness, as determined by the offer's price and non-price score.

### CONSIDERATIONS SPECIFIC TO BILATERAL EVALUATION

- Q. Did you make any modifications to your scoring process to tailor it specifically to evaluate the bilateral offers?
- 15 A. We made three modifications to the methodology to tailor the process to the bilateral offers. *First*, we did not screen offers based on non-price thresholds.
- 17 Second, all offers not retracted were evaluated within our portfolio analysis.
- 18 Third, our portfolio analysis planning horizon was shorter than the planning
- 19 horizon used in the IRP.
- 20 Q. Why did you decide not to apply non-price threshold screens?
- A. Our decision not to apply non-price threshold screens was based on the limited number of resources available to participate in the process and the limited time available to otherwise require counterparties to meet pre-qualification thresholds.
- As discussed in Mr. Greene's testimony, the bilateral negotiation process

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> PGE/200, Greene/9.

represents an attempt to determine whether we can meet our IRP-identified capacity deficit from a relatively small universe of existing resources located in the Pacific Northwest. When we received the offers, we saw that many counterparties could not meet traditional non-price threshold criteria. Counterparties would have required ample time and would have incurred expenses in order to satisfy PGE's traditional non-price threshold criteria, despite PGE's reluctance to commit to acquire any resources without Commission approval of a waiver of the Guidelines. Given the relatively few bilateral counterparties, PGE's desire to proceed with negotiations expeditiously, and counterparties' inability to satisfy PGE's initial non-price thresholds with such short notice and expedited timelines, PGE chose not to apply non-price thresholds and instead scored all offers.

### Q. Why were all offers evaluated in the portfolio analysis?

A. All offers were included in portfolio analysis because we had relatively few offers to evaluate. Under traditional RFP circumstances, many more bids are evaluated, and only the most competitive bids identified in the individual scoring are evaluated in the portfolio analysis. Due to the relatively small number of offers received, it was feasible to evaluate all offers in the portfolio analysis.

### Q. Why did you shorten the portfolio analysis time-horizon?

A. PGE is pursuing bilateral negotiations specifically to acquire medium-term resources to meet its 2021 forecasted capacity need. For that reason, as discussed in Mr. Greene's testimony, PGE solicited offers from regional counterparties and encouraged them to provide five- to seven-year contracts in addition to asset sales. PGE selected a planning horizon that included the longest-lived, medium-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> PGE/200. Greene/5-8.

term resource. As a result, PGE used a base-planning horizon that ended well short of the planning horizon used in the IRP.

To fully evaluate offered asset sales whose economic lives exceed the medium-term, PGE also evaluated a sensitivity with an approximately 20-year planning horizon. Portfolio analysis results under base- and extended-planning horizons can be reviewed in Confidential Exhibit 301, Table 3. Due to the medium-term focus of this solicitation, PGE emphasized portfolio analysis results, consistent with the base-planning horizon. Furthermore, PGE did not assign portfolio value or costs to those resources whose terms or lives continued beyond the extended planning horizon.

- 11 Q. Focusing now on the overall evaluation process—apart from your scoring
  12 methodology—did PGE's evaluation process differ from that typically used
  13 to evaluate bids in an RFP under the Guidelines?
- A. Overall, our process was consistent with the process used in an RFP setting.

  However, our process differed from that used in a typical RFP in two key respects. *First*, we granted parties the opportunity to improve their initially offered price and terms through proposal updates. *Second*, our evaluation of the offers did not involve an independent evaluator (IE).
- Q. Why was it appropriate in this case to provide parties with an opportunity to
   improve their initial offers?
- A. In a regular RFP process, there is extensive work done prior to the issuance of the RFP. Part of this preparation work involves development of an extensive bidding sheet with all of the details necessary to score the bids. Even with this extensive preparation, there are times when the Company needs to contact bidders (through the IE) for bid clarification. In a standard RFP, there is also the opportunity for bidders to provide multiple offers that can change variables such as price,

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1 quantity, and other bid parameters. And there generally will be robust 2 participation from many bidders in a standard RFP.

> Here, with counterparty participation limited to offering existing resources, there was good reason to go back to the counterparties for further clarification, and to allow them opportunities to improve initial offers and submit new proposals. This helped assure that PGE acquires resources with the best cost and risk profiles for our customers.

### Q. Did PGE score the initial offers received by the counterparties?

9 A. Yes, PGE scored the initial offers in order to assess their adequacy. PGE 10 provided the results of this initial scoring to the Company's negotiation team, to 11 provide guidance in their efforts to secure improved bids from the counterparties. 12 We performed the final scoring after receiving all updated and/or improved offers.

### Why did PGE decide *not* to use an IE?

A. In PGE's experience, the process of selecting and receiving approval of an IE can be quite lengthy, and the time-sensitive nature of the bilateral negotiations mandated a timeline for this analysis that did not allow for engagement of an IE. Moreover, PGE expects that Staff will be engaging in an in-depth analysis of PGE's bid scoring and evaluation process that could substitute for the review typically performed by an IE.

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- 20 Q. Please summarize your educational background and business experience.
- 21 A. I received a Bachelor of Arts in Physics and History from Bowdoin College.
- 22 Previously, I was employed as an analyst at Renewable Northwest. I began
- 23 working at PGE as an analyst in the integrated resource planning group in May
- 24 2014. In November 2016, I became Resource Strategy Project Manager.
- 25 Does this conclude your direct testimony? Q.
- 26 A. Yes.

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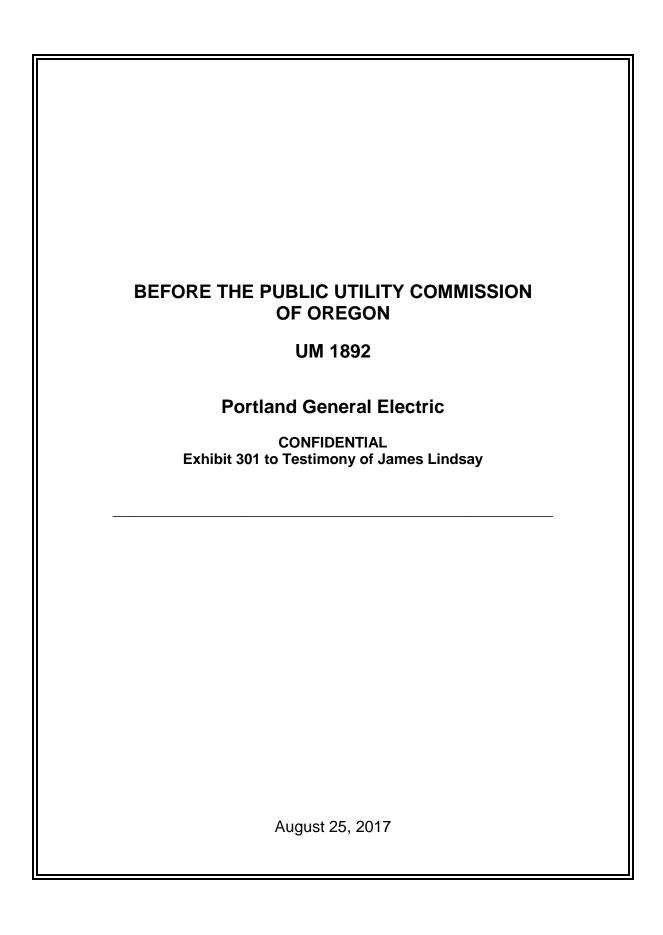
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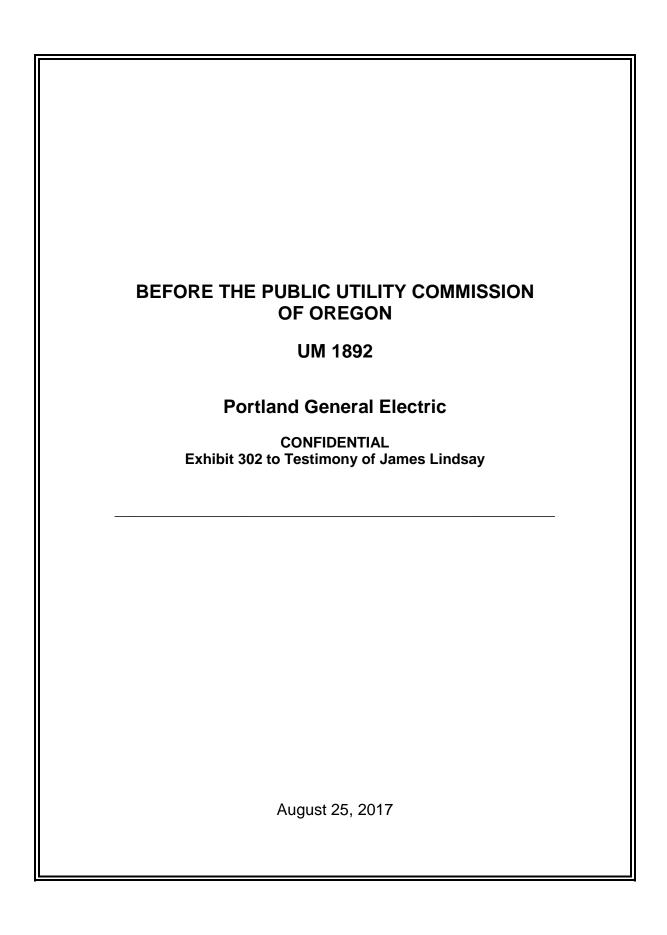
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Q.



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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE – UM 1892**

I hereby certify that I served a true and correct copy of **Portland General Electric** Company's Application for Waiver of the Competitive Bidding Guidelines on the parties listed below via electronic mail in compliance with OAR 860-001-0180.

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Dated this 25th day of August, 2017.

Alisha Till

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