

Jessica Vega Pederson

## Office of Mayor Ted Wheeler

**City of Portland** 

Multnomah County Commissioner

Commission Chair Lisa Hardie Commissioner Stephen Bloom Commissioner Megan Decker

Public Utility Commission of Oregon PO BOX 1088 Salem, OR 97308

Dear Commissioners,

Multnomah County and the City of Portland are aware that you are currently considering PacifiCorp's 2017 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), particularly the proposed investment of approximately \$3.5 billion in new renewable energy resources. Respectfully, the County and City request that you consider acknowledgement of this element of PacifiCorp's IRP.

There is no denying that the climate is changing in dramatic and costly ways, and that the primary driver of this change is human emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases (GHG). Every year we continue to pump GHG into our atmosphere, the crisis grows, and the costs of adaptation increase. In order to prevent the most devastating possible impacts, it is critical that our society act swiftly to transition to a renewable energy future.

Our residents are experiencing the negative impacts of climate change. That is why in June of this year, the County and City jointly committed to transitioning our community to 100 percent renewable electricity by 2035, and 100 percent renewable energy across our economy by 2050. Multnomah County ratepayers want to see decisive action taken to combat climate change and eliminate our reliance on fossil fuels as soon as possible. Our utility partners - and the sources of the energy they supply - are critical to that effort. PacifiCorp's desire to act early to secure renewable resources is commendable. It shows a level of responsiveness to the message they are hearing from their customers, and it shows they recognize the part they must play in contributing to the fight against climate change.

We acknowledge the Public Utility Commission's role in balancing multiple interests. It is our duty as community leaders to advocate for the policy objectives of those who call Multnomah County and Portland home. As we have made clear in our joint resolution, and as the state legislature made clear with the Clean Electricity and Coal Transition Act, Oregonians want decisive action to transition to a renewable energy future. Your support of this element of PacifiCorp's IRP is a valuable contribution to that effort.

Sincerely,

Jussica Vega Pederson

Jessica Vega Pederson Multnomah County Commissioner



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