# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

#### Docket No. UE 171

In the Matter of the Request of	)
•	) HOOPA VALLEY TRIBE'S RESPONSE TO
PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT	) PACIFICORP'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY
(dba PacifiCorp)	) <b>DISPOSITION</b>
	)
Request for a General Rate Increase in the	)
Company's Oregon Annual Revenues	)
[Supplemental Docket to UE-170]	)

Pursuant to the Prehearing Conference Memorandum and Ruling in this matter,

PacifiCorp filed a motion for summary disposition on March 31, 2005. The Hoopa Valley Tribe
respectfully requests that the Commission grant PacifiCorp's motion for summary disposition.

PacifiCorp's motion correctly points out that the special contracts under which certain Klamath Basin irrigation customers have received electric power are based upon rates that are a small fraction of PacifiCorp's avoided costs, costs of generation, and delivery costs. One of the contracts expressly expires on April 16, 2006. The other contract was negotiated to provide off-project irrigators the same rights; accordingly, the same expiration date should be implied in that contract, both because of the intent of the parties and to avoid discriminatory treatment.

PacifiCorp correctly shows that nothing in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") License for Project No. 2082 requires the extension of these contracts beyond 2006. <sup>1</sup> Further, *American Can Co. v. Davis*, 28 Or. App. 207, 559 P.2d 898 (1977), and *Midland Realty* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For this reason, the recent suggestion of the Bureau of Reclamation that the Commission should defer the issues raised in Docket No. UE 171 until FERC decides the terms of a new license, if any, is immaterial as well as being beyond the scope of issues appropriate to this docket. Reclamation has made no request of FERC concerning its annual charges theories. Nothing is pending before FERC that could implicate this proceeding.

Co. v. Kansas City Power & Light Co., 300 U.S. 109 (1937), clearly show that the Commission

has power (1) to supersede rates previously established by contract between utilities and

customers; (2) to require provision of service at non-discriminatory rates; and (3) to avoid rates

too low to yield the costs of power. For these reasons, PacifiCorp's motion for summary

disposition should be granted.

In the April 5, 2005 order granting Hoopa Valley Tribe's intervention, the Commission

noted that the Hoopa Valley Tribe is very concerned about the effect of ultra-low power rates as

an incentive to divert precious water from the Klamath River system, to the detriment of fish,

wildlife and cultural requirements of the downstream tribe. PacifiCorp's motion notes, at page

11, footnote 5, that the proponents of the ultra-low power rates of the expiring contracts may also

wish to use arguments concerning their use of water from the Klamath River, or alleged

contribution of water to the river, in support of their position. In deference to limitations

suggested in the Commission's order, the Hoopa Valley Tribe has refrained from reemphasizing

the connection between water and power issues in this proceeding.

For all these reasons, PacifiCorp's motion for summary disposition should be granted.

DATED this 28th day of April, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

MORISSET, SCHLOSSER, JOZWIAK & MCGAW

/s/ Thomas P. Schlosser \_\_

Thomas P. Schlosser, WSBA No. 06276

801 Second Avenue, Suite 1115

Seattle, WA 98104-1509

Tel.: 206/386-5200

Fax: 206/ 386-7322

Email: t.schlosser@msaj.com

HVT Response to PacifiCorp's

## /s/ Rob Roy Smith\_

Rob Roy Smith, OSB No. 00393 801 Second Avenue, Suite 1115 Seattle, WA 98104-1509

> Tel.: 206/ 386-5200 Fax: 206/ 386-7322

Email: r.smith@msaj.com

Attorneys for the Hoopa Valley Tribe

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 28th day of April, 2005, in addition to electronic service, I mailed the original and five copies of *Hoopa Valley Tribe's Response to PacifiCorp's Motion for Summary* 

Disposition with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, via First-Class Mail to:

Public Utility Commission of Oregon Attn: Filing Center

550 Capitol St., NE #215

P.O. Box 2148

Salem, OR 97308-2148

Email: PUC.FilingCenter@state.or.us

I further certify that on the 28th day of April, 2005, in addition to electronic service, I served a copy of *Hoopa Valley Tribe's Response to PacifiCorp's Motion for Summary Disposition* on counsel via

### *First-Class Mail and/or E-mail* to the following addresses:

Rates & Regulatory Affairs
Portland General Electric
Rates & Regulatory Affairs
121 S.W. Salmon Street, 1WTC0702
Portland, OR 97204

pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com

Kurt J. Boehm – *Confidential* Boehm Kurtz & Lowry 36 E. Seventh St. – Suite 1510 Cincinnati, OR 45202 kboehm@bkllawfirm.com

Phil Carver Oregon Department of Energy 625 Marion St., N.E., Suite 1 Salem, OR 97301-3742 philip.h.carver@state.or.us

Melinda J. Davison Davison Van Cleve PC 333 S.W. Taylor, Suite 400 Portland, OR 97204 mail@dvclaw.com Jim Abrahamson – *Confidential*Community Action Directors of Oregon 4035 12th St Cutoff, S.E., Suite 110
Salem, OR 97302

Lowrey R. Brown – *Confidential* Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon 610 S.W. Broadway, Suite 308 Portland, OR 97205 lowrey@oregoncub.org

jim@cado-oregon.org

Joan Coate – *Confidential*Oregon Energy Coordinators Association 2585 State St., N.E.
Salem, OR 97301
<a href="mailto:cotej@mwvcaa.org">cotej@mwvcaa.org</a>

Jason Eisdorfer – *Confidential*Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon
610 S.W. Broadway, Suite 308
Portland, OR 97205
jason@oregoncub.org

Randall J. Falkenberg FRI Consulting Inc. PMB 362 8351 Roswell Road Atlanta, GA 30350 consultrfi@aol.com

David Hatton
Department of Justice
1162 Court Street, N.E.
Salem, OR 97301
david.hatton@state.or.us

Matthew W. Perkins Davison Van Cleve PC 333 S.W. Taylor, Suite 400 Portland, OR 97204 mwp@dvclaw.com

Janet L. Prewitt
Department of Justice
1162 Court Street N.E.
Salem OR 97301-4096
janet.prewitt@doj.state.or.us

Robert Valdez P.O. Box 2148 Salem, OR 97308-2148 bob.valdez@state.or.us

Lisa Brown Waterwatch of Oregon 213 S.W. Ash Street, Suite 208 Portland, OR 97204 lisa@waterwatch.org

Jim McCarthy
Oregon Natural Resources Council
P.O. Box 151
Ashland, OR 97520
im@onrc.org

Steve Pedery Oregon Natural Resources Council sp@onrc.org

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Edward A. Finklea – *Confidential*Cable Huston Benedict Haagensen & Lloyd LLP
1001 S.W. 5th, Suite 2000
Portland, OR 97204
efinklea@chbh.com

Katherine A. McDowell Stoel Rives LLP 900 S.W. Fifth Ave., Suite 1600 Portland, OR 97204-1268 kamcdowell@stoel.com

Glen H. Spain
Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Assoc.
P.O. Box 11170
Eugene, OR 97440-3370
fish1ifr@aol.com

Douglas C. Tingey Portland General Electric 121 S.W. Salmon 1WTC13 Portland, OR 97204 doug.tingey@pgn.com

Paul M. Wrigley
Pacific Power & Light
825 N.E. Multnomah, Suite 800
Portland, OR 97232
paul.wrigley@pacificorp.com

John Devoe Waterwatch of Oregon 213 S.W. Ash Street, Suite 208 Portland, OR 97204 john@waterwatch.org

Bill McNamee
Public Utility Commission
P.O. Box 2148
Salem, OR 97308-2148
bill.mcnamee@state.or.us

## [Notice will <u>not</u> be electronically mailed, but mailed *First-Class* to]:

Edward Bartell	Dan Keppen
Klamath Off-Project Water Users, Inc.	Klamath Water Users Association
30474 Sprague River Road	2455 Patterson Street, Suite 3
Sprague River, OR 97639	Klamath Falls, OR 97603

I declare the above to be true and correct under penalty of perjury. Executed this 28th day of April, 2005, at Seattle, Washington.

/s/ Rob Roy Smith

Rob Roy Smith, OSB No. 00393

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