

November 16, 2007

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Oregon Public Utility Commission 550 Capitol Street NE, Suite 215 Salem, OR 97310-2551

Attn: Filing Center

RE: UM 1302- In the Matter of the Investigation into the Treatment of CO₂ Risk in the

Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) Process, Joint Utility Comments

Enclosed for filing by PacifiCorp (d.b.a. Pacific Power), Portland General Electric Company and Idaho Power Company is an original and one (1) copy of the Joint Utility Comments in the above-captioned docket.

Informal questions on this matter may be directed to Joelle Steward at (503) 813-5542.

Very truly yours,

Andrea L. Kelly

Vice President, Regulation

Enclosures

cc: UM 1302 Service List (via email)

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

UM 1302

In the Matter of:

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON Staff's Investigation Into the Treatment of CO₂ Risk in the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Process

Comments of Joint Utilities

Pursuant to Judge Power's October 25 ruling ("October 25th Ruling"), PacifiCorp, d.b.a. Pacific Power ("Pacific Power"), Portland General Electric Company ("PGE") and Idaho Power Company ("Idaho Power") (collectively the "Utilities") hereby submit comments in the above-captioned docket.

COMMENTS

The October 25th Ruling invited parties to comment on Oregon Public Utility Commission Staff's ("Staff") draft Guideline 8 submitted in Staff's September 26, 2007 comments. Because the parties filed simultaneous opening comments, these Reply Comments provide the Utilities with their first opportunity to respond to Staff's September 26th comments.

Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP") guidelines should remain broad to allow utilities flexibility to adapt to rapidly changing regulatory circumstances. Staff's September 26th draft Guideline 8 stands out from the other IRP guidelines in this respect, in that it requires an unprecedented level of specific and detailed analysis that might well prove superfluous once a regulatory framework is clearly defined and instituted. The Utilities would ultimately prefer a more streamlined guideline that would serve as the starting

point for discussions on the treatment of CO2 risk in the IRP's public input process.

Such discussions would be informed by the then-current regulatory and legislative

circumstances.

Thus, for the reasons expressed in their September 26 comments, the Utilities

continue to support their own proposed draft Guideline 8. The Utilities' September 26,

2007 draft Guideline 8, included with these comments as Attachment A, provides the

necessary flexibility and also captures an appropriate level of carbon dioxide risk

modeling in IRPs that allows for transparent evaluation.

CONCLUSION

The Utilities look forward to discussing these issues further with the Commission

at the forthcoming workshop.

DATED this 16th day of November, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea L. Kelly

Vice President, Regulation

Pacific Power

J. Richard George

Assistant General Counsel

Portland General Electric

Lisa E. Rackner

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Attorney for Idaho Power

UM 1302 Joint Utilities' Comments 11-16-07

2



- a. SCENARIOS: The utility should construct a base-case scenario to reflect what it considers to be the most likely regulatory compliance future for carbon dioxide (CO₂), nitrogen oxides, sulfur oxides, and mercury emissions. The utility also should develop a broad array of compliance scenarios ranging from the present CO₂ regulatory cost to the upper reaches of credible proposals by governing bodies (i.e., at least \$100 per ton, as levelized in 2005 dollars). Each scenario should maintain logical consistency, to the extent practicable, between CO₂ regulatory costs and other key inputs including, but not limited to, expected interactive effects with fuel and electricity prices. Each scenario should include a time profile of CO₂ compliance costs. The utility should identify for each scenario the underlying sources of the CO2 compliance costs; i.e., whether it envisions those costs to be in the form of taxes, a ban on certain types of resources, or CO₂ caps (with or without flexibility mechanisms such as trading or a safety valve). The utility should explain its rationale for choosing its base-case CO₂ regulatory future from among the other possible CO₂ regulatory futures. The utility should estimate the twenty-year (as a minimum) present value of revenue requirement (PVRR) for each of the studied portfolios. Endeffect considerations should be incorporated in the portfolio analyses to allow for comparisons of portfolios containing resources with different economic lives. If material, sensitivity analyses on a range of reasonable regulatory futures for nitrogen oxides, sulfur oxides and mercury should be included as part of the portfolio analysis.
- b. PREFERRED PORTFOLIO: The utility should identify, among reasonable alternatives, the portfolio that it prefers in recognition of both its base case scenario, the broad range of potential regulatory compliance scenarios described above, other analyses conducted during the course of the integrated resource planning cycle, and management discretion. The utility should estimate the twenty year (as a minimum) present value of revenue requirement (PVRR) for each of the studied portfolios for several illustrative regulatory compliance futures within the range of scenarios. Endeffect considerations should be incorporated in the analyses to allow for comparisons of portfolios containing resources with different economic lives. In addition, and if material, sensitivity analyses on a range of reasonably possible regulatory futures for nitrogen oxides, sulfur oxides, and mercury should be included to further substantiate the preferred portfolio selection.
- be. TRIGGER POINT ANALYSIS AND ALTERNATE ALTERNATIVE
 PORTFOLIOS: The utility should identify at least one set of CO₂ regulatory future
 compliance costs, if there is one, within the range of alternative regulatory scenarios
 considered that would lead to, or "trigger," a set of resources that is substantially
 different from the preferred portfolio. The utility should fully develop an alternate
 alternative portfolio optimized for each of these trigger point CO₂ regulatory futures.
 The utility should then analyze scenarios and compare the portfolio's expected the
 cost and risk performance to that of the initially preferred portfolio under the basecase conditions and under each of the CO₂ compliance scenarios of the alternate
 portfolio(s) to that of the preferred portfolio. For each of CO₂ regulatory future
 trigger points identified through the analyses, the utility should include an assessment
 that a CO₂ regulatory future will be mandated that is equally or more stringent.
 Additionally, the utility should evaluate the preferred portfolio under the base-case
 CO₂ regulatory future and at least one alternative CO₂ regulatory future.

- cd. PORTFOLIO CO₂ RISK ADAPTABILITY: The utility should assess the cost and risks of adapting the preferred portfolio to an alternate portfolio a scenario (or scenarios) if where the utility must change course unexpectedly due to a major change in the CO₂ compliance requirements. The utility should describe the timing and magnitude of new CO₂ requirements that would elicit such a divergence in course, and provide its assessment of such a CO₂ regulatory shift taking place. The utility should describe the timing and magnitude of new CO₂ requirements that would elicit the indicated portfolio modifications. The utility should compare the cost and risks of the adapted preferred portfolio with those of an optimized alternative portfolio designed to be more adaptable in the event of such a change in the CO₂-compliance requirements. Comparative factors such as lead times for site acquisition, engineering, and construction should be incorporated in the characterization of the alternative portfolio. The utility should provide its assessment of such a CO₂-regulatory shift taking place.
- de. OREGON COMPLIANCE PORTFOLIO: If <u>neither none of</u> the <u>original preferred</u> <u>portfolio nor an alternate alternative</u> portfolios <u>would be</u> is consistent with Oregon energy policies <u>applicable to the electricity sector</u> (including state goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions reductions <u>for that sector</u>), the utility should construct a an optimized portfolio that achieves that consistency <u>and perform the same analysis as for the alternate portfolio(s)</u>, present the cost and risk parameters, and compare them to those of the preferred and alternative portfolios.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have cause to be served the foregoing PACIFIC POWER'S MOTION TO AMEND SCHEDULE in OPUC Docket No. UM 1302 by electronic mail and first class mail to those parties who have not waived paper service on the above service list.

DATED this 16th day of November, 2007.

Deborah Depetris

Supervisor, Regulatory Admin.