November 15, 2007

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Attention: Filing Center
Public Utility Commission of Oregon
550 Capitol Street NE, #215
PO Box 2148
Salem, OR 97308-2148
Puc.filingcenter@state.or.us

Re:

In the Matter of the PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON Staff's Investigation

into the Treatment of CO₂ Risk in the Integrated Resource Process (IRP) Process

PUC Docket No. UM 1302

DOJ File No. 330-030-GN0300-07

Enclosed are an original and one copy of the OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S FINAL COMMENT IRP GUIDELINE AND ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS with certificate of service, in the above-captioned matter for filing with the PUC today.

Sincerely,

Janet L. Prewitt

Assistant Attorney General Natural Resources Section

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Enclosures

c: UM 1302 Service List

JLP:jrs/GENV9900

1	BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION		
2	OF OREGON		
3	UM 1302		
4	In the Matter of the) PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF) OREGON DEPARTMENT OF		
5 6 7	OREGON Staff's Investigation into the Treatment of CO ₂ Risk in the Integrated Resource Process (IRP) Process Treatment of CO ₂ Risk in the Integrated Resource Process (IRP) Process Treatment of CO ₂ Risk in the Integrated Resource Process (IRP) Process Treatment of CO ₂ Risk in the Integrated Resource Process (IRP) Process		
8	The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) proposes the following revisions to staff's		
9	final version of IRP Guideline 8: Environmental Costs.		
10	• • •		
11	SCENARIOS" to read:		
12 13	"The utility also should develop several compliance scenarios ranging from the present CO_2 regulatory level to the upper reaches of credible proposals that, within four decades, would stabilize CO_2 and other greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere."		
14	RATIONALE:		
15	International agreements, proposed federal legislation and efforts by states and provinces		
16	increasingly recognize that continued climate change will yield increasingly catastrophic		
17	consequences. Only after the concentrations of CO ₂ and other greenhouse gases in the		
18	atmosphere are stable will climate begin to stabilize. Stabilizing the CO ₂ concentration will		
19	require 50 to 80 percent reductions in worldwide CO ₂ emissions before 2050. Percentage		
20	reductions for the U.S. electric sector will likely be this large or larger. U.S. per capita emissions		
21	are among the highest in the world and electric sector emissions are more easily regulated that		
22	other stationary sources and transport emissions.		
23	2. Amend the fourth sentence in "a. BASE CASE AND OTHER COMPLIANCE		
24	SCENARIOS:" on page 2 and add two new sentences following:		
25	"The utility should identify whether the basis of those requirements, or "costs," would be CO2		
26	taxes, a ban on certain types of resources, CO2 caps (with or without flexibility mechanisms such as trading or a safety valve, and potentially recognizing upstream emissions relating to		
	Page 1 - UM 1302 - OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S FINAL COMMENT IRP GUIDELINE AND ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS GENV9898		

Department of Justice 1162 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301-4096 (503) 947-4500 / Fax: (503) 378-3802

2 3	wholesale fuel and electricity purchases) or other greenhouse gas regulations. For example, future regulation of greenhouse gas emissions from coal gasification facilities and liquefied natural gas terminals might affect natural gas prices. Regulation of methane emissions from coal mines might affect coal prices."		
4	RATIONALE:		
5	The Oregon PUC should encourage utilities to examine all credible factors that could		
6	influence resource and fuel costs. It is likely that market prices of fuels will be affected by future		
7	state and federal regulations of greenhouse gases. Reasonable forecasts of fuel and resource		
8	costs should account for these likely impacts.		
9	OPUC Staff's clarification of Oct.24 to limit the analysis of upstream impacts solely to		
10	wholesale power prices is insufficient. It would ignore upstream impacts on fuel costs that could		
11	be reasonably forecasted.		
12	DATED this 15th day of November 2007.		
13	D (C.11 1 24 1		
14	Respectfully submitted,		
15	HARDY MYERS Attorney General		
16			
17	Jan L. Frent		
18	Janet L. Prewitt, #85307 Assistant Attorney General		
19	Of Attorneys for Oregon Department of Energy		
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UM 1302 SERVICE LIST

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Michael Youngblood IDAHO POWER COMPANY PO BOX 70 Boise, ID. 83707 myoungblood@idahopower.com		

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 15th day of November, 2007, I served the foregoing OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S FINAL COMMENT IRP GUIDELINE 8:

ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS, electronically upon, the persons named on the attached service list. All parties have waived paper service.

DATED: This 15th day of November, 2007.

Janet L. Prewitt, #85307

Assistant Attorney General

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Janet L. Prewitt, #85307 Assistant Attorney General