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Public Utility Commission of Oregon 201 High Street S.E., Suite 100 Salem, Oregon 97308-1088

Attention:

Filing Center

## RE: UM 2035 PGE's Comments on Idaho Power's Transportation Electrification Plan

Portland General Electric Company (PGE) submits these comments in support of Idaho Power's transportation electrification plan, particularly as it discusses Idaho Power's interest in supporting the development of highway rest area charging infrastructure and the importance of connecting the eastern and western parts of the state and rural areas to allow long range EV travel across Oregon and to the intermountain west.

During PGE's informational presentation to the Commissioners on November 21, 2019, Commissioner Tawney commented on the need for networks that span utility networks and to meet customers where they are. At Staff's request, PGE addressed this issue noting that the electric company needs to be prepared to efficiently interconnect and manage all new EV and EVSE loads into its system, including loads that originated from within or was transient. PGE has been engaged in studies to understand and estimate charging needs, including some that cross jurisdictional boundaries (e.g., West Coast Clean Transit Corridor Initiative). By collaborating across utility boundaries, collectively we will be able to ensure all our customers' have access to charging when and where they need it.

PGE hopes to advance the conversation about how to optimally plan for this newly emergent load in a manner that meets the needs of customers, electricity providers, and other transportation stakeholders. If Idaho Power were to support the development of highway rest area charging infrastructure, then EV drivers, including those in PGE's service territory and across the state benefit.

Please direct any questions or comments regarding PGE's comments in UE 2035 to Kalia Savage at (503) 464-7432. Please direct all formal correspondence and requests to the following email address pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com.

Sincerely,

Karla Wenzel

Manager, Regulatory Policy and Strategy