Oregon PUC – What We Do

- Regulate Rates
- Regulate Service
- Establish rates through the rate case process
- Enforce electric and natural gas safety standards
- Handle utility-related dispute resolution on behalf of Oregon residents
- Balance the interests of both the customer and utilities

Our Regulatory Obligation: Balance the interests of both utility customers and the utility



To ensure Oregon utility customers have access to safe, reliable, and high quality utility services at just and reasonable rates. This is done through a thorough and robust analysis and decisionmaking conducted in an open and fair process.

Commissioners

- Consider the record evidence and deliberate on the issues in the proceeding
- Issue a written order of their decision
- In this rate case potential decisions could include:
 - Approving the utility's request in full or with changes
 - Denying the utility's request
 - Adopting a settlement of some or all issues

Administrative Law Judge (ALJ)

- Presides over the proceeding in a fair and impartial way
- Adopts a schedule for the case
- Rules on petitions to intervene
- Resolves procedural issues among the parties
- Conducts the hearing, administers oath to witnesses, and may ask questions at the hearing of any party



Commission Staff

- Party to the proceeding
- Reviews filings in the case and gathers information through data requests
- Files written testimony in the proceeding and provides witnesses for cross-examination
- Negotiates at settlement conferences



Intervenors

- An organization or individual with full party status in the proceeding
 - Must demonstrate sufficient interest in the proceeding and will not unreasonably broaden issues or delay proceeding (OAR 860-01-0300)
- May issue data requests to the utility
- May file written testimony prior to the evidentiary hearing
- May cross-examine witnesses at the evidentiary hearing
- May receive copies of confidential testimony, exhibits, and other documents under a protective order
- Are not required to be represented by counsel, but may not present legal arguments without being or being represented by an attorney

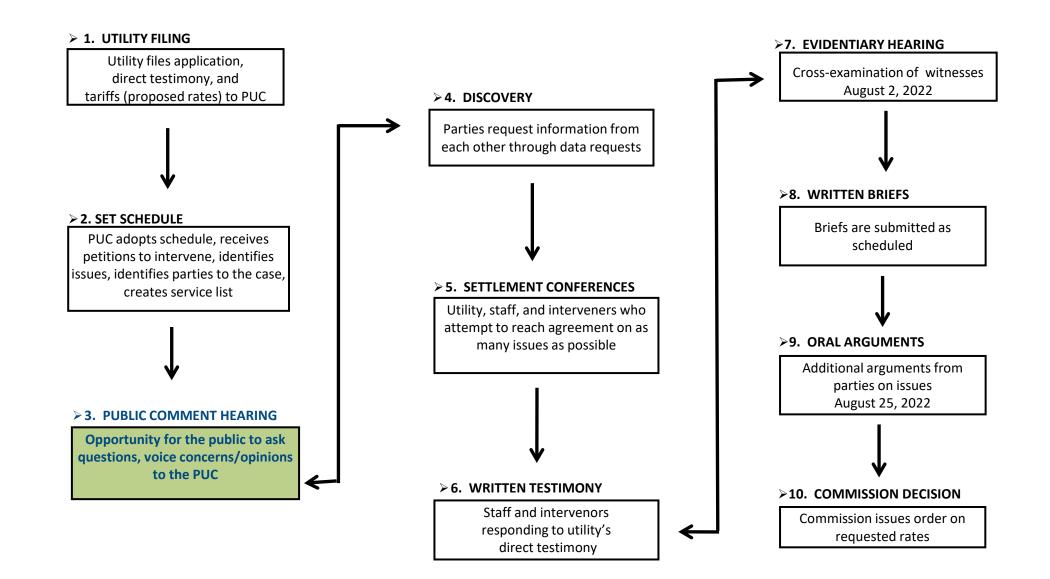


Role of the Utility in Rate Cases

- Files the application for new rates with the PUC to start the rate case process
- Files testimony in support of its application
- Responds to data requests submitted by the PUC Staff and intervenors throughout their evaluation of the application
- Has the burden of demonstrating the rate request is justified

Rate Case - Process

Public comments accepted through March 31, 2022



Customers Encouraged to Comment

- In person (via Zoom) at tonight's public comment hearing
- Email <u>puc.PublicComments@puc.Oregon.gov</u>
- Call 800-522-2404
 - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday Friday
 - interpretation services available
- Mail to:

Attn: AHD-UG 435

Oregon Public Utility Commission

PO Box 1088

Salem, OR 97308-1088



Customers May Also...

- Request to be added to the distribution list for this case
 - Email puc.hearings@puc.Oregon.gov
 - Call 503-378-6678
- Attend (virtually) any public meetings as part of this rate case process

Questions after tonight's public comment hearing?

Contact our Consumer Services Team

- 800-522-2404
- TTY or dial 711
- puc.consumer@puc.Oregon.gov

