



April 5, 2024

Docket No. UM 2005: Investigation into Distribution System Planning

Staff will be updating distribution system planning (DSP) Guidelines, adopted by the Commission in December 2020 through [Order No. 20-485](#). Guideline updates will reflect feedback on inaugural distribution system plans (Plans) from the Commission, stakeholders, and utilities. Guideline updates based on Commissioner and stakeholder feedback to the utilities’ initial distribution system plans was always part of the approach.¹

Scope: Staff’s forthcoming Guideline revisions will focus on: 1) improvements identified in utilities’ inaugural Plans to refine and hone the connection between filed DSPs and investments later seen in rate cases; 2) connections between utility planning practices that have evolved or launched since DSP Guidelines were established; and 3) removal or revision of requirements for one-time activities or activities specific to inaugural Plans. DSP may result in improved understanding of interconnection challenges, which will be primarily addressed through the PUC’s interconnection-related investigation, [Docket No. UM 2111](#).

Process: Later this month Staff will publish to the docket proposed Guideline revisions and seek public comment. Staff will then present a final version to the Commission at a public meeting this summer. Staff proposes the following major steps and timeframes:

Activity	Timeframe
Staff’s proposed Guideline revisions published	Week of April 22, 2024
Public comment period	Through May 24, 2024
Staff’s Memo on proposed Guideline revisions published to docket	July, one week prior to public meeting
Consideration of Staff’s Proposed Guideline Updates at Public Meeting	Late July

Background

PGE, Pacific Power, and Idaho Power filed Part 1 of their inaugural Distribution System Plans on October 15, 2021. The utilities then filed Part 2 of their Plans on August 15, 2022. The Commission accepted both filings from each utility. The following table includes links to each utility’s respective dockets, filings, and Commission Orders.

¹ For example, see Figure 6 on page 12 in Staff Whitepaper: A Proposal for Electric Distribution System Planning (2019), <https://edocs.puc.state.or.us/efdocs/HAU/um2005hau15477.pdf>. See also page 10 and 11 in Staff’s Memo recommending adoption Staff proposed Guidelines (2020), <https://edocs.puc.state.or.us/efdocs/HAU/um2005hau10571.pdf>.



Docket Announcement and Schedule

Utility and Docket No.	DSP Part 1 filing	Commission Order	DSP Part 2 filing	Commission Order
Idaho Power UM 2196	2021 Oregon Distribution System Plan	Order No. 22-083	Distribution System Planning Report, Part 2	Order No. 23-117
PGE UM 2197	Distribution System Plan Part 1	Order No. 22-083	Distribution System Plan Part 2	Order No. 23-069
Pacific Power UM 2198	Oregon Distribution System Plan – Part 1	Order No. 22-083	Oregon Distribution System Plan – Part 2	Order No. 23-116

Staff Contacts

If you would like to join the service list for Docket No. UM 2005, email your request to puc.hearings@puc.oregon.gov. If you have questions, please contact Nick Sayen at nick.sayen@puc.oregon.gov or 503-510-4355.

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