

PURPA Stakeholders:

This letter serves as an update on Staff’s plans for proceeding with PURPA-related dockets in 2021.

Staff’s continued goal is to conduct a comprehensive review and update of PURPA implementation in Oregon. Staff’s 2021 PURPA docket strategy is summarized in the table below. The timelines are tentative subject to detailed discussions within each docket during a pre-hearing conference or scoping workshop with stakeholders. Staff’s strategy is designed to work through the range of PURPA issues identified by the Commission to date¹ with stakeholders in a deliberate and efficient manner. Due to the interdependence of many PURPA issues, Staff’s plan staggers dockets to 1) prioritize key decisions, and 2) ensure that key Commission decisions can be used to inform subsequent PURPA dockets. Staff hopes that this strategy will result in a set of well-balanced and compatible PURPA policies for the state.

Staff’s 2021 PURPA Docket Strategy

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Other
AR 631 Standard Contract Revisions	Staff proposal for contract changes	Comments and workshops			Commission adopts rules & terms	Formal Rulemaking				
UM 2038 Planning for QFs in IRPs				1	Relaunch with workshop	Comments and workshops			Commission adopts planning requirements	
UM 2032 Network Resource Cost Allocation	Testimony and briefings					Commission decision / launch phase 2	Phase 2 workshop	4		
UM 2011 Capacity Valuation	Staff comments Pre-hearing conference	Comments and workshops				Commission adopts capacity value methodology	Pre-hearing conference			
UM 2000 Avoided Cost Design			Launch AC investigation w/ scoping workshop	Finalize issues and schedule	2	3	Comments/ testimony and workshops			Commission adopts AC methodology updates in Jan 2022
2021 Avoided Cost Updates						PGE and IPC Finalized				PAC Finalized in November ²

1. AR 631 contract terms will inform UM 2038 discussion of how utilities plan for QFs to come online and renew. UM 2038 will launch at the conclusion of the AR 631 informal phase.
2. UM 2032 outcomes will inform avoided interconnection and transmission cost discussions in UM 2000. However, due to the number of other issues in UM 2000, scoping and workshops can begin prior to a UM 2032 decision.
3. UM 2011 capacity valuation methodology will inform how UM 2000 compensates QFs for capacity. Similar to UM 2032, scoping discussions and workshops in UM 2000 can begin prior to a final UM 2011 decision.
4. The capacity valuation modeling identified in UM 2011 will inform UM 2038 requirements for how utilities plan for QFs in the IRP. Scoping discussions in 2038 do not need to wait for the UM 2011 decision.

Please direct questions to Stephanie Andrus at stephanie.andrus@doj.state.or.us or 971-719-0690 or Caroline Moore at caroline.f.moore@state.or.us or 503-480-9427.

¹ Commission Order No. 19-254.

² Staff proposes that PAC change timing of its annual avoided cost price update from May 1 to later in the year so that any price change does not occur during PAC’s 2021 Annual Cluster Study.