

January 12, 2006

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Oregon Public Utility Commission P.O. Box 2148 550 Capitol Street NE Salem, OR 97301

Attn: Commission Filing Center

Re: **UM 1131**

PGE's Application for Reauthorization to Defer Information Technology Costs

Enclosed for filing is the original and one copy of Portland General Electric Company's Application for Reauthorization to Defer Information Technology Costs. We have provided copies of a Notice of Application to the UE-115 service list.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions or require further information, please call me (503-464-7580), or Alex Tooman (503-464-7623).

Sincerely,

/s/ Patrick G. Hager

Patrick G. Hager Manager, Regulatory Affairs

Encls.

cc: Bob Jenks, CUB Melinda Davison, ICNU Barbara Halle Service List (UE-115)

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UM 1131

In the Matter of the Application of Portland General Electric Company for an Order to Reauthorize the Deferral of Information Technology Costs APPLICATION FOR REAUTHORIZATION TO DEFER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COSTS

Pursuant to ORS 757.259, OAR 860-027-0300 and OPUC Order No. 01-777 (Appendix B, Item S-45, pages 8-9), Portland General Electric Company ("PGE") requests reauthorization to defer for later ratemaking treatment certain information technology costs ("IT Deferral" or "Deferred Amount"). PGE seeks reauthorization to defer information technology costs as described below from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006 (the "Deferral Period"). PGE is currently amortizing through Advice No. 05-19.

I. Deferral History

In OPUC Docket UE-115, PGE entered into a Stipulation regarding cost of service changes that was approved by the Commission in Order No. 01-777 (Appendix B to the Order). The Stipulation requires that PGE compare the revenue requirement of certain IT capital expenditures included in base rates in UE-115 to the revenue requirement based on actual expenditures.

The Stipulation also required an OPUC Staff audit of the actual expenditures to determine if the expenditures were reasonable and prudent. OPUC Staff completed the audit of the relevant IT capital expenditures made from 2000 to 2003 in February 2004. The Stipulation also requires that the 2003 True-Up accrue to the deferred account in each subsequent year until

new base rates are established. Finally, as a component of the Stipulation, PGE has agreed to waive any earnings test, if needed, to implement a rate refund.

a. <u>2002 True-up</u>

PGE compared the actual IT capital revenue requirement for 2002 to the amount placed in base rates in UE-115 and established that it had under spent IT capital by an amount equivalent to \$7.5 million in revenue requirements. PGE established a customer credit of \$7.5 million that was refunded to customers from November 2002 to December 2003.

b. <u>2003 True-up</u>

PGE compared the actual IT capital revenue requirement for 2003 to the amount placed in base rates in UE-115. PGE estimated that it had under spent IT capital by an amount equivalent to \$4.3 million in revenue requirements. On December 30, 2003, PGE filed for authorization to defer the \$4.3 million in revenue requirements for 12 months beginning January 1, 2004. The Commission approved the deferral in OPUC Order 04-169. PGE amortized this credit during 2004.

c. 2003 True-up Continued into 2006

As in 2005, PGE has determined that customers will be owed \$4.2 million (rather than the \$4.3 million deferred in 2004) based on the actual revenue requirement associated with decreased capital expenditures through December 31, 2003, compared to the amounts used in the UE-115 test year. PGE requests reauthorization to defer this amount beginning January 1, 2006. PGE will amortize this credit during 2006.

II. OAR 860-027-0300 Requirements

The following is provided pursuant to OAR 860-027-0300(3):

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a. <u>Description</u>

For 2006, PGE has determined that customers are owed \$4.2 million based on underspending on capital projects through December 31, 2003 relative to the amounts used in UE-115.

b. Reasons for Deferral

PGE seeks reauthorization of the IT Deferral pursuant to a stipulation in UE-115 and approved by the Commission in Order No. 01-777. In accordance with the Stipulation requiring that each January 1st an amount equal to the 2003 True-Up be deferred in a balancing account, PGE is filing this reauthorization application for the period January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006. Without reauthorization, this deferral will expire on December 31, 2005.

c. <u>Proposed Accounting</u>

PGE proposes to record the deferral as a regulatory liability in FERC Account 254, debiting FERC Account 449.1 (Provision for Rate Refunds). In the absence of a deferred accounting order, PGE would absorb the Deferred Amount in its retail revenues (FERC 440, 442, and 444).

d. Estimate of Amounts

PGE will refund \$4.2 million resulting from the 2003 True-Up. Consistent with the stipulation, the actual 2003 True-Up will accrue to the deferred account on January 1, 2006 and will accrue interest at PGE's authorized cost of capital, currently 9.083%. PGE will seek annual reauthorization of this deferral, as appropriate.

e. Notice

A copy of the Notice of Application for Reauthorization to Defer Information Technology Costs and a list of persons served with the Notice are attached to the Application as Attachment A.

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III. The following is provided pursuant to OAR 860-027-0300(4):

a. Description of Deferred Account Entries

Please see section (II)((c)

b. The reason for continuing deferred accounting

PGE is seeking approval to continue the IT Deferral pursuant to conditions stipulated in UE-115 and approved in Commission Order No. 01-777 as described in Section (II)(b) above.

IV. PGE Contacts

The authorized address to receive notices and communications in respect of this

Application is:

PGE-OPUC Filings
Rates & Regulatory Affairs
Portland General Electric Company
121 SW Salmon Street, 1WTC0702
Portland, OR 97204
(503) 464-7857 (telephone)
(503) 464-7651 (telecopier)
pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com

The names and addresses to receive notices and communications via the e-mail service list are:

Barbara Halle, Assistant General E-Mail: <u>Barbara.Halle@pgn.com</u>, and

Patrick G. Hager, Manager Regulatory Affairs

E-Mail: Patrick.Hager@pgn.com,

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V. Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, PGE requests permission to defer 2003 True-Up information technology costs from January 1, 2006 until December 31, 2006.

DATED this 12th day of January 2006.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Patrick G. Hager

Patrick G. Hager Manager, Regulatory Affairs On Behalf of Portland General Electric Company

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Attachment A

Notice of Application for Reauthorization to Defer Information Technology Costs

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UM 1131

In the Matter of the Application of Portland General Electric Company for an Order to Reauthorize the Deferral of Information Technology Costs NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR REAUTHORIZATION TO DEFER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COSTS

On January 12, 2006, Portland General Electric Company ("PGE") filed an Application with the Oregon Public Utility Commission (the "Commission") for an Order reauthorizing deferral of information technology costs. Approval of PGE's Application will not authorize a change in PGE's rates, but will permit the Commission to consider allowing such deferred amounts in rates in a subsequent proceeding. Persons who wish to obtain a copy of PGE's Application should contact either of the following:

Barbara Halle Assistant General Counsel Portland General Electric Company 121 SW Salmon Street, 1 WTC 1301 Portland, Oregon 97204

Phone: 503-464-8858 Facsimile: 503-464-2200 Barbara_halle@pgn.com PGE-OPUC Filings
Rates & Regulatory Affairs
Portland General Electric Company
121 SW Salmon St., 1 WTC-0702
Portland, OR 97204
(503) 464-7857 (telephone)
(503) 464-7651 (telecopier)
pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com

Any person who wishes to submit written comments to the Commission on PGE's Application must do so not later than February 13, 2006.

Dated this 12th day of January, 2006.

/s/ Patrick G. Hager

Patrick G. Hager Manager, Regulatory Affairs Portland General Electric Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that this day I have served the foregoing APPLICATION FOR

REAUTHORIZATION OF DEFERRAL OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

COSTS upon all parties of record in this proceeding by delivering a copy in person or by mailing a copy properly addressed with first class postage prepaid, **or by electronic mail pursuant to ORS 860-013-0070**, to the following parties or attorneys of parties listed on the attached official service list:

Dated this 12th day of January, 2006.

/s/ Patrick G. Hager

Patrick G. Hager Manager, Regulatory Affairs On behalf of Portland General Electric Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE (APPLICATION FOR REAUTHORIZATION TO DEFER)