

November 12, 2010

E-Filing and US Mail

Filing Center Public Utility Commission of Oregon 550 Capitol Street, NE, Suite 215 Salem, OR 97301-2148

Re: Application for Reauthorization of ISFSI Tax Credit Deferral UM 1186

Enclosed for filing are the original and one copy of Portland General Electric Company's Application for Reauthorization to Defer ISFSI Tax Credits for December 31, 2010 through December 30, 2011.

PGE originally received permission to defer Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation State Tax Credits through OPUC Order No. 05-136. The deferral authorization period began December 30, 2004, with annual reauthorization approvals through OPUC Order Nos. 05-136, 06-117, 07-084, 08-152, 08-616 and 09-475.

We have provided copies of a Notice of Application to the UE 197 service list. PGE waives paper service of documents in this proceeding and has E-filed a copy on this date.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions or require further information, please call me (503-464-7580), or Jay Tinker (503-464-7002).

Sincerely,

Patrick G. Hager

Manager, Regulatory Affairs

encls.

cc: Gordon Feigner, CUB Melinda Davison, ICNU Carla Owings, OPUC UE 197 Service List

### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

#### OF OREGON

#### UM 1186

In the Matter of the Application of Portland General Electric Company for an Order to Reauthorize the Deferral of Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation State Tax Credit Cost Reduction Application For Reauthorization To Defer ISFSI State Tax Credits

Pursuant to ORS 757.259, OAR 860-027-0300 and OPUC Order No.09-475, Portland General Electric Company ("PGE") requests reauthorization to defer for later ratemaking treatment certain Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) state tax credits, for December 31, 2010, through December 30, 2011, (the "Deferral Period).

# I. Deferral History:

On December 9, 2004, the Environmental Quality Commission granted PGE approval of the final certification of ISFSI expenditures, authorizing state tax credits totaling \$21.1 million (50% of PGE's share of the certified costs). The credits are authorized for use on a straight-line basis over ten years, with a carry-forward provision that allows any particular tax year's provision to be postponed for up to three tax years.

The ISFSI is a dry cask storage system, which provided storage for the spent nuclear fuel assemblies and radioactive waste generated at the Trojan plant during the years in which it produced energy. PGE, PacifiCorp, and the Eugene Water and Electric Board jointly own the Trojan plant.

On December 30, 2004, PGE filed and requested authorization to defer for later ratemaking treatment those cost reductions associated with the use of ISFSI Oregon state

tax credits. PGE received approval of the deferral for the 2004 tax year on March 15, 2005. (See OPUC Order No. 05-136).

PGE has since filed and received reauthorization for this deferral, as shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1 Approval Date Order No. Tax year **Filing Date** Renewal Period 03-13-06 2005 06-117 12-30-05 12/31/05 - 12/30/0603-05-07 07-084 12-15-06 12/31/06 - 12/30/07 2006 03-04-08 12/31/07 - 12/30/08 2007 08-152 12-21-07 2008 08-616 12-30-08 12/31/08 - 12/30/09 11-18-08 2009 09-475 12-02-09 12/31/09 - 12/30/10 11-05-09

# II. OAR 860-027-0300 Requirements:

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

# a. <u>Description</u>

See the Deferral History above. For any tax year, the maximum Deferral Amount is \$2.25 million per year (\$21.1 million over ten years, after federal tax effect and using a Net-to-Gross Factor of 1.65%). For tax years during which PGE accrues less than the maximum provision of the ISFSI tax credit because anticipated state tax expense is less than \$2.1 million, PGE will calculate the Deferral Amount based on the actual ISFSI tax credit accrued.

PGE evaluates accrued (but as of yet unused) tax credits to determine if the credits could be expected to be used prior to the expiration of their carry-forward provisions. For ISFSI tax credits accrued (but not used) in 2008 and 2009, we assess that a portion of the accrued credits are not expected to be used before their 3-year carry-

forward provisions expire. As a result, PGE has reduced the regulatory liability representing the deferral of benefits at the end of third quarter 2010 by approximately \$1.1, million.

During the period between now and the end of the respective carry-forward periods, PGE will continue to assess our ability to use these credits. If PGE is able to use credits previously assessed as not likely to be used, we will again defer any such benefits into the deferred account.

# b. Reasons for Deferral

PGE seeks approval of the Deferral Amount pursuant to ORS 757.259(2)(e). This deferral will minimize the frequency of rate changes and match appropriately the costs borne by and benefits received by customers. PGE's customers have paid for the ISFSI project through an inclusion in rates of the annual contribution to the Trojan Nuclear Decommissioning Trust (NDT), and PGE has committed that customers should receive the benefits of these tax credits. The deferral of these credits allows them to be accumulated for later customer refund.

## c. Proposed Accounting

PGE proposes to record the deferral as a regulatory liability in FERC Account 254 (Other Regulatory Liabilities), debiting FERC Account 407.3 (Regulatory Debits). In the absence of a renewed deferred accounting order, PGE's net income would increase as a result of lower state tax expense as booked in FERC Account 409.1 (Income Taxes, Utility Operating Income) when the ISFSI tax credits are utilized.

PGE will accrue interest, as appropriate, on the Deferral Amount at PGE's authorized cost of capital, currently 8.284% until the Commission approves amortization

of the deferred amount in a future proceeding.

# d. Estimate of Amounts

For December 31, 2010, through December 30, 2011, PGE estimates adding approximately \$2.25 million to the deferred account if PGE earns adequate taxable income to use all the credits available.

The actual deferred amount may be more or less depending on PGE's state taxable income, actual tax expense and the provision for a three-year carry forward into future tax years.

# e. Notice

A copy of the Notice of Application for Reauthorization to Defer ISFSI state tax credits and a list of persons served with the Notice are attached to the Application as Attachment A.

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

# a. <u>Description of Deferred Account Entries</u>

Please see section (II)(c)

# b. The Reason for Continuing Deferred Accounting

PGE is seeking approval to continue the ISFSI Deferral pursuant to conditions approved in Commission Order No. 09-475 (2009 tax year) as described in Section (II)(b) above.

# IV. PGE Contacts:

The authorized addresses to receive notices and communications in reference to this

# Application are:

Douglas C. Tingey Assistant General Counsel Portland General Electric Company 121 SW Salmon Street, 1WTC1301

Portland, OR 97204 Phone: (503) 464-8926 Facsimile: (503) 464-2200 doug.tingey@pgn.com Patrick G. Hager Rates & Regulatory Affairs Portland General Electric Company 121 SW Salmon St., 1WTC0702 Portland, OR 97204

Phone: (503) 464-7857 Facsimile: (503) 464-7651 pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com

PGE waives paper service in this proceeding. In addition to the names and addresses above, the following are to receive notices and communications via the e-mail service list:

E-mail: Jay.Tinker@pgn.com

E-mail: Launa.Harmon@pgn.com

# V. Conclusion:

For the reasons stated above, PGE requests permission to continue to defer ISFSI state tax credits from December 31, 2010 until December 30, 2011.

DATED this 12th<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2010.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick G. Hager

Manager, Regulatory Affairs

On Behalf of Portland General Electric Company

# Attachment A

# Notice of Application for Reauthorization to Defer ISFSI State Tax Credits

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

#### OF OREGON

#### **UM 1186**

In the Matter of the Application of Portland General Electric Company for an Order to Reauthorize the Deferral of ISFSI State Tax Credits

Notice Of Application For Reauthorization To Defer ISFSI State Tax Credits

On November 12, 2010, Portland General Electric Company ("PGE") filed an Application with the Oregon Public Utility Commission (the "Commission") for an Order reauthorizing deferral of ISFSI state tax credits. 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:

> **PGE-OPUC Filings** Rates & Regulatory Affairs Portland General Electric Company 121 SW Salmon Street, 1WTC-0702 Portland, OR 97204 (503) 464-7857 (telephone) (503) 464-7651 (fax) pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com

Any person who wishes to submit written comments to the Commission on PGE's Application must do so no later than December 10, 2010.

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2010.

Manager, Regulatory Affairs

Portland General Electric Company

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day caused the foregoing NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR REAUTHORIZATION TO ISFSI STATE TAX CREDITS to be served by electronic mail to those parties whose email addresses appear on the attached service list, and by First Class US Mail, postage prepaid and properly addressed, to those parties on the attached service list who have not waived papers service.

Dated at Portland, Oregon, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2010.

Manager Regulatory Affairs

On Behalf of Portland General Electric Company

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Printed: 11/12/2010

Summary Report

**UE 197 PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC** 

Category: Electric Rate Case

Filed By: PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC

This filing requests a general rate revision.

Filing Date: 2/27/2008

Advice No: 08-02

Effective Date: 1/1/2009

Expiration Date: 12/31/2008

Status: PERM SUSPEND

See also: UE 198

08-23

Final Order: 09-176

Signed: 2/27/2008

**SERVICE LIST:** 

OPUC DOCKETS

CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD OF OREGON

610 SW BROADWAY, STE 400

PORTLAND OR 97205

COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP OF OREGON

PO BOX 7964

**SALEM OR 97301** 

KURT J BOEHM -- CONFIDENTIAL BOEHM KURTZ & LOWRY 36 E SEVENTH ST - STE 1510 CINCINNATI OH 45202 ROGER D. COLTON -- CONFIDENTIAL FISHER SHEEHAN & COLTON

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JOAN COTE -- CONFIDENTIAL OREGON ENERGY COORDINATORS ASSOCIATION 2585 STATE STINE SALEM OR 97301 JAMES DEASON -- CONFIDENTIAL

ATTORNEY AT LAW 135 SE MAIN ST STE 201 PORTLAND OR 97214-3345

ROBERT JENKS -- CONFIDENTIAL CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD OF OREGON 610 SW BROADWAY, STE 400 PORTLAND OR 97205 JUDY JOHNSON -- CONFIDENTIAL PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

PO BOX 2148 SALEM OR 97308-2148

JASON W JONES -- CONFIDENTIAL DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BUSINESS ACTIVITIES SECTION 1162 COURT ST NE SALEM OR 97301-4096 MICHAEL L KURTZ -- CONFIDENTIAL BOEHM KURTZ & LOWRY

36 E 7TH ST STE 1510 CINCINNATI OH 45202-4454

G. CATRIONA MCCRACKEN -- CONFIDENTIAL CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD OF OREGON 610 SW BROADWAY, STE 400 PORTLAND OR 97205 RATES & REGULATORY AFFAIRS - OPUC FILINGS --

CONFIDENTIAL

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC 121 SW SALMON ST 1WTC-0702

PORTLAND OR 97204

KIP PHEIL -- CONFIDENTIAL \*OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY 625 MARION ST NE - STE 1 SALEM OR 97301-3737 JANET L PREWITT -- CONFIDENTIAL \*DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NATURAL RESOURCES SECTION 1162 COURT ST NE

SALEM OR 97301-4096

Printed: 11/12/2010

# Summary Report UE 197 PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC

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S BRADLEY VAN CLEVE -- CONFIDENTIAL DAVISON VAN CLEVE PC 333 SW TAYLOR - STE 400 PORTLAND OR 97204

SCOTT WINKELS -- CONFIDENTIAL LEAGUE OF OREGON CITIES PO BOX 928 SALEM OR 97308 DOUGLAS C TINGEY -- CONFIDENTIAL PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC 121 SW SALMON 1WTC13 PORTLAND OR 97204

MICHAEL T WEIRICH -- CONFIDENTIAL DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BUSINESS ACTIVITIES SECTION 1162 COURT ST NE SALEM OR 97301-4096