

Pacific Power | Utah Power Rocky Mountain Power 825 NE Multnomah Portland, Oregon 97232

August 29, 2008

# VIA ELECTRONIC FILING AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Oregon Public Utility Commission 550 Capitol Street NE, Ste 215 Salem, OR 97301-2551

Attention: Vikie Bailey-Goggins, Administrator Regulatory and Technical Support

# RE: Docket UM 1338 (2) Application of PacifiCorp for an Accounting Order Approving Deferral of Costs Relating to Renewable Resources Pursuant to Senate Bill 838

Enclosed for filing by PacifiCorp dba, Pacific Power & Light Company ("PacifiCorp") is PacifiCorp's Application Deferral of Costs. An original and five (5) copies will be provided via overnight delivery. A copy of the Notice of Application attached as Exhibit A will be sent to the service list for PacifiCorp's most recent general rate case, Docket No. UE 179.

Please direct informal questions with respect to this filing to Joelle Steward at 503-813-5542.

Very truly yours,

Kelly / R Andrea L. Kelly

Vice President, Regulation

Enclosures

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

## UM 1338 (2)

In the Matter of the Application of PACIFICORP (d/b/a Pacific Power) for an Accounting Order Approving Deferral of Costs Relating to Renewable Resources Pursuant to Senate Bill 838

# PACIFICORP'S APPLICATION FOR DEFERRAL OF COSTS

# I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to ORS 469A.120(1) and (3), OAR 860-027-0300 and Order No. 07-572, PacifiCorp, d.b.a. Pacific Power ("Company") applies to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon ("Commission") for an order reauthorizing the Company to defer certain costs as follows: (1) starting September 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008, the revenue requirement not included in PacifiCorp's net power costs ("NPC") for the 100.5 MW Leaning Juniper wind resource, the 140 MW Marengo wind resource, and the 11 MW Blundell Bottoming Cycle geothermal plant ("Blundell") (collectively "Renewable Resources"). PacifiCorp respectfully seeks reauthorization of the deferral to accurately track and preserve costs associated with the Renewable Resources for later incorporation in rates.

### **II. NOTICE**

Communications regarding this Application should be addressed to:

Oregon Dockets PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232 Telephone: (503) 813-5542 Email: <u>oregondockets@pacificorp.com</u> Ryan Flynn Legal Counsel PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 1800 Portland, OR 97232 Telephone: (503) 813-5854 Email: <u>ryan.flynn@pacificorp.com</u> In addition, PacifiCorp respectfully requests that all data requests regarding this matter be addressed to:

By email (preferred)

By regular mail

datarequest@pacificorp.com

Data Request Response Center PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232

Informal questions and communications can be directed to Joelle Steward, Regulatory Manager, at (503) 813-5542.

# **III. DEFERRAL OF COSTS**

On August 27, 2007, the Company submitted the initial request in this docket, pursuant to Sections 13(1), 13(3) and 13a of Senate Bill 838 ("SB 838")<sup>1</sup>, the Oregon Renewable Energy Act, to defer costs related to renewable resources for a period of twelve months. On October 25, 2007, the Commission granted the Company's request to defer costs related to renewable resources for a period of twelve months, beginning September 1, 2007. *See* Order No. 07-457.

In Docket No. UM 1330, Order No. 07-572, the Commission approved a stipulation ("UM 1330 Stipulation") regarding the Company's Renewable Adjustment Clause ("RAC"). The parties to the stipulation agreed to support the use of deferred accounting to allow for the recovery of prudently-incurred costs of an eligible resource for the period of time between the in-service date and when the resource enters rates.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These sections of the senate bill have been codified as ORS 469A.120(1) and (3).

The Company respectfully requests approval reauthorizing the deferral for future rate-making treatment of these costs, which are not currently included in rates. The revenue requirement amounts to be deferred will include, but are not limited to: (1) return on the plant investment at the most recently authorized rate of return, (2) a project-specific forecasted fixed operation and maintenance expense, (3) depreciation expense, (4) applicable property taxes and (5) tax credits.

#### A. Reasons for Deferral.

This request seeks to appropriately match the costs associated with investment in the Renewable Resources with the benefits of renewable energy received by the Company's customers. Pursuant to the UM 1330 Stipulation, this Application is designed to capture costs of Renewable Resources already in service but not yet being recovered through general rates or another cost-recovery mechanism.

Leaning Juniper went into service in September 2006. Marengo went into service in August 2007. Blundell went into service in December 2007. The net power cost benefits for all three Renewable Resources are currently included in rates for 2008 through the Transition Adjustment Mechanism ("2008 TAM").<sup>2</sup> The non-NPC revenue requirement of the Renewable Resources is not included in rates at this time.

For 2009, the Company has included the Renewable Resources in its RAC filing, Docket No. UE 200, with rates to be effective January 1, 2009. The associated net power cost benefits are included in the 2009 TAM, Docket No. UE 199.

In this Application, the Company seeks authorization to continue to defer the non-NPC revenue requirement for the Renewable Resources for the period between the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See In the Matter of PacifiCorp, dba PACIFIC POWER PacifiCorp's 2008 Transition Adjustment Mechanism, Docket No. UE 191, Order No. 07-446 (October 17, 2007).

conclusion of the initial deferral authorization in this docket and when the Renewable Resources will be reflected in rates through the RAC; this period is September 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008.

As a part of the 2008 TAM and the current 2009 RAC and 2009 TAM proceedings, parties have had the opportunity to conduct discovery to address the prudence of the Renewable Resources. To date, no party has challenged the inclusion of the Renewable Resources in rates beginning January 1, 2009.

To match the costs and benefits of the Renewable Resources in rates and to minimize carrying charges, the Company may seek to begin amortization of the deferred cost balance related to this Application prior to December 31, 2008.

#### B. Proposed Accounting.

During the period of deferral, PacifiCorp proposes to account for the deferred costs of the Renewable Resources by recording the deferral in Account 182.3, Other Regulatory Assets.

### C. Estimate of Amounts.

The Company estimates that approximately \$3.6 million will be deferred for prudently incurred costs relating to investment in the Renewable Resources for the period of this deferral reauthorization.

#### D. Notice.

A copy of the Notice of Application and a list of persons served with the Notice are attached to this Application as Exhibit A.

#### Page 4 - PACIFICORP'S APPLICATION FOR DEFERRED ACCOUNTING

### E. Explanation of Deferred Account to Date.

The Company has accounted for the non-NPC revenue requirement for the Renewable Resources by recording the deferral in Account 182.3, Other Regulatory Assets, as authorized in Order No. 07-457.

#### F. Reasons for Continuation of Deferral.

The Company requests continuation of the deferral in order to appropriately match the costs associated with investment in the Renewable Resources with the benefits of renewable energy received by the Company's customers. The benefits are currently being passed through to customers in the 2008 TAM, pursuant to Order 07-446.

## **IV. CONCLUSION**

PacifiCorp respectfully requests that, in accordance with ORS 469A.120 and Order No. 07-572, the Commission authorize the Company to defer the costs described in this Application.

DATED: August 29, 2008.

Juan Aynn / B

Legal Counsel

PacifiCorp

### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

# UM 1338 (2)

In the Matter of the Application of PACIFICORP (d/b/a Pacific Power) for an Accounting Order Approving Deferral of Costs Relating to Certain Renewable Resources Pursuant to Senate Bill 838

PACIFICORP'S APPLICATION FOR DEFERRAL OF COSTS

#### **EXHIBIT** A

NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF PACIFICORP (D/B/A PACIFIC POWER) FOR AN ACCOUNTING ORDER APPROVING DEFERRAL OF COSTS RELATING TO CERTAIN RENEWABLE RESOURCES PURSUANT TO SENATE BILL 838

### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

# UM 1338 (2)

In the Matter of the Application of PACIFICORP (d/b/a Pacific Power) for an Accounting Order Approving Deferral of Costs Relating to Certain Renewable Resources Pursuant to Senate Bill 838

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION

1	On August 29, 2008, Applicant Pac	ifiCorp applied to the Public Utility
2	Commission of Oregon ("Commission") for reauthorization to defer costs relating to	
3	certain renewable resources pursuant to ORS 469A.120(1) and (3), OAR 860-027-0300	
4	and Order No. 07-572.	
5	PacifiCorp proposes to continue to defer costs incurred starting September 1,	
6	2008 through December 31, 2008, for the Leaning Juniper wind resource, the Marengo	
7	wind resource, and the Blundell Bottoming Cycle geothermal plant. PacifiCorp seeks	
8	deferral of these costs to accurately track and preserve such costs for later incorporation	
9	in rates.	
10	The granting of the Application will not authorize a change in rates, but will	
11	permit the Commission to consider allowing such deferred amounts in rates in a	
12	subsequent proceeding.	
13	Interested persons can obtain a copy of Application by contacting:	
14	Joelle Steward	Ryan Flynn
15	Regulatory Manager, Oregon	Legal Counsel
16	PacifiCorp	PacifiCorp
17	825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000	825 NE Multnomah, Suite 1800
18	Portland, OR 97232	Portland, OR 97232
19	Telephone: (503) 813-5542	Telephone: (503) 813-5854
20	Email: joelle.steward@pacificorp.com	Email: ryan.flynn@pacificorp.com

1 Any person may submit to the Commission written comment on the Application, 2 in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Commission. The deadline for 3 comments on the Application is September 25, 2008

DATED: August 29, 2008.

(Iym / {?----Flynn Legal Counsel

PacifiCorp

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2008, I caused to be served, via E-Mail and US Mail (to those parties who have not waived paper service), a true and correct copy of the foregoing document on the following named person(s) at his or her last-known address(es) indicated below.

# SERVICE LIST UM-1338

Lowrey R. Brown (W) Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon 610 Broadway, Suite 308 Portland, OR 97205 lowrey@oregoncub.org

Jason Eisdorfer (W) Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon 610 Broadway, Suite 308 Portland, OR 97205 jason@oregoncub.org

Joelle Steward Pacific Power & Light 825 NE Multnomah Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232 Joelle.steward@pacificorp.com Robert Jenks (W) Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon 610 Broadway, Suite 308 Portland, OR 97205 bob@oregoncub.org

Ryan Flynn PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 1800 Portland, OR 97232 ryan.flynn@pacificorp.com

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Coordinator, Administrative Services

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing document on the parties of record from PacifiCorp's last general rate case, Docket UE 179, on the date indicated below by email and first-class mail, addressed to said parties at his or her last-known address(es) indicated below.

### Service List UE-179

PATRICK HAGER RATES & REGULATORY AFFAIRS PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC 121 SW SALMON STREET, 1WTC0702 PORTLAND OR 97204 pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com

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DATED: August 29, 2008.

Carrie Meyer, Coordinator, Administrative Services