

March 13, 2024

## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Public Utility Commission of Oregon Attn: Filing Center 201 High Street SE, Suite 100 Salem, OR 97301-3398

Re: UM 2238(2)—PacifiCorp's Application for Approval of Deferred Accounting for Administrative Costs Associated with House Bill 2475 Energy Affordability Act

PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power submits for filing its Application for Reauthorization of Deferred Accounting for Administrative Costs Associated with House Bill 2475 Energy Affordability Act.

PacifiCorp respectfully requests that all communications related to this filing be addressed to:

Oregon Dockets Carla Scarsella

PacifiCorp Deputy General Counsel

825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000 PacifiCorp

Portland, OR 97232 825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000

oregondockets@pacificorp.com Portland, OR 97232

carla.scarsella@pacificorp.com

Additionally, PacifiCorp requests that all formal information requests regarding this matter be addressed to:

By email (preferred): datarequest@pacificorp.com

By regular mail: Data Request Response Center

PacifiCorp

825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000

Portland, OR 97232

Informal inquiries may be directed to Cathie Allen, Regulatory Affairs Manager, at (503) 813-5934.

Sincerely,

Matthew McVee

Vice President, Regulatory Policy and Operations

ph My

Enclosures

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

### **OF OREGON**

**UM 2238(2)** 

In the Matter of

PACIFICORP d/b/a PACIFIC POWER

Application for Approval of Deferred Accounting for Administrative Costs Associated with House Bill 2475 Energy Affordability Act APPLICATION FOR DEFERRED ACCOUNTING

### I. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 757.259(2)(e) and Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 860-027-0300, PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power (PacifiCorp or Company) submits this application to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) for an order reauthorizing deferred accounting to track the incremental administrative costs associated with House Bill (HB) 2475 Energy Affordability Act for the 12 months beginning March 29, 2024. PacifiCorp will seek amortization for recovery of the deferred costs in a future Commission proceeding.

## II. CONTACT INFORMATION

Communications regarding this application should be addressed to:

Oregon Dockets Carla Scarsella

PacifiCorp Deputy General Counsel

825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000 PacifiCorp

Portland, OR 97232 825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000

Email: <u>oregondockets@pacificorp.com</u> Portland, OR 97232

Email: <u>carla.scarsella@pacificorp.com</u>

In addition, the Company requests that all data requests regarding this application be sent to the following:

By email (preferred): <u>datarequest@pacificorp.com</u>

By regular mail: Data Request Response Center

PacifiCorp

825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000

Portland, OR 97232

Informal questions may be directed to Cathie Allen, Regulatory Affairs Manager, at (503) 813-5934.

## III. BACKGROUND

In May 2021, the Governor of Oregon signed into law HB 2475, the Energy Affordability Act. This bill amends ORS 757.230 (1) to provide that utilities may take into account the "differential energy burdens on low-income customers and other economic, social equity or environmental justice factors that affect affordability for certain classes of utility customers" when designing rates and provides utilities with the opportunity to offer a bill discount to income-qualified eligible residential customers.

In docket UM 2223, PacifiCorp filed for authorization to defer the incremental costs and revenues associated with implementation and administration of HB 2475. On March 22, 2022, in Order No. 22-094, the Commission adopted Staff's proposal to approve the Company's deferral application for the costs and revenues associated with the low-income bill discount program but required the Company to file a new deferral application, in a separate docket, to establish a separate account to track and defer incremental administrative costs associated with the implementation of HB 2475 mitigation measures.

On March 29, 2022, PacifiCorp filed an application to defer the incremental administrative costs associated with HB 2475. The Commission approved the deferral application on June 2, 2022, in Order No. 22-198, for the 12 months beginning on

March 29, 2022. Thus, incremental administrative costs incurred prior to March 29, 2022, will be included with the costs deferred in UM 2223.<sup>1</sup>

On March 23, 2023, PacifiCorp filed an application to continue to defer the incremental administrative costs associated with HB 2475 for the 12 months beginning on March 29, 2023. The Commission approved the deferral application on September 11, 2023, in Order No. 23-329.

### IV. DEFERRAL OF COSTS

PacifiCorp respectfully requests reauthorization under ORS 757.259(2)(e) to continue to track and defer the incremental administrative costs associated with the implementation of HB 2475 mitigation measures for the 12-month period beginning March 29, 2024. As required by OAR 860-027-0300(3) and (4), PacifiCorp provides the following:

## A. Description of Utility Expense

This deferral application requests reauthorization to track the incremental administrative costs, including marketing costs, associated with PacifiCorp's low-income bill discount program.

### B. Reasons for Deferral

As discussed above, PacifiCorp requests reauthorization to defer the incremental administrative costs to implement and administer the low-income bill discount program. ORS 757.259(2)(e) allows the deferral of identifiable utility expenses in order to minimize the frequency of rate changes or the fluctuation of rate levels or to match appropriately the costs borne and benefits received by customers. Commission approval of PacifiCorp's application

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On June 16, 2022, PacifiCorp filed Advice No. 22-008/docket UE 409 to implement Schedule 7, Low-Income Discount, its interim low-income bill discount for residential customers. The filing also included implementation of Schedule 92, Low-Income Discount Cost Recovery Adjustment. The Commissioned approved the Company's filing on September 1, 2022, in Order No. 22-317.

will allow the Company to track the incremental administrative costs for the program separate from PacifiCorp's other costs and revenues. Granting this Application will minimize the frequency of rate changes and match appropriately the costs borne by, and benefits received by customers.

PacifiCorp's application is consistent with the Commission's previous approval of deferred accounting applications.

# C. Proposed Accounting

If this application is approved, PacifiCorp proposes to record deferred amounts to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission account 182.3, Other Regulatory Assets. This account will accrue interest at the Modified Blended Treasury Rate, consistent with the program costs and revenues deferred in UM 2223.

#### D. Estimate of Amounts

PacifiCorp has estimated an annual budget of \$250,000 for administrative costs.

### E. Notice

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

## F. Entries in the Deferred Account to Date

Exhibit B of the Application provides the entries in the deferred account to date.

# G. Reason for Continuation of Deferred Accounting

As discussed in this application, continuation of this deferral is necessary to track incremental administrative costs to implement and administer the rate mitigation measures authorized under HB 2475(7).

# V. CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, in accordance with ORS 757.259(2)(e), PacifiCorp respectfully requests reauthorization for a deferred account beginning on March 29, 2024, to track the incremental administrative costs associated with HB 2475.

Respectfully submitted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

By:

Carla Scarsella
Carla Scarsella

Deputy General Counsel

Attorney for PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power

# Exhibit A

Notice of Application

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

### **OF OREGON**

**UM 2238(2)** 

In the Matter of

PACIFICORP d/b/a PACIFIC POWER

Application for Approval of Deferred Accounting for Administrative Costs Associated with House Bill 2475 Energy Affordability Act NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DEFERRED ACCOUNTING

On March 13, 2024, PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) for an order reauthorizing deferred accounting to track the incremental administrative costs associated with House Bill 2475 Energy Affordability Act. The reauthorization will not authorize a change in rates but will permit the Commission to consider allowing such deferred amounts in rates in a subsequent proceeding. To obtain a copy of the application, contact the following:

Oregon Dockets 825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232

Email: oregondockets@pacificorp.com

Any person may submit written comments to the Commission regarding the application within 25 days of the date of this filing.

Respectfully submitted on March 13, 2024.

Bv:

Carla Scarsella

Deputy General Counsel

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a true and correct copy of **PacifiCorp's Notice of Application for Deferred Accounting** was served on the parties listed below via electronic mail in compliance with OAR 860-001-0180.

# Service List UE 399

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Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

Santiago Gutierrez Coordinator, Regulatory Operations

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a true and correct copy of **PacifiCorp's Notice of Application for Deferred Accounting** was served on the parties listed below via electronic delivery in compliance with OAR 860-001-0180.

# Service List UE 433

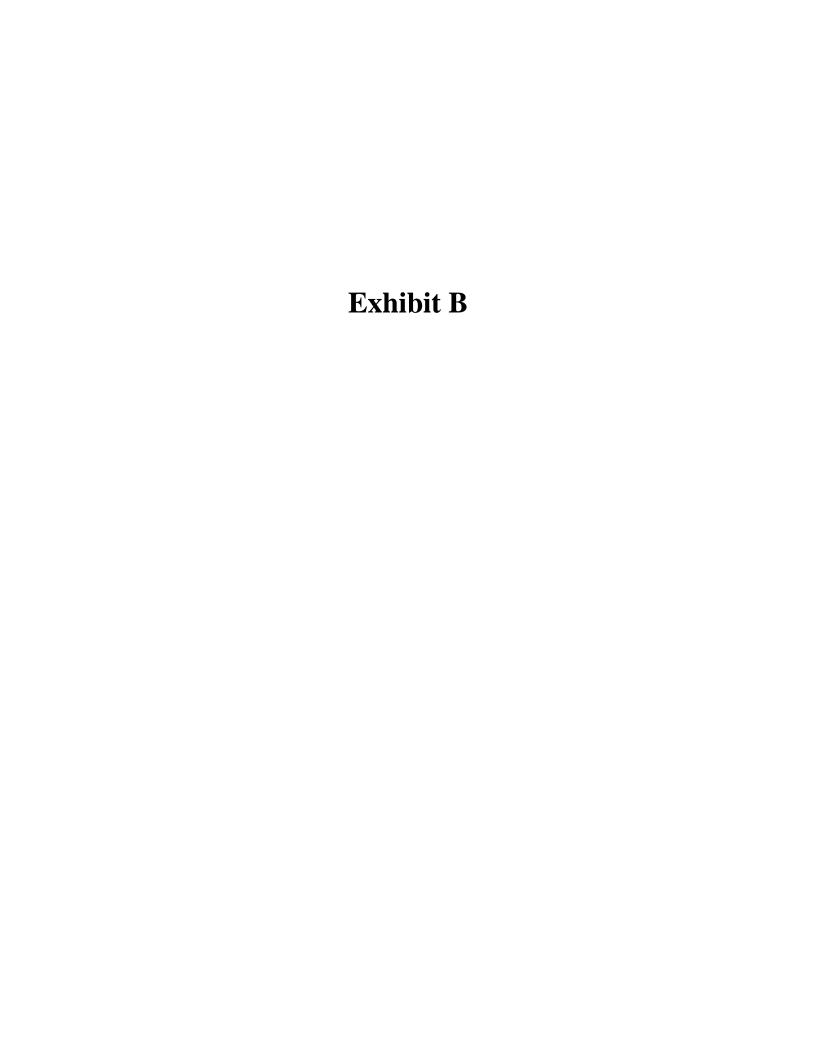
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Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

Santiago Gutierrez Coordinator, Regulatory Operations



## **OR Low Income Bill Discount Admin Costs**

 Interest
 Rate
 Period

 5.13%
 2023 MBT

 5.40%
 2024 MBT

			Defe	erral			
Period	Beginning Balance	Internal ORD 349030	External ORD 349031	Outreach ORD 349032	Survey ORD 350779	Interest	Ending Balance
Jan-23	7,820.86	534.00	334.75	19.20		35.33	8,744.14
Feb-23	8,744.14	546.00	515.52	1,125.00		42.05	10,972.71
Mar-23	10,972.71	1,001.00	254.41			49.59	12,277.71
Apr-23	12,277.71	2,093.00	388.31	1,076.24		60.09	15,895.36
May-23	15,895.36	1,704.02	60.26	128.20	18,050.00	110.58	35,948.42
Jun-23	35,948.42	728.00	160.68	25.50	18,050.00	194.22	55,106.81
Jul-23	55,106.81	928.81	120.51	534.20		238.97	56,929.30
Aug-23	56,929.30	910.00	107.12			245.55	58,191.96
Sep-23	58,191.96	637.00		20.82		250.18	59,099.96
Oct-23	59,099.96	819.00		514.09	16,550.00	290.88	77,273.93
Nov-23	77,273.93	182.00	40.17	21,621.28		377.04	99,494.41
Dec-23	99,494.41	1,729.00	40.17	3,853.86		437.36	105,554.80
	FY 2023 TOTAL	\$ 11,811.83	\$ 2,021.90	\$ 28,918.39	\$ 52,650.00	\$ 2,144.76	
Jan-24	105,554.80	1,392.00	388.31	16,550.00		516.24	124,401.35
Feb-24	124,401.35	3,480.00	40.17			567.73	128,489.25
	FY 2024 TOTAL	\$ 4,872.00	\$ 428.48	\$ 16,550.00	\$ -	\$ 1,083.97	