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June 14, 2013

Portland, OR 97204

Via Electronic and U.S. Mail

Public Utility Commission of Oregon Attn: Filing Center 550 Capitol St. NE #215 P.O. Box 2148 Salem OR 97308-2148

## Re: In the Matter of PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY 2013 Request for a General Rate Revision **Docket No. UE 262**

Dear Filing Center:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket, please find the original and five (5) copies of the Direct Testimony and Exhibits of Michael C. Deen on behalf of the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities ("ICNU"). Also enclosed are the original and five (5) copies of the confidential pages, which are sealed pursuant to the protective order in this docket.

Thank you for your assistance, and please do not hesitate to call our office with any questions.

Sincerely yours,

<u>/s/ Jesse Gorsuch</u> Jesse Gorsuch

Enclosures cc: Service List

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have this day served the foregoing documents upon

all parties of record in this proceeding, as listed below, by causing the same to be sent via

electronic mail only, as all parties have waived paper service.

Dated at Portland, Oregon, this 14th day of June, 2013.

/s/ Jesse Gorsuch Jesse Gorsuch

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# BEFORE THE OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

#### UE 262

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In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC

Request For a General Rate Revision

# CONFIDENTIAL DIRECT TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL C. DEEN

#### **ON BEHALF OF**

### THE INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS OF NORTHWEST UTILITIES

# CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT TO GENERAL PROTECTIVE ORDER

June 14, 2013

# I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

# 2 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

A. My name is Michael C. Deen, and my business address is 900 Washington Street, Suite
780, Vancouver, Washington 98660. I am employed by Regulatory and Cogeneration
Services, Inc. ("RCS"), a utility rate and consulting firm.

# 6 **Q.**

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# PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE.

- 7 A. I have been involved in the energy industry for over 6 years. During that time, I have 8 served as an analyst and expert on a variety of power supply, cost, ratemaking, and policy 9 topics—primarily regarding the Bonneville Power Administration and Pacific Northwest 10 utilities. I have provided testimony on behalf of the Industrial Customers of Northwest 11 Utilities ("ICNU") before the Oregon Public Utility Commission (the "Commission" or 12 "OPUC") in various proceedings regarding Portland General Electric Company ("PGE" 13 or the "Company") and PacifiCorp. I have also provided testimony on behalf of ICNU 14 before the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("WUTC") regarding 15 Avista, PacifiCorp, and Puget Sound Energy. I have also provided testimony on natural gas matters regarding Avista on behalf of the Northwest Industrial Gas Users 16 17 ("NWIGU") before the WUTC. A further description of my educational background and 18 work experience can be found in Exhibit ICNU/101. 19 **ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU APPEARING IN THIS PROCEEDING?** Q.
- 20 A. I am testifying on behalf of ICNU. ICNU is a non-profit trade association whose
- 21 members are large industrial consumers of electricity throughout the Pacific Northwest,
- 22 including customers served by PGE.

1	Q.	WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS TESTIMONY?
2	А.	My testimony addresses the issue of pension costs included in PGE's rates for the 2014
3		rate year.
4 5	Q.	PLEASE BRIEFLY SUMMARIZE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS IN THIS PROCEEDING.
6	А.	ICNU recommends that the Commission reject PGE's proposed balancing account
7		approach for pension costs in rates for 2014. While awaiting direction from the
8		Commission in the UM 1633 pension cost generic docket, PGE should include actual net
9		FAS 87 pension expense from 2012 of million as the value for cost recovery of
10		pension expenses in the 2014 test year.
11 12	Q.	IS THE COMMISSION CURRENTLY CONSIDERING THE TREATMENT OF PENSION COSTS IN ANOTHER PROCEEDING?
13	А.	Yes. In response to requests by Northwest Natural in its recent general rate case, the
14		Commission opened the generic docket UM 1633 to investigate the rate treatment of
15		utility pension costs.
16 17	Q.	HOW SHOULD THE OUTCOME OF UM 1633 APPLY TO PGE'S TREATMENT OF PENSION COSTS IN RATES?
18	А.	In the long term, PGE should incorporate the Commission's decisions in UM 1633 as
19		they apply to PGE.
20 21	Q.	PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE COMPANY'S PROPOSED RECOVERY OF PENSION COSTS THROUGH RATES IN THIS PROCEEDING.
22	А.	As described in PGE/500, the Company is proposing to have the Commission approve a
23		balancing account and set rates based on a 15-year amortization of PGE's expected net
24		pension costs during that time, which also includes a carrying cost for the net pre-paid
25		pension asset. PGE's approach would result in the Company earning a return on some of

1		its pension expense. For the 2014 test year, PGE's approach would yield a net pension
2		expense of \$19.8 million for recovery in rates.
3 4	Q.	SHOULD THE COMMISSION ACCEPT PGE'S USE OF A BALANCING ACCOUNT FOR PENSION EXPENSES IN THIS PROCEEDING?
5	А.	No. PGE's approach should be rejected in this proceeding, because any long-term plan
6		for rate treatment of pension costs should only be adopted as an outcome of the
7		Commission's decisions in the UM 1633 proceeding. I am not testifying regarding what
8		amount of pension costs should be included in rates for the long term, which should be
9		decided in UM 1633.
10 11	Q.	WHAT VALUE OF PENSION EXPENSE SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN PGE'S RATES FOR 2014?
12	А.	ICNU proposes that the Company should include actual FAS 87 expenses (net of
13		capitalization) from 2012 for ratemaking purposes in 2013. Based on the Company's
14		response to the Citizens' Utility Board ("CUB") Data Request 003, this value would be
15		approximately million. Confidential ICNU/102.
16 17	Q.	WHY IS THE USE OF ACTUAL NET PENSION EXPENSE FROM 2012 APPROPRIATE FOR THIS PROCEEDING?
18	A.	The use of actual 2012 values has several benefits in this proceeding. First, it is known
19		and measurable (having actually occurred) and therefore not subject to potentially
20		controversial assumptions regarding future cash contributions to the pension fund,
21		interest rates for returns on pension fund assets, and other factors involved in forecasting
22		PGE's actual net pension expenses.
23		Also, the 2012 actual pension expense value is in line with the Company's long-
24		term expectation of FAS 87 pension expenses. In response to CUB Data Request 003,
25		the Company provided actual FAS 87 pension expenses for 1998 to 2012 and projected

1		values for 2013 through 2028. Based on this data, the Company's average expected FAS
2		87 pension expense (net of capitalization) for 2013 through 2028 is also approximately
3		million. Thus, the 2012 actual value of pension expense matches long-term
4		expectations extremely closely.
5		Next, use of the 2012 actual value also allows the Company a substantial increase
6		in pension expense over what it is currently collecting in rates. Currently, approximately
7		million of pension expenses are being recovered through rates. Thus, use of the
8		2012 value would still allow the Company a substantial increase in cost recovery for
9		2014 of million relative to current rates.
10		Finally, it essentially maintains the status quo regarding Oregon pension policies
11		by relying on FAS 87 instead of a balancing account and return on a pre-paid asset.
12		Using 2012 FAS 87 amounts does not predetermine the issue of pension cost recovery
13		that is being addressed in UM 1633.
14		In summary, use of the 2012 actual value would use a known and measurable
15		value to strike a fair balance between near-term cost recovery and long-term expectations
16		of pension expense, while awaiting long-term direction from the Commission in the UM
17		1633 proceeding.
18	Q.	DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?
10		Vec

19 **A.** Yes.

1		QUALIFICATION STATEMENT OF
2		Michael Deen
3	Q.	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, EMPLOYER, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
4	A.	My name is Michael C. Deen, and my business address is 900 Washington Street, Suite
5		780, Vancouver, Washington 98660. I am employed by Regulatory and Cogeneration
6		Services, Inc. ("RCS"), a utility rate and consulting firm.
7	Q.	IN WHAT CAPACITY ARE YOU EMPLOYED?
8	A.	I am a consultant for the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities ("ICNU") and other
9		consumers. ICNU is a non-profit trade association whose members are large industrial
10		customers served by electric utilities throughout the Pacific Northwest, including
11		Portland General Electric.
12	Q.	PLEASE STATE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND.
13	A.	I received a B.A. in Psychology from Reed College in May 2006. I have completed
14		coursework in statistics, data analysis, research design, and economics.
15	Q.	PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.
16	A.	After graduating from Reed, I was employed as a Research Analyst at McCullough
17		Research, a consulting firm in Portland, Oregon specializing in energy policy and
18		litigation support. While at McCullough Research, my duties included the modeling and
19		analysis of both Western and national energy markets. I also provided analysis for use in
20		several proceedings surrounding Enron's role in the Western Energy Crisis of 2000-2001.
21		From November 2007, through July 2011, I was employed as a policy analyst at
22		the Public Power Council ("PPC"). PPC is a non-profit trade association representing the

1		interests of consumer-owned utilities buying wholesale power and transmission services
2		from the Bonneville Power Administration ("BPA"). At PPC, I worked extensively on
3		computer modeling relating to the Residential Exchange Program and other BPA rate
4		issues. I also provided analysis and commentary for PPC in a variety of BPA processes.
5		I also was involved in modeling efforts surrounding the potential economic impacts of
6		various greenhouse gas mitigation proposals on Western electricity markets.
7		Since joining RCS in July 2011 I have served as an analyst and expert witness on
8		a variety of power supply, cost, ratemaking, and policy topics primarily regarding the
9		Bonneville Power Administration ("BPA") and Pacific Northwest utilities.
10	Q.	PLEASE STATE YOUR EXPERIENCE AS A WITNESS IN PREVIOUS
11	C	PROCEEDINGS.
11 12	А.	
	-	PROCEEDINGS.
12	-	<b>PROCEEDINGS.</b> I have previously testified in the BPA WP-07 Supplemental, WP-10, TR-10, BP-12 and
12 13	-	<b>PROCEEDINGS.</b> I have previously testified in the BPA WP-07 Supplemental, WP-10, TR-10, BP-12 and REP-12 rate proceedings. I have also testified on behalf of ICNU before the Washington
12 13 14	-	PROCEEDINGS. I have previously testified in the BPA WP-07 Supplemental, WP-10, TR-10, BP-12 and REP-12 rate proceedings. I have also testified on behalf of ICNU before the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission in proceedings regarding Puget Sound Energy,
12 13 14 15	-	PROCEEDINGS. I have previously testified in the BPA WP-07 Supplemental, WP-10, TR-10, BP-12 and REP-12 rate proceedings. I have also testified on behalf of ICNU before the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission in proceedings regarding Puget Sound Energy, PacifiCorp, and Avista as well as before the Oregon Public Utility Commission in
12 13 14 15 16	-	PROCEEDINGS. I have previously testified in the BPA WP-07 Supplemental, WP-10, TR-10, BP-12 and REP-12 rate proceedings. I have also testified on behalf of ICNU before the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission in proceedings regarding Puget Sound Energy, PacifiCorp, and Avista as well as before the Oregon Public Utility Commission in proceedings regarding Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp. Lastly, I have also

20 A. Yes.

# BEFORE THE OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

UE 262

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In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC

Request For a General Rate Revision

# **CONFIDENTIAL EXHIBIT ICNU/102**

# PGE'S RESPONSE TO CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD DATA REQUEST 003

# CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT TO GENERAL PROTECTIVE ORDER

# JUNE 14, 2013

March 29, 2013

- TO: Nadine Hanhan Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon
- FROM: Patrick G. Hager Manager, Regulatory Affairs

### PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC UE 262 PGE Response to CUB Data Request No. 003 Dated March 18, 2013

#### **Request:**

UE 262 Exhibit 503(c) relates to pensions. Please provide the historical information for 1998-2013 in the same format.

#### <u>Response:</u>

Attachment 003-A contains an updated version of PGE Exhibit 503(c) containing actual gross pension expense, cash contributions, and the composition of the prepaid pension asset going back to 1998. Attachment 003-A is confidential and subject to Protective Order No. 13-042.

# UE 262

# Attachment 003-A

# Confidential and Subject to Protective Order No. 13-042

Updated PGE Exhibit 503C

Redacted ICNU/102 Deen/3



Confidential and Subject to Protective Order No. 13-042

Page 1

UE 262 PGE Response to CUB Data Request No. 003 Attachment 003-A Page 2



Redacted ICNU/102 Deen/4

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