# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OREGON

### **UM-1271**

#### PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

## Deferred Accounting Authorization for Expenses/Refunds Associated with SB 408

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

**OF** 

Randy Dahlgren Jay Tinker

UM 1271 / PGE / 300 DAHLGREN - TINKER

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OREGON

### **Policy**

#### PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

Rebuttal Testimony

Randy Dahlgren Jay Tinker

**February 21, 2007** 

#### I. Introduction

- 1 Q. Please state your names and positions?
- 2 A. My name is Randy Dahlgren. I am Director of Regulatory Policy and Affairs at PGE.
- My name is Jay Tinker. I am a Project Manager for PGE. My areas of responsibility
- 4 include revenue requirement analyses and other regulatory analyses.
- 5 Q. Have you previously provided testimony in this docket?
- 6 A. We are responsible for PGE Exhibit 100.
- 7 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?
- 8 A. We rebut the testimony of Staff, CUB, and ICNU in this proceeding.
- 9 Q. Did any of the other parties claim that PGE's opening testimony did not meet the
- 10 statutory requirements for a deferral?
- 11 A. No. The parties did not dispute any of the facts related to the sale of the turbine, claim that
- we did not meet the statutory requirements, or disagree regarding the Commission policy on
- unregulated assets in effect at the time of the purchase.
- 14 Q. Is the deferral of the turbine costs good public policy?
- 15 A. PGE believes that the deferral is good public policy. The intent of the Commission's policy
- on unregulated assets in effect at the time of the purchase was two-fold: (1) to protect
- customers from potential losses from unregulated operations and (2) to preserve for
- investors potential gains from unregulated operations. Granting this deferral allows the
- 19 Commission to apply this policy in the SB 408 world. Deferring only as much of the cost of
- the turbine as is necessary to offset the tax effects of its sale at a loss accomplishes both
- 21 tasks. It protects customers from potential losses and preserves for investors potential gains.
- We have supported the deferral based on the standards of ORS 757.259 and that approval

- would result in a better matching of costs and benefits. None of the parties have suggested
- our assertion is incorrect. Our deferral not only provides symmetric treatment of losses and
- gains, but customers incur no harm as a result of its granting. Rates will not change.
- 4 Q. Do any of the parties disagree with the facts of this case?
- 5 A. No. Each party, while agreeing on the facts, maintained that approval of the application
- 6 would violate ORS 757.268. (SB408) We believe that the interpretation of SB 408 and
- whether it prevents the Commission from approving the application are legal matters that the
- 8 parties will address in briefs and that the Commission must decide.
- 9 Q. Do you agree with CUB that "distinguishing between unregulated activities
- commenced before the passage of SB 408 and after would be a procedural rat's nest?"
- 11 A. We disagree. Obviously, PGE would not have filed this application if we had not been able
- to differentiate the costs and meet the requirements associated with ORS 757.259 which
- authorizes deferrals. The application concerns a single identifiable transaction involving an
- asset PGE purchased before enactment of SB 408. We have met the requirements laid out in
- OAR 860-027-0300 and therefore believe the deferral should be granted.
- 16 Q. What was ICNU's primary reason for opposing the application?
- 17 A. ICNU says that this issue is a legal one and should be dealt with by the Commission.
- 18 **Q. Do you agree?**
- 19 A. Yes. The other parties have raised primarily legal objections to the application, which are
- 20 most appropriately addressed in legal briefs.
- Q. Do you have any response to ICNU's statement that in Interim Order 06-400 at 12 the
- 22 Commission said it would view deferral applications with a "skeptical eye"?

- A. Yes. The Commission has always stated that it will review deferred accounting application
- with a skeptical eye. This reflects no change in Commission policy. The Commission said
- it would review deferred accounting applications under the standards set forth in UM 1147
- and its other deferred accounting orders. The application has met those standards.
- 5 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- 6 A. Yes.

Douglas C. Tingey Assistant General Counsel

February 21, 2007

Via Electronic Filing and U.S. Mail

Oregon Public Utility Commission Attention: Filing Center PO Box 2148 Salem OR 97308-2148

Re: UM 1271

Attention Filing Center:

Enclosed for filing in the captioned docket is an original and five copies of:

### REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF RANDY DAHLGREN AND JAY TINKER (PGE/300 POLICY).

This document is being filed by electronic mail with the Filing Center.

An extra copy of this cover letter is enclosed. Please date stamp the extra copy and return it to me in the envelope provided.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS C. TINGEY

DCT:jbf Enclosure

cc: Service List-UM 1271

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day caused the REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF RANDY

DAHLGREN AND JAY TINKER (PGE/300 POLICY) 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 paper service from OPUC Docket No. UM 1271

Dated at Portland, Oregon, this 21st day of February 2007.

DOUGLAS CAINGEY

#### **UM-1271 Service List**

#### CUB Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon

Lowrey Brown

**CUB** 

610 SW Broadway

Suite 308

Portland

OR

97205

97205

Phone: Fax:

Email Add: lowery@oregoncub.org

Service: Electronic Confidentiality: No

Jason Eisdorfer

Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon

610 SW Broadway

Suite 308

Portland

OR

Phone:

(503) 227-1984

Fax: (503) 274-2956 Email Add: jason@oregoncub.org

Service: Electronic Confidentiality: No

Bob Jenks

Citizens' Utility Board 610 SW Broadway

Suite 308

Portland

OR

97205

Phone: Fax:

(503) 227-1984 (503) 274-2956

Email Add: bob@oregoncub.org

Service: Electronic Confidentiality: No

#### Department of Energy

Jason Jones

Department of Justice 1162 Court St. NE

4th FL

Salem

OR

97310

Phone: Fax:

T '1 A

Email Add: jason.w.jones@state.or.us

Service: US Mail Confidentiality: No

#### ICNU Industrial Customers of NW Utilities

Melinda Davison

Attorney

Davison Van Cleve L.P. 333 SW Taylor, Ste. 400

Portland

OR

97204

Phone: Fax:

(503) 241-7242

(

(503) 241-8160

Email Add: mail@dvclaw.com

Service: US Mail Confidentiality: No

Matthew Perkins

Davison Van Cleve PC

333 SW Taylor Suite 400

Portland

OR

97204

97308-2148

Phone: Fax:

Email Add: mwp@dvclaw.com

Service: Electronic Confidentiality: No

#### OPUC Oregon Public Utility Commission

Judy Johnson

Oregon Public Utility Commission

PO Box 2148

Salem

OR

Phone: (503) 378-6636

Fax:

(503) 373-7752

Email Add: judy.johnson.state.or.us

Service: US Mail Confidentiality: SPO

#### PGE Portland General Electric Company

Rates and Regulatory Dept.

**PGE** 

121 SW Salmon St.

1WTC0702

Portland

OR

97204

Phone: Fax:

Email Add: pge.opuc.filings.com

Service: Electronic Confidentiality: No

#### **UM-1271 Service List**

Douglas C. Tingey

Lawyer

Portland General Electric

121 SW Salmon

1WTC1301

Portland

OR 97204

Phone:

(503) 464-8926

Fax:

Email Add: doug\_tingey@pgn.com

Service: Electronic. Confidentiality: No

#### **URP** Utility Reform Project

Daniel W. Meek

Attorney at Law

Utility Reform Project

10949 SW Fourth Avenue

Portland

OR

97219

Phone:

(503) 293-9021

Fax:

(503) 293-9099

Email Add: meek@meek.net dan@meek.net

Service: US Mail Confidentiality: No

Linda K. Williams

Kafoury & McDougal

10266 SW Lancaster Rd

Portland

OR

97219

Phone:

(503) 293-0399 (503) 245-2772

Fax: Email Add: linda@lindawilliams.net

Service: US Mail Confidentiality: