# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

# **OF OREGON**

UM 1490

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

**ORDER** 

Application for Waiver of OAR 860-039-0025(2).

DISPOSITION: APPLICATION APPROVED

On July 14, 2010, Portland General Electric Company (PGE) filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) requesting a waiver of OAR 860-039-0025(2) which requires PGE to respond to its net metering interconnection applications within three business days. PGE received about 176 applications in June 2010, but currently has limited staff resources available. PGE therefore requests a waiver of OAR 860-039-0025(2) for one year. A full description of the filing, its procedural history, and Staff's recommendation are contained in the Staff Report, attached as Appendix A and incorporated by reference.

At its Public Meeting on August 10, 2010, the Commission adopted Staff's recommendation and approved PGE's application for waiver of OAR 860-039-0025(2) for one year and the Commission directed PGE to respond to Level 1 or Level 2 interconnection requests within 10 business days.

### ORDER

# IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. Portland General Electric Company's request for waiver of OAR 860-039-0025(2) for one year is approved.
- 2. Portland General Electric Company will respond to Level 1 or Level 2 interconnection requests within 10 business days.

Made, entered, and effective AUG 18 2010

Ray Baum
Chairman

John Savage Commissioner

Susan K. Ackerman Commissioner



A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order pursuant to ORS 756.561. A request for rehearing or reconsideration must be filed with the Commission within 60 days of the date of service of this order. The request must comply with the requirements in OAR 860-014-0095. A copy of any such request must also be served on each party to the proceeding as provided by OAR 860-013-0070(2). A party may appeal this order by filing a petition for review with the Court of Appeals in compliance with ORS 183.480-183.484.

**ITEM NO. CA8** 

# PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON STAFF REPORT PUBLIC MEETING DATE: August 10, 2010

REGULAR	CONSENT X EFFECTIVE DATE	August 17, 2010
DATE:	August 5, 2010	
TO: FROM:	Public Utility Commission Phil Carver	
THROUGH:	Lee Sparling and Maury Galbraith	
SUBJECT:	PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC:	

(Docket No. UM 1490) Application for a waiver of OAR 860-039-0025(2).

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of PGE's waiver request for a period of one year.

### DISCUSSION:

The number of Level 1 or Level 2 interconnection applications Portland General Electric (PGE) has received under the Division 39 net metering rules has soared in recent months. PGE received about 176 applications in June 2010. This compares with 157 and 362 applications for the full years of 2008 and 2009, respectively. PGE anticipates the current pace of applications will continue for the next several months.

Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 860-039-0025(2) requires PGE to respond to these net metering interconnection applications within three business days. Responding to this many applications in three days is impractical with the limited staff resources currently available. Therefore, PGE requests a waiver of OAR 860-039-0025(2) for a period of one year. PGE proposes to substitute a ten business day response period for the three business day requirement in this OAR.

Waiving the three day requirement and extending the response period to ten days would parallel the process recently adopted by the Commission for the solar volumetric incentive rate pilot programs. Under OAR 860-084-0270 (5)(b):

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[i]f the number of applications received in a week exceeds 20, the electric company may notify customers by electronic mail that the company will respond within ten business days.

The number of number of interconnection applications received by PGE under the Division 39 rule exceeded 40 per week in June 2010.

Staff recommends that PGE's request to waiver OAR 860-039-0025(2) be approved. PGE would be required to respond to Level 1 or Level 2 interconnection requests within ten business days. PGE will notify applicants by electronic mail of the delay in the response.

### PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

PGE's request to waive OAR 860-039-0025(2) for one year and to respond to Level 1 or Level 2 interconnection requests within ten business days be approved.

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