

ORDER NO.

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ENTERED

APR 11 2011

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

UM 1524

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC  
COMPANY,

Selection of an Independent Evaluator for  
Multiple Requests for Proposals.

ORDER

**DISPOSITION: SELECTION OF OREGON INDEPENDENT  
EVALUATOR APPROVED**

On February 18, 2011, Portland General Electric Company (PGE) filed an application, with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission), for approval of the selection of an Independent Evaluator (IE) to be used in up to three Requests for Proposals to be issued by PGE in 2011.


Guideline 5 of the Commission's competitive bidding order addresses the IE selection and contracting process. *See* Order No. 06-446. Among other things, these guidelines require the use of an IE to oversee the Request for Proposals (RFP) process and to ensure that it is conducted fairly and properly.

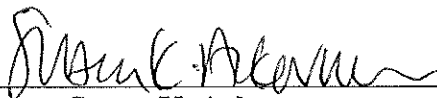
At this time, PGE requests the Commission appoint Accion Group, Inc. to serve as the Oregon IE for the new RFPs, pursuant to Staff's recommendation. PGE recently completed its evaluation of the 16 bids for IE services and Accion was the only bidder to score in the top five for both price and non-price considerations in PGE's scoring approach. Staff's complete recommendation is set forth in its Staff Report, attached as Appendix A and incorporated by reference.

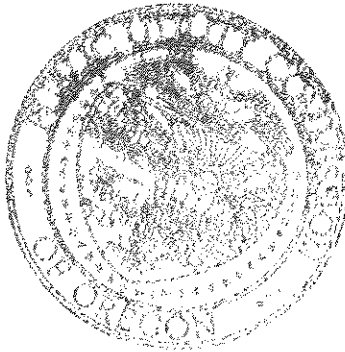
**ORDER**

IT IS ORDERED that Accion Group, Inc., is selected to serve as Oregon's Independent Evaluator for Portland General Electric Company's Requests for Proposals to be issued in 2011 for resources acknowledged in Portland General Electric Company's 2009 Integrated Resource Plan.

Made, entered, and effective APR 11 2011.

  
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**John Savage**  
Commissioner

  
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**Susan K. Ackerman**  
Commissioner



A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order under 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 860-001-0720. A copy of the request must also be served on each party to the proceedings as provided in OAR 860-001-0180(2). A party may appeal this order by filing a petition for review with the Court of Appeals in compliance with ORS 183.480 through 183.484.

ITEM NO. 5

## PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

## STAFF REPORT

PUBLIC MEETING DATE: April 5, 2011

REGULAR X CONSENT \_\_\_\_\_ EFFECTIVE DATE \_\_\_\_\_ N/A

DATE: March 28, 2011

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Kelcey Brown THROUGH: Lee Sparling and Maury Galbraith SUBJECT: PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC: (Docket No. UM 1524) Selection of an Independent Evaluator for multiple requests for proposals in Docket UM 1524.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Commission select Accion Group, Inc. to serve as Oregon's Independent Evaluator (IE) for Portland General Electric's (PGE) Request for Proposals (RFP) for capacity, energy and renewable resources.

## DISCUSSION:

On February 18, 2011 PGE filed an application to open a docket for the selection of an IE to be used in up to three RFPs to be issued by PGE in 2011. The three RFPs will be issued to fulfill the energy, capacity and renewable resource actions identified by PGE in its 2009 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), acknowledged by the Commission in Order No. 10-457.

Guideline 5 of the Commission's competitive bidding order addresses the IE selection and contracting process:

...Commission Staff, with input from the utility and interested non-bidding parties, will recommend an IE to the Commission, which will then select or approve an IE for the RFP. The IE must be independent of the utility and likely potential bidders, and also be experienced and competent to perform all IE functions identified in these Guidelines. The IE will contract with and be paid by the utility. The IE should confer with Commission staff as needed, on the IE's duties under these Guidelines. The utility may

Independent Evaluator Selection (UM 1524)  
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request recovery of its payments to the IE in customer rates. See Order No. 06-446 at 6.

In its discussion of the guideline, the Commission stated: "We believe the utility and non-bidders should participate in the process and provide input to Staff. Staff, however, should make a final recommendation to the Commission for approval, which could be accomplished at a public meeting." *Id* at 7.

PGE recently completed its evaluation of the 16 bids it received for IE services. PGE selected Accion Group, Inc (Accion) as the top bidder. Using a combination of price and non-price criteria, PGE gave Accion's proposal the best combined score, ranking first and second respectively. According to PGE, Accion demonstrated:

- A commanding understanding of the scope of work to be performed;
- The ability to perform the work;
- Soundness, professionalism and feasibility of their proposed methodology; and
- Completion at a reasonable price.

In PGE's scoring approach, Accion was the only bidder to score in the top five for both price and non-price considerations.

Staff's independent analysis of the 16 bids received in PGE's IE RFP, also resulted in Accion being selected as the top bidder. Staff believes that Accion's experience meets the project requirements and covers the scope of work indicated in PGE's RFP at the lowest price.

The Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon, Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities, Northwest Intermountain Power Producers Coalition, and Oregon Department of Energy do not oppose the recommendation of Accion as the Oregon IE. Accion is willing to serve as the IE if appointed.

#### **PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:**

Accion Group, Inc. be selected to serve as Oregon's IE for PGE's RFPs to be issued in 2011 for resources acknowledged in PGE's 2009 IRP.

IE Selection UM 1524