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DEC 2-0 2013

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

### **OF OREGON**

UE 281

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY,

**ORDER** 

2014 Schedule 145 Boardman Power Plant Operating Adjustment.

DISPOSITION:

STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED; TARIFF SHEETS

**SUSPENDED** 

On November 1, 2013, Portland General Electric Company, filed tariff sheets in Advice No. 13-22 to be effective January 1, 2014. The filing revises the company's Schedule 145 to reflect 2014 Boardman decommissioning costs.

This order memorializes our decision, made and effective at the public meeting on December 19, 2013, to adopt Staff's recommendation to suspend, under ORS 757.210 and ORS 757.215, Advice No. 13-22 for a period of time not to exceed six months from January 1, 2014, to investigate the propriety and reasonableness of the tariff sheets. The Staff Report with the recommendation is attached as Appendix A.

Dated this 20 day of 0ec., 2013, at Salem, Oregon.

Susan K. Ackerman

John Savage

Commissioner

Stephen M. Bloom

Commissioner

A party may request releasing or econsideration of this order under ORS 756.561. A request for rehearing or econsideration 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. 1

## PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON STAFF REPORT PUBLIC MEETING DATE: December 19, 2013

EFFECTIVE DATE January 1, 2014 REGULAR X CONSENT DATE: December 10, 2013

Judy Johnson and John Crider

Public Utility Commission

THROUGH: Jason Eisdorfer, Maury Galbraith, Marc Hellman, and Aster Adams

SUBJECT: PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC: (Docket No. UE 281/

Advice No. 13-22) Revises Schedule 145 to reflect 2014 Boardman

decommissioning costs.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend that the Commission suspend Portland General Electric's Advice Filing No. 13-22 (docketed as UE 281).

#### DISCUSSION:

TO:

FROM:

On November 1, 2013, Portland General Electric (PGE or Company) made this filing to revise Schedule 145, the Boardman Power Plant decommissioning costs. The purpose of this filing is to update the Schedule 145 prices consistent with the incremental decommissioning costs from PGE's increased share of Boardman (from 65 percent to 80 percent) and a plant-focused incentive plan. On December 9, 2013, PGE submitted a supplemental filing to Advice No. 13-22 removing the plant-focused incentive plan from consideration and a Less Than Statutory Notice application.

BA Leasing (BAL) and PGE have agreed to the Termination Option of the original contract and the return of the 15 percent to PGE pursuant to a purchase and sale agreement, and PGE anticipates that a final agreement will be completed before the end of 2013.

Staff recommends that the Commission suspend the tariff for investigation of the prudence of agreeing to the return of the 15 percent owned by BAL, with the associated additional decommissioning costs. Staff is recommending an initial suspension period of six months, with the expectation that all parties will reach a resolution of issues well before the suspension period ends. Staff believes that incremental decommissioning

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costs cannot be put into rates until the prudence of decisions to bring back to PGE the additional 15 percent currently owned by BAL is decided. There may also be issues related to any sharing of the decommissioning costs between ratepayers and shareholders given the historical treatment of the sale of 15 percent of Boardman.

#### PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Portland General Electric's Advice Filing No. 13-22 (UE 281), with a proposed effective date of January 1, 2014, be suspended for six months.

PGE Advice 13-22