ORDER NO. 19-137

ENTERED Apr 18 2019

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UE 358

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY,

ORDER

Advice No. 19-02 (ADV 919) New Load Direct Access Program.

DISPOSITION: MOTION TO DESIGNATE PROCEEDING AS ELIGIBLE FOR ISSUE FUNDS GRANTED

On April 9, 2019, the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers, formerly known as the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities (AWEC) filed a motion to designate this proceeding as eligible for an Issue Fund Grant. AWEC's motion states that the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) authorized AWEC to represent that CUB supports this motion. No party responded to AWEC's motion.

The Fourth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (IFA), approved by the Commission in Order No. 18-017, defines "Eligible Proceedings for Issue Funds" as a proceeding before the Commission to review:

- 1) A general rate case request,
- 2) The proposed acquisition or merger of one of the Participating Public Utilities,
- 3) An Integrated Resource Plan,
- 4) An annual power cost request (such as PGE's Annual Update Tariff or PacifiCorp's TAM) or a purchase gas adjustment request, or
- Any other proceeding so designated by the Commission that directly affects one or more of the participating Utilities and is anticipated to have a substantial impact on utility rates or service, a significant impact on utility customers or the operation of the utility, is likely to result in a significant change in regulatory policy, or raises novel questions of law.

Portland General Electric Company is a participating utility. In its motion, AWEC states that this proceeding has the potential to result in significant changes to regulatory policy and raises novel questions of law. Specifically, AWEC notes that in PGE's proposed tariff to comply with the PUC's newly enacted New Load Direct Access (NLDA) rules, PGE proposes two new charges to an NLDA customer, which are unlike charges previously approved by the PUC, and therefore, they need to be examined carefully to address several legal and policy issues. AWEC asserts that it will require significant resources to address the issues.

We agree that this proceeding qualifies as an eligible proceeding under the last criterion because this docket may result in a change in regulatory policy and raises novel questions of law. Accordingly, AWEC's motion should be granted, and this docket should be certified as an eligible proceeding.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that this proceeding is designated as eligible for Issue Funds.

Made, entered, and effective Apr 18, 2019

Commissioner Bloom was unavailable for signature

Megan W. Decker Chair

Stephen M. Bloom Commissioner

Letha Tawney
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.