

ORDER NO. 20-027

ENTERED Jan 29 2020

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UE 370, UE 372

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC
COMPANY,

Renewable Resource Automatic Adjustment
Clause (Schedule 122, Wheatridge
Renewable Energy Farm)
(UE 370), and

Renewable Resource Automatic Adjustment
Clause (Schedule 122, BPSC Energy
Storage Microgrid and ARC Energy
Storage) (UE 372).

ORDER

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

On December 10, 2019, the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (AWEC) filed a motion to designate the UE 370 proceeding as eligible for Issue Fund Grants. No party responded to the motion. On January 16, 2020, Administrative Law Judge Allan Arlow issued a ruling consolidating dockets UE 370 and UE 372.

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
- 5) 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.

AWEC states that Portland General Electric Company. (PGE) is one of the "Participating Utilities" in the IFA. AWEC also states that this docket will have a substantial impact on utility rates and PGE's customers because PGE's application is to include the costs of the Wheatridge Renewable Energy Farm in customer rates. AWEC also notes that PGE's filing also raises significant regulatory policy issues, including the prudence of PGE's decision to acquire the facility, and the prudence of PGE's proposal to monetize renewable energy certificates for the benefit of customers to reduce the near-term cost of Wheatridge. Finally, AWEC notes that PGE proposes to make several changes to its Renewable Adjustment Clause tariff that appear to implicate our recent decision in UM 1909 regarding the legal authority to authorize deferrals of capital costs.

We agree that this proceeding qualifies as an eligible proceeding under the last criterion in the IFA because this docket may result in a significant impact on utility rates and change to regulatory policy. Accordingly, the motion of AWEC is granted, and this docket is certified as an eligible proceeding.

ORDER

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

Made, entered, and effective Jan 29, 2020.

Megan W. Decker

Megan W. Decker
Chair

Letha Tawney

Letha Tawney
Commissioner



Mark R. Thompson

Mark R. Thompson
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.