

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UM 2152

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC
COMPANY,

Detailed Depreciation Study.

ORDER

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

On April 16, 2021, the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (AWEC), and the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB), filed a joint motion to designate this proceeding as eligible for an Issue Fund Grant. No party responded to the joint motion.

The Fourth Amended 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 operations of the utility, is likely to result in a significant change in regulatory policy, or raises novel questions of law.

Portland General Electric Company (PGE) is directly affected by this docket and is a participating utility. This docket involves a detailed depreciation study of PGE's electric properties. AWEC and CUB state PGE is requesting that the Commission approve the results of the study, so that the new depreciation rates can be implemented in PGE's next general rate case filing, to be filed this year. Therefore, AWEC and CUB claim the depreciation rates approved in this proceeding will immediately flow into customer rates. AWEC and CUB also claim there are significant policy and ratemaking issues at play in

this proceeding, in particular advancing end-of-life dates for PGE's share of the Colstrip coal plant. AWEC and CUB plan to investigate whether the new end-of-life date aligns with Oregon's state and regulatory policy. The joint motion concludes that this proceeding will likely result in significant impact on utility rates and service, and raise issues of regulatory policy related to Oregon's decarbonization goals, such as those set forth in Executive Order 20-04.

We agree that this proceeding qualifies as an eligible proceeding because this docket is anticipated to have a substantial impact on utility rates or service. Further, this docket will likely address changes in regulatory policy. Accordingly, the joint motion should be granted, and this docket should be certified as an eligible proceeding.

ORDER

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

Made, entered, and effective May 14 2021.



Megan W. Decker
Chair



Letha Tawney
Commissioner



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.