ORDER NO. 21-318

ENTERED Sep 28 2021

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UM 2143

In the Matter of

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON,

ORDER

Investigation into Resource Adequacy in the State.

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

On July 13, 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 Oregon Public Utilities Commission (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.

This docket is an investigation into the regulatory and legal framework regarding resource adequacy (RA) of the electric utilities regulated by the Commission. Both Portland General Electric (PGE) and PacifiCorp, dba, Pacific Power, are participating in this proceeding and will be impacted by its outcome. Both PGE and PacifiCorp are Participating Utilities in the IFA. This proceeding will investigate the capacity that Oregon's electric utilities must carry to meet the peak load of their respective systems and will review the applicability of RA requirements to other load-serving entities including electric service suppliers. Further, this investigation may alter the format through which these utilities procure and plan for RA, having residual impacts on rates in time.

We agree that this proceeding qualifies as an eligible proceeding because this docket is anticipated to address changes in regulatory policy and questions of law. Further, this docket has the potential to change RA framework in such a way that may have significant impact on utility rates. 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 Sep 28 2021

Mega W Decker

Megan W. Decker Chair

Letto Jau ney

Letha Tawney Commissioner

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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.

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