

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UE 465

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC
COMPANY,

2027 Annual Power Cost Update Tariff.

MODIFIED
PROTECTIVE ORDER

**DISPOSITION: MOTION FOR MODIFIED PROTECTIVE ORDER GRANTED AS
REVISED**

On April 27, 2026, Portland General Electric Company (PGE) filed a motion for a modified protective order (MPO) in these proceedings to provide additional protections for highly commercially sensitive, non-public information related to the company's capacity need and load forecast. Specifically, PGE identifies certain data requests received from intervenor parties related to PGE's forecasted monthly capacity need, including, but not limited to, qualified capacity contribution of resources, load forecast and capacity need. PGE notes the requested information is the same as what it would provide in an informational filing required by OAR 860-095-0010. PGE further describes that commercially and competitively sensitive information included in a Division 95 informational filing may be redacted or only provided to Qualified Parties, a classification limited to Commission Staff and employees of the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) who have executed a modified protective order. Given that CUB has not intervened in these proceedings, PGE seeks to limit access of information covered by Division 95 rules to Staff.

PGE requests that information designated as Highly Protected and subject to Division 95 rules be provided through: (a) a specific and limited folder in the Commission's discovery portal, accessible only to Staff; (b) a password protected and encrypted electronic ZIP file; or (c) in a manner mutually agreed upon by Staff and PGE. The company proposes to provide access to Highly Protected information not subject to Division 95 rules through: (a) the Commission's discovery portal; (b) a password protected and encrypted electronic ZIP file; or (c) in a manner mutually agreed upon by the requestor and PGE.

As noted above, under the MPO requested by PGE, access to Highly Protected Information subject to Division 95 Rules would be limited to only Staff and its counsel. Automatic access to other Highly Protected information would be restricted to Commission employees, including assigned DOJ attorneys, and PGE employees and counsel if the subject Highly Protected Information is provided by PGE. Representatives of other parties could become qualified to access Highly Protected Information under Paragraph 15 of the MPO upon execution of Appendix B and demonstrating a legitimate and non-competitive need for the Highly Protected Information.

Under our rules, I am to provide an expedited review of any motion for MPO and may issue an MPO to facilitate the filing of protected information and discovery.¹ This expedited review and issuance of a MPO does not preclude parties from filing responses to the motion for MPO.² Should any party file a response to the motion for MPO, I am to conduct a *de novo* review of the terms of the MPO and issue a ruling explaining my determination and issue an amended MPO, if necessary.³ No information that was produced under the MPO in the interim will be released publicly without going through the process for objections to designations specified in the order itself.

I find PGE's filing includes the elements required by OAR 860-001-0080(3). I find good cause to issue the MPO attached hereto as Appendix A, with minor consistency edits, including to update reference to Huddle to the Commission's discovery system in light of an upcoming transition in the discovery system. I issue this MPO on an expedited basis pursuant to OAR 860-001-0080(3)(c) to facilitate the filing of protected information and the exchange of material that may be exempt from disclosure under Oregon's public records law.

This expedited action does not foreclose a party from seeking *de novo* review of this MPO under OAR 860-001-0080(3)(d) & (e). Notwithstanding this ruling, any party may file a response to the motion by 3:00 pm on May 12, 2026.

¹ OAR 860-001-0080(3)(c).

² OAR 860-001-0080(3)(d).

³ OAR 860-001-0080(3)(e).

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the modified protective order, attached as Appendix A, is adopted.

Made, entered, and effective on Apr 29, 2026.



Brent Coleman
Administrative Law Judge



MODIFIED PROTECTIVE ORDER

UE 465

Scope of this Order:

1. This order supplements General Protective Order No. 23-132 and governs the acquisition and use of "Highly Protected Information" produced or used by any party to this docket.

Designation of Highly Protected Information

2. Any party may designate as Highly Protected Information any information the party reasonably determines:
 - (a) Falls within the scope of ORCP 36(C)(1) (a trade secret or other Confidential research, development, or commercial information) or the exemptions under Oregon Public Records law, ORS 192.345 and 192.355 (OPRL);
 - (b) Is not publicly available; and
 - (c) Is not adequately protected by the general protective order.

A subset of the highly confidential information is specifically covered under OAR 860-095 and will be marked according to Paragraph 3 and only provided to Staff.

3. To designate information as Highly Protected Information, a party must place the following legend on the material:

HIGHLY PROTECTED INFORMATION
SUBJECT TO MODIFIED PROTECTIVE ORDER NO. _____
OR
HIGHLY PROTECTED INFORMATION
- STAFF ONLY – DIVISION 95 –
SUBJECT TO MODIFIED PROTECTIVE ORDER NO. ____

4. The party should make reasonable efforts to designate as Highly Protected Information only the portions of the information that satisfies paragraph 2 of this Modified Protective Order. Each page of a document containing Highly Protected Information filed with the Commission or provided to Qualified Persons under this order, must be clearly marked and maintained in a separate, secure folder. Any file or folder containing Highly Protected Information must be designated "Highly Protected" or "Highly Confidential." If the cells in a spreadsheet or other native document include information that has been designated as highly confidential and that would be impractical or unduly burdensome to mark as required above, the party designating information as highly protected need not comply with this requirement but must identify that information in a way that reasonably provides the Commission and Qualified Persons with sufficient identification of the information to be protected.

5. All Highly Protected Information disclosed by a designated party to a qualified person will be provided either through: (a) the Commission's discovery portal; (b) a password protected and encrypted electronic ZIP file; or (c) in a manner mutually agreed upon by the requestor and PGE.
6. Highly Protected Information disclosed by a designated party to a person qualified to access Highly Protected Information through informal discovery or by means of the Commission's discovery system will be marked Highly Protected Information via the Commission's naming conventions and uploaded to a file folder designated "highly protected" in the Commission's discovery system, if applicable.
7. A party may designate as Highly Protected Information any information previously provided by giving written notice to the Commission and other parties. Parties in possession of newly designated Highly Protected Information must make reasonable efforts that all copies of the material containing the information bear the above legend if requested by the designating party.
8. A designating party must make reasonable efforts to ensure that information designated as Highly Protected Information continues to warrant protection under this order. If designated information becomes publicly available or no longer falls within the scope of ORCP 36(C)(1), the designating party should make reasonable efforts to remove the protected designation and provide written notice to the Commission and other parties.

Challenge to Designation of Information as Highly Protected:

9. A party may informally challenge any designation of Highly Protected Information by notifying the designating party. Once notified, the designating party bears the burden of showing that the challenged information is covered by ORCP 36(C)(1) and that the "Highly Protected Information" designation is necessary. Any party may request that the ALJ hold a conference to help resolve disputes about proper designation.
10. If the dispute cannot be resolved informally, the challenging party may file a written objection with the ALJ. The objection need only identify the information in dispute and certify that reasonable efforts to achieve informal resolution have failed.
11. Within five business days of service of the objection, the designating party must either remove the protected designation or file a written response. A written response must identify the factual and legal basis of how the challenged information is protected under paragraph 2. Broad allegations unsubstantiated by specific facts are not sufficient. If the designating party does not timely respond to the objection, the Commission will remove the protected designation from the challenged information.

12. The challenging party may file a written reply to any response within five business days of service of the response. The designating party may file a sur-reply within three business days of service of a reply. The ALJ will make all reasonable efforts to resolve the matter within 10 business days of service of the last filing.

Access to Highly Protected Information:

13. Only Qualified Persons may access Highly Protected Information designated by another party under this Modified Protective Order. Persons automatically bound and qualified to access Highly Protected Information are: (a) Commission employees; (b) Assistant Attorneys General assigned to represent the Commission; and (c) PGE employees or counsel if the Highly Protected information is provided by PGE. PGE must identify any employees it designates to receive highly protected information via the service list or Commission's discovery system access and must update the list throughout the proceeding to ensure it accurately identifies the employees who should have access.
14. Persons qualified to immediately access Highly Protected Information upon a signing the Consent to be Bound section of Appendix B are an employee or counsel of PGE or the Citizens Utility Board of Oregon who have a legitimate and non-competitive need for the Highly Protected Information and not simply a general interest in the information.
15. A party in this docket may seek to qualify persons other than those described in Paragraphs 13 and 14 to access Highly Protected Information by having each such person complete and sign Appendix B and submitting the Appendix to the designating party and the Commission. Within 5 business days of receiving a signed copy of Appendix B, the designating party may file an objection under paragraph 17. All persons seeking qualification under Paragraph 15 will have access to Highly Protected Information after 5 business days, unless the designating party objects.
16. As soon as the designating party becomes aware of reasons to restrict access to a Qualified Person, or objects to a person seeking qualification under Paragraph 15, the designating party must provide the person and his or her counsel notice stating the basis for the objection. The parties must promptly confer and attempt to resolve the dispute on an informal basis.

Objection to Access to Highly Protected Information:

17. If the parties are unable to resolve the matter informally, the designating party must file a written objection with the ALJ. The requesting party may file a response to the objection within 5 business days of service of the objection. The ALJ will make all reasonable efforts to resolve the matter within 10 business days of the last filing. Pending the ALJ's decision, the specific Highly Protected Information may not be disclosed to the person subject to the objection.

Use of Highly Protected Information:

18. All Qualified Persons must take reasonable precautions to keep Highly Protected Information secure. Qualified Persons may reproduce Highly Protected Information to the extent necessary to participate in these proceedings. A Qualified Person may discuss Highly Protected Information obtained under this order only with other Qualified Persons who have obtained the same information under this order, and only in relation to this proceeding.
19. Without the written permission of the designating party, any person given access to Highly Protected Information under this order may not use or disclose Highly Protected Information for any purpose other than participating in these proceedings.
20. Nothing in this protective order precludes any party from independently seeking through discovery in any other administrative or judicial proceeding information or materials produced in this proceeding under this protective order.
21. Counsel of record may retain memoranda, pleadings, testimony, discovery, or other documents containing Highly Protected Information to the extent reasonably necessary to maintain a file of these proceedings or to comply with requirements imposed by another governmental agency or court order. Any other person retaining Highly Protected Information must destroy or return it to the designating party within 90 days after final resolution of these proceedings unless the designating party consents in writing to retention of the Highly Protected Information. This paragraph does not apply to the Commission or its staff.
22. Highly Protected Information provided by a party shall not be used, copied, reproduced, or submitted by a Qualified Person in any manner through an artificial intelligence (AI) application or tool without the prior consent of the disclosing party.

Duration of Protection:

23. The Commission will preserve the designation of information as Highly Protected Information or Highly Confidential Information for a period of five years from the date of the final order in these proceedings, unless extended by the Commission at the request of the designating party. The Commission will notify the designating party at least two weeks prior to the release of Protected Information or Highly Protected Information.

**APPENDIX B: QUALIFICATION OF PERSONS TO RECEIVE
HIGHLY PROTECTED INFORMATION
DOCKET NO. UE 465**

I. Consent to Be Bound—Persons Qualified pursuant to Paragraph 14: Highly Protected Information

I have read the Modified Protective Order and agree to be bound by the terms in the order. I understand that ORS 756.990(2) allows the Commission to impose monetary sanctions if a party subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission violates an order of the Commission. I certify that:

- (a) I am an employee of PGE or the Citizens Utility Board of Oregon, and have a legitimate and non-competitive need for the Highly Protected Information and not simply a general interest in the information; **or**
- (b) I am not an employee of PGE or the Citizens Utility Board of Oregon and have a legitimate and non-competitive need for the Highly Protected Information and not simply a general interest in the information and am requesting to be qualified to receive Highly Protected Information under paragraph 15; **or**
- (c) I am not an employee of PGE or the Citizens Utility Board of Oregon, and the Administrative Law Judge has issued a ruling allowing my qualification to receive Highly Protected Information.

I provide the following information.

By: Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Employer: _____

Physical Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Job Title: _____

If not employee of party, description of associated party, your practice and clients:

