

ORDER NO. 16 421

ENTERED OCT 28 2016

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

NC 355

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF  
OREGON,

Complainant,

v.

PRAIRIE ELECTRIC, INC., (A  
Washington Corporation),

Defendant.

ORDER

**DISPOSITION: STIPULATION ADOPTED**

In this order, the Public Utility Commission of Oregon adopts a stipulation between the Commission Staff and defendant and imposes civil monetary penalties under the terms and conditions of the stipulation.

**I. COMPLAINT AND STIPULATION**

On October 7, 2016, the Commission filed a complaint against defendant. The complaint charged defendant with one violation of law, OAR 952-001-0090(2), and requested a penalty of \$1,000. On October 7, 2016, a copy of the complaint was served.

On October 21, 2016, the parties in these proceedings entered into a stipulation, which is attached as Appendix A.

Under the terms of the stipulation, defendant:

- (1) Admits committing the alleged violation and agrees that the Commission may enter an order assessing civil monetary penalties;
- (2) Agrees to complete, within 45 days following the entry of a final order, a training session with the Oregon Utility Notification Center Speakers Bureau on Oregon excavation laws and with NW Natural on operator safety; and

- (3) To submit a completed Training Verification form(s) for all required trainings to the Commission within 10 days of the date of the last training and no later than 55 days following the entry of this order.

The parties further agree that a portion of the penalties should be suspended, unless defendant fails to comply with any provision of the stipulation or violates any rule adopted by the Oregon Utility Notification Center under ORS 757.552 for a period of one year following the date of the Commission's final order in these proceedings.

## II. DISCUSSION

The stipulation is adopted. Under the terms of the stipulation, the allegations of the complaint are true, and defendant has violated the Oregon Administrative Rule as alleged. Under the provisions of ORS 757.993, penalties should be assessed against defendant under the terms and conditions of the stipulation.

## III. ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The stipulation, attached as Appendix A, is adopted.
2. Civil monetary penalties are assessed against PRAIRIE ELECTRIC, INC. (A Washington Corporation) in the amount of \$1,000 for one violation of law.
3. Defendant must pay the sum of \$200, due and payable within 30 days from the date of service of this order. The Commission acknowledges receipt of the amount of \$200 from defendant on October 26, 2016.
4. Defendant must:
  - (a) Timely complete a training session with the Oregon Utility Notification Center Speakers Bureau. Defendant will contact the OUNC Speakers Bureau to arrange for and ensure that all of Defendant's employees that engage in excavation activity as a part of their job duties, including but not limited to notifying the Oregon Utility Notification Center of proposed excavations, attend a training session on Oregon excavation laws within 45 days of the entry of this order;
  - (b) Timely complete a training session with NW Natural. Defendant will contact NW Natural to arrange for, and ensure that all of Defendant's employees that engage in excavation activity as a part of their job duties, including but not limited to notifying the

- Oregon Utility Notification Center of proposed excavations, attend a training session on operator safety within 45 days of the entry of this order; and
- (c) File a completed Training Verification form(s) for all required training to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon at the address indicated on the form within 10 days of the date of the last training session and no later than 55 days of the entry of this order.
5. Payment of the balance of the penalties (\$800) will be suspended, unless defendant fails to comply with any term of the stipulation. If the defendant has not met the requirements and time periods set forth in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, the unpaid balance of the amount assessed in paragraph 2 will be due immediately following the expiration of the time periods.

Made, entered, and effective OCT 28 2016.



*Jason Eisdorfer*  
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**Jason Eisdorfer**  
\* Director  
Utility Program

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.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON

NC 355

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF  
OREGON,

Complainant,

v.

PRAIRIE ELECTRIC, INC.,  
(A Washington Corporation)

Defendant.

STIPULATION FOR ENTRY  
OF FINAL ORDER

The Public Utility Commission of Oregon, appearing by and through Johanna M. Riemenschneider, Assistant Attorney General, and Prairie Electric, Inc., the Defendant herein, hereby stipulate as follows:

1.

A Complaint in this case is pending before the Commission charging the Defendant with one violation of law, OAR 952-001-0090(2).

2.

Both parties to this proceeding are willing to forego further processing of that Complaint and further are willing to resolve this matter on the basis of this Stipulation.

3.

The Defendant admits that the violation was committed as alleged in the Complaint and is willing for the Commission to enter an order finding that the violation was committed as alleged in the Complaint.

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The parties further agree that the Commission may enter an order assessing a civil monetary penalty against Defendant in the amount of \$1,000 under the following terms and conditions:

- A. Defendant must sign and return this Stipulation within 20 days of the date it was served upon (mailed to) Defendant.
- B. \$200 becomes due and payable on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> day following the Commission's entry of its order in this case.
- C. Payment must be by cashier's check or money order made out to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, and the memo line of the money order must state the "NC 355" docket number in the caption of this Stipulation.
- D. Payment of the balance of the penalty (\$800) will be suspended and it will be waived with no further penalties will be imposed for the violation alleged in the Complaint unless Defendant fails to comply with all of the terms of this Stipulation and all of the rules adopted by the Oregon Utility Notification Center (OUNC) under ORS 757.552 for a one-year period following the date of the Commission's entry of an order.
- E. Defendant must contact the OUNC Speakers Bureau online at www.digsafelyoregon.com or by calling (503) 232-1987 to arrange for and ensure that all of defendant's employees that engage in excavation activity as a part of their job duties, including but not limited to notifying the Oregon Utility Notification Center of proposed excavations, attend a training session on Oregon excavation laws within 45 days following the entry of the Commission's order.
- F. Defendant must contact Scott Gallegos at NW Natural (NWN) by email at smg@nwnatural.com or by calling (503) 226-4211, and arrange for and ensure that all of defendant's employees that engage in excavation activity as a part of their job

1 duties attend an operator safety presentation provided by NWN within 45 days  
2 following the entry of a final order.

3 G. Defendant must take a blank copy of the Training Verification form attached to this  
4 Stipulation as Attachment 1 to all required trainings scheduled under paragraphs 4.E.  
5 and 4.F. above. Defendant must ensure that all of its employees attending a required  
6 training sign a Training Verification form to verify attendance. A representative of  
7 the organization providing the training (Instructor) must sign the Training  
8 Verification Form to verify that each person listed on the form completed the training.  
9 Defendant must return all completed training verification forms to Complainant at the  
10 address on the Form within 10 days of the date of the last training session and in no  
11 event later than 55 days following the date of the Commission's entry of an order in  
12 this docket.

13 H. In the event that Complainant contends that Defendant has not complied with all of  
14 the terms of this Stipulation and all OUNC rules for the one-year period, Complainant  
15 may reopen this proceeding and petition for imposition of all or a portion of the  
16 suspended penalty. In such case, Defendant is entitled to a hearing and to be notified  
17 of the basis upon which Complainant contends that compliance has not occurred.

18 I. Complainant's failure to enforce any provision of this Stipulation, or decision to  
19 waive any violation or nonperformance of this Stipulation in one instance, will not  
20 constitute a waiver by the Complainant of that provision, any other provision, or any  
21 other violation or nonperformance in another instance.

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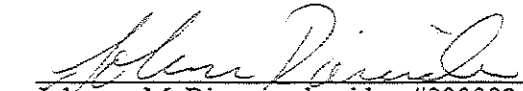
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This Stipulation is conditioned upon final approval of its terms by the Commission. If the Stipulation is not accepted in its entirety, it is deemed withdrawn.

DATED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016.

  
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Johanna M. Riemenschneider, #990083  
Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Of Attorneys for the Public Utility Commission  
of Oregon

DATED this 21 day of October 2016.

Prairie Electric, Inc. by:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Defendant / Representative (signature)

Kari Nichols, Controller  
(Print Name)

