

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of

PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT
COMPANY,

Petition For a Rate Increase Based on a
Modified Commission Basis Report, Two-Year
Rate Plan, and Decoupling Mechanism.

Docket UE-15_____

PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT
COMPANY'S MOTION FOR
STANDARD PROTECTIVE ORDER
(**Expedited Treatment Requested**)

I. RELIEF REQUESTED

I In conjunction with the petition for a rate increase based upon a modified commission basis report, two-year rate plan, and decoupling mechanism filed by Pacific Power & Light Company (Pacific Power or Company), a division of PacifiCorp, on November 25, 2015, Pacific Power moves for the entry of the standard protective order by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) under WAC 480-07-420(1). Pacific Power seeks expedited treatment of this motion to ensure that its confidential information is covered by a standard protective order as promptly as possible. Pacific Power's representatives in this proceeding are:

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II. BACKGROUND AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT

2 On November 25, 2015, Pacific Power filed a petition requesting authorization to
increase its electric rates, adopt a two-year rate plan beginning on May 1, 2016, with a
second increase effective May 1, 2017, and approve a decoupling mechanism. Pacific Power
marked information contained on certain pages of its supporting testimony and exhibits as
confidential. Under WAC 480-07-510(3), the Company provided workpapers in support of
its filing, portions of which are also marked confidential. Pending entry of the Commission’s
standard protective order, the Company designated this information as confidential under the
Commission’s general rule on confidentiality, WAC 480-07-160, and under RCW 80.04.095.

3 The information that Pacific Power marked “confidential” includes commercially
sensitive information regarding the Company’s pricing strategy, fuel costs, contracts, reports,
and other terms that could be misappropriated by parties for their commercial benefit and to
the Company’s and its customers’ detriment. In discovery, parties to this proceeding may
request other types of information that is commercially valuable to the Company or involves
confidential information of customers, employees, business counter-parties, or other third-
parties. Pacific Power minimized the amount of information it designated as confidential to
promote the ability of the public to review the filing and participate in this case.

4 The Commission has authority to grant Pacific Power’s motion under WAC 480-07-
420(1), which allows the Commission to enter “a standard form of protective order to
promote the free exchange of information when parties reasonably anticipate that discovery
in a proceeding will call for the production of confidential information.” Under WAC 480-
07-0423(3)(a), a protective order “is intended to protect information that might compromise a
company’s ability to compete fairly or that otherwise might impose a business risk if

disseminated” publicly. There is ample Commission precedent for the entry of protective orders in general rate cases, including the protective order the Commission entered in Pacific Power’s 2014 general rate case.¹

5 The material Pacific Power seeks to protect in this case is the type of information that is intended to be eligible for confidential protections under WAC 480-07-423(3)(a). Public release of any of the confidential information could compromise the Company’s ability to compete fairly and impose a business risk to the Company. The result would be increased costs for Pacific Power and, ultimately, its customers.

III. CONCLUSION

6 For the reasons set forth above, Pacific Power respectfully requests that the Commission enter its standard form of protective order in this case.

Respectfully submitted this 25th day of November 2015.



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¹ *Washington Utils. & Trans. Comm. v. PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power & Light Company*, Docket UE-140762, Order 02 (May 14, 2014).