

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET UE-152253
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	
Complainant,)	ORDER 01
)	
v.)	
)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT)	SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS
COMPANY,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	
.....)	

BACKGROUND

1 On November 25, 2015, Pacific Power & Light Company (Pacific Power or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-75 as listed in the appendix attached to this Order. Pacific Power agrees to a suspension of the tariffs, but requests the Commission expedite the petition so the rates become effective on May 1, 2016. The purpose of this filing is to increase rates and charges for electric service provided to customers in the state of Washington.

2 In this filing, Pacific Power requests authority to increase charges and rates for electric service by approximately \$10 million, or 2.99 percent in billed rates. Because this increase might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public and Pacific Power has not demonstrated that the increase would result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient, the Commission suspends the tariff filing and will hold public hearings, if necessary, to determine whether the proposed increases are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

3 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including electric companies.

RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.08, RCW 80.12, RCW 80.16 and RCW 80.28.

- 4 (2) Pacific Power is an electric company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 5 (3) The tariff revisions Pacific Power filed on November 25, 2015, would increase charges and rates for service provided by Pacific Power and might injuriously affect the rights and interest of the public.
- 6 (4) Pacific Power has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revisions would result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.
- 7 (5) Pacific Power's rates and charges for electric service shown on any tariffs that Pacific Power does not propose to revise may also be investigated to determine if they are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.
- 8 (6) In order to carry out the duties imposed upon the Commission by law, and as authorized in RCW 80.04.130, the Commission believes it is necessary to investigate Pacific Power's books, accounts, practices and activities; to make a valuation or appraisal of Pacific Power's property; and to investigate and appraise various phases of Pacific Power's operations. The Commission finds that these dockets meet the criteria of WAC 480-07-400(2)(b)(i) and that discovery will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's discovery rules in WAC 480-07-400 – 425.
- 9 (7) As required by RCW 80.04.130(4), Pacific Power bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed increases are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.
- 10 (8) Pacific Power may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to such an investigation, consistent with RCW 80.20.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) The tariff revisions Pacific Power & Light Company filed on November 25, 2015, are suspended.

- 12 (2) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required. Such hearings may also examine Pacific Power & Light Company's rates and charges for electric service shown on any tariffs that Pacific Power & Light Company does not propose to revise.
- 13 (3) Pacific Power & Light Company must not change or alter the tariffs filed in these dockets during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.
- 14 (4) The Commission will institute an investigation of Pacific Power & Light Company's books, accounts, practices, activities, property, and operations as described above.
- 15 (5) Discovery will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's discovery rules in WAC 480-07-400 – 425.
- 16 (6) Pacific Power & Light shall pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the Commission's investigation, consistent with RCW 80.20.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective December 8, 2015.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Chairman

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner

ANN E. RENDAHL, Commissioner

Appendix

TARIFF WN U-75

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