

Bench Request No. 10.

At hearing on May 2, 2016, Mr. Brad Purdy, on behalf of the Energy Project, indicated that some contested issues affecting low-income customers may be resolved. If the following issues have been resolved, please provide a description of the resolution.

For Pacific Power and Energy Project:

1. The Energy Project recommends that Pacific Power be required to submit a comprehensive plan addressing both funding and modification for its low-income bill assistance program (LIBA), as well as its low-income weatherization program, by January 31, 2017. (Collins, Exh No. SMC-1T at 8:12-19).

Response: Resolved. The Company commits to holding separate collaborative sessions with stakeholders including WUTC Staff, Public Counsel, the Northwest Energy Coalition and other parties to identify changes, modifications, and proposals for both the low-income weatherization program and the low-income bill assistance program. The Company and stakeholders will complete a formal proposal addressing plans or modifications to both LIBA and Low-Income Weatherization Program by the end of the first quarter of 2017 such that changes can be filed with the Commission prior to the expiration of the current LIBA program, which expires on April 30, 2017.

2. The Energy Project recommends that Pacific Power be required to hire a professional facilitator to lead its low-income collaborative. (Collins, Exhb. No. SMC-1T at 8:21-22).

Response: Resolved. The Company, Community Action Agencies, the Energy Project, and other parties continue to have positive working relationships, making the cost of a professional facilitator unnecessary. If any disputes arise, the parties may seek to use the Commission's existing dispute resolution process.

3. The Energy Project recommends that Pacific Power be required to finance and fully cooperate in a study of its eligible low-income customer population to procure the data necessary to satisfy the Commission's order in its last GRC. (Collins, Exh. No. SMC-1T at 10:15-22).

Response: Resolved. As part of the collaborative process, the Company commits to working with interested stakeholders to evaluate what data is currently available, where data gaps may exist, and potential sources to fill those gaps. Through this process the stakeholders can evaluate the most efficient way to determine the number of low-income customers, their electricity usage characteristics, and energy burden in the Company's service territory.

For Pacific Power, Northwest Energy Coalition, and the Energy Project:

1. Northwest Energy Coalition and the Energy Project recommend that Pacific Power be required to increase LIBA rate credits proportionately with any annual increases in

residential bills as a result of decoupling surcharges. (Cavanagh, Exh. No RC-1T at 5:2-5; Collins, Exh. No. SMC-3T at 7: 8-10).

Response: This issue is unresolved. While The Energy Project is not opposed to the decoupling mechanism, we maintain that there should be an increase to LIBA funding proportionate to any residential bill increases resulting from the decoupling mechanism.