

May 30, 2014

***VIA ELECTRONIC FILING
AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY***

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Attention: Steven V. King
Executive Director and Secretary

RE: Docket No. U-140621 – Rulemaking to Consider Adoption of Rules to Implement RCW Ch. 80-54 Relating to Transmission Facilities--Comments of Pacific Power & Light

Dear Mr. King:

In accordance with WAC 480-100-141 and the Notice of Opportunity to File Written Comments (Notice) issued April 23, 2014, Pacific Power & Light Company (Pacific Power or Company) provides the following comments. The Notice indicates the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) will be reviewing whether to promulgate certain rules regarding the joint use of certain utility poles, using rules developed by the Federal Communication Commission or the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, or a combination thereof.

As an initial note, Pacific Power has been successfully negotiating joint use agreements with attachers in Washington for some time without serious dispute. To the extent possible, any newly-developed rules should allow some flexibility for negotiations, provided there is no discrimination between similarly-situated attachers. Additionally, Pacific Power is concerned about the use of “Transmission” facilities in the name of the docket. To electric utilities, “transmission” refers to high voltage power lines and facilities necessary to support them. The Commission’s jurisdiction would be over electric utilities’ “distribution” facilities. To avoid confusion, it may be helpful to retitl the docket.

That said, Pacific Power operates in Oregon and is experienced with the Oregon rules. These rules were developed using a collaborative process with various stakeholders across all affected industries, reaching a compromise that balances all interests. Certain rules describe mandatory provisions for attaching to utility poles. Certain rules are default rules, but allow for negotiation giving flexibility where business needs require it. Pacific Power encourages the Commission to consider using the Oregon rules as the basis for rules in Washington.

Pacific Power looks forward to participating in workshops and further discussions in efforts to develop fair and balanced rules for Washington.

Informal questions concerning this filing may be directed to Natasha Siores, Director, Regulatory Affairs & Revenue Requirement, at (503) 813-6583.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. Bryce Dalley" followed by a stylized monogram "B".

R. Bryce Dalley
Vice President, Regulation
Pacific Power