

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PACIFICORP, d/b/a PACIFIC POWER
& LIGHT COMPANY,

Respondent.

DOCKETS UE-191024, UE-190750,
UE-190929, UE-190981, UE-180778
(*Consolidated*)

ORDER 07/05/10

GRANTING MOTION TO
WITHDRAW AS PARTY

BACKGROUND

- 1 On September 13, 2018, PacifiCorp, d/b/a Pacific Power & Light Company, (PacifiCorp or Company) filed a petition for an accounting order in Docket UE-180778, requesting the Commission enter an order authorizing a change in depreciation rates applicable to the Company's depreciable electric plant. The Commission suspended that petition and set it for adjudication.
- 2 On December 21, 2018, the Commission issued Order 01, Prehearing Conference Order and Notice of Hearing, in Docket UE-180778, which among other things granted Sierra Club's petition to intervene.
- 3 On February 22, 2019, the Commission granted the Company's request, which no party opposed, to suspend the procedural schedule in that matter.
- 4 On February 3, 2020, the Commission issued Order 03/01/06, Order of Consolidation, Suspension, Notice Extending Time to Intervene, Prehearing Conference Order, and Notice of Hearing, which among other things consolidated PacifiCorp's general rate case, Docket UE-191024, with Dockets UE-180778, UE-190750, UE-190929, and UE-190981. Sierra Club was the only party to any of the consolidated dockets that did not also petition to intervene in the general rate case.
- 5 On June 2, 2020, pursuant to the parties' joint request, the Commission issued a notice in these consolidated dockets suspending the procedural schedule, setting a deadline for the

parties to file their settlement agreement and supporting documentation, and holding August 24, 2020, on the Commission's calendar for a possible settlement hearing.

6 On July 20, 2020, the parties filed with the Commission two settlement agreements and supporting documentation. One settlement agreement addressed only the issues in Docket UE-180778; the other addressed all other issues in the consolidated dockets. Sierra Club neither supported nor opposed either settlement.

7 On July 22, 2020, the Commission issued a notice in these consolidated dockets setting a virtual settlement hearing for August 24, 2020, at 9:30 a.m.

8 **MOTION TO WITHDRAW.** On August 11, 2020, Sierra Club filed with the Commission a Motion to Withdraw from Consolidated Proceedings, explaining that it asserted no interest in PacifiCorp's general rate case and, after the Washington legislature's passage of Senate Bill 5116 in May of 2019, its concerns pertaining to Docket UE-180778 were resolved. Sierra Club states in its motion:

Sierra Club chose not to enter into the proposed settlement agreement and also does not oppose its terms. As Sierra Club is neither joining nor opposing the settlement agreement and has no issues it wishes to pursue as related to former docket UE-180778, continued participation in the consolidated proceedings will not serve a public benefit. Accordingly, Sierra Club respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Motion to Withdraw.¹

DISCUSSION

9 Once the Commission has commenced an adjudicative proceeding, a party may withdraw from that proceeding only with the Commission's permission.² The Commission will grant a motion to withdraw when doing so is in the public interest.³

¹ Motion to Withdraw at 2-3.

² WAC 480-07-380(3)(a).

³ WAC 480-07-380(3)(b).

10 The Commission accepts Sierra Club's explanation of its interest in these consolidated proceedings and finds that permitting Sierra Club's withdrawal as a party to these consolidated proceedings is consistent with the public interest.

ORDER

11 **THE COMMISSION ORDERS** That Sierra Club's motion to withdraw as a party in Dockets UE-191024, UE-190750, UE-190929, UE-190981, and UE-180778 (*Consolidated*) is granted.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective August 12, 2020.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

/s/ *Andrew J. O'Connell*

ANDREW J. O'CONNELL
Administrative Law Judge