

April 11, 2008

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Ms. Carole J. Washburn **Executive Secretary** Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Docket No. UE-08 RE:

Petition of PacifiCorp for an Accounting Order

To Establish a Regulatory Asset

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Enclosed for filing are an original and twelve (12) copies of PacifiCorp's Petition for an Accounting Order to Establish a Regulatory Asset. An electronic copy of the filing will also be sent to the Commission's record center. Also enclosed is a motion for protective order seeking entry of a standard protective order in this proceeding.

Communications regarding this petition should be addressed to:

Washington Dockets Natalie Hocken **PacifiCorp PacifiCorp**

825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000

Portland, OR 97232 Portland, OR 97232

Natalie. Hocken@PacifiCorp.com washingtondockets@pacificorp.com

In addition, PacifiCorp requests that all data requests regarding this petition be addressed to:

datarequest@pacificorp.com By E-mail (preferred):

(503) 813-6060 By Facisimile:

Data Request Response Center By Regular Mail:

PacifiCorp

825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000

Portland, OR 97232

Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission April 11, 2008 Page 2

Please direct any informal questions to Paul Wrigley, Regulatory Affairs Director, at (503) 813-6048. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Andrea L. Kelly

Vice President, Regulation

Enclosures

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of

PACIFICORP d/b/a Pacific Power

for an Accounting Order to Establish a Regulatory Asset

DOCKET NO. UE-08_____
PETITION OF PACIFICORP
FOR AN ACCOUNTING ORDER

Pursuant to WAC 480-07-370(b), PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power petitions the 1 Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("Commission") for an accounting 2 order authorizing PacifiCorp to establish a regulatory asset for costs associated with an 3 exclusivity payment made to Seller to acquire 100% of the outstanding equity interests in 4 the Company that holds tangible and intangible assets, real and personal properties, 5 contracts, permits and other rights associated with a generation facility ("Plant") (the 6 "Proposed Transaction"). PacifiCorp requests this accounting treatment in the event the 7 Proposed Transaction is not completed. In support of the Petition, PacifiCorp states: 8 PacifiCorp is an electrical company and public service company in the state of 9 1. Washington pursuant to RCW 80.04.010 and subject to the jurisdiction of the 10 Commission with regard to its rates, service and accounting practices. PacifiCorp also 11 provides retail electricity service in the states of Oregon, California, Idaho, Utah and 12 Wyoming. PacifiCorp's address is 825 NE Multnomah, Portland, OR 97232. 13

PacifiCorp files this petition pursuant to RCW 80.01.040(3), which authorizes the

Commission to regulate in the public interest the rates, service, facilities, and practices of

electric companies; RCW 80.040.090, which authorizes the Commission to prescribe the

forms of accounts to be kept by public service companies; and WAC 480-100-203,

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- pertaining to the accounting requirements applicable to electric utilities in the state of
- 2 Washington.
- 3 3. Communications regarding this Application should be addressed to:

Washington Dockets
PacifiCorp
Natalie L. Hocken
Pacific Power

825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000

Portland, OR 97232 Portland, OR 97232

Email: washingtondockets@pacificorp.com Email: natalie.hocken@pacificorp.com

Telephone: 503-813-6048 Telephone: 503-813-7205 Facsimile: 503-813-7262

Additionally, PacifiCorp respectfully requests that all data requests regarding this

5 matter be addressed to:

6	By email (preferred)	datarequest@pacificorp.com
7 8 9 10	By regular mail	Data Request Response Center PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232
11	By facsimile	(503) 813-6060

- 12 Informal inquiries may be directed to Paul Wrigley, Director, Regulation, at (503) 813-
- 13 6048.
- 4. On April 11, 2008, PacifiCorp and Seller entered into the definitive Purchase and
- Sale Agreement ("PSA"), pursuant to which PacifiCorp agreed to purchase the Plant
- from Seller subject to regulatory approvals and other typical conditions to closing.
- Pursuant to the PSA, PacifiCorp shall make an Exclusivity Payment in the amount of
- \$8.7 million ("Exclusivity Payment") to the Seller. The Exclusivity Payment provides
- 19 PacifiCorp the exclusive right to negotiate with Seller concerning the Proposed
- Transaction during the exclusivity period (from February 27, 2008 until the earlier of
- 21 termination of the Purchase and Sale Agreement or the Closing)("Exclusivity Period").

- During the Exclusivity Period, Seller is prohibited from negotiating with, soliciting new
- bids, or accepting any bids from any person or entity associated with the sale, lease or
- 3 other disposition of the generation facility (and other associated output, rights and
- 4 assets). The Exclusivity Payment of \$8.7 million represents a deposit towards the total
- 5 purchase price under the PSA. Upon closing of the sale, the remainder of the purchase
- 6 price will be paid.
- 7 5. The Proposed Transaction provides that at the closing, Seller shall transfer 100%
- 8 of the equity interests of Company to PacifiCorp, and the Company will become a direct,
- 9 wholly owned subsidiary of PacifiCorp. One day after closing, the subsidiary Company
- will be dissolved and merged into PacifiCorp.
- 11 6. In order to match the benefits and costs of the Proposed Transaction, PacifiCorp
- will record the Exclusivity Payment within Account 182.3 (Other Regulatory Assets). It
- will remain in Account 182.3 until the closing date of the Proposed Transaction. At the
- 14 closing date, the Exclusivity Payment amount will be credited to Account 182.3 and
- debited to Account 123.1 (Investment in Subsidiary Companies), in accordance with 18
- 16 C.F.R. Ch. I, Pt. 101. Additionally, the remainder of the purchase price and expenses
- incidental to the acquisition will be included in Account 123.1 as part of the total costs of
- 18 the acquisition. When the subsidiary Company is dissolved and merged into PacifiCorp,
- 19 the amount in Account 123.1 (Investment in Subsidiary Companies) will be transferred to
- 20 the appropriate accounts in PacifiCorp. The plant asset balances will be transferred to
- 21 Account 102 (Electric Plant Purchased or Sold) until approvals are received from the
- 22 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to transfer from Account 102 to Account 101
- 23 (Electric Plant in Service).

1 7. Accounting for the Exclusivity Payment costs related to this Proposed Transaction

2 as a regulatory asset will encourage utility investment and will serve to more fairly

balance the risks and benefits between shareholders and customers, especially in a

situation where a time-limited commercial opportunity exists. Expensing the costs of a

failed acquisition and not recovering those costs in rates significantly discourages the

utility from investing in resources for the benefit of customers. In the event that the

7 Proposed Transaction does not close, the Company requests that these costs continue to

be treated as a regulatory asset as requested in Account 182.3. The rate treatment of the

9 Exclusivity Payment will be determined in a future rate proceeding.

WHEREFORE, PacifiCorp respectfully requests an accounting order authorizing

it to record the Exclusivity Payment costs in Account 182.3 (Other Regulatory Assets).

The rate treatment for the Exclusivity Payment costs will be determined in a future rate

13 proceeding.

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DATED: April 11, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie L. Hocken Vice President and General Counsel

Pacific Power

Counsel for PacifiCorp

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of

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PACIFICORP d/b/a Pacific Power

for an Accounting Order to Establish a Regulatory Asset DOCKET NO. UE-08____ MOTION OF PACIFICORP FOR ENTRY OF STANDARD PROTECTIVE ORDER

Pursuant to WAC 480-07-375, PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power ("Company") 1 moves for entry of a standard protective order in this proceeding. Concurrent with this 2 Motion, the Company filed an application for an accounting order authorizing the 3 Company to establish a regulatory asset for costs related to the purchase of the exclusive 4 option to acquire a generation plant ("Proposed Transaction"). The Purchase and Sale 5 Agreement was signed April 11, 2008. Good cause exists to issue a protective order to 6 protect commercially sensitive and confidential business information related to the 7 Proposed Transaction. In support of this Motion, the Company states: 8 PacifiCorp is an electrical company and public service company in the state of 9 1. Washington pursuant to RCW 80.04.010 and subject to the jurisdiction of the 10 Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("Commission") with regard to its 11

825 NE Multnomah, Portland, OR 97232.
 The Company files this motion pursuant to RCW 80.04.095, which authorizes the
 Commission to protect from disclosure records containing valuable commercial

rates, service and accounting practices. PacifiCorp also provides retail electricity service

in the states of Oregon, California, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming. PacifiCorp's address is

information, including trade secrets and confidential market, cost or financial

- information; WAC 480-07-420, which authorizes the Commission to enter protective
- 2 orders to allow for the free exchange of information during discovery in reasonable
- anticipation that confidential information may need to be exchanged; WAC 480-07-423,
- 4 which allows for parties to designate portions of documents exchanged during discovery
- or submitted in a proceeding as "confidential" or "highly confidential"; and WAC 480-
- 6 07-160, which allows for special handling of and limited access to confidential
- 7 information.
- 8 3. The Company anticipates that parties to this docket might request detailed
- 9 information regarding the Proposed Transaction. The Company further anticipates that
- discovery in this proceeding may include, among other things, requests for production of
- proprietary agreements and documents about the Proposed Transaction. Discovery in this
- 12 proceeding could also produce commercially-sensitive load and resource projections,
- information covered by confidentiality agreements, and other confidential analyses. This
- 14 confidential business information is of significant commercial value, which could expose
- 15 the Company and the counterparty to competitive injury if disclosure is unrestricted.
- 16 Unrestricted disclosure could also be detrimental to the Company's customers and future
- 17 resource acquisition plans.
- 18 4. It is substantially likely that Staff and others in this proceeding will seek to
- 19 discover a large amount of information held by PacifiCorp, including confidential
- 20 business information. Issuance of a protective order will facilitate the production of
- 21 relevant information and expedite the discovery process.

- For the foregoing reasons, PacifiCorp requests entry of a standard protective order
- 2 in this docket.

DATED: April 11, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie L. Hocken

Vice President & General Counsel

Nat clie 1. Hickor /m

Pacific Power

Counsel for PacifiCorp