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the  
**Energy  
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STATE OF WASH.  
UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

**Before the Washington Utilities and  
Transportation Commission**

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**In the Matter of the PacifiCorp Rate Filing****UE-991832****Petition for Intervention**

Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic, Yakima Valley Opportunities Industrialization Center, and the Washington State Association of Community Action Agencies' Energy Project hereby request permission to intervene in the above referenced proceeding concerning the PacifiCorp rate filing.

**The Petitioners**

Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic (YVFWC), and Yakima Valley Opportunities Industrialization Center (Yakima OIC) are nonprofit corporations that provide a wide range of services to the low-income population of Yakima County in central and southeastern Washington State. For more than 25 years these community action agencies have worked to improve the lives of families living in poverty, low-income elderly persons, and the homeless, by providing them with opportunities, resources, and services that promote change and empower at-risk and economically-disadvantaged individuals and families to achieve a greater level of self-sufficiency. Programs they offer include such things as training programs for adults and youth, GED instruction, child care assistance, emergency services, Welfare to Work, and WorkFirst. Of particular interest in these proceedings are the housing assistance, energy efficiency, and energy assistance programs the agencies operate, which served more than 3000 households in 1999 with weatherization and energy assistance. As community action agencies, their boards consist of one-third elected officials, one-third low-income representatives, and one-third who represent the community-at-large.

The Energy Project has been advocating specifically for energy efficiency and energy assistance programs for Washington's low-income population on behalf of the Washington State Association of Community Action Agencies since March 1993. It has been engaged in the design of low-income energy efficiency programs at all three regulated electric utilities. More recently the Project helped negotiate the low-income stipulation worked out during the PacifiCorp/Scottish Power merger proceeding and is currently working with the company to design programs as a result of that stipulation.

### Our Interests

The community action agencies represent the interests of low-income people in their respective service territories. According to the State's Department of Employment Security more than 55,000 people were living in poverty in Yakima County in 1996. The unemployment rate is twice the state average. Other counties served by PacifiCorp show comparable or worse statistics. The interests of this large population within PacifiCorp's service territory are unique and warrant special representation. Because of their history providing services and advocating for low-income people, the petitioners have an uncommon understanding of the conditions and situations their clients must confront daily.

The increase in rates and changes in various charges will have a severe impact on low-income their low-income customers. By increasing the percentage of their income that must go to electricity services (or their "energy burden"), the rate increase will deprive these households of funds desperately needed for basic needs like food, medicine, or clothing. The rate increase and other charges will make it still more difficult for low-income families or fixed income seniors to pay their bills, which could in turn increase disconnections, collection costs, and arrearages for the company.

### Intervention

The petitioners do not seek to delay this proceeding or to prejudice any party through their intervention. Nor do they seek to broaden the issues under consideration unduly. It is their intention to work with the other parties in the case to look into acceptable ways to they prepared to represent ourselves, but are currently seeking counsel. Yakima Opportunities Industrialization Center, Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic, and the Energy Project submit that our intervention will assist the Commission and other parties in deliberations concerning PacifiCorp's rate case.

### Service of Documents

The petitioners request that all documents in this proceeding be served on:

Jessie Garza, Jr., Director  
 Division of Northwest Community Action Center  
 Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic  
 P.O. Box 831  
 Toppenish, WA 98948

Chuck Eberdt, Manager  
 The Energy Project  
 The Opportunity Council  
 314 E. Holly St.  
 Bellingham, WA 98225

Chris Link  
 Housing Director  
 Yakima Valley OIC  
 815 Fruitvale Blvd.  
 Yakima, WA 98902-1467

*509-845-7630 ph.*  
*509-829-5655 fax*

*509-452-2235 ph*  
*452-2826 fax*

### Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic, the Yakima Valley Opportunities Industrialization Center, and the Washington State Association of Community Action Agencies' Energy Project request the Commission to grant this petition for intervention.

DATED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2000.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of:  
Yakima Valley Opportunities Industrialization Center  
Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic  
The Energy Project



Charles M. Eberdt  
The Energy Project  
The Opportunity Council  
314 E. Holly St.  
Bellingham, WA 98225

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UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

January 21, 2000

Ms. Carol Washburn, Executive Secretary  
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Dear Ms. Washburn,

Please accept these additional copies for the record of the Petition for Intervention with regards to docket UE-991832, PacifiCorp - Tariff Revision. The Petition was accepted by Judge Moss in a prehearing conference this morning.

Sincerely,



Juliet Thompson  
Energy Project Assistant

*Enclosures*

Hard Copy

*RMS*

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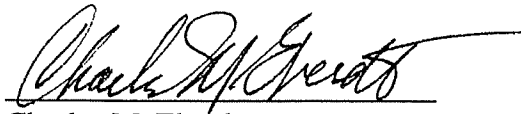
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