

October 21, 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Mark L. Johnson
Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Received
Records Management
10/21/19 13:46
State OF WASH.
UTIL. AND TRANSP.
COMMISSION

RE: Advice 19-07— Proposing Revisions to the Blue Sky Program Tariffs Schedule 70 (Renewable Energy Rider – Optional) and Schedule 73 (Renewable Energy Rider – Optional Bulk Purchase Option)

Pacific Power & Light Company (Pacific Power), a division of PacifiCorp, submits the following proposed tariff sheets in compliance with RCW 80.28.050, WAC Chapter 480-80-121. The proposed tariff revisions would modify Schedule 70 and Schedule 73 to expand the definition of one block of renewable energy from 100 kWh to 200 kWh. Pacific Power respectfully requests an effective date of January 1, 2020.

First Revision of Sheet No. 70.1	Schedule 70	Renewable Energy Rider – Optional
First Revision of Sheet No. 73.1	Schedule 73	Renewable Energy Rider Optional Bulk Purchase Option

Background

In 2000, Pacific Power launched its Blue Sky program to allow customers wanting to be served by renewable energy to purchase renewable energy credits (RECs) to offset some or all of their usage from renewable energy sources while also supporting renewable energy development. Funds collected through the Blue Sky Schedules are used to acquire RECs and cover program expenses. Any remaining funds are then used to help support new community-based renewable energy projects. Since its inception, Blue Sky customers across PacifiCorp’s service territories have purchased more than 8 billion kWh of renewable energy and supported more than 280 community-based renewable projects. In addition to the support from customers, the Blue Sky program has been recognized by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory on its Top 10 Utility Green Power Pricing Programs list for 17 years.

As of April 2019, there were approximately 5,600 participating Blue Sky Block customers in Washington. Pricing has remained constant since 2003, and Blue Sky customers have paid \$1.95 for each 100 kWh block.

Filing Overview

The Blue Sky program was implemented to provide an option for customers who want to be served by renewable energy to voluntarily purchase renewable energy certificates (RECs) to offset some or all of their usage. In an effort to meet growing customer demands in the renewable energy sector and to better align with market conditions, Pacific Power is proposing to increase the size of each Blue Sky Block from 100 kWh to 200 kWh of renewable energy.¹

Increasing the number of kilowatt hours in each block will double the impact that Blue Sky Block customers make in the renewable energy market through their participation in the program. Supporting the voluntary REC market is the main intent of the program, as described in the tariff language. In addition, it would offer customers, like those in Washington, who are selecting an average of 4-5 blocks per enrollment a lower cost path to matching all, or part, of their usage with renewable energy.

The Blue Sky program is a self-funded program, and the funds collected through the tariffs are used to acquire RECs and cover administration and program growth costs. Funds remaining after REC purchases and program marketing/administration expenses are made available to help fund new community-based renewable energy installations through a competitive grant application process.

PacifiCorp will file proposals to increase the Blue Sky program's standard block in its other service territories. In an effort to standardize how the Blue Sky program is administered, the company requests that approval of this advice filing be contingent on PacifiCorp receiving approval for the change in the other five states served by PacifiCorp.

It is respectfully requested that all formal correspondence and data requests regarding this filing be addressed to:

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

By regular mail: Data Request Response Center
PacifiCorp
825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000
Portland, Oregon, 97232

Please direct any informal inquiries regarding this filing to Ariel Son at (503) 813-5410.

¹ The proposed increase to the Blue Sky Block size will not alter individual negotiated contracts, including any contracts that are currently in place to facilitate direct purchase of RECs or any future individually negotiated agreements.

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

October 21, 2019

Page 3

Sincerely,

 /s/

Etta Lockey

Vice President, Regulation

Pacific Power & Light Company

825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000

Portland, OR 97232

(503) 813-5701

etta.lockey@pacificorp.com

Enclosures

Attachments

Attachment A: Summary Page of Tariffs

Attachment B: Proposed Tariffs