Service Date: May 25, 2023

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of

DOCKET UE-230293

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

ORDER 01

For an Exemption from WAC 480-109-130 and Condition 12(d) of Attachment A in Order 01 of Docket UE-210830

GRANTING PETITION FOR EXEMPTION FROM RULE AND ORDER

BACKGROUND

- On April 27, 2023, PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power & Light Company (PacifiCorp or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a petition (Petition) requesting an exemption from Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-109-130 and from Condition 12(d) of Attachment A in Order 01 of Docket UE-210830, to allow continuation of the current rates related to Demand Side Management funding in its electric tariff WN U-76, Schedule 191.¹
- WAC 480-109-130 requires an annual rate adjustment, or true-up, that reconciles the utility's conservation expenditures with its collections over the previous period, as laid out in its conservation tariffs. It also provides that a utility may file a request for exemption, with supporting documents, if it believes a rate change is unnecessary.
- Condition 12(d) parallels WAC 480-109-130 by stating that companies must file revisions to their cost recovery tariff (Schedule 191) by June 1 each year.
- The Company provided documents supporting its request for exemption that show that the balance of the Schedule 191 tariff, as of January 31, 2023, was \$3,608,017 overfunded. However, given planned expenditures in the coming year, the Company shows a reasonable expectation that the tariff rider balance will approach a near-zero balance in March of 2024, and will be underfunded by April of 2024. Therefore, PacifiCorp requests no rate adjustment at this time, and expects to file for a cost recovery adjustment in June of 2024.

¹ Docket UE-210830, Order 01, Attachment A, January 18, 2022.

Commission staff (Staff) reviewed the Petition and supporting documents and believes that the request for exemption is warranted.

DISCUSSION

We grant PacifiCorp's Petition for an exemption this year from the annual requirement to file revisions to its Schedule 191, System Benefits Charge Adjustment, as required by WAC 480-109-130(2) and Condition 12(d) in Order 01 in Docket UE-210830. We agree with Staff that granting the Petition is in the public interest because PacifiCorp has satisfactorily demonstrated that the planned expenditures will exhaust the balance collected through Schedule 191 and that a rate change is thus unnecessary.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including electric companies.
- 8 (2) PacifiCorp is an electric company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 9 (3) WAC 480-109-130(2) provides that a company may request an exemption to filing for recovery of all expected conservation cost changes and amortization of deferred balances, alongside supporting documents illustrating why a rate change is not necessary.
- 10 (4) As of March 31, 2023, PacifiCorp's Schedule 191 tariff was \$3,608,017 overfunded, but projected expenditures will reverse the overfunded balance by April of 2024.
- On April 27, 2023, PacifiCorp filed a Petition requesting exemption from WAC 480-109-130, and Condition 12(d) in Order 01 in Docket UE-210830, to allow continuation of the current rates related to Demand Side Management funding in Schedule 191.
- This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on May 25, 2023.

After reviewing PacifiCorp's Petition and giving due consideration to all relevant matters, the Commission finds that the Company's Petition is consistent with the public interest and should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 14 (1) PacifiCorp's d/b/a Pacific Power & Light Company Request for Exemption from WAC 480-109-130 and Condition 12(d) of Attachment A in Order 01 in Docket UE-210830, filed on April 27, 2023, is GRANTED.
- PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power & Light Company is exempted from compliance in calendar year 2023 with the annual requirement to file revisions to its Schedule 191, System Benefits Charge Adjustment, under WAC 480-109-130(2) and Condition 12(d) in Order 01 in Docket UE-210830.
- This Order shall not affect the Commission's authority over rates, services, accounts, valuations, estimates, or determination of costs, on any matters that may come before it. This Order shall not be construed as an agreement to any estimate or determination of costs, or any valuation of property claimed or asserted.
- 17 (4) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power & Light Company to effectuate the provisions of this Order.
- 18 (5) The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective May 25, 2023.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

AMANDA MAXWELL Executive Director and Secretary