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June 27, 2007

Carole J. Washburn, Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW
P. O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Re:

WUTC v. PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power & Light Co.

Docket No. UE-061546

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket are the original and twelve (12) copies of the Commission Staff's Motion for Clarification of Order 08 and Certificate of Service.

Sincerely

DONALD T. TROTTER

Senior Counsel

DTT:klg Enclosures cc: Parties

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

DOCKET NOS. UE-061546 and UE-060817

v.

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

Respondent.

In the Matter of the Petition of

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

For an Accounting Order Approving Deferral Of Certain Costs Related to the MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company Transition COMMISSION STAFF MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION OF ORDER 08

Staff seeks clarification and/or reconsideration of the Commission's Order 08, Paragraphs 95 and 96. Paragraph 96 states:

With respect to the fundamental question whether water-years ought to be filtered or not, we observe that the adjustments proposed by ICNU and Staff do not statistically filter the water-year data. Instead, they filter the distribution of GRID-estimated power costs that result, in part, from the water-year record.

As the Commission correctly observed in Paragraph 95, GRID-estimated power costs should not be statistically filtered, because of the "skewed nature of the distribution of GRID power costs." This "skewing" is because market prices and fuel costs typically behave differently during unfavorable water years than in good water years.

That is the reason Staff used the total annual generated energy as a direct proxy for the total annual water flow, and did not filter GRID-estimated power costs.¹

Consequently, the Commission is not correct in stating that Staff's proposed adjustments "do not statistically filter the water-year data" and that Staff used "GRID-estimated power costs."

The Commission should therefore clarify Paragraphs 95 and 96 of Order 08 to indicate that Staff did indeed statistically filter water year data, Staff did not use GRID-estimated power costs, and Staff agrees that the use of GRID power costs is not appropriate because of the skewed nature of that data.

Staff believes this clarification does not necessarily require the Commission to change its overall analysis. Of course, the Commission may decide that this clarification justifies further discussion in the order that will assist the Commission and the parties in future cases.

DATED this 27th day of June, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

ROB MCKENNA Attorney General

DONALD T. TROTTER
Assistant Attorney General

Counsel for Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

¹ Staff witness Mr. Buckley explained how Staff statistically filtered the water year data on page 23 of Exhibit 261, at lines 11-22. Staff Exhibit 264 shows that Staff filtered hydro energy (dependent on water flows) under the column labeled "Total – Hydro Summary-Energy." The resulting average power cost amount is only derived using those water years included using Staff's water flow or generation-based filter. Consequently, Staff does not believe it missed the point regarding statistically filtering of the data, as the Commission suggested in Paragraph 95.

Docket UE-061546 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the attached Commission Staff's Motion for Clarification of Order 08 upon the persons and entities listed on the Service List below by depositing a copy of said document in the United States mail, addressed as shown on said Service List, with first class postage prepaid.

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 27th day of June, 2007.

For ICNU:

Receive Confidential:

For PacifiCorp:

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