

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT
COMPANY,

Respondent.

DOCKET UE-152253

ORDER 05

ORDER GRANTING IN PART,
DENYING IN PART JOINT
MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF
TIME

- 1 **PROCEEDING:** On November 25, 2015, Pacific Power & Light Company (Pacific Power or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-75. The Company seeks authority to increase charges and rates for electric service in a two-year rate plan. Pacific Power's filing, if approved, would increase electric rates by approximately \$10 million, or 2.99 percent, effective May 1, 2016. The Company requests a second year increase in the multi-year rate plan of approximately \$10.3 million, or 2.99 percent, effective May 1, 2017. Pacific Power has also filed a proposed decoupling mechanism which includes a request to record accounting entries associated with the mechanism. The Company seeks expedited treatment of its requests. In Order 03 – Prehearing Conference Order and Notice of Hearing, the Commission set an expedited procedural schedule, requiring response testimony and exhibits by March 17, 2016, and rebuttal and cross-answering testimony and exhibits by April 7, 2016.
- 2 On March 29, 2016, after response testimony had been filed, the Commission issued Notice of Bench Request Nos. 1 and 2. Specifically, Bench Request No. 1 asks the Public Counsel Section of the Washington Office of Attorney General (Public Counsel) to refile Donna Ramas' response exhibits, Exh. No. DMR- 2 and Exh. No. DMR-3, starting from actual per-books amounts, provide a specific adjustment for each contested issue, and identify each adjustment using the descriptions and adjustment numbers included in

Shelley E. McCoy's exhibits. Likewise, Bench Request No. 2 requests that Boise White Paper, L.L.C. (BWP) refile Bradley G. Mullins' response exhibit, Exh. No. BGM-3 starting from actual per-books amounts and identify each adjustment using the descriptions and adjustment numbers included in Ms. McCoy's direct exhibits. Responses to both Bench Requests are due by 3:00 p.m., March 31, 2016.

3 **JOINT MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME.** On March 30, 2016, Public Counsel and BWP (Joint Parties) filed a Joint Motion for Extension of Time (Joint Motion). Joint Parties request that the Commission extend the deadline for their responses by until Monday, April 4, 2016, by 3:00 p.m. Joint Parties assert that "it is unlikely that either party will be able to ensure fully accurate compliance with the Bench Requests by Thursday, March 31, 2016, at 3:00 p.m."¹ They state that all parties to this proceeding have been notified of this request and have not opposed it.²

4 **DISCUSSION AND DECISION.** While the Commission is sympathetic to the time constraints Joint Parties refer to, they should be aware that the Commission is also operating under a similar time constraint with the above-referenced response exhibits, as rebuttal and cross-answering testimony, along with exhibits, is due on April 7, 2016, three days after Joint Parties' proposed extension. A reasonable compromise would be to extend the deadline for Bench Request Responses until April 1, 2016, by 3:00 p.m. The Commission determines that the Joint Motion should be granted in part and denied in part, and responses to Bench Request Nos. 1 and 2 are now due by 3:00 p.m., April 1, 2016.

¹ Joint Motion, ¶ 4.

² *Id.*, ¶ 2.

ORDER

5 **THE COMMISSION ORDERS That** the Joint Motion for Extension of Time, filed by Public Counsel and BWP is GRANTED IN PART AND DENIED IN PART.

Dated at Olympia, Washington, and effective March 31, 2016.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARGUERITE E. FRIEDLANDER
Administrative Law Judge

NOTICE TO PARTIES: This is an Interlocutory Order of the Commission. Administrative review may be available through a petition for review, filed within 10 days of the service of this Order pursuant to WAC 480-07-810.