



January 23, 2023

Via Electronic Filing

Oregon Public Utility Commission
Attention: Filing Center
201 High Street, Suite 100
Post Office Box 1088
Salem, OR 97308-1088

Re: LC 73, LC 77 – Comments in Response to 1/17/23 Staff Reports

Dear Commission, Staff and Stakeholders:

NewSun Energy LLC (NewSun) respectfully submits these comments in response to the Staff Reports issued in these matters on January 17, 2023 regarding Portland General Electric Company (PGE) and PacifiCorp's requests to the Oregon Public Utility Commission (Commission) to waive Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) guideline 2(c), which would normally require providing a draft IRP prior to filing the final IRP with the Commission. NewSun supports Staff's proposal on the condition that the IRP schedule allow time for Staff and Stakeholders to review whether any re-submitted IRP is responsive to initial comments and be sufficiently flexible to repeat that comment and IRP re-submittal process if warranted.

Support for Staff's Waiver Request: NewSun supports Staff's recommendation to waive OAR 860-027-0400(5) to allow additional time for Staff and Stakeholder comment on the IRPs subject to the below further recommendations. Specifically, NewSun agrees with Staff that "public input meetings . . . in the end do not provide the same levels of transparency and holistic framing as a draft IRP," and "continues to disagree with [PacifiCorp's] assertion that its current stakeholder process meets the intent of the guideline."¹ NewSun reiterates but does not fully repeat its prior comments that the IRP public input/stakeholder process does not provide meaningful opportunities for stakeholders to influence the development of the IRP and that the current IRP and corresponding clean energy plans should be subject to and err on the side of more, not fewer, opportunities for public engagement and responsiveness to stakeholder input.

Recommendation: NewSun further recommends that the Commission provide additional flexibility in the IRP docket following the initial 60-day comment and IRP re-submittal period recommended by Staff to give Staff and Stakeholders additional time necessary to review whether that re-filed IRP is responsive to the comments provided in that first round. Should the

¹ LC 77 Staff Report at 6, See also LC 73 Staff Report at 5 ("PGE's current stakeholder process . . . do[es] not provide the same levels of transparency and accountability in the IRP process as providing a draft IRP.")

re-filed IRP not be responsive, NewSun recommends that the IRP schedule be sufficiently flexible to repeat that comment and re-submittal process before moving into the traditional 6-month process contemplated by the rules.²

NewSun appreciates Staff's responsiveness to NewSun's concerns and looks forward to continuing to work on these issues with Staff and stakeholders.

Sincerely,

/s Marie P. Barlow

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² Notwithstanding the foregoing, NewSun also recommends that additional time be provided to file the clean energy plans to the extent might be necessary to incorporate any changes that may result from the Application for Reconsideration filed in UM 2225.