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March 18, 2019

***VIA ELECTRONIC FILING***

Public Utility Commission of Oregon  
201 High Street SE, Suite 100  
Salem, OR 97301-3398

Attn: Filing Center

**RE: UE 356—PacifiCorp’s 2020 Transition Adjustment Mechanism—Motion for a Modified Protective Order**

PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power encloses its Motion for a Modified Protective Order in the above-referenced docket. The company plans to file its 2020 Transition Adjustment Mechanism on April 1, 2019.


PacifiCorp respectfully requests that all communications related to this filing be addressed to:

Oregon Dockets  
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825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 2000  
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If you have questions about this filing, please contact Cathie Allen at (503) 813-5934.

Sincerely,



Etta Lockey  
Vice President, Regulation

Enclosures

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**OF OREGON**

**UE 356**

In the Matter of

PACIFICORP, d/b/a PACIFIC POWER,  
2020 Transition Adjustment Mechanism.

PACIFICORP’S MOTION FOR  
MODIFIED PROTECTIVE ORDER

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Under OAR 860-001-0420 and OAR 860-001-0080(3), PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power (PacifiCorp) moves the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) for entry of a Modified Protective Order in these proceedings.<sup>1</sup> Specifically, PacifiCorp requests the Administrative Law Judge issue the Modified Protective Order attached as Appendix A to this Motion. A Modified Protective Order would provide additional protection for highly commercially sensitive, non-public information related to PacifiCorp’s coal supply agreements, fueling strategy at its coal-fired generation facilities, and the documents and records of affiliated coal mining companies.

In Order No. 18-421, the Commission adopted the stipulation in which PacifiCorp agreed to “complete any analysis based on a January 1, 2030 useful life for the [Jim Bridger] plant, instead of the 2037 date used in the 2018 Fuel Plan.”<sup>2</sup> This analysis includes documents that contain highly sensitive commercial information regarding PacifiCorp’s market positions.

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<sup>1</sup> PacifiCorp is not seeking to modify Protective Order No. 16-128 on a permanent basis, but only in Docket No. UE 356 to address the highly confidential materials required by Order No. 18-421.

<sup>2</sup> *In the matter of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, 2019 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. 339, Order No. 18-421 (Oct. 26, 2018).

## II. BACKGROUND

PacifiCorp's annual TAM filing updates net power costs for the upcoming year and sets the transition adjustment for Oregon customers who choose direct access in the November open enrollment window. The TAM Guidelines include a commitment to make any protective order an ongoing protective order that will continue to be effective in future TAM proceedings.<sup>3</sup> In this case, the Commission issued an updated general protective order on March 28, 2016, reflecting changes to the general protective order in Order No. 15-243.<sup>4</sup>

In a stipulation that partially resolved PacifiCorp's 2019 TAM, PacifiCorp agreed "to develop an alternative analysis that evaluates the reasonableness of the company's fueling strategy for the Jim Bridger plant based on a January 1, 2030 useful life for the plant."<sup>5</sup> This provision was adopted when the Commission approved the stipulation in October of 2018.

## III. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PROTECTION

OAR 860-001-0080(3)(a) contains five requirements for seeking a modified protective order. This motion addresses each of these requirements in the following subsections.

### A. Exact Nature of the Information Involved (OAR 860-001-0080(3)(a)(A)).

PacifiCorp's coal inventory policies and procedures, along with an updated coal inventory study, identify PacifiCorp's proprietary strategies for managing its coal supplies at all of its coal-fired generation facilities. PacifiCorp's long-term Jim Bridger fuel plan explains PacifiCorp's strategy for balancing mined resources with purchased resources, and

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<sup>3</sup> *In the matter of PacifiCorp dba Pacific Power, 2010 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 207, Order No. 09-274, TAM Guidelines at A.7 (July 16, 2009).

<sup>4</sup> *Re PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, 2017 Transition Adjustment Mechanism*, Docket No. UE 307, Order No. 16-128 (March 28, 2016).

<sup>5</sup> Order No. 18-421 at Appendix A, pg 5.

release of this information would put PacifiCorp at a commercial disadvantage when negotiating coal supply agreements.

**B. Legal Basis for the Claim the Information is Protected under ORCP 36(C)(1) (OAR 860-001-0080(3)(a)(B)).**

ORCP 36(C)(1) provides protection against unrestricted discovery of “trade secrets or other confidential research, development, or commercial information.” The fueling strategy documents that PacifiCorp has agreed to file in docket UE 356 and the 2020 TAM constitute “trade secret” information protected under ORCP 36(C)(1) and Oregon’s Public Records Laws. Oregon’s Uniform Trade Secrets Act, ORS 646.461 to 646.475, defines a “trade secret” as information, including cost data, that: (a) derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to the public or to other person who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; and (b) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy. The Oregon Public Records Law, ORS 192.311 to 192.338, exempts from disclosure public records that are “trade secrets” that “may include but are not limited to, any formula, plan, pattern, process, tool, mechanism, compound, procedure, production data, or complication of information which is not patented, which is known only to certain individuals within an organization and which is used in a business it conducts, having actual or potential commercial value, and which gives its user an opportunity to obtain a business advantage over competitors who do not know or use it.”<sup>6</sup>

The information that PacifiCorp has agreed to file is non-public information that is highly proprietary and commercially sensitive. This is true for both the company’s coal inventory policies and procedures and the long-term Jim Bridger fuel plan. Public disclosure

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<sup>6</sup> ORS 192.501(2).

of the information would harm the company's competitive position in the negotiation of future coal supply and coal transportation agreements because competitors would gain a competitive advantage through an understanding of PacifiCorp's fueling strategies at all of its coal-fired generation facilities and long-term fuel plans specific to the Jim Bridger plant. This harm would ultimately flow through to customers in the form of higher costs and less advantageous terms and conditions of future contracts.

Public disclosure of this information would also harm the competitive position of the company's suppliers and joint venture parties, and may expose PacifiCorp to claims from those entities for breach of contract. The information requested is specific to issues in the current proceedings and may not be requested by parties in subsequent proceedings.

**C. Exact Nature of the Relief Requested (OAR 860-001-0080(3)(a)(C)).**

PacifiCorp requests that the Commission enter the proposed Modified Protective Order that is attached to this Motion as Appendix A. The terms of the Modified Protective Order are narrowly tailored and intended to apply to only PacifiCorp's most sensitive information. The proposed Modified Protective Order will allow the transmission of Highly Protected Information to all of the parties that sign on to the Modified Protective Order and recognizes that there is certain Highly Protected Information that intervenors will only share with their attorneys, with the exception of non-attorneys at Staff and Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB). Unlike other parties in these proceedings, Staff and CUB do not have any potential commercial or competitive interest in the highly confidential information. By identifying specific individuals that are qualified to access Highly Protected Information, the parties to the Modified Protective Order will have certainty regarding the permissible disclosure of Highly Protected Information.

**D. Specific Reasons the Relief Requested is Necessary (OAR 860-001-0080(3)(a)(D)).**

Entry of a Modified Protective Order with additional protections will allow PacifiCorp to make the information available to the parties in a manner consistent with the fact that it is highly sensitive commercial information. Granting the requested additional protection also will significantly limit the risk of an inadvertent breach of confidentiality, which could adversely affect PacifiCorp, its joint venture parties, its coal suppliers, its coal transporters, and its customers.

The standard protective order is insufficient because it does not provide adequate safeguards against the disclosure of highly confidential information. Reliance on the Standard Protective Order also would delay discovery and interfere with the expeditious handling of the highly confidential information in the upcoming case.

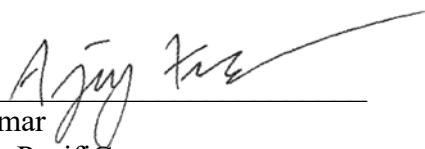
**E. Description of the Intermediate Measures Explored by the Parties (OAR 860-001-0080(3)(a)(E)).**

As discussed above, PacifiCorp is required under the stipulation to file its coal inventory policies and procedures and the long-term Jim Bridger fuel plan in docket UE 356 and the 2020 TAM. Without additional protection, the standard protective order will be insufficient to protect the company's highly sensitive commercial information. Intermediate measures are not available.

#### **IV. CONCLUSION**

For these reasons, PacifiCorp respectfully requests that the Commission issue a Modified Protective Order in the format provided as Appendix A to this Motion for the purposes of docket UE 356, to allow PacifiCorp to file the documents agreed to as part of the stipulation adopted in Order No. 18-421, along with supporting documentation, without unnecessary risk to the company, its suppliers and joint venture parties.

Respectfully submitted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 2018.

By:   
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**APPENDIX A**

PROPOSED MODIFIED PROTECTIVE ORDER



**MODIFIED PROTECTIVE ORDER**

DOCKET NO. UE 356

**Scope of this Order:**

1. This order supplements General Protective Order No. 16-128 and governs the acquisition and use of “Highly Protected Information” produced or used by any party to docket UE 356.

**Designation of Protected Information and “Highly Protected Information”:**

2. Any party may designate as Highly Protected Information any information the party reasonably determines:
  - (a) Falls within the scope of ORCP 36(C)(1) (a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information);
  - (b) Is not publicly available; and
  - (c) Is not adequately protected by the general protective order.
3. To designate information as Highly Protected Information, a party must place the following legend on the material:

HIGHLY PROTECTED INFORMATION  
SUBJECT TO MODIFIED PROTECTIVE ORDER NO. 19-\_\_\_\_\_

The party should make reasonable efforts to designate as Highly Protected Information only the portions of the information that satisfies paragraph 2 of this Modified Protective Order.

4. Each page of a document containing Highly Protected Information filed with the Commission and served on persons qualified to access Highly Protected Information under this order must be printed on green paper and placed in a sealed envelope or other appropriate container. Only the portions of a document that fall within ORCP 36(C)(1) may be placed in the envelope/container. The envelope/container must bear the legend:

THIS ENVELOPE IS SEALED UNDER ORDER NO. 19-\_\_\_\_\_  
AND CONTAINS HIGHLY PROTECTED INFORMATION. THE  
INFORMATION MAY BE SHOWN ONLY TO PERSONS  
QUALIFIED TO ACCESS HIGHLY PROTECTED INFORMATION  
AS DEFINED IN THE ORDER.

5. Highly Protected Information disclosed by a designating party to a person qualified to access Highly Protected Information through informal discovery or by means of the Commission’s Huddle website will be marked “Highly Protected Information” and uploaded to a file folder designated “highly protected” in Huddle, if applicable.
6. A party may designate as Highly Protected Information any information previously provided by giving written notice to the Commission and other parties. Parties in

possession of newly designated Highly Protected Information must make reasonable efforts to ensure that all copies of the material containing the information bear the above legend if requested by the designating party.

7. A designating party must make reasonable efforts to ensure that information designated as Highly Protected Information continues to warrant protection under this order. If designated information becomes publically available or no longer falls within the scope of ORCP 36(C)(1), the designating party should make reasonable efforts to remove the protected designation and provide written notice to the Commission and other parties.

#### **Challenge to Designation of Information as Highly Protected:**

8. A party may informally challenge any designation of Highly Protected Information by notifying the designating party. Once notified, the designating party bears the burden of showing that the challenged information is covered by ORCP 36(C)(1) and that the “Highly Protected Information” designation is necessary. Any party may request that the ALJ hold a conference to help resolve disputes about proper designation.
9. If the dispute cannot be resolved informally, the challenging party may file a written objection with the ALJ. The objection need only identify the information in dispute and certify that reasonable efforts to achieve informal resolution have failed.
10. Within five business days of service of the objection, the designating party must either remove the challenged protected designation or file a written response. A written response must identify the factual and legal basis of how the challenged information is protected under the Oregon Public Records Act, ORS 192.311 *et seq.*, or the Uniform Trade Secrets Act, ORS 646.461(4). Broad allegations unsubstantiated by specific facts are not sufficient. If the designating party does not timely respond to the objection, the Commission will remove the protected designation from the challenged information.
11. The challenging party may file a written reply to any response within five business days of service of an objection. The designating party may file a sur-reply within three business days of service of a response. The ALJ will make all reasonable efforts to resolve the matter within ten business days of service of the last filing.

#### **Access to Highly Protected Information:**

12. Persons automatically bound and qualified to access Highly Protected Information are:
  - (a) Commission employees; and
  - (b) Assistant Attorneys General assigned to represent the Commission.
13. The following persons are qualified to access Highly Protected Information upon completing Appendix B:

- (a) An employee or counsel of the Regulatory Division at the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board; and
  - (b) Counsel for a party.
14. A party bound by the General Protective Order No. 16-128 may seek to qualify other persons to access certain specific Highly Protected Information by having those persons complete and sign Appendix C, and submitting that information to the designating party and the Commission. Within five business days of receiving a copy of Appendix C, the designating party must either provide the access to the requested information designated as Highly Protected Information or file an objection under paragraph 15.

**Objection to Access to Protected Information:**

15. All persons qualified to have access to Highly Protected Information will have access to Highly Protected Information unless the designating party objects as provided in this paragraph. As soon as the designating party becomes aware of reasons to restrict access to a Qualified Person, or objects to a person seeking qualification under Paragraph 14, the designating party must provide the person and his or her counsel notice stating the basis for the objection. The parties must promptly confer and attempt to resolve the dispute on an informal basis.
16. If the parties are unable to resolve the matter informally, the designating party must file a written objection with the ALJ. The requesting party may file a response to the motion within five business days of service of an objection. The ALJ will make all reasonable efforts to resolve the matter within ten business days of the last filing. Pending the ALJ's decision, the specific Highly Protected Information may not be disclosed to the person subject to the objection.

**Use of Protected Information:**

17. All Qualified Persons must take reasonable precautions to keep Highly Protected Information secure. Qualified Persons may reproduce Highly Protected Information only to the extent necessary to participate in these proceedings. A Qualified Person may discuss Highly Protected Information obtained under this order only with other Qualified Persons who have obtained the same information under this order.
18. Without the written permission of the designating party, any person given access to Highly Protected Information under this order may not disclose Highly Protected Information for any purpose other than participating in these proceedings.
19. Nothing in this protective order precludes any party from independently seeking through discovery in any other administrative or judicial proceeding information or materials produced in this proceeding under this protective order.
26. Counsel of record may retain memoranda, pleadings, testimony, discovery, or other documents containing Highly Protected Information to the extent reasonably necessary to maintain a file of these proceedings or to comply with requirements imposed by another governmental agency or court order. Any other person retaining

Highly Protected Information must destroy or return it to the designating party within 90 days after final resolution of these proceedings unless the designating party consents in writing to retention of the Highly Protected Information. This paragraph does not apply to the Commission or its Staff.

**Duration of Protection:**

21. The Commission will preserve the designation of information as Highly Protected Information for a period of five years from the date of the final order in these proceedings, unless extended by the Commission at the request of the designating party. The Commission will notify the designating party at least two weeks prior to the release of Highly Protected Information.

**Duration of Protection:**

27. The Commission will preserve the designation of information as Protected Information or Highly Protected Information for a period of five years from the date of the final order in these proceedings, unless extended by the Commission at the request of the designating party. The Commission will notify the designating party at least two weeks prior to the release of Protected Information or Highly Protected Information.

**CONSENT TO BE BOUND AND SIGNATORY PAGE**  
**DOCKET NO. UE 356**

**I. Consent to be Bound:**

\_\_\_\_\_ (Party) agrees to be bound by the terms of this Modified Protective Order.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**II. Persons Qualified pursuant to Paragraph 13: Highly Protected Information**

I have read the Modified Protective Order and agree to be bound by the terms of the order.

I certify that:

I understand that ORS 756.990(2) allows the Commission to impose monetary sanctions if a party subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission violates an order of the Commission.

The party I am associated with has a legitimate and non-competitive need for the Highly Confidential Information for this proceeding and not simply a general interest in the information.

By: Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

By: Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**III. Persons Seeking Qualification under Paragraph 14:**

I have read the modified protective order, agree to be bound by the terms of the order, and provide the following information to seek access to certain specific information designated as Highly Confidential Information.

<b>Signature:</b>		<b>Date:</b>
<b>Printed Name:</b>		
<b>Physical Address:</b>		
<b>Email Address:</b>		
<b>Employer:</b>		
<b>Associated Party:</b>		
<b>Job Title:</b>		
<b>If Not employee of party, description of practice and clients:</b>		

**I seek access to the following specific information designated as Highly Protected Information for the following reasons:**