

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON

UE 399

In the Matter of	)	
	)	PETITION TO INTERVENE OF SMALL
PACIFICORP d/b/a PACIFIC POWER	)	BUSINESS UTILITY ADVOCATES
	)	
Request for a General Rate Revision	)	
	)	
_____	)	

Pursuant to ORS 756.525, OAR 860-001-0300(2), and the Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”) April 4, 2022 Procedural Conference Memorandum, the Small Business Utility Advocates (“SBUA”) petitions the Oregon Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) to intervene in this proceeding. In support of this petition, SBUA represents as follows:

1. The contact information for Petitioner to be included on the service list is:

James Birkelund  
SBUA  
548 Market Street, Suite 11200  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
james@utilityadvocates.org

2. SBUA will be represented in this matter by:

Diane Henkels, Attorney  
SBUA  
621 SW Morrison St. Ste 1025  
Portland, OR 97205  
Tel: 541.270.6001  
diane@utilityadvocates.org

3. SBUA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that represents, protects, and promotes the interests of small business utility customers. SBUA has over 200 members, of which many are Oregon-based entities. Many Oregon SBUA members are customers of PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power (“Company”). SBUA represents the small business community, and particularly small nonresidential, a.k.a. small general service or small commercial, customers in proceedings before utility commissions and other public bodies, educates and provides advice to small businesses with respect to utility service. In this docket SBUA would focus on the customers that receive service under Schedule 23.

The nature and extent of SBUA’s interest in this docket includes reviewing the reasonableness of: the proposed increased Revenue Requirement of \$84.4 million (a 6.8% increase); the proposed increase to the equity component of the capital structure to 52.25 percent, with a corresponding 9.8% return on equity, and rate spread and rate design. SBUA maintains the right to provide input on any other relevant topics that may arise during the course of the proceedings, which could impact the rates or terms and conditions of service Schedule 23 customers.

4. SBUA has special knowledge and expertise to contribute to this docket from the perspective of small firms in the State of Oregon. SBUA and its legal counsel have substantial expertise working with and representing small business generally, and significant experience in utility regulatory matters, including representing and advising small business in ratemaking and other utility regulatory matters. SBUA represented this customer group in the docket UE 374 PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power, the general rate case directly preceding this general rate case.

5. SBUA has a direct and substantial interest in this proceeding that is not represented by any other party, and will be affected by any Commission determination made in connection with this proceeding. No other party represents exclusive small business interests (often expressed as small nonresidential ratepayers). Citizens Utility Board (“CUB”) and Associated Western Utility Advocates (“AWEC” formerly the “Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities”) provide their own experts and experienced representation, but they do not represent SBUA’s constituency, and they are likely to have conflicts in one or more of the topic areas. It is in the public interest to allow SBUA to intervene in this proceeding to represent its own members and customer class. SBUA’s intervention will assist the Commission in resolving the issues in this proceeding, and will not unreasonably broaden the issues, burden the record, or delay this proceeding.

6. SBUA requests the addresses above be added to the service list.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED April 13, 2022.



s/ Diane Henkels

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