

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF
OREGON**

UM 2143

In the Matter of PUBLIC UTILITY
COMMISSION OF OREGON,

Investigation into Resource Adequacy
in Oregon

PETITION TO INTERVENE

NORTHWEST POWER AND
CONSERVATION COUNCIL

The Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) respectfully petitions to intervene in this docket and participate in this proceeding pursuant to ORS 756.525 and OAR 860-001-0300. In support of this petition, the Council provides the following:

1. The contact information for the Council is:

Northwest Power and Conservation Council
851 SW 6th Ave., Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204
(503) 222-5161

2. The Council will be represented by counsel in this proceeding. The contact information for the Council's attorneys to be included on the official service list is:

John Shurts, General Counsel
Andrea Goodwin, Senior Counsel
Northwest Power and Conservation Council
851 SW 6th Ave., Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204
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(503) 222-5161

Additional contacts to be included on the service list:

Ben Kujala, Director of Power Planning
Northwest Power and Conservation Council
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3. The Council is an interstate compact agency formed in 1981 by the states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington as authorized by Congress in the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act of 1980. The Northwest Power Act charged the Council with developing a regional conservation and generation power plan, a 20-year plan that the Act requires the Council to review and update every five years. One of the purposes of the Northwest Power Act and of the Council's power plan is "to assure the Pacific Northwest an adequate, efficient, economical and reliable power supply." The Council's most recent power plan is the Seventh Northwest Power Plan, adopted in 2016. <https://www.nwcouncil.org/energy/7th-northwest-power-plan/about-seventh-power-plan>. The Council has begun its review and is in the process of developing the next power plan, what will be the 2021 Northwest Power Plan. <https://www.nwcouncil.org/2021-northwest-power-plan>. In addition to the Council's power plans and power planning process, the Council has also established a Resource Adequacy Advisory Committee. <https://www.nwcouncil.org/energy/energy-advisory-committees/resource-adequacy-advisory-committee>. With the help of this committee, each year the Council assesses the adequacy of the region's power supply five years into the future. The Council also adopted, in 2011, a resource adequacy standard for the region (a 5% Loss of Load Probability standard) to provide an early warning should resource development fail to keep pace with needs. The most recent assessment, the Pacific Northwest Power Supply Adequacy Assessment for 2024, was completed in October 2019, with the 2025 resource adequacy assessment to be completed as a component of the 2021 Northwest Power Plan.

4. At its public meeting on January 12, 2021, the Public Utility Commission of Oregon adopted staff's recommendation and initiated this investigation into resource adequacy in Oregon. From the January 7, 2021 Staff Report, which included staff's recommendation, the goal of this investigation is to identify the need and potential urgency for the Commission to act on resource adequacy; to identify areas where a state-level program can fill gaps, ensure reliability, and work cohesively with regional efforts; and, to identify the appropriate complexity and level of structure necessary to address areas of resource adequacy concerns. Thus, the nature and extent of the Council's interest in this proceeding is focused on its

relation to regional resource adequacy and to the Council's resource adequacy assessments and power planning efforts.

5. As the Commission investigates resource adequacy in Oregon and a potential state-level solution, the Council's interest is in making sure the Commission and the parties understand the nature of the resource adequacy issues the region faces and the paths that are available for solving those issues. The Council intends to participate in this capacity only.

6. The Council has knowledge and expertise regarding resource adequacy that will assist the Commission in understanding and resolving resource adequacy issues or questions in this proceeding.

7. Based on the information provided above in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the Council respectfully requests to participate in this proceeding as an intervenor. The Council's participation in this proceeding will not unreasonably broaden the issues, burden the record, or unreasonably delay the proceeding.

Respectfully submitted this 1st day of February 2021.

/s/ John Shurts
John Shurts (OSB #87144)
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