

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

UE 197

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC	)	
COMPANY,	)	RULING
	)	
Request for a general rate revision.	)	

**DISPOSITION: PETITIONS TO INTERVENE GRANTED;  
SCHEDULE MODIFIED; PARTIES TO SUBMIT  
PROPOSED DATES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT  
HEARINGS**

On March 21, 2008, a prehearing conference was held in this docket at which time a schedule for this proceeding was adopted and the following were recognized or admitted as parties to this proceeding: Portland General Electric Company (PGE); the Citizens’ Utility Board of Oregon (CUB); the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities (ICNU); Fred Meyer Stores and Quality Food Centers, Divisions of Kroger Company (Fred Meyer); and the Community Action Partnership of Oregon and the Oregon Energy Coordinators Association (CAPO/OECA). The schedule set May 12, 2008, as the last day for filing Petitions to Intervene and provided for the following schedule for the prehearing phase of this proceeding:

Staff and Intervenors Circulate Settlement Proposals	May 23, 2008
Proposed Budgets for Intervenor Funding due	May 29, 2008
Settlement Conferences <sup>1</sup>	June 5-6, 2008
Staff and Intervenors File Reply Testimony	June 27, 2008
PGE Files Rebuttal Testimony	August 8, 2008
Staff and Intervenors File Surrebuttal Testimony	September 5, 2008
PGE Files Sursurrebuttal Testimony	September 26, 2008
All Parties File Cross-Examination Statements	October 1, 2008

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<sup>1</sup> Staff committed to provide notice to the parties of settlement conference times and locations.

The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) filed a Petition to Intervene on May 8, 2008, and the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) filed a Petition to Intervene on May 12, 2008, each providing the required responses to OAR 860-012-0001(1) (a-f).

On May 15, 2008, the Oregon Public Utility Commission staff (Staff) filed a Motion to Modify Procedural Schedule (Motion). In the Motion, Staff notes that Staff PGE, ICNU and CUB participated in a conference call during which Staff, ICNU and CUB indicated that they required additional time in which to analyze PGE's direct case prior to any settlement time. As a consequence, those four parties agreed to the following schedule, with the remainder of the schedule unchanged:

Parties Circulate Settlement Proposals to Other Parties	June 6, 2008
Settlement Conference	June 12-13, 2008
Staff and Intervenors File Direct Testimony	July 9, 2008
PGE Files Rebuttal Testimony	August 15, 2008
Staff and Intervenors File Surrebuttal Testimony	September 11, 2008
PGE Files Sursurrebuttal Testimony	September 30, 2008
All Parties File Cross-Examination Statements	October 3, 2008

They further agreed that:

- Any data requests issued after PGE files its sursurrebuttal testimony should only concern issues addressed or raised by PGE's sursurrebuttal testimony
- Following sursurrebuttal testimony on September 30, 2008, PGE will use its best efforts to respond to data requests in three business days and will respond no later than four business days
- If any party is prejudiced by the short time period between sursurrebuttal testimony and the hearing, it is possible the party will ask to continue the hearing into the week of October 13-17, 2008, in order to allow additional time to prepare for cross-examination of certain witnesses<sup>2</sup>

Staff notified CAPO/OECA, Fred Meyer and ODOE of the proposed changes contained in the Motion, none of whom have interposed any objection to the Motion.

**Discussion.** I find that ODOE and LOC have demonstrated that they have sufficient interest in the issues in the proceeding and that their participation will not unreasonably broaden the issues, burden the record or unreasonably delay the proceeding. I further find that the proposed schedule revisions are reasonable and will not unduly delay the proceedings. ODOE and LOC shall take the record and schedule as they find it.

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<sup>2</sup> Motion, at 2.

Finally, as an integral part of the rate case process, it is essential to have public input and comment as early in the proceedings as practicable. Therefore, the parties are directed to propose dates for two public comment hearings, one in Portland and the other in Salem.

### **RULING**

1. The Petitions to Intervene filed by the Oregon Department of Energy and the League of Oregon Cities are GRANTED. They are designated parties to the proceeding on the condition that no other party interposes objection within the time frame specified by OAR 860-013-0050(c) of the Commission's Rules. The condition shall be lifted after the time period has expired.
2. The Motion to Modify Procedural Schedule is GRANTED, and the above schedule is ADOPTED.
3. No later than May 23, 2008, the parties shall submit proposed dates to the Commission upon which public comment hearings in Portland and Salem, Oregon, may be held.

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2008, at Salem, Oregon.

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**Allan J. Arlow**  
Administrative Law Judge