

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UE 177, UE 178, UG 170 & UG 171

In the Matters of OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY)	
COMMISSION STAFF directing:)	
)
PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT, dba)	
PACIFICORP, (UE 177))	
)
PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC)	
COMPANY, (UE 178))	
)
NORTHWEST NATURAL, (UG 170))	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
	MEMORANDUM
)
and)	
)
AVISTA UTILITIES, (UG 171))	
)
To file tariffs establishing automatic adjustment)	
clauses under the terms of SB 408.)	

On December 9, 2005, a consolidated prehearing conference was held in these dockets. Representatives appeared on behalf of PacifiCorp, Portland General Electric, Northwest Natural, Avista Utilities (Avista), Northwest Industrial Gas Users (NWIGU), Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities (ICNU), and the Public Utility Commission of Oregon Staff (Commission).

Preliminary Pleadings

Prior to the conference, the Citizens' Utility Board filed a Notice of Intervention, pursuant to ORS 774.180. NWIGU and ICNU also filed separate Petitions to Intervene. No party objected to either petition at the conference. I find that NWIGU and ICNU have sufficient interest in the proceeding and that their appearance and participation will not unreasonably broaden the issues, burden the record, or unreasonably delay the proceeding. Accordingly, both petitions are granted. See OAR 860-012-0001.

NWIGU also filed a Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant under the Intervenor Funding Agreement. Because of the uncertainty related to the scope of this proceeding, NWIGU requested and received permission to address its budget request at a later conference.

Avista filed a motion to allow David Meyer to appear Pro Hac Vice. The motion was unopposed and is granted.

Schedule

The parties agreed that, because the Commission’s rulemaking in docket AR 499 would significantly impact the scope of this proceeding, it is unnecessary to adopt a full procedural schedule at this time. Accordingly, they recommended the Commission schedule another conference shortly after AR 499 concludes.

The parties, however, proposed a schedule be adopted to obtain the Commission approval of a protective order to allow the disclosure of the tax reports to intervenors in this proceeding under Section 3(11) of SB 408. After discussion, the following schedule was adopted:

EVENT	DATE
Utilities file Joint Motion for Protective Order	December 13, 2005
Deadline for Parties to file Objections	December 28, 2005
Deadline for Utilities to Respond to Objections	January 9, 2006

Dated at Salem, Oregon, this 9th day of December, 2005.

Michael Grant
Chief Administrative Law Judge