Oregon
Tina Kotek, Governor

Public Utility Commission
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May 7, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Lone Pine to Whetstone Transmission Project - *In the Matter of PacifiCorp dba Pacific Power, Petition of Public Convenience and Necessity* (Docket No. PCN 8).

PacifiCorp dba Pacific Power has proposed to build a 230 kilovolt transmission line between the Lone Pine substation and Whetstone substation in Jackson County, called the Lone Pine to Whetstone project. The company identified you as an individual or entity with an interest in land for which the utility may need to acquire an interest. In other words, PacifiCorp believes it may need to acquire the right to use some of your land for this project. You may have received a letter from PacifiCorp or PacifiCorp's attorneys about this.

The company filed a petition for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the Lone Pine to Whetstone project with the Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) on March 11, 2025. A CPCN is used by a utility in court during condemnation proceedings to secure land rights along the proposed transmission line's path. The CPCN demonstrates to the court that the transmission line is a public use and necessary for public convenience, which is part of what is required to condemn private property.

The PUC is investigating PacifiCorp's petition for a CPCN through a contested case process which has been assigned the docket number PCN 8. A contested case process is a formal trial-like proceeding, through which the Commission receives and considers information such as evidence, expert testimony, and public comments, as well as legal arguments.

Because PUC proceedings may be new to you, I wanted to let you know of some upcoming events related to the Commission's review of this project as well as inform you on how you can participate in the Commission's decision-making process.

First, all public items related to this docket will be posted on the PUC's website. To access the PCN 8 docket, go to this website: https://www.oregon.gov/puc/edockets, click on "by docket number," enter PCN 8 in the text field, and click "next." You will be able to see information about the case, including all filings from the company and other individuals and groups as well as from the assigned Administrative Law Judge, who manages the docket and the Commission, who makes the final decision.

On April 22, 2025, the Administrative Law Judge managing PCN 8 issued a ruling establishing a schedule for this docket. That ruling is attached to this letter for your convenience and lists important events and milestones. In particular, I want to call your attention to:

- **An in-person public comment hearing at the Hilton Garden Inn in Medford, Oregon on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. and**
- **A Zoom public comment hearing on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.**

A notice with further details on the public comment hearings is also attached to this letter.

Any member of the public may participate in this contested case proceeding. There are two ways to engage. The most involved way to participate is to intervene as a party in this docket. This level of participation is best accomplished with an attorney representing you, however individuals can represent themselves in Commission proceedings. Becoming an intervenor in a contested case grants certain rights and requires acceptance of certain responsibilities. Rights granted include presenting evidentiary testimony, cross-examining witnesses, and filing briefs. The corresponding responsibilities require intervenors to participate in discovery by answering written questions about the basis of their submitted testimony and to be subject to cross examination by other parties at the evidentiary hearing. Intervenors are expected to comply with the procedural schedule and meet the deadlines established by the Administrative Law Judge. The Commission has rules governing the intervention process, which can be found at OAR 860-001-0300: https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=220511.

A template petition to intervene is available on the PUC's website here: https://www.oregon.gov/puc/forms/Forms%20and%20Reports/Petition-to-Intervene-Form-PDF.pdf.

Alternatively, you may also submit written comments or attend a public comment hearing where you can present your views on the proposal to the Commission. Providing public comment does not involve any further obligation to participate. Individuals may submit comments via:

- our website using the Public Comment Form at: https://apps.puc.state.or.us/DocketPublicComment;
- e-mail to puc.publiccomments@puc.oregon.gov;
- written comments mailed to the Commission at: Attn.: PCN 8, Administrative Hearings Division, Public Utility Commission of Oregon, PO Box 1088, Salem, OR 97308-1088;
- telephone to: Consumer Services Division 503-378-6600 or 1-800-522-2404.

Lastly, regardless of whether you formally intervene, provide a public comment or simply want to stay informed, you may track the docket as an interested person. This will enable you to receive an email every time something new is posted to the PCN 8 docket. To be added to the interested person list for the docket, please send an email to puc.hearings@puc.oregon.gov with your contact information and ask to be added to the PCN 8 interested person list.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about how to participate in PCN 8 at alison.lackey@puc.oregon.gov.

Sincerely,

Alison Lackey
Chief Administrative Law Judge

Attachments: May 5, 2025 Notice of Public Comment Hearings; April 22, 2025 Ruling Establishing Procedural Schedule