



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Public Utility Commission

201 High St SE Suite 100

Salem, OR 97301-3398

Mailing Address: PO Box 1088

Salem, OR 97308-1088

503-373-7394

March 17, 2020



BY EMAIL

PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power

Etta Lockey, etta.lockey@pacificcorp.com

Cathie Allen, Cathie.allen@pacificcorp.com

RE: Advice No. 20-004

At the special public meeting on March 17, 2020, the Commission adopted Staff's recommendation in this matter docketed as ADV 1099. The Staff Report, a receipted copy of the sheets in your advice filing, and a signed LSN are attached.

Nolan Moser

Chief Administrative Law Judge

Public Utility Commission of Oregon

(503) 378-3098

Analysis

The language in Rule 10, Section D, Late Payment Charge, currently states the following with regard to charging a Late Payment Charge:

“A Late Payment Charge *will* be levied against unpaid accounts in accordance with Schedule 300” (*emphasis added*).

The Company would like the flexibility to suspend late payment charges on delinquent accounts in order to economically assist its customers in Oregon for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency. The Company proposes to replace “will” with “may” in the tariff, which then provides the company the flexibility needed to suspend assessing the Late Payment Charge during the current COVID-19 situation and future emergency situations, consistent with its discretion regarding the disconnection of service. In addition, this tariff change will align with the Late Payment Charge language used in the PacifiCorp’s other service territories.

The Company filed the request to be approved with less than statutory notice as required by ORS 757.220. The Company claims “good cause” due to the request being in response to the declared COVID-19 emergency. Staff agrees with the Company’s rationale for good cause.

Conclusion

Staff concludes that the Company's tariff modification request is warranted, is in the best interest of customers, and should be granted with less than statutory notice.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Approve PacifiCorp’s request for a modification to Tariff P.U.C. OR No. 36 to allow for temporary suspension of late charges for unpaid accounts

I. Billing – General (continued)
B. Billing Demand

All demands used for billing purposes will be determined to the nearest whole kW, kva or kvar, or hp. Demands will be determined by permanently installed instruments, by test or motor nameplate. When determined by test or nameplate, the resulting demand will remain in effect until a new determination is made. The following table shall be used when billing demands are determined from motor nameplate data:

Motor Nameplate Horsepower	Billing kW	Motor Nameplate Horsepower	Billing kW	Motor Nameplate Horsepower	Billing kW
1	1	15	13	75	62
1.5	1	20	17	100	82
2	2	25	21	125	102
3	3	30	25	150	122
5	5	40	33	200	162
7.5	7	50	41	Over 200	0.81/H.P.
10	9	60	49		

C. Payment of Bills

All bills are payable monthly at the office or authorized pay station of Company not later than fifteen (15) days after date of transmittal.

D. Late Payment Charge

A Late Payment Charge may be levied against unpaid accounts in accordance with Schedule 300. All payments received by the date of preparation for each month's billing will apply to the Consumer's account prior to calculating the charge. Payments shall be applied to regulated charges according to the provisions of Section II.C of this tariff rule. Payments applied to regulated charges shall satisfy the oldest portion of the billing first, any other billings second and the current billing last. The Late Payment Charge will not be applied to Time Payment Agreement or Equal Payment Plan accounts that are current.

(C)

E. Returned Payment

If a Consumer makes a payment subsequent to the issuance of a five (5) day notice, whether payment is made to prevent a service discontinuance or to reactivate a previously discontinued service, and Consumer's financial institution fails to honor said payment, the account shall be deemed unpaid. The Company will attempt to notify the Consumer in person, or by written notice, of payment failure. The Consumer shall have one business day to correct the failure. If a valid payment is not received, service to the Consumer may be discontinued without further written notice after the due date of the previously issued five (5) day notice.

Returned Payment Charge

A charge as described in Schedule 300, may be made and collected by Company for each check returned by a bank to Company.

(continued)

Received by OPUC

LESS THAN STATUTORY NOTICE APPLICATION

This document may be electronically filed by sending it as an attachment to an electronic mail message addressed to the Commission's Filing Center at puc.filingcenter@state.or.us.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PacifiCorp d/b/a Pacific Power _____ (UTILITY COMPANY) TO WAIVE STATUTORY NOTICE.)))))	UTILITY L.S.N. APPLICATION NO. <u>2253</u> _____ (LEAVE BLANK)
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NOTE: ATTACH EXHIBIT IF SPACE IS INSUFFICIENT.

1. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE(S) ADDITION, DELETION, OR CHANGE. (SCHEDULE INCLUDES ALL RATES, TOLLS AND CHARGES FOR SERVICE AND ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS AFFECTING THE SAME)
 The purpose of this filing is to modify the language in Rule 10, Billing, Section D, Late Payment Charge, to allow PacifiCorp to suspend billing of the Late Payment Charge during certain events.

2. APPLICANT DESIRES TO CHANGE THE SCHEDULE(S) NOW ON FILE KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS: (INSERT SCHEDULE REFERENCE BY NUMBER, PAGE, AND ITEM)
 Original Sheet No. R10-2, Section D, Late Payment Charge

3. THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE(S) SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS: (INSERT SCHEDULE REFERENCE BY NUMBER, PAGE AND ITEM)
 First Revision of Sheet No. R10-2, Section D, Late Payment Charge

4. REASONS FOR REQUESTING A WAIVER OF STATUTORY NOTICE:
 In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, PacifiCorp seeks the ability to suspend the billing of Late Payment Charges. The Company seeks to waive the statutory notice to implement this change as soon as possible to assist customers.

5. REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE NEW SCHEDULE(S) OR CHANGE(S):

. AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE 	TITLE Vice President, Regulation	DATE 3/13/20
PUC USE ONLY		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> DENIED	EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED SCHEDULE(S) OR CHANGE 03/13/2020	
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE 	DATE 03/17/2020	