

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY MARKET REGULATION

In Reply Refer To:
PacifiCorp
Docket No. ER20-924-000

Issued: March 6, 2020

Karen J. Kruse
PacifiCorp
825 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000
Portland, OR 97232

Reference: Deficiency Letter

On January 31, 2020, PacifiCorp filed revisions to its Large Generator Interconnection Procedures and Small Generator Interconnection Procedures to move from a “first-come, first-served” serial study approach, to a “first-ready, first-served” cluster study approach. PacifiCorp states that the revised approach is intended to alleviate a current backlog of over 234 interconnection requests, representing over 40,135 MW, and to improve PacifiCorp’s ability to study interconnection requests going forward.

Please be advised that the filing is deficient and that additional information is necessary to process the filing. Please provide the information requested below:

1. The Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) requires non-discriminatory access for Qualifying Facilities (QF). Please explain how the revised interconnection procedures comply with the requirements of PURPA.
 - a. Explain how PacifiCorp’s proposed interconnection procedures would interact with state interconnection procedures for QFs in each state in which PacifiCorp operates.
 - b. Describe how a QF would be able to enter the proposed Transition Cluster in light of the various state regulations to which QFs must adhere. Specifically, please describe how the commercial readiness criteria for the Transition Cluster are achievable for QFs that rely on interconnection study results to complete state interconnection processes and obtain power purchase agreements.

- c. Please explain whether Large Generator Interconnection Agreements (LGIAs) with QFs would be accorded the same grandfathered status as the LGIAs executed under PacifiCorp's OATT.
2. Please describe whether PacifiCorp plans to coordinate its upcoming Request for Proposals (RFP) and future RFPs with the timing of its interconnection process.
 - a. To the extent the timing of the 2020 RFP causes resources currently in the queue to be unable to show commercial readiness by the October 15, 2020 transition deadline, would PacifiCorp extend that deadline?
 - b. Please describe how PacifiCorp will coordinate future RFPs with its interconnection timeline to ensure non-discriminatory access for all market participants.
3. The Readiness Milestone Option described in proposed LGIP section 38.4.1(v)(a), provides that an interconnection customer may provide an "Executed term sheet (or comparable evidence)" to demonstrate readiness. Please describe what would constitute "comparable evidence."
4. The Readiness Milestone Option described in proposed LGIP section 38.4.1(v)(c), permits a large generator interconnection customer to demonstrate readiness by providing "[r]easonable evidence" that its generating facility has been selected in a Resource Plan or Resource Solicitation Process by a load-serving entity; is being developed by a load-serving entity; or is being developed for purposes of a sale to a commercial, industrial, or other large end-use customer.
 - a. Please describe what would constitute "reasonable evidence."
 - b. Proposed LGIP section 38.4.1(v)(c) further states that, in the case of a generating facility being developed by a load serving entity, reasonable evidence provided may be a site specific purchase order for equipment or statement signed by the interconnection customer that the facility will be supplied with generating equipment. Explain why this option is available only to load serving entities.
5. The *pro forma* LGIP allows interconnection customers to be studied for both Energy Resource Interconnection Service and Network Resource Interconnection Service. Please clarify whether, under PacifiCorp's proposed interconnection procedures, interconnection customers would be able to be studied for both types of service at the same time, as required by Order No.

2003.¹ Elaborate on limitations to request both types of service that would exist under the proposed process.

6. Please explain how PacifiCorp currently implements Business Practice 73² and how that business practice would be implemented under the revised interconnection procedures. Would Business Practice 73 limit the availability of Network Resource Interconnection Service under the revised interconnection procedures?

This letter is issued pursuant to delegated authority, 18 C.F.R. § 375.307(a)(1)(v) and is interlocutory. This letter is not subject to rehearing pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 385.713. PacifiCorp must respond to this letter within 30 days of the date of this letter by making an amendment filing in accordance with the Commission's electronic tariff requirements.³

The filing requested in this letter will constitute an amendment to the filing, and a new filing date will be established, pursuant to *Duke Power Company*, 57 FERC ¶ 61,215 (1991), upon receipt of PacifiCorp's electronic tariff filing. A notice of amendment will be issued upon receipt of the response.

Failure to respond to this deficiency letter within the time period specified, and in the manner directed above, may result in an order rejecting the filing. Until receipt of the

¹ *Standardization of Generator Interconnection Agreements and Procedures*, Order No. 2003, 104 FERC ¶ 61,103 (2003), *order on reh'g*, Order No. 2003-A, 106 FERC ¶ 61,220, *order on reh'g*, Order No. 2003-B, 109 FERC ¶ 61,287 (2004), *order on reh'g*, Order No. 2003-C, 111 FERC ¶ 61,401 (2005), *aff'd sub nom. Nat'l Ass'n of Regulatory Util. Comm'rs v. FERC*, 475 F.3d 1277 (D.C. Cir. 2007), *cert. denied*, 552 U.S. 1230 (2008).

² In its comments, Northwest and Intermountain Independent Power Producers Coalition (NIPPC) state that Business Practice 73 "would, as a practical matter, shut down all new interconnections in PacifiCorp's [balancing authority area]." NIPPC Comments at 3.

³ *Electronic Tariff Filings*, 130 FERC ¶ 61,047, at PP 3-8 (2010) (an amendment filing must include at least one tariff record even though a tariff revision might not otherwise be needed). The response must be filed using Type of Filing Code 180 – Deficiency Filing. If there are no changes to tariff records, PG&E can attach a single tariff record with no changes.

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amendment filing, a new filing date will not be assigned to this case.

Issued by: Steven T. Wellner, Director, Division of Electric Power Regulation – West

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