



1407 W North Temple, Suite 330
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

November 3, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Gary Widerburg
Commission Administrator
Public Service Commission of Utah
Heber M. Wells Building
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Re: Notice of Non-Competitive Procurement with Western Weather Group

Dear Commissioners:

In accordance with PacifiCorp's ("the Company") Procurement Policy, the Company must report to the Public Service Commission of Utah ("Commission") purchases of goods or services exceeding \$1,000,000 that are not competitively bid. This letter hereby serves as notice that PacifiCorp has entered into a non-competitive bid contract with Western Weather Group ("WWG") that exceeds \$1,000,000. The contract is for weather station equipment, maintenance support, and data recording. The total contract value is a maximum of \$ [REDACTED] through 2025.

Pursuant to PacifiCorp's Procurement Policy, a supplier may be awarded a contract on a non-competitive basis under certain circumstances, such as when competitive bidding is impossible or impractical, or when otherwise a non-competitive procurement has been demonstrated to be in the best interest of the Company and its customers.

The PacifiCorp weather station network is comprised primarily of Western Weather Group weather stations. The stations collect the temperature, humidity, wind speed, wind direction, fuel moisture, and fuel temperature data used with PacifiCorp's in-house weather modeling. The models utilize machine learning to improve forecast accuracy based on real-world observations. In addition, the data collected by the stations is used to maintain real-time situational awareness of weather conditions along the Company's distribution and transmission lines and to aid operational decision making during storm response and periods of extreme wildfire danger. The integration of weather station data and modeling software allow for real time data forecasting which informs system operations on wildfire risks including Public Safety Power Shutoff ("PSPS") decisions.

WWG is a leader in the utility-based weather station market with more relevant experience than any other competitor. No other vendor has been able to meet the data modeling, data recording, and maintenance support that is provided with Western Weather Group's weather station package. A competing solution, known as the Remote Automated Weather Stations ("RAWS"), is only able to provide data once per hour or one-sixth the frequency of WWG's solution. In addition, WWG has has the only utility-pole-based weather station that meets California's GO 95 requirement and was granted California Public Utility Commission approval.

The data collected from the weather stations is owned by PacifiCorp and streamlined into the in-house modeling software and integrated into MesoWest's database, in which all major California utilities utilize to upload, share and monitor data. San Diego Gas & Electric, Southern California Edison, and Pacific Gas & Electric all use WWG as their weather station vendor and have collectively deployed approximately 3,000 weather stations that are similar in design and functionality to PacifiCorp's currently deployed weather stations. Western Weather Group's cloud database uses an application programming interface to rapidly upload the data into MesoWest's database, collectively adding situational awareness. The advantage of Western Weather Group's data package is the ability to view real time data across a variety of platforms, including their own database dashboard and others, such as Mesowest, and the ability to quickly and conveniently ingest data into forecast models.

PacifiCorp considered a competitive bid process for this contract. The Company determined that only WWG was able to provide the weather station equipment that was specifically designed for utility-pole deployment, provide data every 10 minutes, and could easily be integrated into the MesoWest ecosystem. Therefore, selecting WWG was in the best interest of the Company's customers since it provides the best solution for wildfire monitoring of Company's assets and PSPS shutoff decisions.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jana Saba at 801-220-2823.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joelle Steward". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joelle Steward
Senior Vice President, Regulation and Customer & Community Solutions

cc: Division of Public Utilities
Office of Consumer Services

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Docket No. 22-999-01

I hereby certify that on November 3, 2022, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail to the following:

Utah Office of Consumer Services

Michele Beck mbeck@utah.gov
ocs@utah.gov

Division of Public Utilities

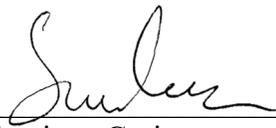
dpudatarequest@utah.gov

Assistant Attorney General

Patricia Schmid pschmid@agutah.gov
Robert Moore rmoore@agutah.gov

Rocky Mountain Power

Data Request Response Center
Jana Saba jana.saba@pacificorp.com
utahdockets@pacificorp.com
Carla Scarsella carla.scarsella@pacificorp.com



Santiago Gutierrez
Coordinator, Regulatory Operations