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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding Policies, Procedures and Rules for Development of Distribution Resources Plans Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 769.	Rulemaking 14-08-013 (Filed August 14, 2014)
And Related Matters.	Application 15-07-002 Application 15-07-003 Application 15-07-006
<b>(NOT CONSOLIDATED)</b>	
In the Matter of the Application of PacifiCorp (U901E) Setting Forth its Distribution Resource Plan Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 769.	Application 15-07-005 (Filed July 1, 2015)
And Related Matters.	Application 15-07-007 Application 15-07-008

**ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER'S RULING SETTING SCHEDULE FOR  
SUBMISSION OF DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCE GROWTH  
SCENARIOS AND DISTRIBUTION LOAD FORECASTING**

## **1. Background**

On February 10, 2017, members of the Commission's Distribution Resource Plan (DRP) team facilitated a workshop entitled *DER Growth Scenarios and Distribution Load Forecasting, Distribution Resource Planning Track 3 Sub-track 1*, the objective of which was to consider the process and methodologies for forecasting the adoption of distributed energy resources (DER) and distribution load in order to inform the DRP process. The workshop also considered the coordination issues and how the DRP will inform the Commission's Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) process, the California Energy Commission's Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) demand forecast, and California Independent System Operator's Transmission Planning Process (TPP).

As part of the workshop, the Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs) submitted a proposed process for developing, vetting and updating of DER Adoption Scenarios and load forecasts.

## **2. Schedule**

Having considered the IOUs' proposed schedule, as set forth below, I am adopting the proposal with some modifications:

Date	Activity
April 7, 2017	IOUs develop Draft Assumption and Framework document containing load and DER adoption assumptions and Trajectory/Most Likely scenario to be used for local area planning.
April 14, 2017 – May 26, 2017	Working Group meetings will be held to address DER inputs/divergence from statewide planning assumptions and disaggregation methods.
June 9, 2017	IOUs submit revised Assumptions and Framework document
July 3, 2017	Party comments due on revised Assumptions and Framework document
Third Quarter 2017	Proposed Decision (PD) adopting Assumptions and Framework. The PD will also establish annual deadlines for the parties to continue to refine methodologies, use cases, and to develop additional DER scenarios in future iterations.

### 3. Working Group Guiding Principles

The working group shall be tasked with clarifying the use cases, proposing the methodology and assumptions for DER adoption scenarios, and developing approaches to disaggregate forecasts to the circuit level. While we expect that the growth scenarios will be developed consistent with the IEPR demand forecast used in the IRP and TPP, divergence from state-level assumptions may be necessary based on either better information available regarding the adoption of certain DER resources that has not been previously considered, or considerations regarding unique circumstances in application of the state level assumptions in local planning processes and models. Based on suggestions from

the workshop, the Commission's Energy Division recommends the following initial set of guiding principles to guide the working group's efforts:

- Development of growth scenarios needs to be coordinated with IRP and TPP processes in terms of process schedule and consistency of methodology and results.
- Local DER adoption scenarios must support the primary distribution planning objectives of providing safe, reliable, affordable, and clean energy services to customers.
- Input on known DER projects from distribution engineering staff is critical to maintaining reasonable local forecasts.
- Information/feedback from stakeholders representing the various DERs could be beneficial in developing better locational DER adoption scenarios.

**IT IS SO RULED.**

Dated February 27, 2017, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ MICHAEL PICKER

Michael Picker  
Assigned Commissioner