

request recovery of its payments to the IE in customer rates. See Order No. 06-446 at 6.

In its discussion of the guideline, the Commission stated: "We believe the utility and non-bidders should participate in the process and provide input to Staff. Staff, however, should make a final recommendation to the Commission for approval, which could be accomplished at a public meeting." *Id* at 7.

PGE recently completed its evaluation of the 16 bids it received for IE services. PGE selected Accion Group, Inc (Accion) as the top bidder. Using a combination of price and non-price criteria, PGE gave Accion's proposal the best combined score, ranking first and second respectively. According to PGE, Accion demonstrated:

- A commanding understanding of the scope of work to be performed;
- The ability to perform the work;
- Soundness, professionalism and feasibility of their proposed methodology; and
- Completion at a reasonable price.

In PGE's scoring approach, Accion was the only bidder to score in the top five for both price and non-price considerations.

Staff's independent analysis of the 16 bids received in PGE's IE RFP, also resulted in Accion being selected as the top bidder. Staff believes that Accion's experience meets the project requirements and covers the scope of work indicated in PGE's RFP at the lowest price.

The Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon, Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities, Northwest Intermountain Power Producers Coalition, and Oregon Department of Energy do not oppose the recommendation of Accion as the Oregon IE. Accion is willing to serve as the IE if appointed.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Accion Group, Inc. be selected to serve as Oregon's IE for PGE's RFPs to be issued in 2011 for resources acknowledged in PGE's 2009 IRP.