## Public Utility Commission

## e-FILING REPORT COVER SHEET

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LISA D. NORDSTROM Lead Counsel Inordstrom@idahopower.com

July 17, 2015

Public Utility Commission of Oregon Filing Center 3930 Fairview Industrial Drive SE P.O. Box 1088 Salem, Oregon 97308-1088

Re: Gateway West Transmission Updates: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2015

Attention Filing Center:

Enclosed please find the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2015 Transmission Updates report regarding the Gateway West transmission project developed jointly between PacifiCorp and Idaho Power Company. This update provides a description of the developments that transpired in the second quarter of this year.

This filing should be forwarded to Dr. Aster Adams, Manager, and Jorge Ordonez, Senior Financial Analyst of the Energy Resources and Planning Department. If you have any questions, please contact Courtney Waites, Senior Regulatory Analyst, at 208-388-5612.

Very truly yours,

Lisa D. Nordstrom

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LDN/kkt

**Enclosure** 

cc: Mitch Colburn



Idaho Power Company's

Gateway West Transmission Updates for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2015

July 17, 2015

In late 2013, Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon ("OPUC"), requested that Idaho Power Company ("Idaho Power" or "Company") provide quarterly updates regarding the Energy Gateway West transmission project developed jointly between PacifiCorp and Idaho Power ("Companies"). Staff requested that, for <u>each</u> sub-segment<sup>2</sup> of this project, the Company provide a description of the developments<sup>3</sup> that transpired in the previous quarter.

## **Recent Project Developments:**

On December 15, 2014, the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") provided their Scoping Report which can be viewed at this website:

http://www.blm.gov/id/st/en/prog/nepa register/gateway-west.html

On June 30, 2015, the Washington Office staff of the BLM ("Washington Office") and the agency cooperators completed their review of the administrative draft of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement ("SEIS"). BLM has received all comments and edits resulting from the reviews and completion of the draft SEIS and draft Notice of Availability ("NOA") for the Washington Office are expected on July 31, 2015. Completion of the Washington Office review of the draft EIS and NOA are expected by August 7, 2015.

BLM remains on schedule with the following upcoming milestone dates:

- Draft SEIS release September 2015
- Final SEIS release April 2016
- Record of Decision ("ROD") July 2016

The Companies continue to support the BLM's efforts to meet its current schedule, which includes publishing the draft SEIS to the Federal Register in September 2015.

Segment 8 is located between the Midpoint substation and the Hemingway substation and segment 9 is located between the proposed Cedar Hill substation and Hemingway. These segments were not covered by the previous ROD issued on November 14, 2013. Because of their importance to the Gateway West project and to Idaho Power's interest in the project, no additional permitting (state or local), regulatory activities, or other events are currently being pursued by Idaho Power until the BLM provides its ROD on these two sub-segments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OPUC Staff Data Request No. 1, Transmission Updates Docket, dated December 17, 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Segment E comprised of the following sub-segments: Hemingway to Cedar Hill, Hemingway to Midpoint, Midpoint to Cedar Hill, Midpoint to Borah, Borah to Populus, Cedar Hill to Populus; and Segment D comprised by the following sub-segments: Populus to Bridger, Bridger to Aeolus, and Aeolus to Windstar.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> By developments, Staff means any federal, state, and local permitting, regulatory, and other events.