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December 29, 2017

#### VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

PUC Filing Center
Public Utility Commission of Oregon
PO Box 1088
Salem, OR 97308-1088

Re: Docket UM \_\_\_\_ - Idaho Power Company's Application for Deferred Accounting

Attention Filing Center:

Attached for filing is an electronic copy of Idaho Power Company's Application for Deferred Accounting.

A copy of this filing has been served on the parties to the UE 233 service list as indicated on the attached Certificate of Service.

Please contact this office if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Alisha Till

Administrative Assistant

**Enclosures** 

cc: Service List

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

# OF OREGON

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In the Matter of Idaho Power Company's Application for Deferred Accounting of Earnings Related to the U.S. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

## **APPLICATION**

# I. INTRODUCTION

Purs	uant to ORS 757.259 and OAR 860-027-03	00, Idaho Power Company ("Idaho		
Power" or "	Company") hereby requests an accounting	order authorizing the Company to		
defer for later ratemaking treatment impacts associated with the income tax provisions of				
H.R.1, also	known as the U.S. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("	Гах Act"). The Tax Act, signed into		
law on December 22, 2017, provides for "reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the				
concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018." Idaho Power seeks authorization				
for this defe	rral effective as of the date of this Applicati	on. In support of this Application,		
Idaho Powe	r states:			
1.	Idaho Power is a public utility in the state of	Oregon and its rates, services, and		
	accounting practices are subject to the	e regulation of the Public Utility		
	Commission of Oregon ("Commission").			
2.	This Application is filed pursuant to 0	DRS 757.259, which allows the		
Commission, upon application, to authorize the deferral of certain items for				
	later inclusion in rates.			
3.	Communications regarding this Application	should be addressed to:		
	Lisa Rackner	Lisa Nordstrom		
	McDowell Rackner Gibson PC	Idaho Power Company		
	419 SW 11 <sup>th</sup> Ave, Suite 400	P.O. Box 70		
	Portland, OR 97205	Boise, ID 83707		
	dockets@mrg-law.com	Inordstrom@idahopower.com		
		dockets@idahopower.com		

## II. OAR 860-027-0300(3) REQUIREMENTS

# A. Description

The Tax Act contains provisions that will result in changes to Idaho Power's financial statements. The Company's income tax expense included in the revenue requirement computation approved in the last general rate case was calculated in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. The Tax Act amends sections of the 1986 code, most notably the reduction in the federal corporate income tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent. Idaho Power is continuing to analyze the provisions of the Tax Act to determine all the impacts to the Company's financial statements but has determined that, at a minimum, the change in the corporate income tax rate will result in excess deferred income tax assets and liabilities that must be reversed. With this deferral application, Idaho Power seeks authorization from the Commission to accrue, for future amortization, the Oregon jurisdictional earnings in excess of the currently authorized Oregon jurisdictional rate of return on equity that may result from the Tax Act as measured from the Company's annual Oregon Results of Operations<sup>1</sup>.

## B. Reasons for Deferral

As explained above, Idaho Power requests authorization to defer the Oregon jurisdictional earnings in excess of the currently authorized Oregon jurisdictional rate of return on equity that may result from the Tax Act as measured from the Company's annual Oregon Results of Operations. This deferral is intended to capture the earnings that will be amortized in rates, is filed pursuant to ORS 757.259(2)(e) and is intended to minimize the frequency of rate changes or the fluctuation of rate levels and match appropriately the costs borne by and benefits received by customers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As measured by the Type I Adjusted Return on Equity calculated pursuant to Commission Staff's letter dated March 2, 2011.

# C. Proposed Accounting

If approved, Idaho Power will record earnings amounts that would be subject to the deferral order in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") Account 254 – Regulatory Liabilities with the corresponding entry to FERC Account 407.3 – Regulatory Debits. Absent approval, the Company would continue to record the collection of the revenue requirement amounts in general business revenues, FERC Account 440 – Operating Revenues with no offset.

# D. <u>Estimate of Amounts</u>

Idaho Power is continuing to evaluate the provisions of the Tax Act and therefore cannot provide a precise estimate of the deferred amount. In accordance with Order No. 05-1070, Idaho Power will accrue interest on the unamortized balance at a rate equal to its authorized weighted average cost of capital most recently approved by the Commission.

# E. Notice

A copy of the Notice of Application for Deferred Accounting of Earnings Related to the Tax Act and a list of persons served with the Notice are attached to the Application as Attachment A.

## III. CONCLUSION

Approval of the ability to defer the Oregon jurisdictional earnings in excess of the currently authorized Oregon jurisdictional rate of return on equity that may result from the Tax Act will provide the opportunity for Idaho Power's Oregon customers to experience any earnings benefits, depending on the outcome of the Tax Act evaluation on the Company's financial statements.

- 1 For the reasons stated above, Idaho Power requests permission to defer impacts
- 2 associated with the Tax Act beginning the date of this Application and pursuant to ORS
- 3 757.259(2)(e).

DATED: December 29, 2017.

McDowell Rackner Gibson PC

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**IDAHO POWER COMPANY** 

Lisa Nordstrom Idaho Power Company P.O. Box 70 1221 W. Idaho Street Boise, Idaho 83707-0070

E-mail: Inordstrom@idahopower.com

Attorneys for Idaho Power Company

# **Attachment A**

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

#### OF OREGON

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In the Matter of Idaho Power Company's Application for Deferred Accounting of Earnings Related to the U.S. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DEFERRED ACCOUNTING OF EARNINGS RELATED TO THE TAX ACT

On December 29, 2017, Idaho Power Company ("Idaho Power") filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon ("Commission") for an Order authorizing deferral of the Oregon jurisdictional earnings in excess of the currently authorized Oregon jurisdictional rate of return on equity that may result from the Tax Act.

Approval of Idaho Power's Application will not authorize a change in Idaho Power's

rates, but will permit the Commission to consider allowing such deferred amounts in rates in a subsequent proceeding.

Idaho Power's Application will be posted on the Commission website for persons who wish to obtain a copy or they may contact the following:

10 Lisa Rackner 11 McDowell Rackner Gibson PC 12 419 SW 11th Ave, Suite 400 13 Portland, OR 97205 14 dockets@mrg-law.com 15 16 ///// 17 ///// 18 ///// 19 /////

- 1 Any person who wishes to submit written comments to the Commission on Idaho
- 2 Power's Application must do so by no later than January 29, 2018.

DATED: December 29, 2017.

McDowell Rackner Gibson PC

isa Rackner

**IDAHO POWER COMPANY** 

Lisa Nordstrom Idaho Power Company P.O. Box 70

1221 W. Idaho Street Boise, Idaho 83707-0070

E-mail: Inordstrom@idahopower.com

Attorneys for Idaho Power Company

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I served a true and correct copy of Idaho Power's Application to the Parties of record in Docket UE 233 on the following named person(s) on the date indicated below by email addressed to said person(s) at his or her last-known address(es) indicated below.

Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon OPUC Dockets dockets@oregoncub.org

Erik Colville
Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Erik.colville@state.or.us

Don Reading dreading@mindspring.com

Peter J. Richardson Richardson & Adams peter@richardsonadams.com

Eric L. Olsen Attorney at Law elo@racinelaw.com

Randy Dahlgren
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John W. Stephens Esler Stephens & Buckley Stephens@eslerstephens.com ortez@eslerstephens.com

DATED: December 29, 2017

Alisha Till

Administrative Assistant