

LISA D. NORDSTROM Lead Counsel Inordstrom@idahopower.com

August 3, 2016

Public Utility Commission of Oregon Filing Center 201 High Street SE, Suite 100 P.O. Box 1088 Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Gateway West Transmission Updates: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2016

Attention Filing Center:

Enclosed please find the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2016 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 first quarter of this year.

This filing should be forwarded to Michael Breish, Utility Analyst, and Michael Dougherty, Chief Operating Officer. 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

Mark Stokes



## Idaho Power Company's Gateway West Transmission Update for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2016 August 3, 2016

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 March 11, 2016, the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") released the draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement ("SEIS") for segments 8 and 9 in southwestern Idaho. The DSEIS and supporting appendices can be accessed from the Idaho BLM website at:

https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName=dispatchToPatternPage&currentPageId=53810

In conjunction with the release of the DSEIS, BLM held the following five public meetings:

April 18<sup>th</sup> - Hagerman, Idaho
 April 19<sup>th</sup> - Boise, Idaho
 April 19<sup>th</sup> - Kuna, Idaho
 April 20<sup>th</sup> - Twin Falls, Idaho
 April 21<sup>st</sup> - Murphy, Idaho
 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm
 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm
 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Public comments on the draft SEIS were due on June 9<sup>th</sup>. BLM is anticipating the release of the final SEIS in the fall and then the Record of Decision ("ROD") in late 2016.

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 substation. 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 subsegments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>OPUC Staff Data Request 1, Transmission Updates Docket, dated December 17, 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Segment E comprised by 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.