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September 30, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Filing Center
201 High Street SE, Suite 100
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Docket No. UM 1631
Idaho Power Company's Petition for Temporary Waiver of the Amended Portions of
OAR Division 021

Attention Filing Center:

Enclosed for filing in Docket No. UM 1631 is an electronic copy of Idaho Power Company's ("Idaho Power" or "Company") Petition for Temporary Waiver of the Amended Portions of Oregon Administrative Rules ("OAR"): 860-021-0126(3); 860-021-0180; 860-021-0200(2); 860-021-0205(1); 860-021-0215(6); 860-021-0328(2); 860-021-0330; 860-021-0335(2); 860-021-0408(2), (3)(a)(A), and (3)(b)(A); and 860-021-0420. Idaho Power requests that the temporary waiver of the amended portions of these OARs be approved as soon as practicable, and remain in effect until March 31, 2023, in order to provide sufficient time for the Company to systematically implement the requirements of these recently amended rules, which were adopted by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon ("Commission") at the September 20, 2022, Regular Public Meeting and memorialized with Commission Order No. 22-353.

Similarly, the Company requests that the temporary waiver of the amended portions of OAR 860-021-0405(3) and (5); 860-021-0410(6); and 860-021-0415(6) be approved as soon as practicable, and remain in effect until December 31, 2022, so that the Company can reconfigure its collections and noticing system.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact Regulatory Analyst Riley Maloney at 208-388-5418 or rmaloney@idahopower.com.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa D. Nordstrom".

Lisa D. Nordstrom

LDN/sg
Attachment

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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 1631

In the Matter of)	IDAHO POWER COMPANY’S
)	PETITION FOR TEMPORARY WAIVER
IDAHO POWER COMPANY,)	(EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION
)	REQUESTED)
Petition for Temporary Waiver of the)	
Amended Portions of OAR Division 021)	
_____)	

I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to ORS 756.040 and OAR 860-021-0005, Idaho Power Company (“Idaho Power” or “Company”) respectfully requests that the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (“Commission”) grant a temporary waiver of the amended portions of Oregon Administrative Rules (“OAR”): 860-021-0126(3), Late Payment Charge; 860-021-0180, Verification of Eligibility for Low-Income Residential Customers; 860-021-0200(2), Establishing Credit for Residential Utility Service; 860-021-0205(1), Deposit Payment Arrangements for Residential Energy Utility Service; 860-021-0215(6), Refund of Deposits for Residential and Nonresidential Utility Service; 860-021-0328(2), Reconnection of Residential Energy Utility Service; 860-021-0330, Reconnection Fee for Utility Service; 860-021-0335(2), Refusal of Utility Service; 860-021-0405(3) and (5), Notice of Pending Disconnection of Residential Electric or Gas Utility Service; 860-021-0408(2), (3)(a)(A), and (3)(b)(A), Disconnect Reporting Rule; 860-021-0410(6), Emergency Medical Certificate for Residential Electric and Gas Service; 860-021-0415(6), Time-Payment Arrangements for Residential Electric and Gas Service (Nonmedical Certificate Customers); and 860-021-0420, Field Visit Charge (collectively, the “Rules”). Specifically, the Company requests waiver from the portion of the Rules that were recently amended within Docket No. AR 653 – Strengthening Customer Protections Concerning

1 Disconnections and adopted by the Commission at the September 20, 2022, Regular
2 Public Meeting, which decision was memorialized with Commission Order No. 22-353.

3 This temporary waiver request is being made to allow the Company sufficient time to
4 update its systems and notification processes so that the amendments included within the
5 recent Commission-adopted Rules, which incorporate certain low-income customer
6 protections, increased disconnect notice timelines, and inclusion of small commercial
7 customers within the Company’s existing quarterly disconnection reporting requirements,¹
8 can be systematically implemented and administered.

9 Communications regarding this Petition should be addressed to:

10	Lisa D. Nordstrom	Connie Aschenbrenner
11	Idaho Power Company	Idaho Power Company
12	1221 West Idaho Street (83702)	1221 West Idaho Street (83702)
13	P.O. Box 70	P.O. Box 70
14	Boise, Idaho 83707	Boise, Idaho 83707
15	lnordstrom@idahopower.com	caschenbrenner@idahopower.com

14 Regulatory Dockets
15 Idaho Power Company
16 1221 West Idaho Street (83702)
17 P.O. Box 70
18 Boise, Idaho 83707
19 dockets@idahopower.com

17 **II. BACKGROUND**

18 On June 9, 2020, the Commission conducted a Special Public Meeting on the topic of
19 the “Impact to Utility Customers during the COVID-19 Pandemic and Future Economic
20 Recovery.” During this public meeting, the Commission heard from investor-owned utilities,
21 customer groups, and other stakeholders regarding the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic,
22 including actions already taken by the utilities as well as additional actions still needed to
23 protect customers during the COVID-19 health and economic crisis. The Commission then
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26 ¹ Docket No. RO 12, Energy Utility Disconnect Report Per OAR 860-021-0408.

1 assembled a team of representatives from across the state, led by Commission Staff, to
2 address various aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic impacting customers.

3 At the request of Commission Staff, Docket No. UM 2114 – Investigation into the
4 Effects of COVID-19 Pandemic on Utility Customers was opened to assist in these efforts.
5 After a thorough investigation consisting of data collection and workshops between June
6 30, 2020, and September 3, 2020, Commission Staff released its final report on September
7 21, 2020.

8 On September 24, 2020, the Commission authorized Staff, affected utilities and
9 stakeholders to execute stipulations incorporating the term sheet that was developed during
10 the UM 2114 investigation. Between September 24, 2020 and October 23, 2020, Avista
11 Utilities, Cascade Natural Gas Company, Idaho Power Company, NW Natural, Pacific
12 Power, Portland General Electric Company, Commission Staff, Oregon Citizens’ Utility
13 Board, Community Action Partnership of Oregon, Northwest Energy Coalition, Verde, and
14 Multnomah County Office of Sustainability (collectively, the “Parties”) helped to refine the
15 term sheet for energy utilities and incorporate it into a Stipulated Agreement to assist
16 customers and utilities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

17 On December 23, 2021, the Commission issued Order No. 21-483 in Docket No. UM
18 2114 approving Staff’s recommendation to open a rulemaking docket, Docket No. AR 653,
19 to begin an informal phase of reviewing Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 860, Division
20 21 to strengthen customer protections concerning disconnections.

21 Following multiple rounds of informal comments submitted by various Parties, the
22 Commission issued Order No. 22-214 on June 10, 2022, approving Staff’s recommendation
23 to issue notice of a proposed rulemaking on OAR 860, Division 21 to update and improve
24 Division 21’s rules to include changes that strengthen energy utility customer protections
25 concerning disconnections. Soon after, on July 5, 2022, Administrative Law Judge Sarah
26 Spruce issued a Memorandum which specified that the proposed OAR 860, Division 21

1 rulemaking’s formal proceedings were planned to conclude on September 20, 2022, ahead
2 of the terms of the Stipulated Agreement expiring on October 1, 2022. On September 20,
3 2022, during a Regular Public Meeting, the Commission adopted, with amendments, the
4 Administrative Hearings Division’s recommendations regarding the proposed permanent
5 Division 21 rules; this decision was memorialized with Commission Order No. 22-353 on
6 September 29, 2022.

7 **III. DISCUSSION**

8 While the Company has broadly supported most of the proposed Division 21 rule
9 modifications during the informal and formal rulemaking processes within Docket No. AR
10 653, it has previously expressed joint concerns^{2,3} with its ability to immediately comply with
11 certain proposed Division 21 rule changes given the scope of system configuration
12 modifications required to administer such proposed rule changes and the limited time
13 between when the proposed Division 21 rule changes were expected to be adopted and
14 subsequently go into effect. As such, Idaho Power hereby respectfully requests that the
15 temporary waiver of the portions of the amended Rules be approved as soon as practicable
16 and remain in effect until March 31, 2023, with the exception of the temporary waiver of
17 OAR 860-021-0405(3) and (5); 860-021-0410(6), and 860-021-0415(6), which the Company
18 anticipates needing only to be in effect until December 31, 2022. Should the Company’s
19 implementation of the necessary system enhancements occur more expeditiously than
20 estimated, the Company will notify Commission Staff and begin complying with the
21 amended Rules recently adopted by the Commission in Order No. 22-353.

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25 ² Docket No. AR 653, Joint Utilities’ Round 1 Comments filed July 15, 2022, at 2.

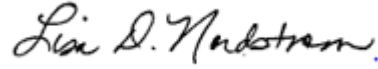
26 ³ Docket No. AR 653, Joint Utilities’ Round 2 Comments filed August 22, 2022, at 2 and 4.

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IV. CONCLUSION

Idaho Power respectfully requests that the Commission issue an order approving the Company’s request for temporary waiver of the recently amended portion of the Rules through March 31, 2023, with the exception of the temporary waiver of OAR 860-021-0405(3) and (5); 860-021-0410(6); and 860-021-0415(6), which the Company requests temporary waiver be approved through December 31, 2022, effective immediately upon Commission approval.

Respectfully submitted this 30th day of September 2022.



Lisa D. Nordstrom
Attorney for Idaho Power Company

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 30th day of September 2022, I served a true and correct copy of IDAHO POWER COMPANY’S PETITION FOR WAIVER by e-mail to said person(s) as indicated below.

Aaron Eddy
Earthlight Technologies
aaron@earthlighttech.com

Stephanie S. Andrus
Department of Justice
Business Activities Section
stephanie.andrus@state.or.us

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Stacy Gust, Regulatory Administrative Assistant