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May 11, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC

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

Re:

Docket No. UM 1801

Revised Depreciation Rates for Electric Plant-in-Service

Attention: Filing Center

Attached for filing in the above-referenced docket is an electronic copy of an errata to the Stipulation originally filed on May 5, 2017. The errata adds a footnote on page 5. The filing replaces the May 5th version in its entirety.

All parties agree to the errata and the previously-filed signature pages remain effective.

Please contact this office with any questions.

Very truly yours,

Wendy McIndoo
Office Manager

Attachment

UM 1801

ERRATA STIPULATION - CLEAN VERSION

IN THE MATTER OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT REVISED DEPRECIATION RATES FOR ELECTRIC PLANT-IN-SERVICE

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION 1 OF OREGON 2 **UM 1801** 3 4 In The Matter of **STIPULATION** 5 **IDAHO POWER COMPANY** 6 Application for Authority to Implement Revised Depreciation Rates for Electric Plant-in-7 Service. 8 9 10 This Stipulation resolves all issues between the parties related to Idaho Power 11 Company's ("Idaho Power" or "Company") request for authorization to institute revised 12 depreciation rates for the Company's electric plant-in-service and for an adjustment to Oregon 13 jurisdictional base rates to reflect the revised depreciation rates. 14 **PARTIES** 15 1. The parties to this Stipulation are Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon 16 ("Staff"), the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board ("CUB"), and Idaho Power (together, the "Stipulating 17 Parties"). No other party intervened in this docket. 18 **BACKGROUND** 19 2. As required by OAR 860-027-0350, Idaho Power performs a depreciation study 20 and updates its depreciation rates approximately every five years.¹ The purpose of the update 21 is to reflect changes in the appropriate net salvage percentages and service life estimates of 22 assets as circumstances change. Accordingly, the Company recently engaged Gannett 23 Fleming Valuation and Rate Consultants, LLC ("Gannett Fleming") to conduct a depreciation 24 study of its electric plant-in-service ("Study") as of December 30, 2015. The Study updates net 25 ¹ The last major changes to the Company's depreciation rates occurred June 1, 2012, as a result of Order No. 12-296 issued in Docket No. UM 1576.

- salvage percentages and service life estimates for plant assets. The resulting depreciation rates are based on the straight line method, the remaining life technique, and the average service life procedure to calculate the depreciation accrual rates for production, transmission, distribution and general plant accounts.
 - 3. On November 2, 2016, Idaho Power filed its Application for Authorization to Implement Revised Depreciation Rates ("Application") and supporting testimony.²
 - 4. The Application requests authorization to: (1) institute revised depreciation rates for the Company's electric plant-in-service, based upon updated net salvage percentages and service life estimates for plant assets, and (2) adjust Oregon jurisdictional base rates to reflect the revised depreciation rates as applied to the approved 2011 general rate case plant balances, effective June 1, 2017. The revised depreciation rates proposed by the Company were based on the results of the Study.
 - 5. The Company proposed depreciation rates that would result in a \$131.2 million annual depreciation expense on a system basis, based on December 31, 2015 plant values, and the weighted depreciation rate for total depreciable plant of 2.69%.
 - 6. The Jim Bridger coal plant's ("Bridger") depreciable end-life-date is 2034. However, Idaho Power will continue to track, through a regulatory liability account, an adjustment that results from the difference between the depreciation rates for Bridger with an end-of-life date of 2034 and depreciation rates for Bridger with an end-of-life date of 2025. The separate accounting allows Idaho Power to maintain one set of depreciation records to be used for both the Oregon and Idaho jurisdictions while ensuring that the actual amounts paid by Oregon customers of Idaho Power will cover the future depreciation expenses related to the potential closure of Bridger as early as 2025. Idaho Power has a 33 percent ownership share

^{26 &}lt;sup>2</sup> See Idaho Power/100-102.

of Bridger, which is jointly owned with PacifiCorp. In its Order No. 08-427, the Commission affirmed 2025 as the end-life-date for the Bridger plant for PacifiCorp.

- 7. Order No. 12-296 in Docket No. UM 1576 approved the tracking by Idaho Power, through a regulatory liability account, of an adjustment that results from the difference between approved depreciation rates for the Jim Bridger power plant ("Bridger") with an end-of-life date of 2034 and depreciation rates associated with an end-of-life date for Bridger of 2025 based upon the approved 2011 general rate case plant balances. The separate accounting for Bridger allows Idaho Power to maintain one set of depreciation records to be used for both the Oregon and Idaho jurisdictions while ensuring that the actual amounts paid by Oregon customers will cover the future depreciation expenses related to the approved 2011 general rate case plant balances associated with the potential closure of Bridger as early as 2025. Idaho Power's proposal in this case requested the same treatment of the depreciation associated with the Bridger plant.
- 8. The Company's proposed rate adjustment related to the revised depreciation rates would have resulted in an increase to annual depreciation expense in Oregon of approximately \$604,000 based on an average four percent Oregon jurisdictional allocation factor, which translates to an increase in the Company's Oregon jurisdictional revenue requirement of \$721,548, as measured against the revenue requirement identified in the Partial Stipulation in Docket UE 233, which was approved by the Commission on February 23, 2012.³
- 9. The Application requested that the incremental revenue requirement of \$721,548 be spread to customer classes on a uniform percentage basis and be recovered through a uniform percentage increase to all base rate components except the service charge. The proposed change equated to an overall increase in current billed revenues of 1.30 percent.

³ See Re Idaho Power Co. Request for General Rate Revision, Docket No. UE 233, Order No. 12-055 (Feb. 26, 23, 2012).

10. The Company's filing did not propose a change to the depreciation related to the Boardman power plant, in which Idaho Power owns a 10 percent interest along with Portland General Electric, which has a 90 percent ownership and is the majority partner. Any changes in depreciation associated with the Boardman power plant due to the early shutdown have been addressed in Docket No. UE 239.⁴ The Company's filing also proposed no change to the depreciation related to the North Valmy power plant ("Valmy"). Any changes in depreciation associated with Valmy due to the accelerated end-of-life date will be addressed in the Docket No. UE 316.

- 11. On November 10, 2016, CUB filed its Notice of Intervention.
- 12. On November 30, 2016, a prehearing conference was convened to establish a schedule for the docket. The Stipulating Parties were unable to agree on a schedule at the prehearing conference and therefore requested additional time to develop a schedule. On December 1, 2016, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Ruth Harper issued a Prehearing Conference Memorandum granting additional time to develop a stipulated schedule.
- 13. On December 23, 2016, the Stipulating Parties submitted a proposed schedule and motion to consolidate Docket Nos. UM 1801 and UE 316. On that same day, ALJs Ruth Harper and Sarah Rowe issued a Ruling that consolidated the dockets and adopted a procedural schedule.
- 14. Pursuant to the procedural schedule, on December 28, 2016, Idaho Power filed Advice No. 16-16 and proposed revised tariffs that reflected the proposed rate change associated with the revised depreciation rates.

 ⁴ See In the Matter of Idaho Power Co. Application for Authority to Implement a Boardman Operating Life Adjustment Tariff for Electric Service to Customers in the State of Oregon, Docket No. UE 239, Order No. 26 12-235 (June 26, 2012).

- 15. On January 25 and 27, 2017, the Company filed errata testimony that removed duplicate pages in the originally filed testimony and replaced the duplicate pages with correct pages.
 - Staff conducted discovery on the Company's filing.

- 17. After performing its own investigation of Idaho Power's proposed depreciation rates, Staff initially proposed: (1) seven adjustments to Idaho Power's proposed curve life combination for depreciable plants and changes in average service life or dispersion curve (or both) for FERC account categories in Hydraulic Production Plant, Other Production Plant, Transmission Plant, and Distribution Plant; and (2) 22 adjustments to Idaho Power's proposed Net Salvage Rates for certain depreciable plants.
- 18. On March 9, 2017, the Stipulating Parties participated in a settlement conference. Although the Stipulating Parties were unable to reach agreement at the March 9, 2017, settlement conference, they did agree to reconvene on March 28, 2017. The Stipulating Parties reconvened once again on April 20, 2017, and were able to reach an agreement that resolved all the issues in this docket.

16 AGREEMENT

19. The Stipulating Parties agree that the Commission should adopt the depreciation rates set forth in Attachment 1 to this Stipulation. The Stipulating Parties agree that the revised depreciation rates in Attachment 1 should be effective June 1, 2017. The Stipulation has resulted in annual depreciation expense on a system basis of \$124.6 million, based on December 31, 2015 plant values, which is a reduction from Idaho Power's original proposal of \$131.2 million.⁵ The Stipulating Parties agree that Idaho Power will continue the separate accounting for Bridger and that the depreciation rates in Attachment No. 2 will be used to

 ⁵ When the agreed upon depreciation rates are applied to approved test year plant balances, the resulting incremental Oregon jurisdictional depreciation expense is approximately \$343,000, as compared to the
 Company's initial request of approximately \$604,000.

- 1 compute the adjustment associated with the approved 2011 general rate case plant balances
- 2 for the difference between a Bridger 2034 end-of-life and a Bridger 2025 end-of-life. Consistent
- 3 with the stipulation approved in UM 1576, the accounting process and the dollar amount tracked
- 4 will be held constant between ratemaking proceedings and will change only following
- 5 Commission approval of either a base rate change associated with Bridger plant investments
- 6 or the Company's next depreciation study docket.
- 7 20. Both Idaho Power and Staff used the straight line method, the remaining life basis
- and the average service life depreciation procedure to calculate the depreciation accrual rates.
- 9 Attachment 4 shows the depreciation groups for which Staff's analyses produced differing
- 10 results from the filed depreciation study and the final position agreed to by the Stipulating Parties
- 11 following settlement discussions.
- 12 21. The Stipulating Parties agree that the Commission should adopt the customer
- rates set forth in Attachment 3, which are based on the agreed-upon depreciation rates set forth
- in Attachment 1 and 2. The Stipulating Parties agree that the customer rates in Attachment 3
- should be effective June 1, 2017. The Stipulating parties agree to an increase in the Oregon
- jurisdictional revenue requirement of \$300,000, which equates to an overall increase in current
- billed revenues of 0.54 percent, a reduction from the \$721,548 and 1.3 percent, respectively,
- 18 Idaho Power originally proposed. The Stipulating Parties agree that the proposed rates
- resulting from this agreement are just and reasonable.
- 20 22. Consistent with the agreement in UM 1576, the Stipulating Parties recognize the
- 21 importance of Oregon stakeholder's involvement in the development of future Idaho Power
- 22 depreciation rates. Thus, the Company agrees to continue to meaningfully involve Staff and
- 23 CUB in the development of future depreciation rates, which would include filing new
- 24 depreciation rate studies simultaneously with the Commission and IPUC. In addition, Idaho
- Power will advocate for a coordinated analysis amongst the Company, Staff, IPUC Staff, CUB
- 26 and other parties of future Oregon depreciation study dockets involving new depreciation rate

- studies. Idaho Power agrees to fund the reasonable travel expenses for representatives of up to two intervening parties to Oregon depreciation study dockets to travel to Boise, Idaho, to participate in workshops related to the development of future depreciation rates. Staff will identify parties eligible for travel expenses, as appropriate, in the event there are more than two intervening parties who wish to participate.
 - 23. The Stipulating Parties agree to submit this Stipulation to the Commission and request that the Commission approve the Stipulation and Attachment No. 1 as presented. The Stipulating Parties agree that the rates resulting from the Stipulation are fair, just, and reasonable.
 - 24. This Stipulation will be offered into the record of this proceeding as evidence pursuant to OAR 860-001-0350(7). The Stipulating Parties agree to support this Stipulation throughout this proceeding and any appeal, (if necessary) provide witnesses to sponsor this Stipulation at the hearing, and recommend that the Commission issue an order adopting the settlements contained herein.
 - 25. If this Stipulation is challenged by any other party to this proceeding, the Stipulating Parties agree that they will continue to support the Commission's adoption of the terms of this Stipulation. The Stipulating Parties agree to cooperate in cross-examination and put on such a case as they deem appropriate to respond fully to the issues presented, which may include raising issues that are incorporated in the settlements embodied in this Stipulation.
 - 26. The Stipulating Parties have negotiated this Stipulation as an integrated document. If the Commission rejects all or any material part of this Stipulation, or adds any material condition to any final order that is not consistent with this Stipulation, each Stipulating Party reserves its right, pursuant to OAR 860-001-0350(9), to present evidence and argument on the record in support of the Stipulation or to withdraw from the Stipulation. Stipulating Parties shall be entitled to seek rehearing or reconsideration pursuant to OAR 860-001-0720 in any manner that is consistent with the agreement embodied in this Stipulation.

1	27. By entering into this Stipulation, no Stipulating Party shall be deemed to have		
2	approved, admitted, or consented to the facts, principles, methods, or theories employed by		
3	any other Stipulating Party in arriving at the terms of this Stipulation, other than those		
4	specifically identified in the body of this Stipulation. No Stipulating Party shall be deemed to		
5	have agreed that any provision of this Stipulation is appropriate for resolving issues in any		
6	other proceeding, except as specifically identified in this Stipulation.		
7	28. This Stipulation may be executed in counterparts and each signed counterpart		
8	shall constitute an original document.		
9	This Stipulation is entered into by each Stipulating Party on the date entered below suc		
10	Stipulating Party's signature.		
11			
12			
13			
14	STAFF CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD		
15	By:		
16	Date:		
17			
18	IDAHO POWER		
19	By:		
20	Date:		
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UM 1801

ERRATA STIPULATION – REDLINED VERSION

IN THE MATTER OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT REVISED DEPRECIATION RATES FOR ELECTRIC PLANT-IN-SERVICE

1	BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON			
2	UM 1801			
3	1			
4	In The Matter of	STIPULATION		
5	IDAHO POWER COMPANY			
6	Application for Authority to Implement Revised Depreciation Rates for Electric Plant-in- Service.			
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10	This Stipulation resolves all issues be	stween the parties related to Idaho Power		
11	Company's ("Idaho Power" or "Company") request for authorization to institute revised			
12	depreciation rates for the Company's electric plant-in-service and for an adjustment to Oregon			
13	jurisdictional base rates to reflect the revised depreciation rates.			
14	PARTIES			
15	1. The parties to this Stipulation are St	aff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon		
16	("Staff"), the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board ("CUB"), and Idaho Power (together, the "Stipulating			
17	Parties"). No other party intervened in this docket.			
18	BACKGR	OUND		
19	2. As required by OAR 860-027-0350	, Idaho Power performs a depreciation study		
20	and updates its depreciation rates approximately	every five years. ¹ The purpose of the update		
21	is to reflect changes in the appropriate net salva	age percentages and service life estimates of		
22	assets as circumstances change. Accordingly	y, the Company recently engaged Gannett		
23	Fleming Valuation and Rate Consultants, LLC ("Gannett Fleming") to conduct a depreciation			
24	study of its electric plant-in-service ("Study") as of December 30, 2015. The Study updates ne			
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26	¹ The last major changes to the Company's depreciation rates occurred June 1, 2012, as a result of Orde No. 12-296 issued in Docket No. UM 1576.			

- salvage percentages and service life estimates for plant assets. The resulting depreciation rates are based on the straight line method, the remaining life technique, and the average service life procedure to calculate the depreciation accrual rates for production, transmission, distribution and general plant accounts.
 - 3. On November 2, 2016, Idaho Power filed its Application for Authorization to Implement Revised Depreciation Rates ("Application") and supporting testimony.²
 - 4. The Application requests authorization to: (1) institute revised depreciation rates for the Company's electric plant-in-service, based upon updated net salvage percentages and service life estimates for plant assets, and (2) adjust Oregon jurisdictional base rates to reflect the revised depreciation rates as applied to the approved 2011 general rate case plant balances, effective June 1, 2017. The revised depreciation rates proposed by the Company were based on the results of the Study.
 - 5. The Company proposed depreciation rates that would result in a \$131.2 million annual depreciation expense on a system basis, based on December 31, 2015 plant values, and the weighted depreciation rate for total depreciable plant of 2.69%.
 - 6. The Jim Bridger coal plant's ("Bridger") depreciable end-life-date is 2034. However, Idaho Power will continue to track, through a regulatory liability account, an adjustment that results from the difference between the depreciation rates for Bridger with an end-of-life date of 2034 and depreciation rates for Bridger with an end-of-life date of 2025. The separate accounting allows Idaho Power to maintain one set of depreciation records to be used for both the Oregon and Idaho jurisdictions while ensuring that the actual amounts paid by Oregon customers of Idaho Power will cover the future depreciation expenses related to the potential closure of Bridger as early as 2025. Idaho Power has a 33 percent ownership share

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of Bridger, which is jointly owned with PacifiCorp. In its Order No. 08-427, the Commission affirmed 2025 as the end-life-date for the Bridger plant for PacifiCorp.

- 7. Order No. 12-296 in Docket No. UM 1576 approved the tracking by Idaho Power, through a regulatory liability account, of an adjustment that results from the difference between approved depreciation rates for the Jim Bridger power plant ("Bridger") with an end-of-life date of 2034 and depreciation rates associated with an end-of-life date for Bridger of 2025 based upon the approved 2011 general rate case plant balances. The separate accounting for Bridger allows Idaho Power to maintain one set of depreciation records to be used for both the Oregon and Idaho jurisdictions while ensuring that the actual amounts paid by Oregon customers will cover the future depreciation expenses related to the approved 2011 general rate case plant balances associated with the potential closure of Bridger as early as 2025. Idaho Power's proposal in this case requested the same treatment of the depreciation associated with the Bridger plant.
- 8. The Company's proposed rate adjustment related to the revised depreciation rates would have resulted in an increase to annual depreciation expense in Oregon of approximately \$604,000 based on an average four percent Oregon jurisdictional allocation factor, which translates to an increase in the Company's Oregon jurisdictional revenue requirement of \$721,548, as measured against the revenue requirement identified in the Partial Stipulation in Docket UE 233, which was approved by the Commission on February 23, 2012.³
- 9. The Application requested that the incremental revenue requirement of \$721,548 be spread to customer classes on a uniform percentage basis and be recovered through a uniform percentage increase to all base rate components except the service charge. The proposed change equated to an overall increase in current billed revenues of 1.30 percent.

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- 11. On November 10, 2016, CUB filed its Notice of Intervention.
- 12. On November 30, 2016, a prehearing conference was convened to establish a schedule for the docket. The Stipulating Parties were unable to agree on a schedule at the prehearing conference and therefore requested additional time to develop a schedule. On December 1, 2016, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Ruth Harper issued a Prehearing Conference Memorandum granting additional time to develop a stipulated schedule.
 - 13. On December 23, 2016, the Stipulating Parties submitted a proposed schedule and motion to consolidate Docket Nos. UM 1801 and UE 316. On that same day, ALJs Ruth Harper and Sarah Rowe issued a Ruling that consolidated the dockets and adopted a procedural schedule.
 - 14. Pursuant to the procedural schedule, on December 28, 2016, Idaho Power filed Advice No. 16-16 and proposed revised tariffs that reflected the proposed rate change associated with the revised depreciation rates.

 ⁴ See In the Matter of Idaho Power Co. Application for Authority to Implement a Boardman Operating Life Adjustment Tariff for Electric Service to Customers in the State of Oregon, Docket No. UE 239, Order No.
 ¹²⁻²³⁵ (June 26, 2012).

- 15. On January 25 and 27, 2017, the Company filed errata testimony that removed duplicate pages in the originally filed testimony and replaced the duplicate pages with correct pages.
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When the agreed upon depreciation rates are applied to approved test year plant balances, the resulting incremental Oregon jurisdictional depreciation expense is approximately \$343,000, as compared to the Company's initial request of approximately \$604,000.

- 1 compute the adjustment associated with the approved 2011 general rate case plant balances
- 2 for the difference between a Bridger 2034 end-of-life and a Bridger 2025 end-of-life. Consistent
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11				
12				
13				
14	STAFF CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD			
15	By:			
16	Date:			
17				
18	IDAHO POWER			
19	By:			
20	Date:			
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