

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON  
STAFF REPORT  
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: January 24, 2023**

**REGULAR**   X   **CONSENT**        **EFFECTIVE DATE**       Upon Approval      

**DATE:** January 18, 2023

**TO:** Public Utility Commission

**FROM:** Scott Gibbens

**THROUGH:** Bryan Conway and Caroline Moore **SIGNED**

**SUBJECT:** IDAHO POWER COMPANY:  
(Docket No. UM 1730(8))  
Update to Standard Avoided Cost Schedule for Qualifying Facilities.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) issue an order suspending for further investigation Idaho Power Company's (Idaho Power or Company) update to its Standard Avoided Cost rates filed on January 5, 2023.

**DISCUSSION:**

Issue

Whether the Commission should suspend Idaho Power's post-Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) revisions to its Standard Avoided Cost Schedule, which contain the power prices paid to QFs to allow more time for Staff to review the filing.

Applicable Law

OAR 860-029-0040(1) requires utilities to file updated avoided cost prices for qualifying facilities under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 within 30 days of Commission acknowledgement of a public utility's IRP to be effective 30 days after filing.<sup>1</sup>

OAR 860-029-0085(3) allows for the Commission to suspend the avoided cost rates during review.

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<sup>1</sup> OAR 860-029-0040(4).

## Analysis

### *Background*

On December 6, 2022, at a Special Public Meeting, the Commission acknowledged the Company's 2021 IRP. As required by OAR 860-029-085(1), the Company filed their 2023 updated avoided cost schedules on January 5, 2023. The Company's 2023 filing includes updates based on its acknowledged IRP.

### *Issues*

Staff requires additional time to review Idaho Power's filing to confirm the inputs Idaho Power has used to calculate avoided cost prices and Idaho Power's calculations of the standard rates.

Staff is unable to complete this review in the 30 days allotted under OAR 860-029-0085(3). Accordingly, Staff asks the Commission to suspend Idaho Power's rates until February 21, 2023.<sup>2</sup>

## Conclusion

Staff believes additional time for review of Idaho Power's update is necessary. Given this, Staff recommends that the Commission suspend the rates until February 21, 2023, to allow additional time for review.

## **PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:**

Suspend Idaho Power's update to its Standard Avoided Cost Schedule until February 21, 2023, to allow additional time to investigate Idaho Power's filed Standard Avoided Cost rates.

RA3 UM 1730 IPC Avoided Costs

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<sup>2</sup> Idaho Power included an effective date of February 22, 2023, on the rates filed January 5, 2023. Under OAR 860-029-0085(3), however, the rates are effective 30 days after filing unless otherwise determined by the Commission.