

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

LC 68

In the Matter of

IDAHO POWER COMPANY,

2017 Integrated Resource Plan.

MEMORANDUM

This memorandum outlines the protocol for the public comment hearing on November 2, 2017 at the Four Rivers Cultural Center in Ontario, Oregon. The purpose of this event is to allow for public comment on Idaho Power Company's 2017 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). This will be a listening session similar to a legislative hearing, during which the public may speak before the three PUC Commissioners.

Registration opens at 5:15 p.m. in the lobby outside of the theater. The hearing will begin promptly at 5:30 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m. A court reporter will be present.

This is not intended as a question and answer session. Commission Staff will be available in the lobby to answer any questions regarding this docket. Since the purpose is to hear from members of the public, there will be no formal presentation from Commission Staff, Idaho Power, or any other party to the proceeding.

The Commissioners will assess the number of speakers requesting to comment and may decide to limit the time for individual comments. Speakers will be called up in the order in which they registered. Speakers are requested to direct their comments to the Commissioners and not the audience and to respect the time limitation. Comments are limited to issues relating to Idaho Power's integrated resource plan.

For more information, please review the attached answers to frequently asked questions about the Commission's review of electric utility resource plans. A copy of Idaho Power's 2017 IRP may be accessed at <http://www.puc.state.or.us/Pages/Idaho-Power-IRP.aspx>.

If you have questions, please contact Nadine Hanhan, Utility and Energy Analyst, at: (503) 373-7946 or nadine.hanhan@state.or.us.

Dated this 19th day of October, 2017, at Salem, Oregon.



Ruth Harper
Administrative Law Judge

ENERGY UTILITY INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANS - FAQs

The following provides answers to some of the frequently asked questions about the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (PUC) and its review of Integrated Resource Plans.

What is the PUC?

The PUC is a state agency charged with ensuring that privately-owned utilities operating in Oregon provide their customers with safe, reliable, and high quality service at just and reasonable rates. As part of this regulatory oversight, the Commission requires utilities to file a long-term resource plan, called an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), every two years.

What is an IRP?

An IRP presents a utility's current thinking on how it plans to meet the future energy and capacity needs of its customers. The IRP will include the utility's estimate of those future energy needs, its analysis of the resources available to meet those needs, and the activities required to secure those resources. In developing this plan, we instruct utilities to use at least a 20-year planning horizon.

What is the goal of an IRP?

An IRP, and the process used to develop it, help ensure that a utility engages in prudent resource planning. The IRP process requires a utility to consider all known resources to meet future energy needs. These include "supply-side" resources, such as market purchases, generation facilities, and transmission facilities, and "demand-side" resources, such as energy efficiency, conservation, and load management. The goal of the IRP is to identify the mix of all available resources that provides an adequate and reliable supply of energy at the least cost and risk to the utility and its customers. After selecting a portfolio of resources, the utility develops a proposed "Action Plan" of activities to undertake over the next two to four years to implement the plan.

What is the role of stakeholders and the public in the IRP process?

When drafting an IRP, the utility must conduct outreach to engage stakeholders and the public. Such participation must include opportunities to contribute information and ideas, as well as the ability to make relevant inquiries of the utility when formulating its resource plan.

Once an IRP is finalized, the utility files it with the PUC for review. The PUC will then initiate a six-month review period, during which the utility, the PUC Staff, stakeholders, and the public may provide additional comments on the IRP and make recommendations to the PUC. Unlike many PUC proceedings, the IRP process is not a formal, judicial type proceeding, but rather an informal, legislative type process that allows for broader public participation.

What is the PUC's role in the IRP process?

The PUC will review the final IRP, as well as all comments, and decide whether to "acknowledge" the IRP. "Acknowledgement" means the PUC finds the IRP reasonable, based on all the information presented. After an IRP is acknowledged, the utility can choose to pursue its planned action items and acquire the identified resources. PUC acknowledgment does not constitute pre-approval of a resource action. Once a new resource is required, the utility may initiate a rate proceeding to recover the costs associated with the resource.

Where can I find out more about IRPs and Idaho Power's 2017 IRP filing?

For more information, please visit the following links available on the PUC's website at www.puc.state.or.us:

PUC IRP Guidelines: <http://apps.puc.state.or.us/orders/2007ords/07-002.pdf>

Idaho Power's 2017 IRP: <http://www.puc.state.or.us/Pages/Idaho-Power-IRP.aspx>

Filings and Schedule for Idaho Power's IRP:

<http://apps.puc.state.or.us/edockets/docket.asp?DocketID=20890>