

LISA D. NORDSTROM Lead Counsel Inordstrom@idahopower.com

October 1, 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

Re:

Docket UM 1974(1)

In the Matter of Idaho Power Company's Application for Deferred Accounting of Demand-Side Management Revenues and Expenditures

Attention Filing Center:

Enclosed for filing in Docket No. UM 1974(1) is an electronic copy of Idaho Power Company's Application for Reauthorization of Deferred Accounting. The Notice of Application for Reauthorization of Deferred Accounting of Demand-Side Management Revenues and Expenditures is attached to the Application as Attachment A. Attachment B to the Application is confidential and will be provided to the Public Utility Commission of Oregon's Filing Center on a confidential CD. The Application and Notice have been served on the parties in Docket No. UM 1974 and UE 233, Idaho Power Company's last general rate case.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Regulatory Analyst Courtney Waites at (208) 388-5612.

Very truly yours,

Lia D. Madotram

Lisa D. Nordstrom OSB No. 97352

LDN/kkt

Enclosures

1	BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION			
2	OF OREGON			
3	UM 1974(1)			
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5	In the Matter of Idaho Power Company's Application for Deferred Accounting of	APPLICATION		
6	Demand-Side Management Revenues and Expenditures			
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9	I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>			
10	Pursuant to ORS 757.259(2)(d) and OAR 860-027-0300, Idaho Power Company			
11	("Idaho Power" or "Company") hereby requests an accounting order reauthorizing Idaho			
12	Power to defer revenues collected through the Company's Tariff Schedule 91 - Energy Efficiency Rider ("EE Rider") and expenditures associated with the analysis and			
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14	implementation of energy conservation and demand response programs. Idaho Power seeks			
15	reauthorization of this deferral effective as of October 1, 2019. In support of this Application			
16	Idaho Power states:			
17	1. Idaho Power is a public utility in t	he state of Oregon and its rates, services, and		
18	accounting practices are subj	ect to the regulation of the Public Utility		
19	Commission of Oregon ("Commi	ssion").		
20	2. This Application is filed purs	uant to ORS 757.259, which allows the		
21	Commission, upon application,	to authorize the deferral of certain items for		
22	later inclusion in rates.			
23	3. Communications regarding this	Application should be addressed to:		
	Lisa D. Nordstrom	Regulatory Dockets		
24	Idaho Power Company P.O. Box 70	Idaho Power Company P.O. Box 70		
25	Boise, ID 83707	Boise, ID 83707		
26	Inordstrom@idahopower.co			
ge 1	- APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION OF DEFERRED ACCOUNTING	ldaho Power Company 1221 West Idaho Street		

Boise, ID 83702

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II. OAR 860-027-0300(3) REQUIREMENTS

A. Description

With this deferral application, Idaho Power seeks reauthorization from the Commission to defer, for future true-up, EE Rider revenues, and Demand-Side Management ("DSM") activity expenditures. The EE Rider is a balancing account mechanism that charges customers a percentage of the sum of the monthly charges for the base rate components of their electric bill. Base rate components include the service charge, energy charges, demand charges, and the basic charge. Revenues received from the EE Rider fund the Company's DSM activities and are recorded in a regulatory liability account. As funds are used for DSM activities, the balancing account is debited for the amount of the expenditure disbursement. The intent of the balancing account mechanism is to keep the balance in this account as close to zero as possible. The Commission approved the establishment of Idaho Power's EE Rider effective August 31, 2005² and approved the Company's request to defer demandside management revenues and expenses with Order No. 18-457. In addition, the Company requests that deferred amounts are exempt from the deferral earnings test because the Company's DSM activities are cost-effective conservation resources under ORS 757.262, and therefore, not subject to ORS 757.259(5).3 This treatment is also consistent with the Commission approval of the EE Rider with Advice No. 05-03.

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. 1 Advice No. 05-03.

²¹ Advice No. 05-03

² In accordance with the decision of the Commission in the Public Meeting of August 30, 2005, and per the letter dated August 30, 2005, from the Commission Administrator.

³ See ORS 757.259(2)(d), (4); see also In the Matter of Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities, Application for the Reauthorization of Certain Deferral Accounts Related to Avista's Demand Side Management Programs, Docket No. UM 1165(11), Order No. 16-304, App. A at 4 (Aug. 16, 2016) ("Historically, the Commission has not declined to authorize amortization of prudently-incurred DSM expense associated with Commission approved programs based on the earnings review required under ORS 757.259(5)").

B. Reasons for Deferral

Energy efficiency and demand response provide economic and operational benefits to the Company and its customers and support the wise use of energy by Idaho Power customers. Idaho Power strives to provide conscientious, prudent, and reasonable actions and activities that result in cost-effective energy efficiency and considers this cost-effective energy efficiency the Company's least-cost resource.⁴ The Company pays particular attention to ensuring its activities provide the best value to Idaho Power's customers.

On July 6, 2005, Idaho Power filed a request with the Commission for authorization to implement a new charge that would fund DSM activities in the Company's Oregon service territory, the EE Rider. DSM refers to the two kinds of energy-efficiency activities: things customers do to reduce overall electricity use (like using more efficient light bulbs) and programs that shift use from periods of extreme demand or demand response programs.

As described in its annual DSM report filing in Docket No. UM 1710, the Company provides information and programs to ensure customers have opportunities to learn about their energy use, how to use energy wisely, and participate in programs. Idaho Power's current energy efficiency offerings include programs in residential and commercial new construction, residential and commercial retrofit applications, and irrigation and industrial system improvement or replacement. The Company's custom incentives offer a wide range of opportunities to its irrigation, industrial, large-commercial, governmental, and school customers to execute energy savings projects. In addition, Idaho Power offers demand response programs with the goal of minimizing or delaying the need to build new supply-side peaking resources.

For more than a decade, Idaho Power has been funding the pursuit of cost-effective energy efficiency through the EE Rider balancing account mechanism with the goal of using

^{26 &}lt;sup>4</sup> Idaho Power's 2017 Integrated Resource Plan at 1.

customers' funds wisely by providing conscientious, prudent, and responsible action and 2 activities. All energy efficiency and demand response offerings to Oregon customers are managed in accordance with various Idaho Power tariff schedules authorized by the Commission prior to commencement of any such offering. Any changes to a program offering or measure is approved by the Commission as well.⁵ Annually, the Company prepares a report summarizing the efforts, energy savings, and DSM expenditures for the prior year, and beginning in 2016, files it with the Commission in Docket No. UM 1710. Finally, pursuant to 7 Order No. 94-590 issued in UM 551, Idaho Power notifies the Commission of any DSM program measures that are not cost-effective and requests a cost-effectiveness exception 10 when applicable. 6 Continued Commission approval of the ongoing operation of the EE Rider 11 balancing account, and deferral authorization, is critical to Idaho Power's pursuit of costeffective energy efficiency.

C. Proposed Accounting

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Idaho Power records revenues and expenses that would be subject to the deferral order in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations to the Federal Energy Regulatory 16 Commission Account 254 (Regulatory Liability).

D. **Estimate of Amounts**

18 As of August 31, 2019, the Oregon jurisdictional EE Rider balance was approximately negative \$1.38 million, meaning the Company has spent \$1.38 million more on the pursuit of cost-effective energy efficiency than customers have paid towards those efforts. The 20 21 Company estimates net amounts deferred beginning the date of this Application through 22 August 2020 to be approximately \$355,000, for a total balance of negative \$1.74 million.

²³ ⁵ For example, Idaho Power's Advice No. 18-08, approved with Order No. 18-295, authorized changes to over 130 measures in DSM programs offered through Schedule 89 - Commercial and Industrial Energy Efficiency ("Schedule 89").

²⁵ ⁶ Also, as a part of Idaho Power's Advice No. 18-08, Idaho Power requested a costeffectiveness exception for thirteen measures of Schedule 89.

E. Notice

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A copy of the Notice of Application for Deferred Accounting of Demand-Side

Management Revenues and Expenditures and a list of persons served with the Notice are

attached to the Application as Attachment A.

III. OAR 860-027-0300(4) REQUIREMENTS

A. Entries in the Deferred Account to Date

Included with this Application as CONFIDENTIAL Attachment B is a description and explanation of the entries in this deferred account from January 1, 2018, through August 31, 2019. At the December 18, 2018, public meeting, the Commission approved an increase in the EE Rider from 3.0 percent of base revenues to 4.0 percent and also approved the transfer of \$5.5 million in Idaho Power's Solar Photovoltaic Pilot Program Rider funds to the EE Rider account, thereby reducing the EE Rider balance owed by customers and better aligning revenue collections with the Company's DSM expenditures. Both items are reflected in CONFIDENTIAL Attachment B.

B. Reason for Continuation of Deferred Accounting

Idaho Power is seeking approval to continue the EE Rider deferral as described in Section II above.

IV. CONCLUSION

Continued Commission approval of the ongoing operation of the EE Rider balancing account is critical to Idaho Power's pursuit of cost-effective energy efficiency. For the reasons stated above, Idaho Power requests reauthorization to defer EE Rider revenues collected and expenditures associated with energy conservation and demand response programs, beginning October 1, 2019, and that those deferred amounts are exempt from an earnings test.

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1	DATED: October 1, 2019	
2		IDAHO POWER COMPANY
3		Lisa D. Madotrom
4		LISA D. NORDSTROM
5		Attorney for Idaho Power Company
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Attachment A

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

1	OF OREGON		
2	UM 1974(1)		
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4	In the Matter of Idaho Power Company's Application for Deferred Accounting of NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR		
5	Demand-Side Management Revenues and Expenditures DEFERRED ACCOUNTING OF DEMAND-SIDE MANAGEMENT		
6	REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES		
7	On October 1, 2019, Idaho Power Company ("Idaho Power") filed an application with		
8	the Public Utility Commission of Oregon ("Commission") for an order reauthorizing deferral		
9	of revenues collected through the Company's Tariff Schedule 91 - Energy Efficiency Rider		
10	and expenditures associated with the analysis and implementation of energy conservation		
11	and demand response programs.		
12	Approval of Idaho Power's Application will not authorize a change in Idaho Power's		
13	rates, but will permit the Commission to consider allowing such deferred amounts in rates in		
14	a subsequent proceeding.		
15	Idaho Power's Application will be posted on the Commission website for persons who		
16	wish to obtain a copy or they may contact the following:		
17	Lisa D. Nordstrom Idaho Power Company		
18	1221 West Idaho Street P.O. Box 70		
19	Boise, ID 83707		
20	Inordstrom@idahopower.com		
21	Any person who wishes to submit written comments to the Commission on Idaho		
22	Power's Application must do so by no later than October 25, 2019.		
23	DATED: October 1, 2019.		
24	Lin D. Madotrom		
25	Lisa D. Nordstrom	_	
26	Attorney for Idaho Power Company		

Attachment B CONFIDENTIAL

1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE		
2	UM 1974(1)		
3	I hereby certify that on October 1, 2019, I served a true and correct copy of Idaho		
4	Power Company's Application for Deferred Accounting of Demand-Side Managemen		
5	Revenues and Expenditures on the parties in Dockets UM 233, Idaho Power Company's		
6	last general rate case, and UM 1974 by e-mail to said person(s) as indicated below.		
7 8	OPUC Dockets Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon dockets@oregoncub.org	Robert Jenks Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon bob@oregoncub.org	
9	Lisa F. Rackner McDowell Rackner & Gibson PC	Stephanie S. Andrus Department of Justice	
10	dockets@mrg-law.com	Business Activities Section stephanie.andrus@state.or.us	
11	Mildreds Marian		
12	Mitch Moore Public Utility Commission of Oregon	Somer Moser Department of Justice	
13	mitch.moore@state.or.us	somer.moser@doj.state.or.us	
14	Erik Colville Public Utility Commission of Oregon erik.colville@state.or.us	Gregory M. Adams Richardson Adams, PLLC greg@richardsonadams.com	
15	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
16	Peter J. Richardson Richardson Adams, PLLC	Joshua D. Johnson Attorney at Law	
17	peter@richardsonadams.com	jdj@racinelaw.net	
18	Dr. Don Reading dreading@mindspring.com	Anthony J. Yankel Utility Net, Inc.	
19		tony@yankel.net	
20	Randy Dahlgren Portland General Electric Company	Douglas C. Tingey Portland General Electric Company	
21	pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com	doug.tingey@pgn.com	
22	Irion A. Sanger Davison Van Cleve, PC irion@sanger-law.com	Wendy Gerlitz NW Energy Coalition wendy@nwenergy.org	
23			
24	Etta Lockey Pacific Power	Sarah Link Pacific Power	
25	etta.lockey@pacificorp.com	sarah.link@pacificorp.com	
26			

1	Oregon Dockets PacifiCorp, d/b/a Pacific Power	Donald W. Schoenbeck Regulatory & Cogeneration Services, Inc.
2	oregondockets@pacificorp.com	dws@r-c-s-inc.com
3	John W. Stephens Esler Stephens & Buckley	Renewable Northwest Project dockets@renewablenw.org
4	stephens@eslerstephens.com	dockers@renewabienw.org
5	ortez@eslerstephens.com	
6	DATED: October 1, 2019.	
7		Kind Towell
8		Kimberly Towell, Executive Assistant
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