

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: October 6, 2020**

REGULAR CONSENT EFFECTIVE DATE October 7, 2020

DATE: September 28, 2020

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Mitchell Moore

THROUGH: Bryan Conway, John Crider, and Matt Muldoon **SIGNED**

SUBJECT: IDAHO POWER COMPANY:
(Docket No. ADV 1153/Advice No. 20-08)
Request to update Schedules 15 and 41, related to street and area lighting.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) approve Idaho Power Company's (Idaho Power or Company) filing that revises its Schedules 15 and 41 to allow for light-emitting diode technology in street and area lighting, with an effective date of October 7, 2020.

DISCUSSION:

Issue

Whether the Commission should approve Idaho Power's proposed revision to its Schedule 15 - Dusk to Dawn Customer Lighting, and Schedule 41 – Street Lighting Service to allow for light-emitting diode technology, effective on and after October 7, 2020.

Applicable Law

Under ORS 757.205(1):

Every public utility shall file with the Public Utility Commission, within a time to be fixed by the commission, schedules which shall be open to public inspection, showing all rates, tolls and charges which it has established and which are in force at the time for any service performed by it within the state, or for any

service in connection therewith or performed by any public utility controlled or operated by it.

The Commission may approve tariff changes if they are deemed to be fair, just, and reasonable. ORS 757.210. Tariff revisions may be made by filing revised sheets with the information required under the Commission's administrative rules, including OAR 860-022-0025. OAR 860-022-0025(2) specifically requires that each energy utility changing existing tariffs or schedules must include in its filing a statement plainly indicating the increase, decrease, or other change made with the filing, the number of customers affected by the proposed change and the resulting change in annual revenue; and the reasons or grounds relied upon in support of the proposed change.

Filings that propose any change in rates, tolls, charges, rules, or regulations must be filed with the Commission at least 30 days before the effective date of the change. ORS 757.220; OAR 860-022-0015. Tariff filings to be effective on less than 30 days following notice of the change may be authorized with a waiver of less than statutory notice pursuant to ORS 757.220 and OAR 860-022-0020.

Analysis

Background

On July 17, 2020, Idaho Power filed Advice No. 20-08, requesting an update to Dusk to Dawn Customer Lighting, and Schedule 41 – Street Lighting Service. The purpose of the filing is to allow the Company to offer light-emitting diode (“LED”) technology, and to eliminate the options for high-intensity discharge (“HID”) street lights and area lights.

Schedule 15 applies to electric service provided for the outdoor dusk to dawn lighting of commercial, industrial, and residential customer grounds, yards, driveways, and premises. Customers served under Schedule 15 are charged on a per lamp basis for the type and wattage of lamp. These lights are owned and operated by the Company.

Schedule 41 applies to electric service provided for lighting of public streets, public alleys, public grounds, and thoroughfares to improve visibility for drivers, as well as to illuminate outdoor pedestrian walkways. This schedule provides options for both Company-owned and customer-owned lights.

The Company states in its filing that changing technology within the lighting industry has created less certainty regarding the future availability of HID lighting. Idaho Power's current fixture manufacturer has notified Idaho Power that it has discontinued all but two of the high-pressure sodium fixtures and has eliminated metal halide options on many other fixtures. Based on conversations with this manufacturer and other manufacturers,

the Company states that the industry trend is to manufacture more LED light fixtures and fewer HID light fixtures. The Company expects HID streetlight and area light options to become increasingly obsolete as LED replacements become more widely utilized.

The Company's filing points to significant advantages over traditional HID lighting options. LED lights use less energy, reduce maintenance costs, can be recycled, reduce light pollution, and provide better lighting quality as compared to HID technology.

If all Company-owned lighting systems in Schedule 15 and Schedule 41 are replaced with the proposed LED light fixtures, Idaho Power estimates an annual reduction in energy consumption of approximately 8,581 megawatt-hours system wide; with roughly 600 megawatt-hours of the energy saving coming from Idaho Power's Oregon service area.

The tariff changes proposed in this filing will have no impact on customer rates.

Conclusion

Staff is satisfied that the changes are appropriate and reasonable, and do not harm rate payers' interests. Accordingly, Staff recommends the revisions to Schedules 15 and 41 be approved.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Approve Idaho Power Company's filing that revises its Schedules 15 and 41 to allow for light-emitting diode technology in street and area lighting, with an effective date of October 7, 2020.