

LISA D. NORDSTROM Lead Counsel Inordstrom@idahopower.com

September 30, 2022

### **VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

PUC.FilingCenter@state.or.us

Re: Docket UM 1974(4)

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

## Attention Filing Center:

Enclosed for electronic filing, pursuant to Order No. 20-088, is 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 under a separate encrypted email. The Application and Notice have been served on the parties in Docket Nos. 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 Consultant Courtney Waites at (208) 388-5612.

Very truly yours,

Lisa D. Nordstrom

Lin D. Madotrom

LDN:sg Enclosures

1	BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION				
2	OF OREGON				
3	UM 1974(4)				
4 5 6	Application 1	er of Idaho Power Company's for Deferred Accounting of de Management Revenues and es	APPLICATION FOR REAUTHORIZATION		
7		LINTROD	IOTION		
8	I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>				
9	Pursuant to ORS 757.259(2)(d) and OAR 860-027-0300, Idaho Power Compan				
0					
1	Power to defer revenues collected through the Company's Tariff Schedule 91 - Energ				
2	Efficiency Rider ("EE Rider") and expenditures associated with the analysis and				
3	implementation of energy conservation and demand response programs. Idaho Power seek				
4	reauthorization of this deferral effective as of October 1, 2022. In support of this Application				
5	Idaho Power states:				
6	1.	Idaho Power is a public utility in the	e state of Oregon and its rates, services, and		
7		accounting practices are subject	ct to the regulation of the Public Utility		
8		Commission of Oregon ("Commiss	sion").		
9	2.	This Application is filed pursua	ant to ORS 757.259, which allows the		
20		Commission, upon application, to	authorize the deferral of certain items for		
21		later inclusion in rates.			
22	3.	Communications regarding this Ap	oplication should be addressed to:		
23 24 25 26		Lisa D. Nordstrom Idaho Power Company P.O. Box 70 Boise, ID 83707 Inordstrom@idahopower.cor	Regulatory Dockets Idaho Power Company P.O. Box 70 Boise, ID 83707 dockets@idahopower.com		

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

#### Α. Description

3 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 7 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 10 activities, the balancing account is debited for the amount of the expenditure disbursement. 11 The intent of the balancing account mechanism is to keep the balance in this account as 12 close to zero as possible. The Commission approved the establishment of Idaho Power's 13 EE Rider effective August 31, 2005<sup>2</sup> and approved the Company's request to defer demand-14 side management revenues and expenses with Order No. 18-457. In addition, the Company 15 requests that deferred amounts are exempt from the deferral earnings test because the 16 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 17 18 Commission approval of the EE Rider with Advice No. 05-03.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Advice No. 05-03. 21

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In accordance with the decision of the Commission in the Public Meeting of August 30, 2005, 22 and per the letter dated August 30, 2005, from the Commission Administrator.

<sup>23</sup> <sup>3</sup> 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 24 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 25 expense associated with Commission approved programs based on the earnings review required under ORS 757.259(5)"). 26

#### В. **Reasons for Deferral**

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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 area, 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 19 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 avoiding or delaying the need for new 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 customers' funds wisely by providing conscientious, prudent, and responsible action and

<sup>26</sup> <sup>4</sup> Idaho Power's 2021 Integrated Resource Plan at 9.

activities. All energy efficiency and demand response offerings to Oregon customers are managed in accordance with various Idaho Power tariff schedules authorized by the 2 Commission prior to commencement of any such offering. Any changes to a program offering or measure are approved by the Commission as well.<sup>5</sup> Annually, the Company prepares a 5 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 Order No. 94-590 issued in UM 551, Idaho Power notifies the Commission of any DSM 7 program measures that are not cost-effective and requests a cost-effectiveness exception when applicable.<sup>6</sup> Continued Commission approval of the ongoing operation of the EE Rider balancing account, and deferral authorization, is critical to Idaho Power's pursuit of cost-10 11 effective energy efficiency.

#### C. **Proposed Accounting**

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 Commission Account 254 (Regulatory Liability).

#### D. **Estimate of Amounts**

As of August 31, 2022, the Oregon jurisdictional EE Rider balance was approximately positive \$103,000, meaning the Company has an additional \$103,000 of customer funds to 19 spend on the pursuit of cost-effective energy efficiency. The Company estimates net 20 amounts deferred beginning the date of this Application through August 2023 to be approximately \$10,000, for a total balance of approximately positive \$113,000.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> For example, Idaho Power's Advice No. 21-03, approved in the June 1, 2021, public meeting, authorized changes to over 90 measures in DSM programs offered through Schedule 89 - Commercial 24 and Industrial Energy Efficiency ("Schedule 89").

<sup>25</sup> <sup>6</sup> Also, as a part of Idaho Power's request in Docket UM 1710(5), approved on March 24, 2022, Idaho Power requested a cost-effectiveness exception for three program measures. 26

1	E. <u>Notice</u>		
2	A copy of the Notice of Application for Deferred Accounting of Demand-Side		
3	Management Revenues and Expenditures and a list of persons served with the Notice ar		
4	attached to the Application as Attachment A.		
5	III. OAR 860-027-0300(4) REQUIREMENTS		
6	A. <u>Entries in the Deferred Account to Date</u>		
7	Included with this Application as CONFIDENTIAL Attachment B is a description and		
8	explanation of the entries in this deferred account from September 2021 through Augus		
9	2022. In addition, the Company has included a summary of annual EE Rider activity for each		
10	12-month period beginning in 2017.		
11	B. Reason for Continuation of Deferred Accounting		
12	Idaho Power is seeking approval to continue the EE Rider deferral as described in		
13	Section II above.		
14	IV. <u>CONCLUSION</u>		
15	Continued Commission approval of the ongoing operation of the EE Rider balancing		
16	account is critical to Idaho Power's pursuit of cost-effective energy efficiency. For the		
17	reasons stated above, Idaho Power requests reauthorization to defer EE Rider revenues		
18	collected and expenditures associated with energy conservation and demand response		
19	programs, beginning October 1, 2022, and that those deferred amounts are exempt from an		
20	earnings test.		
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21	DATED: September 30, 2022		
21 22			
	DATED: September 30, 2022  IDAHO POWER COMPANY		
22	DATED: September 30, 2022		
22 23	DATED: September 30, 2022  IDAHO POWER COMPANY  Lin D. Madoham		

1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE			
2	UM 1974(4)			
3	I hereby certify that on September 30, 2022, I served a true and correct copy of Idaho			
4	Power Company's Application for Reauthoriza	Power Company's Application for Reauthorization by e-mail to said person(s) as indicated		
5	below.			
6	OPUC Dockets	Robert Jenks		
7	Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon dockets@oregoncub.org	Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon bob@oregoncub.org		
8	Lisa F. Rackner	Stephanie S. Andrus		
9	McDowell Rackner & Gibson PC	Department of Justice Business Activities Section		
10	dockets@mrg-law.com	stephanie.andrus@state.or.us		
11	Mitch Moore Kathy Zarate	Sommer Moser Department of Justice		
12	Public Utility Commission of Oregon mitch.moore@puc.oregon.gov	somer.moser@doj.state.or.us		
13	Kathy.zarate@puc.oregon.gov			
14	Erik Colville	Gregory M. Adams		
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21	Portland General Electric Company pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com	dockets@renewablenw.org		
22	Irion A. Sanger	Wendy Gerlitz		
23	Sanger Law PC irion@sanger-law.com	NW Energy Coalition wendy@nwenergy.org		
24	Etta Lockey	Sarah Link		
25	Pacific Power etta.lockey@pacificorp.com	Pacific Power 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	
4	stephens@eslerstephens.com	
5	DATED: September 30, 2022.	_
6		Stary Cust
7		Stacy Gust, Regulatory Administrative Assistant
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**Attachment A** 

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

1	OF OREGON		
2	UM 1974(4)		
3	In the Matter of Idaho Power Company's Application for Deferred Accounting of	NOTIOE OF ARRUSATION FOR	
5	Demand-Side Management Revenues and Expenditures	NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DEFERRED ACCOUNTING OF DEMAND-SIDE MANAGEMENT REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES	
6 7	On September 30, 2022, Idaho Power Co	omnany ("Idaho Power") filed an application	
	On September 30, 2022, Idaho Power Company ("Idaho Power") filed an application		
8	with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon ("Commission") for an order reauthorizing		
9	deferral of revenues collected through the Company's Tariff Schedule 91 - Energy Efficiency		
0	Rider and expenditures associated with the analysis and implementation of energy		
1	conservation and demand response programs.		
2	Approval of Idaho Power's Application will not authorize a change in Idaho Power's		
3	rates, but will permit the Commission to consider allowing such deferred amounts in rates in		
4	a subsequent proceeding.		
5	Idaho Power's Application will be posted on the Commission website for persons who		
6	wish to obtain a copy or they may contact the foll	owing:	
7	Lisa D. Nordstrom Idaho Power Company		
8	1221 West Idaho Street P.O. Box 70		
9	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 28, 2022.		
23	DATED: September 30, 2022.		
24	L	a D. Madotram	
25	Lisa	a D. Nordstrom	
26	Atto	orney for Idaho Power Company	