

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 1428

In the Matter of

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

Application for Modification of the Filing
Date for its 2009 Integrated Resource Plan.

ORDER

DISPOSITION: APPLICATION APPROVED

On April 24, 2009, Idaho Power Company (Idaho Power) filed an application, with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission), requesting authorization to modify the filing date for its 2009 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). A description of the filing and its procedural history is contained in the Staff Report, attached as Appendix A, and incorporated by reference.

Staff recommends that Idaho Power's application for modification of the filing date for its 2009 IRP be approved.

At its Public Meeting on May 19, 2009, the Commission adopted Staff's Recommendation and approved Idaho Power's current request.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Idaho Power Company's application for modification of the filing date for its 2009 Integrated Resource Plan is approved.

2. The filing date for Idaho Power Company's 2009 Integrated Resource Plan shall be December 29, 2009.

Made, entered, and effective MAY 23 2009.

BY THE COMMISSION:



Becky L. Beier
Becky L. Beier
Commission Secretary

A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order pursuant to ORS 756.561. A request for rehearing or reconsideration must be filed with the Commission within 60 days of the date of service of this order. The request must comply with the requirements in OAR 860-014-0095. A copy of any such request must also be served on each party to the proceeding as provided by OAR 860-013-0070(2). A party may appeal this order by filing a petition for review with the Court of Appeals in compliance with ORS 183.480-183.484.

ITEM NO. CA8

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: May 19, 2009

REGULAR _____ CONSENT X EFFECTIVE DATE _____ N/A _____

DATE: May 6, 2009

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Theresa Gibney *MG font*

THROUGH: *lin* Lee Sparling, *EB* Ed Busch, and Maury Galbraith. *MG*

SUBJECT: IDAHO POWER COMPANY: (Docket No. UM 1428) Requests modification of the filing date for the 2009 Integrated Resource Plan.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Idaho Power Company's Application for Modification of the Filing Date for its 2009 Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP"). Staff supports a filing deadline for Idaho Power Company's 2009 IRP of December 29, 2009.

DISCUSSION:

On April 24, 2009, Idaho Power Company ("Company") filed an Application for Modification of the Filing Date for its next full Integrated Resource Plan, the 2009 IRP. The filing was docketed as UM 1428. In its filing, the Company asks that the filing deadline for its 2009 IRP be changed from September 12, 2009 to December 29, 2009.

If this filing date modification is approved by the Commission, the Company states that it will request leave to withdraw its 2006 IRP Addendum, filed in February 2009 as a supplemental application to LC-41. The supplemental application requests that the Commission acknowledge and include the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project (B2H Project) as a part of the Company's previously acknowledged 2006 IRP.

Granting the Company's request to delay the 2009 IRP would allow the Company to include the B2H Project as an uncommitted resource in its portfolio analysis and would render the Company's 2006 IRP Addendum moot.

Idaho Power Company, UM 1428
May 6, 2009
Page 2

I. Background

To comply with Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 860-027-0400 (3) and with Commission Order 07-047 Guideline 3, an energy utility must file a full IRP within two years of its previous IRP acknowledgement order, or as otherwise directed by the Commission.

Commission Order 07-394, acknowledging Idaho Power Company's 2006 IRP, was effective on September 12, 2007. As such, Idaho Power Company is obligated to file its 2009 IRP on or before September 12, 2009.

OAR 860-027-0400 (1) provides that, upon application by the utility and for good cause shown, the Commission may relieve the utility of this obligation to file within two years. In UM 1428, Idaho Power Company argues that the requested schedule change is in the public interest because:

- 1) It provides an opportunity to address the substantial public opposition to the Company's proposed routes for the B2H Project. The Company plans to launch a Community Advisory Process with the goal of developing routing criteria and aligned routes by the end of 2009.
- 2) It allows the Company extra time to perform the analyses necessary to treat the B2H Project as an uncommitted resource in the 2009 IRP. This treatment is required by Commission Order 07-047, Guideline 5, which requires transmission facilities to be considered as resource options in a least cost, risk constrained portfolio analysis.
- 3) It allows Idaho Power to update the annual load forecast used in the 2009 IRP to reflect the recent downturn in local and national economic growth.

Notwithstanding its claim that a transmission project from the Pacific Northwest to the Boise area load center has been a part of its acknowledged 2000 and 2002 IRPs, the Company now intends to treat the detailed plans for the B2H Project (as defined in its 2006 IRP Update, filed July 7, 2007) as an uncommitted resource in the portfolio analysis of its 2009 IRP.

Idaho Power Company, UM 1428
May 6, 2009
Page 3

II. Staff Discussion

Staff agrees that Idaho Power Company has good cause to request a filing deadline of December 29, 2009 for its 2009 IRP.

Specifically, Staff agrees that the public interest and the integrity of the IRP Process described in Appendix A of Order 07-047 are well served by the three elements planned by Idaho Power Company and spelled out in UM 1428.

The public interest is served by broad public input into the B2H Project. The integrity of the IRP Process is fostered by inclusion of the B2H Project as a separable resource option in the 2009 IRP. Finally, in the wake of slowed local and national economic growth, a reevaluation of the load growth forecast to be used in the upcoming 2009 IRP is warranted. For these reasons Staff recommends resetting Idaho Power's IRP filing deadline from September 12, 2009 to December 29, 2009.

Staff looks forward to continuing its participation in Idaho Power's 2009 IRP process and will collaborate with the Company to develop an approach to evaluating electric transmission infrastructure that is consistent with Order 07-047, Guideline 5.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

The Commission approve a filing deadline of December 29, 2009 for the Idaho Power Company 2009 IRP.

UM 1428