

ORDER NO. 26-019

ENTERED Jan 22 2026

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 2332(1)

In the Matter of

IDAHO POWER COMPANY,

Application for Reauthorization to Defer
Incremental Administrative Expenses
Associated with the Implementation and
Provision of a Bill Discount Program.

ORDER

DISPOSITION: STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED

At its public meeting on January 20, 2026, the Public Utility Commission of Oregon adopted Staff's recommendation in this matter. The Staff Report with the recommendation is attached as Appendix A.

BY THE COMMISSION:



Alison Lackey
Chief Administrative Law Judge



A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order under 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 860-001-0720. A copy of the request must also be served on each party to the proceedings as provided in OAR 860-001-0180(2). A party may appeal this order by filing a petition for review with the Circuit Court for Marion County in compliance with ORS 183.484.

ITEM NO. CA13

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: January 20, 2026**

REGULAR **CONSENT** **EFFECTIVE DATE** _____ **N/A**

DATE: December 11, 2025

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Kathy Zarate

THROUGH: Scott Gibbens and Michelle Scala **SIGNED**

SUBJECT: IDAHO POWER:

(Docket No. UM 2332(1))
Idaho Power Company's Application for Deferred Accounting of
Incremental Administrative Expenses Associated with the Implementation
of HB 2475.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Oregon Public Utility Commission (the Commission) approve Idaho Power's (the Company) application for reauthorization of deferred accounting for administrative expense costs associated with the Implementation and Provision of its Bill Discount Program.

DISCUSSION:

Issue

Whether the Commission should approve Idaho Power's applications for reauthorization of deferred accounting for administrative expense costs associated with the implementation and provision of the Company's Bill Discount Program beginning June 5, 2025.

Applicable Law

In accordance with ORS 757.259, utilities may seek approval to defer amounts for later inclusion in rates in order to minimize the frequency of rate changes or to appropriately match customer benefits and costs.

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Pursuant to OAR 860-027-0300(3), a utility requesting a deferral must include with its application the following information:

- a) A description of the utility expense or revenue for which deferred accounting is requested,
- b) The reason(s) deferred accounting is being requested and a reference to the section(s) of ORS 757.259 or 759.200 under which deferral may be authorized,
- c) The account proposed for recording of the amounts to be deferred and the account which would be used for recording the amounts in the absence of approval of deferred accounting,
- d) An estimate of the amounts to be recorded in the deferred account for the 12-month period subsequent to the application, and
- e) A copy of the notice of application for deferred accounting and list of persons served with the notice.

Furthermore, OAR 860-027-0300(4) requires a utility seeking reauthorization of a deferral to file the application within 60 days of expiration of the previously authorized deferral, submit the information required under OAR 860-027-0300(3), and provide a description and explanation of the entries in the deferred account, and the reasons for continuation of deferred accounting.

Analysis

Background

As a result of HB 2475, Idaho Power has implemented a Bill Discount Program as part of its general rate case submitted in Docket No. UE 426. Accordingly, the Company defers incremental administrative expenses associated with the implementation and provision of its Bill Discount Program authorized under HB 2475.

Thus, the Company seeks with this application deferrals of expenses associated with the implementation and provision of a Bill Discount Program, approved as part of the Company's general rate case submitted in UE 426. The Company's general rate case, UE 426, requested that a balancing account be established to support its proposed Schedule 64. The Company files this request for an accounting order reauthorizing the Company to defer expenses for later ratemaking treatment.

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Description of Expenses

Expenses are to support the provision of all associated administrative expenses. This estimated amount will be reconciled within the balancing account approved in Commission Order No. 25-087, and as such, will periodically be trued up to appropriately match the program's administrative expenses.

Proposed Accounting

The Company proposes recording Deferred Amounts by debiting Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Account 182.3.

Reasons for Deferral

ORS 757.259(2)(e) allows the deferral of identifiable utility expenses in order to minimize the frequency of rate changes or the fluctuation of rate levels or to match appropriately the costs borne and benefits received by customers.

Estimate of Amounts

The Company currently estimates an annual funding requirement of approximately \$43,000 to support the provision of all associated administrative expenses.

Information Related to Future Amortization

- Earnings Review – Staff proposes an earnings test is not applied when amortization is requested of any deferred amounts. This recommendation is based on the purpose of these funds.
- Prudence Review – A prudence review should be performed by Commission Staff as part of their review of this deferral's annual reauthorization filing.
- Rate Spread/Rate Design – Revenues will be allocated to each cost-of-service schedule with the basis to be determined prior to amortization.
- Sharing – This deferral is not subject to a sharing mechanism.
- Three Percent Test (ORS 757.259(6)) – The three percent test measures the annual overall average effect on customer rates resulting from deferral amortizations. The three percent test limits (with exceptions) the aggregated deferral amortizations during a 12-month period to no more than three percent of the utility's gross revenues for the preceding year; nevertheless, this doesn't put the utility over 3 percent.

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Conclusion

Staff recommends approval of Idaho Power's application for reauthorization of deferred accounting of incremental administrative expenses associated with the implementation and provision of a Bill Discount Program.

The Company has reviewed this memo and has stated no objection.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Approve Idaho Power Company's request for reauthorization of deferred accounting of incremental administrative costs of a Bill Discount Program beginning June 5, 2025.