

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE REVIEW OF** )  
**IDAHO POWER COMPANY'S PHASE ONE** ) **CASE NO. IPC-E-06-1**  
**AMR IMPLEMENTATION STATUS** )  
**REPORT** ) **NOTICE OF FILING**  
)  
) **NOTICE OF MODIFIED**  
) **PROCEDURE**  
)  
) **ORDER NO. 29959**  
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On December 30, 2005, Idaho Power Company (Company, Idaho Power) filed its Phase One AMR Implementation Status Report (Report), as required by Order No. 29362, Case No. IPC-E-02-12. The Commission directed Idaho Power to collaboratively develop and submit a Phase One Advanced Meter Reading (AMR) Implementation Plan to replace current residential meters with advanced meters in selected service areas by December 2003. *Id.* The Company was also directed to complete Phase One AMR installation by December 31, 2004, and file an AMR Phase One implementation status report by the end of 2005. *Id.* This filing is meant to comply with the directives of Order No. 29362. With this Order the Commission authorizes the use of Modified Procedure and establishes a deadline for the submission of comments.

**THE REPORT**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that according to the Executive Summary of the Report the Phase One AMR Project (Project) consisted of the implementation and evaluation of AMR technology for approximately 23,500 customers in the Company's Emmett and McCall operating areas. In addition to the AMR technology and infrastructure that included the meters, substation technology, and AMR software, the Company installed a Meter Data Management System, which is required for validating the data and providing the data for billing purposes, and an Internet-based data presentment software system, which makes usage data available to customers via the Company's web site. Idaho Power offered two programs: time-variant pricing and A/C cool credit programs, in the Emmett area during the summer of 2005.

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YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that according to the Report the Project included the installation of three separate but related systems, as no single system or vendor was able to provide all the functionality requirements to meet the objective of the Project. This required Idaho Power to evaluate multiple vendors and build the necessary interfaces between systems to meet the functionality requirements. The systems installed are: (1) Two-Way Automated Communication System (TWACS) AMR Power Line Carrier System, (2) Itron EE Meter Data Management System, and (3) Nexus Energy Software. The TWACS AMR system, consisting of software and physical equipment in the field, is the meter data collection system. TWACS uses two-way communications via power line carrier technology to retrieve meter-reading data. The TWACS system is a multi-tiered technology that uses specific TWACS meter modules, substation equipment, a communications network, and software to operate the system. The Itron EE Meter Data Management System was implemented in order to provide the Validating, Editing, and Estimating (VEE) function for the hourly interval consumption data retrieved by TWACS and converting this interval data into billing data for time-variant pricing programs. The TWACS system is not designed to provide these functions. Nexus Energy Software is an Internet-based software system used for data presentment in which customers can access their AMR hourly energy use data through a web site. The total projected Phase One Project cost is \$6,859,424.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Report provides the Project scope as well as an assessment of: the three installed systems; customer feedback on AMR; time-variant pricing; TWACS load control functionality; other AMR-enhanced features; and Project costs and benefits. The Report also provides the Company's conclusions or "lessons learned" during the course of the Project as well as an analysis of future AMR deployments and the Company's proposed "next steps."

#### **NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE**

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has reviewed the filing of record in Case No. IPC-E-06-1. The Commission has preliminarily determined that the public interest may not require a hearing to consider the issues presented in this case and that issues raised by the Company's filing may be processed under **Modified Procedure**, i.e., by written submission rather than by hearing. IDAPA 31.01.01.201-204. In so doing, the Commission

notes that Modified Procedure and written comments have proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission may not hold a hearing in this proceeding unless it receives written protests or comments opposing the use of Modified Procedure and stating why Modified Procedure should not be used. IDAPA 31.01.01.203.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no protests or written comments are received within the deadline, the Commission will consider the matter and enter its Order without a hearing. If protests or comments are filed within the deadline, the Commission will consider them and may, in its discretion, set the matter for hearing or decide the matter and issue its Order on the basis of the written positions before it. IDAPA 31.01.01.204.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be held pursuant to the Commission's authority and jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

#### **NOTICE OF COMMENT/PROTEST DEADLINE**

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that **the deadline for filing written comments or protests** with respect to the Application and the Commission's use of Modified Procedure in Case No. IPC-E-06-1 is **Tuesday, April 25, 2006**. Persons desiring a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written protests or comments.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that written comments concerning this case should be mailed to the Commission and to the Company at the addresses reflected below.

Commission Secretary  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Street Address For Express Mail:  
472 W. Washington Street  
Boise, ID 83702-5983

John R. Gale  
Barton L. Kline  
Idaho Power Company  
PO Box 70  
Boise, ID 83707-0070  
E-mail: [rgale@idahopower.com](mailto:rgale@idahopower.com)  
[bkline@idahopower.com](mailto:bkline@idahopower.com)

These comments should contain the case caption and case number shown on the first page of this document. Persons desiring to submit comments via e-mail may do so by accessing the Commission's homepage located at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov). Click the "Comments and Questions"

icon, and complete the comment form, using the case number as it appears on the front of this document. These comments must also be sent to Idaho Power at the addresses listed above.

### **FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS**

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission has jurisdiction over Idaho Power Company, its filing, and the issues involved in this case by virtue of Title 61, Idaho Code, and the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

The Commission has preliminarily determined that the public interest may not require a hearing to consider the issues presented in this case, and that issues raised by the Company's filing may be processed under **Modified Procedure**, i.e., by written submission rather than by hearing. IDAPA 31.01.01.201-204. In so doing, the Commission notes that Modified Procedure and written comments have proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation.

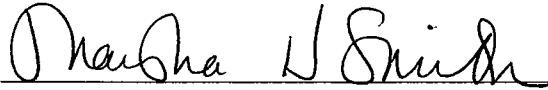
### **ORDER**

IT IS HERBY ORDERED that this case be processed under Modified Procedure. Persons interested in submitting written comments regarding this case or protesting the use of Modified Procedure should do so no later than April 25, 2006.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 26<sup>th</sup>  
day of January 2006.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

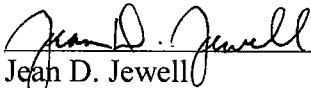


MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER



DENNIS S. HANSEN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Jean D. Jewell  
Commission Secretary

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