

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF IDAHO POWER</b>	)	
<b>COMPANY'S PETITION FOR AN</b>	)	<b>CASE NO. IPC-E-07-02</b>
<b>EXEMPTION OF SPECIFIC ACCOUNTS</b>	)	
<b>FROM THE COMPANY'S RULE C</b>	)	
<b>PROVISIONS REGARDING AGGREGATED</b>	)	<b>ORDER NO. 30274</b>
<b><u>METER READING</u></b>	)	

On January 23, 2007, Idaho Power Company filed a Petition requesting an exemption for specific accounts from the Company's Rule C provisions regarding aggregated meter reading. On February 14, 2007, the Commission issued a Notice of Petition and Modified Procedure and established a comment deadline of March 7, 2007. The only party to file comments was the Commission Staff, recommending approval of the Company's request. With this Order the Commission approves the Company's request as more fully set forth below.

**THE PETITION**

Rule C states that where a customer has more than one delivery point or separate meters at a single premises, the meter readings will not be combined or aggregated for any purpose except for determining if the customer's total power requirements exceed 25,000 kW. The Company requested an exemption from Rule C's aggregated meter reading provision to allow bills for specific large accounts to be prepared by combining the readings from multiple meters. The Company stated that this would allow it to accommodate the electric requirements of some of its larger customers, where multiple meters at the same premises are the most cost-effective and optimal means to design the distribution facilities necessary to provide the customer's requested level of service.

The Company stated it currently has 13 accounts where aggregated billing would provide the best, most cost-effective service. Those accounts are:

- Amalgamated Sugar (Paul)
- American Micro Systems (Pocatello)
- Kinross Delamar (Murphy)
- Lamb Weston (Twin Falls)
- McCain Foodservice (Burley)
- Micron Fab B (Nampa)
- Micron Nano Fab (Boise – anticipated to be online 4/1/07)

Mountain Home Air Force Base (Mountain Home)

Irrigation Customers:

Grindstone Butte: Header 746, Pump 05s 09e 3403 (Glenns Ferry)

Grindstone Butte: Header 744, Pump 05s 09e 3405 (Glenns Ferry)

Farm Dev. Corp. (Sailor Creek): Header 745, Pump 05s 09e 3404 (Glenns Ferry)

Magic Water Corp. (Buhl)

West End Project (Melba)

The Company stated that the customers of the above referenced accounts received a letter and a personal contact from Idaho Power explaining the Company's intention to file this Petition seeking an exemption from Rule C, and that no customer has objected.

Additionally, the Company requested that the Commission authorize an abbreviated procedure in which the Company could add more customers to the list of those exempt from Rule C's aggregated meter reading provisions. The Company requested that rather than filing separate petitions requesting exemptions, the Commission authorize it to forward the customer's name, city location, and an explanation of why aggregation is appropriate to the Commission for review. The Company proposed that, unless the Commission has an objection, the customer would then be added to the list of customers exempt from Rule C as it is applied to aggregated meter readings.

#### **STAFF COMMENTS**

Staff reviewed the Company's Petition, met with Company representatives, and recommended that the Commission approve the Company's request. Staff stated that under the current rate schedules, aggregating the meter readings does not appear to impact the amount the customer is charged for service. It is possible that under different rate structures, specifically those that vary the amount charged for peak demand by time of use, aggregating the meter readings would impact the amount the customer is billed. Consequently, Staff recommended that customers affected by this exemption be granted the flexibility to request and receive separate billings if they so desire.

## DISCUSSION/FINDINGS

We have reviewed the record for this case, including the Petition and comments. No protests to the Commission's use of Modified Procedure were filed. We continue to find that the public interest does not require a hearing to consider the issues presented in this case and that Modified Procedure is appropriate. IDAPA 31.01.01.204. The Commission has jurisdiction over Idaho Power, its Petition for an exemption from Rule C of its tariff, and the issues involved in this case by virtue of Title 61, Idaho Code, specifically *Idaho Code* §§ 61-129, 61-119, 61-301, 61-302, 61-303, 61-305, 61-307, 61-501, 61-502, and 61-503, and the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

We find the requested exemption to be reasonable. Under the present rate structure the change to aggregated meter reading for the 13 accounts identified in the Petition appears not to change what those accounts will be billed. It appears that the requested exemption is merely a matter of administrative convenience and efficiency for the Company. It is our understanding that each of the affected customers was contacted regarding this change/exemption and that none of them objected. Should the affected customers, for whatever reason, wish to go back to individual meter readings (non-aggregated) they are allowed to do so.

Additionally, we find the Company's proposed abbreviated procedure for adding additional customers to those exempt from Rule C's aggregated meter reading provisions to be reasonable, and approve the same. The Company will forward the customer's name, location, and explanation of why aggregation is appropriate to the Commission for review prior to aggregating the meters. The Commission Staff shall notify the Commission if it has an objection to the customer proposed for aggregation.

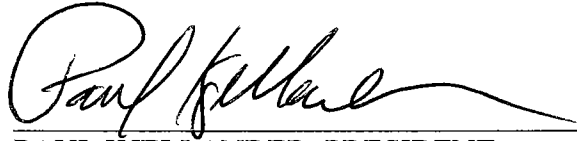
## ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Idaho Power Company's Petition for an exemption of specific accounts from the Company's Rule C provisions regarding aggregated meter reading is granted. Future exemptions to Rule C regarding aggregated meter reading may be handled as outlined above.

THIS IS A FINAL ORDER. Any person interested in this Order may petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of the service date of this Order with regard to any matter decided in this Order. Within seven (7) days after any person has petitioned for

reconsideration, any other person may cross-petition for reconsideration. *See Idaho Code § 61-626.*

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2007.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

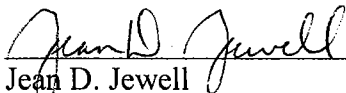


MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER



MACK A. REDFORD, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Jean D. Jewell  
Commission Secretary

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