

## **DECISION MEMORANDUM**

**TO:           COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER  
              COMMISSIONER SMITH  
              COMMISSIONER REDFORD  
              COMMISSION SECRETARY  
              COMMISSION STAFF  
              LEGAL**

**FROM:       DONOVAN E. WALKER**

**DATE:       MARCH 9, 2007**

**SUBJECT:   IDAHO POWER'S PETITION FOR EXEMPTION OF SPECIFIC  
              ACCOUNTS FROM THE COMPANY'S RULE C PROVISIONS  
              REGARDING AGGREGATED METER READING, CASE NO. IPC-E-07-  
              02**

On January 23, 2007, Idaho Power filed a Petition requesting an exemption for specific accounts from the Company's Rule C provisions regarding aggregated meter reading. The Company requested that its Petition be processed by Modified Procedure. Staff also recommends Modified Procedure to process the Company's request.

### **THE PETITION**

Rule C states that where a customer has more than one delivery point or separate meters at a single premises, that 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 requests 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 states that this would allow it to best 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 states that 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 states 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.

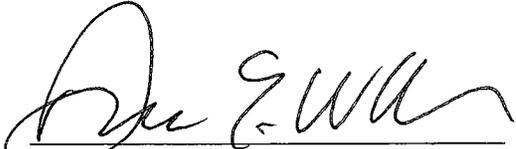
Additionally, the Company requests the Commission to authorize an abbreviated procedure in which it could add additional customers to the list of those exempt from Rule C's aggregated meter reading provisions. The Company requests that rather than filing separate petitions requesting exemptions that 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 proposes that unless the Commission has an objection, that 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 has reviewed the Company's Petition, met with Company representatives, and recommends the Commission approve the Company's requests. Staff states that under the current rate schedules, aggregating the meter readings does not appear to impact the amount the customer is charged for their 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 recommends that customers affected by this exemption be granted the flexibility to request and receive separate billings if they so desire.

## COMMISSION DECISION

Does the Commission wish to approve the requested exemption from Rule C of the Company's tariff for the thirteen specific customers identified in the request? If so, does the Commission wish to authorize the abbreviated procedure proposed by the Company for similar exemptions in the future?



Donovan E. Walker