

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	
OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY FOR)	CASE NO. IPC-E-08-02
AUTHORITY TO MODIFY ITS RULE H)	
CHARGES AND CREDITS RELATED TO)	NOTICE OF
DISTRIBUTION LINE INSTALLATIONS)	MODIFIED PROCEDURE
AND UNDERGROUND SERVICE)	
ATTACHMENTS.)	ORDER NO. 30541

On March 10, 2008, Idaho Power Company filed an Application requesting modification of its Rule H tariff charges and credits for installing distribution lines and underground service to customers' premises. Specifically, the Company proposes to update Section 4(b) concerning Underground Service Attachment Charges. The Company requested that the Application be processed by Modified Procedure. On April 8, 2008, the Commission issued a Notice of Application and set a deadline for intervention. Order No. 30525. No persons petitioned to intervene.

BACKGROUND

In its Application, the Company notes that the last major change to its charges and credits (specific to this section of its Rule H tariff) occurred in February 1997. Since that time, the Company has observed an increase in the construction of larger-sized residential properties within its service territory that require a larger-sized conductor than the "1/0" underground cable. The current tariff charges and credits are based on use of the 1/0 cable size.

The Company's current Rule H tariff assesses additional charges for customers who take service under Schedules 1, 4, 5, or 7.¹ These customers must pay for underground service attachments. Charges in Section 4(b) are divided into two types: a "Base" Charge and a "Distance" Charge (priced per foot based on the length of the installation).

The current method used to calculate the Distance Charge compares the cost difference between installing overhead and underground service based on a single service-size (1/0 cable at \$5.05 per foot). Customers receive standard overhead service from the Company at

¹ Schedules: 1 – Residential Service; 4 – Residential Energy Watch (optional); 5 – Residential Time-of-Day (optional); 7 – Small General Service.

no charge, but are charged an added cost differential when installing underground service. The Company proposes a Distance Charge calculation using the same method (overhead vs. underground), but with an additional assessment dependent on the size of the wire (\$6.90 per foot with 1/0 cable, \$7.50 per foot with 4/0 cable, and \$9.60 per foot with 350 cable).

The Company also requests a change to the discount in Distance Charges for customers who provide their own trenching. The current charge for wire in customer-provided trenching is \$1.05 per foot. The existing tariff does not distinguish between types of wire. The proposed charges are \$2.15 per foot with 1/0 cable, \$3.60 per foot with 4/0 cable, and \$4.65 per foot with 350 cable.

The Company's Base Charge is currently \$30 for service from existing underground facilities, and \$255 for service from overhead facilities due to the cost of the 2" conduit riser. The Company proposes to increase the Base Charge to \$40 for service for existing underground facilities and \$395 for service requiring a 2" riser. The Company also proposes to add a charge for a 3" riser option to address the larger-sized services not previously envisioned when the tariff was created.

NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Commission has determined that the public interest may not require a formal evidentiary hearing in this matter and will proceed under Modified Procedure pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure 201 through 204, IDAPA 31.01.01.201 through .204. The Commission notes that Modified Procedure (with written comments) has proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation in cases of this nature.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that any person desiring to state a position on this Application may file a written comment in support or opposition with the Commission no later than 21 days from the date of this Order. The comment must contain a statement of reasons supporting the comment. Persons desiring a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments. Written comments concerning this Application shall be mailed to the Commission and the Applicant 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 83702-5918

Lisa D. Nordstrom
Barton L. Kline
Idaho Power Company
PO Box 70
Boise, ID 83707-0070
E-Mail: lnordstrom@idahopower.com
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Celeste Schwendiman
John R. Gale
Idaho Power Company
PO Box 70
Boise, ID 83707-0070
E-mail: cschwendiman@idahopower.com
rgale@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 home page located at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click the "Comments and Questions" icon, and complete the form, using the case number as it appears on the front of this document. These comments should also be sent to the Company at the e-mail addresses listed above.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no written comments or protests are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider this matter on its merits and enter its Order without a formal hearing. If written comments are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider them and, in its discretion, may set the same for formal hearing.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be held pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code and specifically *Idaho Code* §§ 61-307, 61-503, and 61-622. The Commission may enter any final Order consistent with its authority under Title 61.

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.*

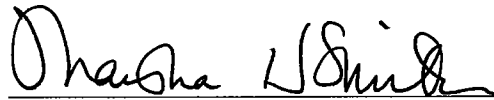
ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this case be processed under Modified Procedure. Interested persons and the parties may file written comments no later than 21 days from the date of this Order.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 28th day of April 2008.



MACK A. REDFORD, PRESIDENT

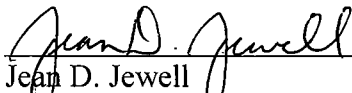


MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER



JIM D. KEMPTON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Jean D. Jewell
Commission Secretary

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