

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTEER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY FOR)
AUTHORITY TO CONVERT SHEDULE 54-)
-PILOT SCHEDULE TO AN ONGOING)
PERMANENT SCHEDULE)**

**CASE NO. IPC-E-09-28)
PETITION TO INTERVENE)
OF THE COMMUNITY ACTION)
PARTHERSHIP ASSOCIATION)
OF IDAHO)**

COMES NOW, Community Action Partnership Association of Idaho (hereinafter "CAPAI" or "Intervenor") and, pursuant to Rules 071-075 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.071-075, hereby petitions the Commission for leave to intervene in this proceeding and to appear and participate with full parties' rights. In support of this Petition, CAPAI states as follows:

1. The address and name of the respective Intervenor is:

Community Action Partnership Association of Idaho
5400 W. Franklin Rd., Suite G
Boise, ID. 83705

2. This Intervenor will be represented in this proceeding by, and pleadings and other correspondence need only be sent to:

Brad M. Purdy
Attorney at Law
2019 N. 17th St.
Boise, ID. 83702
208-384-1299
FAX: 208-384-8511
Email: bmpurdy@hotmail.com

3. CAPAI is a non-profit corporation consisting of six community action agencies serving every county in Idaho and also includes, among others, the statewide Community Council of Idaho (formerly the Idaho Migrant Council) and fights the causes and conditions of poverty

through building the capacity and effectiveness of its members who have a direct and substantial interest in this proceeding. These causes and conditions of poverty include high utility costs for Idaho Power's low income rate payers. Low income families pay a higher percentage of their income for utility expenses than those in other economic categories. These conditions are often caused by living in sub-standard or older housing that is not energy efficient. No other party typically intervenes in proceedings before the Commission, other than CAPAI, that represents the Company's low-income customers. Consequently, CAPAI fulfills an important role in this, and similar proceedings and, without the opportunity to participate as a part in this proceeding, would be unable to fulfill that role.

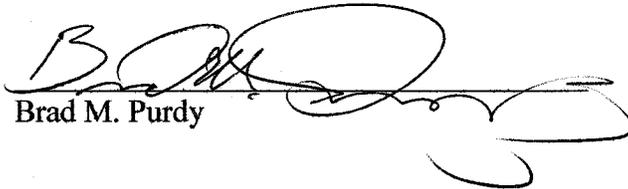
4. The concept of implementing a fixed cost mechanism, also sometimes generally referred to as "decoupling," It is fair to characterize the concept as controversial among some and still in somewhat of a stage of infancy, though Idaho Power has had in place for several years now a Pilot Program. There are those who posit that the proposed mechanism might cause the rates of seniors and low-income customers to go up, even when those same customers use less energy through conservation efforts or measures. As a result, CAPAI has a direct and substantial interest in this matter.

CAPAI did not have the resources to intervene in the initial Pilot Program proceeding and has not yet had the opportunity to fully analyze the Company's proposed mechanism for recovering fixed costs through a mechanism not altogether unlike the Power Cost Adjustment ("PCA") mechanism which attempts to capture unanticipated variable costs, though there are certainly differences. Regardless, CAPAI has not yet formulated a firm position on the specifics of the Company's proposal, but is concerned that, even if it is warranted, it must be designed in a manner that does not send inaccurate price signals and does not unduly impact Idaho Power's

low-income customers, while at the same time, encouraging the acquisition of low-cost DSM resources. To be sure, this is a tall order. As is said, “the devil is in the details” and that admittedly worn-out adage very much applies to the Company’s proposal in this case. Consequently, CAPAI believes that Idaho Power’s application has a substantial and direct impact on its low-income customers and respectfully requests intervention in this proceeding to ensure that that impact will not unduly harm low-income customers and that, where appropriate, safeguards be put in place to accomplish that objective.

5. CAPAI intends to participate in this proceeding as a party and introduce testimony and exhibits, cross-examine other witnesses, engage in oral argument, file comments, and otherwise fully participate as a party. fxc participate as a party with all the attendant rights and responsibilities.

DATED, this 16th day of December, 2009.


Brad M. Purdy