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IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY FOR) Case No. IPC-E-09-30
AN ACCOUNTING ORDER TO AMORTIZE)
ADDITIONAL ACCUMULATED DEFERRAL)
INCOME TAX CREDITS)
AND)
AN ORDER APPROVING A RATE CASE)
MORATORIUM.)
_____)

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

JOHN R. GALE

1 Q. Please state your name and business address.

2 A. My name is John R. Gale and my business
3 address is 1221 West Idaho Street, Boise, Idaho.

4 Q. By whom are you employed and in what
5 capacity?

6 A. I am employed by Idaho Power Company ("the
7 Company") as the Vice President of Regulatory Affairs.

8 Q. Please describe your educational background
9 and business affiliations.

10 A. I received a BBA in 1975 and an MBA in 1981
11 from Boise State University. I maintain a close
12 affiliation with the university and serve on the College of
13 Business and Economics' Advisory Council. I have also
14 attended the Public Utilities Executive Course at the
15 University of Idaho and am now on the faculty of that
16 program leading the section on "Regulation and Ratemaking."

17 I am an active member of the Edison Electric
18 Institute's ("EEI") Rates and Regulatory Affairs Committee,
19 which is the committee that is concerned primarily with
20 regulatory issues and ratemaking methods. I am the current
21 Chair of this committee. I am also a member of EEI's
22 Retail Energy Services Executive Advisory Committee.

23 Q. Please describe your work experience.

1 A. From 1976 to 1983, I was employed by the
2 State of Idaho primarily as an analyst in the Department of
3 Employment. In October 1983, I accepted a position at
4 Idaho Power Company as a Rate Analyst in the Rate
5 Department. I initially worked on rate design, tariff
6 administration, and line extension issues. In March 1990,
7 I was assigned to the Company's Meridian District Office
8 where I held the position of Meridian Manager, which was a
9 one-year cross training position established to provide
10 corporate employees with an extensive field experience. I
11 returned to the Rate Department in March 1991 and in June,
12 I was promoted to Manager of Rates. In July 1997, I was
13 named General Manager of Pricing and Regulatory Services.
14 In March 2001, I was promoted to Vice President of
15 Regulatory Affairs, my current position.

16 As Vice President of Regulatory Affairs, I oversee
17 and direct the activities of the Pricing and Regulatory
18 Services Department. These activities include the
19 development of jurisdictional revenue requirements, the
20 oversight of the Company's rate adjustment mechanisms, the
21 preparation of class cost-of-service studies, the
22 preparation of rate design analyses, and the administration
23 of tariffs and customer contracts. In my current position,
24 I have the primary responsibility for policy matters

1 related to the economic regulation of Idaho Power Company.
2 I have testified frequently before the Idaho Public
3 Utilities Commission ("the Commission") on a variety of
4 rate and regulatory matters. I have also testified before
5 or submitted direct testimony to the regulatory commissions
6 in Nevada and Oregon, the Federal Energy Regulatory
7 Commission ("FERC"), the Bonneville Power Administration,
8 and the United States Senate Committee on Energy and
9 Natural Resources.

10 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in
11 this matter?

12 A. My testimony supports the settlement
13 Stipulation ("Settlement") filed in this case regarding the
14 establishment of regulatory and ratemaking mechanisms to be
15 in place until January 1, 2012. I will discuss the
16 development of the Settlement and explain its benefits to
17 the Company and its customers. The Settlement is Exhibit
18 No. 1 to my testimony.

19 Q. Please describe the genesis of the
20 Settlement.

21 A. Following the conclusion of Idaho Power's
22 last general rate case, Case No. IPC-E-08-10, the Company
23 contemplated the value of setting the Return on Equity
24 ("ROE") for Idaho regulatory matters at an agreed-upon

1 fixed level for a specified time period. The Company
2 believed this issue could be settled among the various
3 interested parties to Idaho Power's rate proceedings
4 because of the near proximity of the last Commission
5 decision in a fully-contested revenue requirement case.
6 Idaho Power determined this matter was ripe for discussion
7 with customer groups and Commission Staff. Establishing a
8 specified ROE to be fixed for a period of time is
9 beneficial because it removes a resource-intense and time-
10 consuming element from a rate case that may add little
11 value to the ultimate rate recovery decision, particularly
12 when the same issue was recently decided in a fully-
13 contested proceeding. Additionally, setting the ROE at a
14 fixed level helps to mitigate the size of a rate request by
15 avoiding the need for the utility to request a *higher* ROE
16 to respond to a *lower* recommended ROE that inevitably comes
17 from the Intervenors.

18 Q. Besides establishing a ROE with some shelf
19 life, was there another reason the Company wanted to talk
20 with its customers and the Commission Staff?

21 A. Yes. Due to ongoing circumstances related
22 to generally poor hydro conditions throughout this decade
23 and the difficulty of playing "catch-up" with costs that,
24 until very recently, were being driven by growing service

1 territory, Idaho Power determined that the time was right
2 to discuss an earnings sharing mechanism similar to one
3 that existed during the last half of the 1990s. The
4 Company asked customer groups and Commission Staff to
5 attend an informal meeting on September 3 to discuss this
6 possibility.

7 Q. Please describe the prior case in which
8 earnings sharing was discussed.

9 A. The docket for that case was IPC-E-95-11.
10 In that case, the earnings sharing mechanism was brought
11 before the Commission in the form of a settlement
12 Stipulation in September of 1995 ("1995 Settlement"). This
13 was a seven-party agreement that included the Commission
14 Staff, the Company, the United States Department of Energy,
15 the Commercial Utility Customers, Micron Technology, FMC
16 Corporation, and the Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association.
17 The Commission approved the 1995 settlement on December 1,
18 1995, through Order No. 26216. A copy of the 1995
19 settlement Stipulation is provided as Exhibit No. 2.

20 Q. What were the principal provisions of the
21 1995 Settlement?

22 A. There were four major provisions to the 1995
23 Settlement. The 1995 Settlement provided for the
24 accounting and ratemaking treatment related to an ongoing

1 significant Company reorganization. The 1995 Settlement
2 provided limited use of an accelerated amortization of
3 Accumulated Deferred Investment Tax Credits ("ADITC") for
4 purposes of supporting a minimum ROE level. The 1995
5 Settlement also provided for the sharing of earnings with
6 customers above a specified ROE level. And finally, the
7 1995 Settlement provided a rate moratorium that lasted
8 through December 1999.

9 Q. What were the circumstances leading up to
10 the 1995 Settlement?

11 A. Throughout the late 1980s and early 1990s,
12 southern Idaho experienced a prolonged series of drought
13 years with poor hydro conditions for generating
14 electricity. Accordingly, Idaho Power faced higher power
15 supply expenses due to more power purchases, fewer surplus
16 sales, and higher fuel costs as the Company relied more on
17 its coal plants to replace the diminished hydro production.
18 One result of the prolonged drought was the development,
19 and Commission approval, of the Company's Power Cost
20 Adjustment ("PCA") in 1992 with its first implementation in
21 the spring of 1993. The PCA helped to mitigate the
22 Company's power supply cost exposure in the poor hydro
23 years and provided benefits to customers in the better
24 ones.

1 requirement outcome, it often adds millions to a general
2 rate case request and is one of the more significant rate
3 case expenses.

4 Q. Does the Company have any ADITC currently on
5 its books that could be utilized under an arrangement
6 similar to the 1995 Settlement?

7 A. Yes. At this time Idaho Power has
8 significant amounts of ADITC on its books, \$30 million of
9 federal and \$43 million of state. The Company also expects
10 to accumulate more state investment tax credits during the
11 next several years.

12 Q. What happened at the September 3 meeting
13 with customers and Commission Staff?

14 A. The Company reviewed much of the information
15 just discussed with the group and presented a ratemaking
16 concept that would stabilize ROE through the use of an
17 agreed-upon ROE that would be used in any Idaho Power rate
18 filing for a fixed period of years. Idaho Power proposed
19 the potential use of ADITC in a prescribed manner to help
20 buttress Company earnings from a non-cash standpoint. In
21 return for shoring up the low side of ROE, Idaho Power
22 proposed to share earnings above a threshold amount with
23 its customers.

24 Q. What happened next?

1 A. Yes. Idaho Power, Staff, and a number of
2 other informed parties anticipate a substantial PCA
3 decrease next spring. At the time of our settlement
4 discussions, the expected PCA decrease was valued at nearly
5 \$160 million. At this writing our expectation has not come
6 down from that level.

7 Q. Once Idaho Power completed its revenue
8 requirement determination for the October 2009 general rate
9 case filing, what happened next?

10 A. Idaho Power analyzed a number of factors in
11 a side-by-side comparison of a general rate case proceeding
12 versus an alternative that included a rate case moratorium.
13 These factors included: (1) financial considerations, such
14 as the need for base rate relief to cover operating
15 expenses and adequate cash flow to maintain our financial
16 ratios, (2) customer rate impacts, and (3) the awareness
17 that a substantial rate reduction through the PCA would
18 likely occur on June 1, 2010. As a result of these
19 deliberations, the Company began to fashion a proposal that
20 could utilize the expected PCA decrease to provide
21 systematic benefits to both the customers and the Company.
22 The Company asked the customer groups and Commission Staff
23 to reassemble on October 13 to lay out its proposal. From
24 there, negotiations progressed until final agreement was

1 reached on October 25. That same day, the Company provided
2 a Memorandum of Understanding and Final Term Sheet to the
3 parties involved.

4 Q. How did the Company evaluate its ability to
5 avoid a general rate case?

6 A. Idaho Power continues to be under pressure
7 to operate reliably without some additional general rate
8 relief. At the same time, the Company is well aware of the
9 current effects of the recession on its service area. As
10 Idaho Power prepared its general rate case, the Company
11 worked to mitigate the total revenue requirement wherever
12 it could. These mitigations included: (1) pushing items
13 such as the second year deployment of Advanced Metering
14 Infrastructure ("AMI"), and pension funding into a separate
15 single-issue cases, (2) addressing an extremely large
16 increase to net power supply expense as part of next year's
17 PCA change, (3) deferring any request to increase the
18 amount of Construction Work in Progress ("CWIP") included
19 in rates until the future, and (4) filing with a stipulated
20 ROE. Without the above-mentioned mitigation steps, the
21 Company's general rate case filing would have requested a
22 rate increase of over 20 percent.

23 Q. How do these actions mitigate the Company's
24 revenue requirement?

1 A. I will start with AMI. Since the Company
2 originally filed for the first year of AMI recovery as a
3 separate rate matter, it would simply continue with similar
4 one-issue filings in the second and third year of
5 deployment and keep the AMI impact out of a general rate
6 request. Pension funding has not been part of the Idaho
7 jurisdictional revenue requirement since the Commission's
8 final order in Case No. IPC-E-03-13; however, regulatory
9 accounting has been established to provide for rate
10 recovery once funding begins again. Because of the
11 potential for volatility in funding requirements over the
12 next number of years, Idaho Power has proposed a tracking
13 mechanism for pension investment that is before the
14 Commission in a separate docket, Case No. IPC-E-09-29.

15 By far the largest single element of the unmitigated
16 revenue requirement was the increase required for net power
17 supply expense, an annual increase of approximately \$75
18 million by itself. While the Company knows recovery of
19 these increased expenses is needed due to higher fuel costs
20 for coal, increased PURPA expense, and the impact of lower
21 natural gas prices on the market price for the Company's
22 surplus sales, increasing the base net power supply expense
23 in a general rate case has a net benefit to the Company of
24 only 5 percent of the change. Accordingly, Idaho Power

1 held the net power supply expense constant in preparing its
2 general rate case with the thought of seeking to change
3 this amount in a separate proceeding that could be
4 implemented with next year's PCA change.

5 The Company also has the ability to request CWIP in
6 rates and has done so on a limited scale - the AFUDC on
7 relicensing of the Hells Canyon project - in the last
8 general rate case, Case No. IPC-E-08-10. While CWIP helps
9 the Company through improved cash flow and customers
10 through rate smoothing, it can be viewed as a pay-me-now or
11 pay-me-later item. In trying to mitigate a high revenue
12 requirement, it is a logical item to postpone. Accordingly
13 all new CWIP was removed.

14 The last mitigation undertaken as part of developing
15 the Company's Idaho revenue requirement was utilizing the
16 10.5 percent ROE ordered in Case No. IPC-E-08-10 instead of
17 arguing for a higher amount.

18 Despite the mitigation plan, the October 2009
19 general rate case filing would still have been more than a
20 10 percent rate increase. Though justified from Idaho
21 Power's perspective, the Company had to assess its ability
22 to successfully obtain that degree of rate relief in the
23 current economic environment.

1 Q. What is driving the need for a base rate
2 change?

3 A. There are three areas that drive the
4 increase: (1) a decrease in forecasted revenues as loads
5 did not materialize as expected, (2) ongoing pressure on
6 operating and maintenance expense as these costs continue
7 to be higher than the level authorized in Case No. IPC-E-
8 08-10, and (3) new plant additions since 2008.

9 Q. Please describe the provisions of the
10 current Settlement previously identified as Exhibit No. 1.

11 A. The Settlement provides that the Company is
12 under a general rate moratorium with specified ongoing
13 exceptions. Under the moratorium, the Company cannot file
14 for a change to general rates, unless otherwise specified,
15 prior to January 1, 2012.

16 The Settlement provides for the establishment of a
17 10.5 percent ROE for regulatory matters through December of
18 2011. The Settlement provides for an equal sharing of
19 actual earnings in excess of 10.5 percent for the Idaho
20 jurisdiction between the Company's customers and
21 shareholders. Customers are to receive any earnings-
22 sharing benefit directly through rate reductions.

23 Concurrent with the potential for revenue sharing,
24 the Company has the ability to amortize additional ADITC

1 during the years 2009 through 2011 to support earnings when
2 the Idaho jurisdictional ROE is less than 9.5 percent. The
3 use of additional ADITC is constrained in several ways to
4 provide for a material amount of ADITC to remain after the
5 Settlement term is over. Every year ADITC use is
6 constrained to no more additional ADITC amortization than
7 is necessary to reach the 9.5 percent Idaho ROE previously
8 mentioned. Additionally, the 2009 ADITC is limited to a
9 maximum \$15 million, 2010 and 2011 are limited further to
10 no more the \$25 million, and the total ADITC used during
11 the three-year period cannot exceed \$45 million. Unused
12 amounts in 2009 and 2010 may be carried over into
13 subsequent years subject to the previously described
14 limits.

15 Finally the Settlement provides for the ability to
16 distribute the expected 2010 PCA decrease in a specified
17 manner to address rate relief for customers, base rate
18 recovery for the Company, and establish a new normalized
19 net power supply expense level for both the Power Cost
20 Adjustment and base rates. Exhibit No. 3 is a worksheet
21 that shows how each increment of rate reduction will be
22 treated.

23 Q. Why would the Company agree to the
24 Settlement?

1 A. The Settlement should enable the Company to
2 remain financially healthy while helping Idaho Power's
3 customers manage through a difficult time in the economy.
4 Idaho Power is optimistic about the potential for a
5 substantial PCA decrease and believes that the decrease can
6 be used productively to address both customer and Company
7 issues. The Company values the opportunity to set the net
8 power supply expense at a more appropriate level, which
9 will restore more symmetry to the mechanism. The Company
10 views the potential for obtaining base rate relief without
11 engaging in a contentious battle before the Commission,
12 given the current economic circumstances, as a positive
13 element of the Settlement. The fact that Idaho Power can
14 participate in any earnings initiatives during the term of
15 the Settlement through the sharing mechanism is also
16 positive. In summary, Idaho Power maintains that the
17 Settlement represents creative and collaborative thinking
18 on behalf of all the parties involved.

19 Q. What do you think the customer benefits are?

20 A. First of all, the Company will delay a
21 general rate change until on or after January 1, 2012.
22 Secondly, the Settlement provides no base rate relief for
23 the Company unless there is a real customer rate reduction
24 through the PCA. Thirdly, setting a fixed ROE eliminates a

1 normally contentious and expensive portion of any rate
2 filing during the term of this Settlement. Fourthly,
3 customers have the assurance that the use of ADITC would be
4 limited. Customers will continue to have the benefit of
5 the ADITC amortization that is currently in existing rates,
6 which reduces allowed expenses. Additionally, customers
7 will have certainty that the Company will not be over
8 earning in the Idaho jurisdiction. And, finally, similar
9 to the 1995 Settlement, the customers have the opportunity
10 to share in any good earnings years.

11 Q. Do you believe that this Settlement is in
12 the public interest?

13 A. Yes. I believe it is one of the most
14 innovative and mutually beneficial endeavors that I have
15 ever been involved with in my career with the Company.

16 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

17 A. Yes, it does.

**BEFORE THE
IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

CASE NO. IPC-E-09-30

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

EXHIBIT NO. 1

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BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY FOR) CASE NO. IPC-E-09-30
AN ACCOUNTING ORDER TO AMORTIZE)
ADDITIONAL ACCUMULATED DEFERRAL) STIPULATION
INCOME TAX CREDITS)
AND)
AN ORDER APPROVING A RATE CASE)
MORATORIUM.)
_____)

This stipulation ("Stipulation") is entered into by and among Idaho Power Company ("Idaho Power" or the "Company"), the Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Staff"), the Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association, Inc. ("IIPA"), the Industrial Customers of Idaho Power ("ICIP"), Micron Technology, Inc. ("Micron"), the United States Department of Energy ("DOE"), the Community Action Partnership Association of Idaho ("CAPAI"), and the Kroger Co. ("Kroger"). These entities are collectively referred to as the "Parties," and individually as "Party."

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Parties agree that this Stipulation represents a fair, just, and reasonable compromise of contested issues and that acceptance of the Stipulation by the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("IPUC" or the "Commission") would be in the public interest. Therefore, the Parties recommend that the Commission approve the Stipulation and all of its terms and conditions without material change or condition.

II. BACKGROUND

2. On August 28, 2009, in accordance with RP 122, Idaho Power filed a notice of intent to file a general rate case.

3. On September 21, 2009, the Parties met to discuss ways to establish an agreed upon return on equity ("ROE") to be used in proceedings before the Commission for a fixed period of time and, additionally, to pursue a regulatory mechanism that would support the potential for the Company to actually achieve its authorized return level by providing for certain sharing mechanisms. During that meeting, Staff and several other Parties expressed a desire to implement a moratorium on new general rate case filings. The Parties agreed to meet again if the Company could confirm that further discussions, including rate case moratorium discussions, would be productive.

4. As a result of several follow-up meetings, the Parties have reached the following settlement agreement:

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III. TERMS OF THE STIPULATION

5. Rate Case Moratorium.

5.1. Idaho Power will not file a general revenue requirement case which would result in a general rate adjustment becoming effective prior to January 1, 2012 ("the moratorium").

5.2. The moratorium is not applicable to, and the Company may make filings with the Commission to adjust its revenue requirement and change rates to become effective prior to January 1, 2012, for the following:

- (a) Annual Power Cost Adjustment ("PCA");
- (b) Annual Fixed Cost Adjustment;
- (c) Annual Advanced Metering Infrastructure Rate Adjustment;
- (d) Annual Pension Expense Recovery;
- (e) Energy Efficiency Rider Adjustment;
- (f) Recovery of governmentally imposed fees, such as franchise

agreements or local improvement district fees;

- (g) Increased funding for low-income weatherization; and

(h) A filing (discussed in detail in paragraph 7.2.7 below) in which the Company could request the authority to recover a portion of a potential shortfall in the Company's recovery of the \$20 million amount described in Section 7.1.2. This filing would only be made if the 2010 PCA rate reduction is less than \$40 million and there is a PCA rate reduction in June 2011.

(i) A filing to set the base rate level for net power supply expenses as described in Section 7.1.

6. Return on Equity and Related Sharing.

6.1. The Parties agree that it would be just and reasonable for the Commission to use a 10.5 percent ROE in any Idaho Power regulatory matter to be determined by the Commission before December 31, 2011.

6.2. The Company intends to continue to optimize its operations to reduce the likelihood it will need to use the tools described herein. Therefore, if during 2009, 2010, or 2011 the Company receives a financial benefit (e.g., regulatory fee refund, material expense reduction, lawsuit settlement, etc.), such financial benefit will be subject to this Stipulation and will benefit customers either by the sharing provisions in Section 6.3 or by reducing the Company's need to amortize additional accumulated deferred income tax credits ("ADITC") to achieve a 9.5 percent ROE as provided in Section 8.

6.3. If the Company's actual earned return on year-end equity for the Idaho jurisdiction during 2009, 2010, or 2011 exceeds 10.5 percent, amounts in excess of a 10.5 percent return will be shared equally between the Company's Idaho customers and the Company. Any shared earnings which are allocated to customers will be used to reduce customer rates.

6.4. For the years 2009, 2010, and 2011, there can be no additional ADITC amortization as provided in Section 8 if the Company has shared earnings pursuant to Section 6.3.

7. 2010 PCA Rate Adjustment and Related Sharing.

7.1. Setting the Base Level for Net Power Supply Expense. Prior to implementing the June 1, 2010, PCA and effective with the coincident PCA rate change, the Company will file with the Commission a request to change the base level for net power

supply expenses to be used prospectively for both base rates and PCA calculations. The Parties will thereafter make a good-faith effort to reach agreement on the maximum change of the base level for net power supply expenses and submit any agreement to the Commission for approval.

7.2. Sharing the PCA Reduction. The Parties anticipate that the June 1, 2010, PCA rate calculation will indicate a substantial reduction in the PCA rates. However, sharing the PCA rate reduction between the Company and its customers will allow the Company to implement the moratorium. As a result, the Parties agree that if they are correct, and the 2010 PCA computation results in a rate decrease, the June 1, 2010, PCA rate change will be processed and allocated as follows:

7.2.1. The First \$40 Million. The amount of any PCA reduction up to and including the first \$40 million of any 2010 PCA rate reduction will be allocated equally between customers and the Company.

7.2.1.1. The Company's share of this PCA rate reduction will be applied to increase permanent base rates on a uniform percentage basis to all customer classes and the special contract customers. Schedule 1 and Schedule 7 customer classes will have any increase placed on their respective energy rates. This increase in base rates will remain in effect until new base rates, which are ordered in a future Idaho Power Company general rate case, become effective.

7.2.1.2. The customers' share of this PCA rate reduction will be provided to customers as a direct customer net rate reduction based on the 2010 PCA rate change being offset by the rate increase described in Section 7.2.1.1.

7.2.2. \$40 Million to \$60 Million. All of the portion of any 2010 PCA rate reduction that is above \$40 million and up to and including \$60 million will be allocated to customers. The customers' share of this PCA rate reduction will be provided to customers as a direct customer rate reduction in the 2010 PCA rate change.

7.2.3. Above \$60 Million. The portion of any 2010 PCA rate reduction which exceeds \$60 million will be applied to absorb any increase in the base level for net power supply expenses. Section 7.1 describes how the base rate change will be initiated.

7.2.4. Should the 2010 PCA rate reduction exceed the \$60 million amount plus the adjustment to the base level for net power supply expenses described in Section 7.2.3, the next \$10 million of any such 2010 PCA rate reduction will be allocated equally between customers and the Company in the same manner as described in Section 7.2.1 above.

7.2.5. The portion of any PCA rate reduction which exceeds (1) the sum of \$60 million plus (2) the amount of the increase in the base level for new power supply expenses described in Section 7.2.3 plus (3) the final \$10 million sharing between Company and customers described in Section 7.2.4 will be allocated 100 percent to customers. The customers' share of this PCA rate reduction will be provided to customers as a direct customer rate reduction in the 2010 PCA rate change.

7.2.6. Exhibit No. 1, attached hereto, is a chart that shows how the above-described sharing amounts would be allocated between the Company and its customers, depending on the amount of PCA reduction.

7.2.7. If the 2010 PCA rate reduction is less than \$40 million and, as a result, the Company is unable to obtain its full \$20 million benefit described in Section 7.2.1.1 and if the 2011 PCA rate should be a decrease from 2010 PCA rates, the Parties agree that the Company can request that the Commission allocate one half of the decrease to the Company up to the amount of the shortfall from the \$20 million amount.

8. Accounting: ADITC Amortization.

8.1. For the years 2009, 2010, and 2011, if Idaho Power's actual Idaho jurisdictional earned return on year-end equity falls below 9.5 percent, the Company will be permitted to amortize an additional amount of state and federal ADITC by debiting Account 255 (ADITC) and crediting Account 420 (investment tax credits, a non-utility income account), in an amount, up to \$45 million over the above-referenced three year period, that would allow the Company to achieve a maximum actual ROE of 9.5 percent for the Idaho jurisdiction. The dollar amount that could be used to increase the actual 2009 ROE to no more than 9.5 percent is \$15 million.

8.2. If Idaho Power does not utilize the full \$15 million of additional amortization of ADITC in 2009, the unused amount of the \$45 million maximum may be carried forward for use in subsequent years through 2011. For example, if in 2009 Idaho Power only amortized an additional \$5 million of accumulated ADITC to achieve a 9.5 percent ROE, it could utilize additional amortization of ADITC of \$20 million in 2010 and \$20 million in 2011. Similarly, if Idaho Power does not use ADITC amounts available in 2010, the unused amount may be carried forward to 2011.

8.3. The additional amortization of ADITC cannot be greater than \$25 million in any one year.

8.4. Except for the permitted use of additional ADITC described herein, for the years 2009, 2010, and 2011, Idaho Power will continue to amortize ADITC using the same method employed immediately prior to the issuance of a Commission Order in this matter.

8.5. In no event shall any additional amounts of ADITC amortized be reflected in the utility operating results of the Company for ratemaking purposes, financial statement purposes, and for purposes of the Company's regulated books of account.

IV. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

9. The Parties agree that this Stipulation represents a compromise of the positions of the Parties. Therefore, other than any testimony filed in support of the approval of this Stipulation, and except to the extent necessary for a Party to explain before the Commission its own statements and positions with respect to the Stipulation, all statements made and positions taken in negotiations relating to this Stipulation shall be confidential and will not be admissible in evidence in this or any other proceeding.

10. The Parties submit this Stipulation to the Commission and recommend approval in its entirety. Parties shall support this Stipulation before the Commission, and no Party shall appeal a Commission Order approving the Stipulation or an issue resolved by the Stipulation. If this Stipulation is challenged by any person not a party to the Stipulation, the Parties to this Stipulation reserve the right to file testimony, cross-examine witnesses, and put on such case as they deem appropriate to respond fully to the issues presented, including the right to raise issues that are incorporated in the settlements embodied in this Stipulation. Notwithstanding this reservation of rights, the Parties to this

Stipulation agree that they will continue to support the Commission's adoption of the terms of this Stipulation.

11. If the Commission rejects any part or all of this Stipulation, or imposes any additional material conditions on approval of this Stipulation, each Party reserves the right, upon written notice to the Commission and the other Parties to this proceeding, within fourteen (14) days of the date of such action by the Commission, to withdraw from this Stipulation. In such case, no Party shall be bound or prejudiced by the terms of this Stipulation, and each Party shall be entitled to seek reconsideration of the Commission's Order, file testimony as it chooses, cross-examine witnesses, and do all other things necessary to put on such case as it deems appropriate.

12. No Party shall be bound, benefited or prejudiced by any position asserted in the negotiation of this Stipulation, except to the extent expressly stated herein, nor shall this Stipulation be construed as a waiver of the rights of any Party unless such rights are expressly waived herein. Execution of this Stipulation shall not be deemed to constitute an acknowledgment by any Party of the validity or invalidity of any particular method, theory, or principle of regulation or cost recovery. No Party shall be deemed to have agreed that any method, theory, or principle of regulation or cost recovery employed in arriving at this Stipulation is appropriate for resolving any issues in any other proceeding in the future. No findings of fact or conclusions of law other than those stated herein shall be deemed to be implicit in this Stipulation.

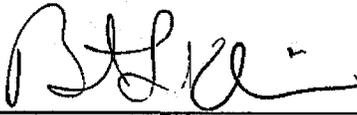
13. The obligations of the Parties under this Stipulation are subject to the Commission's approval of this Stipulation in accordance with its terms and conditions and upon such approval being upheld on appeal by a court of competent jurisdiction.

14. This Stipulation may be executed in counterparts and each signed counterpart shall constitute an original document.

DATED this 6th day of November 2009.

Idaho Power Company

Idaho Public Utilities Commission Staff

By 
Barton L. Kline
Attorney for Idaho Power Company

By _____
Weldon Stutzman
Attorney for Idaho Public Utility
Commission Staff
Industrial Customers of Idaho Power

Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association, Inc.

By _____
Eric Olsen
Attorney for Idaho Irrigation Pumpers
Association, Inc.

By _____
Peter J. Richardson
Attorney for Industrial Customers
of Idaho Power

Micron Technology, Inc.

U.S. Department of Energy

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Conley E. Ward
Attorney for Micron Technology, Inc.

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Arthur Perry Bruder
Attorney for U.S. Department of
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Community Action Partnership Association of
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The Kroger Co.

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Attorney for Community Action
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Energy Coalition

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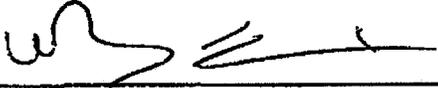
14. This Stipulation may be executed in counterparts and each signed counterpart shall constitute an original document.

DATED this 6th day of November 2009.

Idaho Power Company

Idaho Public Utilities Commission Staff

By _____
Barton L. Kline
Attorney for Idaho Power Company

By  _____
Weldon Stutzman
Attorney for Idaho Public Utility
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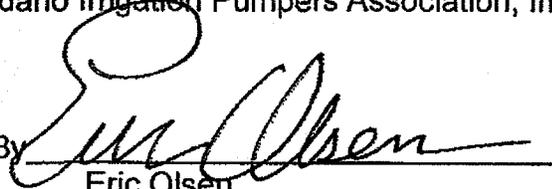
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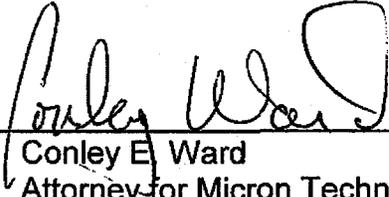
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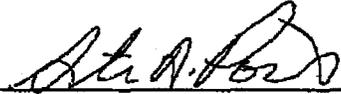
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U.S. Department of Energy

By  _____
Steven A. Porter
Assistant General Counsel for
Electricity and Fossil Energy

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By _____
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Association of Idaho Energy Coalition

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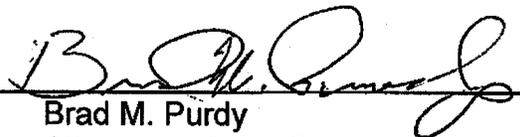
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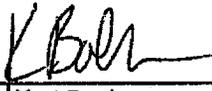
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Energy Coalition

By  _____
Kurt Boehm
Attorney for the Kroger Co.

STIPULATION - 10

**BEFORE THE
IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

CASE NO. IPC-E-09-30

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

EXHIBIT NO. 1

**Exhibit No. 1
Case No. IPC-E-09-30
J. Gale, IPC
Page 17 of 18**

Settlement Proposal

Expected PCA Rate Reduction ~\$160 million

Expected Increase to Net Power Supply Expense ~\$75 million

| PCA Reduction | Company | Customer | NPSE |
|---------------|---------|----------|-------|
| \$ 220 | \$ 25 | \$ 120 | \$ 75 |
| 200 | 25 | 100 | 75 |
| 180 | 25 | 80 | 75 |
| 160 | 25 | 60 | 75 |
| 145 | 25 | 45 | 75 |
| 135 | 20 | 40 | 75 |
| 120 | 20 | 40 | 60 |
| 100 | 20 | 40 | 40 |
| 80 | 20 | 40 | 20 |
| 60 | 20 | 40 | - |
| 40 | 20 | 20 | - |
| 20 | 10 | 10 | - |
| - | - | - | - |

**BEFORE THE
IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

CASE NO. IPC-E-09-30

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

EXHIBIT NO. 2

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
IDAHO POWER COMPANY FOR AN)
ACCOUNTING ORDER TO DEFER AND)
AMORTIZE EXTRAORDINARY COSTS OF)
CORPORATE REORGANIZATION AND)
APPROVAL TO MODIFY AMORTIZATION)
METHODS FOR ACCUMULATED DEFERRED)
INVESTMENT TAX CREDITS)
_____)

CASE NO. IPC-E-95-11

SETTLEMENT STIPULATION

Pursuant to Rules 271-277 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure (IDAPA 31.01.01), the Idaho Power Company (Idaho Power; Company), the Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission and the undersigned intervenors to this proceeding (herein collectively referred to as "the parties"), by and through their respective counsel of record, hereby stipulate as follows:

I. BACKGROUND

On August 3, 1995, Idaho Power filed an Application for an accounting Order from the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (Commission) authorizing the deferral and amortization of costs related to the corporate reorganization of the Company and for an Order approving the modification of amortization methods for accumulated deferred investment tax credits (ADITC). In addition, the Company proposed a moratorium on general rate increases and a sharing of earnings in years in which Idaho Power's earnings exceeded a specified level.

The Staff and each intervenor have conducted their own independent investigations of the issues raised by Idaho Power's Application. Based on those investigations and based on extensive negotiations, all parties hereto believe that the following settlement is in the public interest and that its implementation will result in electric rates for Idaho Power Company that are fair, just and reasonable. Furthermore, this settlement is entered into in the spirit of compromise and with the intent that all parties hereto be bound by its terms and conditions.

II. BASIS OF SETTLEMENT

Idaho Power proposes the following accounting and ratemaking treatment for costs related to corporate reorganization. First, the Company proposes to defer in Account 182.3 (Regulatory Assets), reorganization costs incurred in 1995, 1996 and 1997. Costs incurred by the Company for payments to consultants assisting the Company in developing the reorganization plan, consultants for employee counseling, lump sum compensation payments for voluntary or involuntary separation, costs incurred by the Company for benefit payments and other charges related to employee separations, will be deferred. The Company proposes to defer only out-of-pocket expenses, consultants' fees and severance costs; not those costs of Idaho Power employees who are administering the program.

Idaho Power proposes to amortize the reorganization costs over a period not to exceed ten years and three months commencing October 1, 1995 as follows:

Costs incurred in 1995 will be amortized over the period October 1, 1995 through December 31, 2005.

Costs incurred in 1996 will be amortized over the period January 1, 1997 through December 31, 2005.

Costs incurred in 1997 will be amortized over the period January 1, 1998 through December 31, 2005.

Idaho Power also requested an Order from the Commission that, for the years 1995 through 1998, whenever Idaho Power's actual total system earned return on year end common equity falls below 11.5%, the Company would be permitted to modify its amortization methods (i.e, accelerate the amortization) for state and federal ADITC by debiting Account 255 (ADITC) and crediting Account 420 (Investment Tax Credits), in an amount that would result in the Company earning, on an actual basis, an 11.5% return on equity.

In the event the Company's return on equity for any year during the period 1995 through 1998 rises above 11.5%, Idaho Power proposed that it would not utilize any accelerated amortization of state or federal ADITC. The Company would continue to amortize ADITC to operating income as it has in the past. (As noted below, the time period during which Idaho Power may accelerate ADITC has been extended to include the year 1999).

III. APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION

The parties have negotiated this Settlement Stipulation as an integrated document and recommend that the Commission adopt it in its entirety. Accordingly, this Settlement Stipulation is expressly conditioned upon its acceptance by the Commission without modification. To the extent that the Application and its accompanying testimony and exhibits conflict with the terms of this Settlement Stipulation, the terms of the Settlement Stipulation shall prevail.

IV. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

A. Deferral and amortization of corporate reorganization costs

The parties hereby agree to the deferral and amortization of corporate reorganization costs as proposed by Idaho Power and identified in Section II of this Settlement Stipulation.

B. Limitation on Amount of Amortization of ADITC

Idaho Power is hereby limited in the amount of state and federal ADITC it may accelerate for amortization purposes to a total of \$30 million for the years 1995-1999.

C. Return on Equity and Sharing of Earnings

For purposes of this Agreement, the term "earnings" shall be calculated based on the Company's actual year end results of operations which include the results of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) jurisdiction wholesale operations. The results of the FERC wholesale operations will be spread to the Company's retail jurisdictions. Earnings do not include the results of operations from the Company's Nevada or Oregon jurisdictions with their associated FERC allocations. The Oregon and Nevada exclusion will be accomplished by (1) separating actual financial results using a Jurisdictional Separations Study based on the same allocation methodology as ordered by the Commission in Idaho Power's last general rate case (Case No. IPC-E-94-5) and (2) computing either the ADITC or the shared earnings on an Idaho-separated basis.

For the years 1995 through 1999, Idaho Power will make a formal filing, for review by all parties, of its calculations of earnings, along with supporting workpapers, with the Commission by the 1st day of April of the following year. Copies of this filing shall be sent to all signatory parties to this Settlement Stipulation. In the event the Company's actual earnings for a preceding year exceed 11.75% return on year end common equity, the Company shall refund 50% of the excess commencing on May 15th of each year, in conjunction with its PCA rate adjustment. Said refund shall be made on a uniform percentage basis to each customer class. Furthermore, with the exception of FMC Corporation, said refund shall be allocated within each rate schedule that has a separate demand and energy charge, solely on the energy component. FMC may, in its discretion, elect to have the refund allocated to either demand or energy or both and shall notify the Company accordingly.

D. Rate Moratorium

Idaho Power's base rates will not be changed prior to January 1, 2000 (the "moratorium"). This moratorium is not intended to affect the Company's Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) mechanism nor prohibit any party from instituting a tracker proceeding in the event of significant changes in local, state and federal taxes or franchise fees. Furthermore, the moratorium does not apply to the following three exceptions: (1) a legislatively imposed surcharge for hydro relicensing, (2) application by Idaho Power, or any other party, requesting changes in the manner in which Demand Side Management charges are recovered and, (3) the recovery by Idaho Power of costs related to catastrophic events which are outside the control of the Company.

E. Impact on Service Quality

Idaho Power agrees that its quality of service will not diminish either as a result of the corporate reorganization at issue in this proceeding or as a result of this Settlement Stipulation. The Company will work with the Commission Staff and other interested parties to develop formal, objective and customer-focused criteria by which to measure and evaluate performance with respect to service quality and customer relations. Within one year from the date of this Settlement Stipulation, Idaho Power will develop and implement a system for

collecting, resolving and analyzing, in a timely and efficient manner, informal complaints filed by customers directly with the Company or through the Commission.

Furthermore, Idaho Power agrees to notify affected customers and the Commission of any decision to close or reduce the hours of operation at any Idaho Power office that is open to the public at least 30 days prior to the effective date of its action.

F. Revenue Neutral Proceedings

This Settlement Stipulation shall not prevent any party hereto, including Idaho Power, from initiating and pursuing before the Commission any proceeding that is revenue neutral to the Company as a whole. Any changes to revenue allocation among customer classes shall be supported by cost of service principles. In addition, this Settlement Stipulation shall not relieve Idaho Power from its obligation to conduct a cost-of-service study as directed by the Commission in Order No. 25880 (see p. 35), issued in Case No. IPC-E-94-5.

G. Stipulation Binding on Successors

This Settlement Stipulation shall be binding on the parties, their assigns and/or successors in interest.

V. EFFECT OF SETTLEMENT/CONDITIONS

The parties understand that this Settlement is not binding on the Commission in ruling on Idaho Power's Application in this case. This Stipulation is also conditioned upon acceptance by the Internal Revenue Service and the Idaho State Tax Commission of the Company's proposed modification of amortization methods for ADITC.

VI. EXECUTION OF STIPULATION

This Settlement Stipulation may be executed in counterparts.

DATED at Boise, Idaho this 21st day of September 1995.


Larry D. Kipley
Idaho Power Company

Brad M. Purdy
Deputy Attorney General
Idaho Public Utilities Commission Staff

Lawrence A. Gollomp
Assistant General Counsel
United States Department of Energy

Ronald L. Williams
Commercial Utility Customers

Peter J. Richardson
Industrial Customers of Idaho Power

John J. McFadden
Micron Technology

Conley Ward
FMC Corporation

Randall C. Budge
Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Assoc., Inc.

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DATED at Boise, Idaho this 20th day of September 1995.

Larry D. Ripley
Idaho Power Company



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Idaho Public Utilities Commission Staff

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SETTLEMENT STIPULATION FOR
FILING

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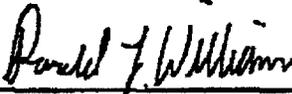
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Page 7 OF 11 Exhibit No. 2
Case No. IPC-E-09-30
J. Gale, IPC
Page 7 of 12

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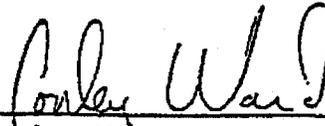
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**BEFORE THE
IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

CASE NO. IPC-E-09-30

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

EXHIBIT NO. 3

Settlement Proposal

Expected PCA Rate Reduction ~\$160 million

Expected Increase to Net Power Supply Expense ~\$75 million

| PCA Reduction | Company | Customer | NPSE |
|---------------|---------|----------|-------|
| \$ 220 | \$ 25 | \$ 120 | \$ 75 |
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