

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF IDAHO POWER)	
COMPANY'S PETITION TO)	CASE NO. IPC-E-14-09
TEMPORARILY SUSPEND ITS PURPA)	
OBLIGATION TO PURCHASE NEERGY)	NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
GENERATED BY SOLAR-POWERED)	
QUALIFYING FACILITIES (QFs).)	ORDER NO. 33039
)	

On May 13, 2014, Idaho Power Company filed a Petition pursuant to Idaho PUC Rules of Procedure 53, 56, and 256. The Petition requested the Commission immediately issue an Order temporarily suspending the utility's obligation to purchase energy from solar-powered qualifying facilities (QFs) under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA). Idaho Power asserts that the purpose of the temporary suspension would allow it to complete the "current solar integration cost study and to include the results thereof into the [power] purchase agreements with solar QFs." Petition at 2. In the alternative, Idaho Power requests the Commission issue an Order that "any solar PURPA contracts or obligations . . . with Idaho Power shall contain an appropriate integration charge." *Id.* at 1-2. The Company maintains that a temporary suspension is necessary "to prevent great and irreparable harm" to its customers that will result if the utility is compelled to enter into PPAs/obligations with solar QFs without the inclusion of solar integration costs. *Id.* at 2.

Procedural Rules 53 and 56 generally set out the form, content, and time requirements for filing a motion or petition with the Commission. Rule 256 states that a motion requesting substantive relief will not be acted upon with fewer than fourteen (14) days notice unless (1) the petition states the facts supporting its request to act on shorter notice and (2) parties receive actual notice of the motion. IDAPA 31.01.01.256.02. The rule further states that "the Commission will allow at least two (2) days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays) after notification by telephone or actual receipt of the motion for parties to inform the Commission Secretary, either in writing personally delivered to the Secretary or by telephone, whether they support or oppose the motion and whether they desire to be heard on the motion in person, in writing or by telephone. . . ." IDAPA 31.01.01.256.02.b.

Based upon Idaho Power's request for expedited relief, the Commission took up this matter at its public decision meeting on May 19, 2014. Idaho Power filed testimony in support

of its Petition. Therefore, pursuant to Rule 256.02.a., the threshold requirement of presentation of facts supporting the Petition has been met. The rule further requires notice and an opportunity to be heard in order to ensure procedural due process. We find that a public hearing, allowing all interested persons or parties to participate, complies with the due process requirements of Rule 256. A public hearing will provide interested persons and parties the opportunity to state their positions on the Petition and also allow for expedited treatment of the request.

The purpose of the public hearing will be to consider the narrow questions raised by Idaho Power in its Petition:

- (1) Whether the Commission should immediately issue an Order temporarily suspending Idaho Power's obligation under PURPA to enter into contracts to purchase energy generated by qualifying solar-powered QFs;
- (2) Alternatively, whether the Commission should issue an Order directing Idaho Power to include an appropriate solar integration charge in PURPA contracts with solar QFs.

The Commission is interested in testimony regarding whether the need to suspend solar contract negotiations is immediate; whether expedited relief is truly necessary; and whether other interim measures are available or appropriate that would allow solar development and contract negotiations to continue as Idaho Power's solar integration study is concluded and presented to the Commission for review. Debate regarding whether and what type of solar integration charge may be appropriate will occur at a later date in a subsequent proceeding. This public hearing will be narrowly conducted to address the issues presented in Idaho Power's Petition.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a public hearing in this matter will convene on **WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2014, AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE COMMISSION'S HEARING ROOM, 472 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, BOISE, IDAHO.** The purpose of the public hearing will be for the Commission to take the formal testimony of customers and interested members of the public on the narrow questions regarding (1) suspension of Idaho Power's PURPA obligation or, in the alternative, (2) a directive by the Commission to include solar integration charges in future solar contracts. Testimony will be recorded and made part of the Commission's formal record for decision in this matter. The Company's customers and any other interested members of the public are encouraged to attend and give testimony.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that any person desiring to state a position on this Petition may file a **written comment** in support or in opposition with the Commission **no later than Wednesday, May 21, 2014**. The comment must contain a statement of reasons supporting the comment. Written comments concerning this Application may be mailed to the Commission and Idaho Power at the addresses reflected below:

Commission Secretary
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Donovan Walker
Idaho Power Company
PO Box 70
Boise, ID 83707-0070
E-mail: dwalker@idahopower.com

Street Address for Express Mail:

472 W. Washington Street
Boise, ID 83702-5918

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 "Case Comment or Question Form" under the "Consumers" tab, and complete the comment form using the case number as it appears on the front of this document. These comments must also be sent to Idaho Power at the e-mail address listed above.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all hearings in this matter will be held in facilities meeting the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Persons needing the help of a sign language interpreter or other assistance in order to participate in or to understand testimony and argument at a public hearing may ask the Commission to provide a sign language interpreter or other assistance at the hearing. The request for assistance must be received at least five (5) working days before the hearing by contacting the Commission Secretary at:

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
PO BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0074
(208) 334-0338 (Telephone)
(208) 334-3762 (FAX)
Email: secretary@puc.idaho.gov

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code.

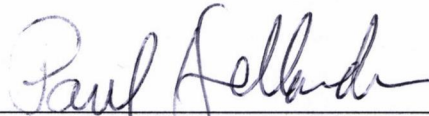
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

ORDER

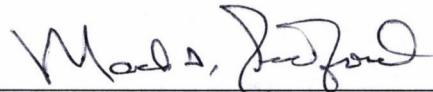
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Commission shall conduct a public hearing in this matter on Wednesday, May 21, 2014, commencing at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission's Hearing Room.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any person desiring to state a position on this Petition may file a written comment in support or in opposition with the Commission no later than Wednesday, May 21, 2014.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 19th day of May 2014.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

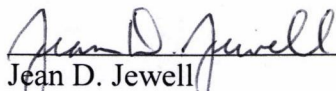


MACK A. REDFORD, COMMISSIONER



MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Jean D. Jewell
Commission Secretary

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