

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY FOR) CASE NO. IPC-E-17-13
AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH NEW)
SCHEDULES FOR RESIDENTIAL AND) ORDER NO. 34098
SMALL GENERAL SERVICE CUSTOMERS)
WITH ON-SITE GENERATION)
)

THE PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION

On May 9, 2018, this Commission issued a final order on Idaho Power Company’s (“Company” or “Idaho Power”) request for authority to establish new schedules for residential and small general service (“R&SGS”) customers with on-site generation. Order No. 34046. In that order, the Commission approved new Idaho Power Schedules 6 and 8 for R&SGS customers with on-site generation. On May 29, 2018, Vote Solar filed a Petition for Reconsideration of Order No. 34046 (the “Petition”), and asked the Commission to “require the Company to revise the new Schedules 6 and 8 to apply only to customers who export electricity.” Petition) at 1. Vote Solar believes no new evidence is necessary for the Commission to make this decision. *Id.* No other petitions for reconsideration were received.

STAFF’S RESPONSE

On June 5, 2018, Commission Staff filed a response generally concurring with Vote Solar. Staff “maintains that those customers who are *incapable* of exporting energy to the grid should be exempt from inclusion in Schedules 6 and 8.” Staff Response to Vote Solar’s Petition for Reconsideration at 2. Staff recommended that the Commission require the Company to revise Schedules 6 and 8 so they apply only to customers with on-site generation who do not use a grid tie limiter, grid inverter with export control, or a similar device to eliminate their ability to export power to the Company’s grid. *Id.*

IDAHO POWER’S ANSWER

On June 5, 2018, Idaho Power filed an Answer opposing Vote Solar’s Petition. Idaho Power noted “(1) the load service requirements for on-site generation systems connected in parallel with Idaho Power’s system are different than customers without on-site generation, and (2) Vote Solar’s recommendation would be unenforceable given that Idaho Power does not measure excess

generation separately from consumption” when it net meters. Idaho Power Company’s Answer to Vote Solar’s Petition for Reconsideration at 2. Idaho Power thus argued that a customer should be in new Schedules 6 and 8 if the customer can export energy to the grid because the customer is connected in parallel to the Company’s system. The Company further contended that it could not rely on customer configurable devices—such as a dynamically controlled inverter, a grid tie limiter, or a grid inverter with export control—to prevent energy export because the customer could reconfigure the devices to allow the customer to export. *Id.* at 4.

Having reviewed the record, we issue this order granting reconsideration on the one issue raised in the Petition. Our decision is further explained below.

STANDARD OF REVIEW

A person may petition the Commission to reconsider its orders. *See Idaho Code* § 61-626; Rules 331-333 (IDAPA 31.01.01.331-.333). Reconsideration allows the petitioner to bring to the Commission’s attention any question previously determined and thereby affords the Commission an opportunity to rectify any mistake or omission. *Washington Water Power Co. v. Kootenai Environmental Alliance*, 99 Idaho 875, 879, 591 P.2d 122, 126 (1979); Rule 325. The petitioner has 21 days from the date of the final order in which to ask for reconsideration. *Idaho Code* § 61-626(1). The Commission may grant reconsideration by reviewing the existing record by written briefs, or by evidentiary hearing. *See* IDAPA 31.01.01.331.03 and .332.

DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

The Commission issued final Order No. 34046 on May 9, 2018. Within 21 days, on May 29, 2018, Vote Solar filed its Petition asking the Commission to reconsider parts of that order. Idaho Power filed an Answer. Commission Staff also responded to the Petition. No one else filed a Petition or Cross Petition raising additional issues. Thus, the Commission has only been asked to reconsider the matter raised in Vote Solar’s Petition, namely, whether the Commission should require the Company to revise new Schedules 6 and 8 so they apply only to customers who export electricity. As no other matters were the subject of a reconsideration petition, we limit our reconsideration to the narrow issue raised in Vote Solar’s Petition.

We now order Vote Solar, Idaho Power, Commission Staff, and any other party who desires to do so, to file, by August 10, 2018, briefing related to whether a customer’s ability to export energy should determine if the customer should be included in new Schedules 6 and 8. Responsive briefings must be filed no later than August 24, 2018. We are particularly interested

in information about export limiting devices, effects of battery storage, additional information on the meaning and repercussions of “in parallel” connection, and the masking of usage created by hourly analysis of customer and Company energy exchanges. After the briefing deadline expires, the Commission will consider the filings and render its final order on reconsideration.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Vote Solar’s Petition for Reconsideration is granted, as more fully described herein. Vote Solar, Commission Staff, Idaho Power, and any other party who desires to do so, shall file briefs by August 10, 2018 discussing whether a customer’s ability to export energy should determine if the customer should be included in new Schedules 6 and 8. Any responsive briefs shall be filed no later than August 24, 2018.

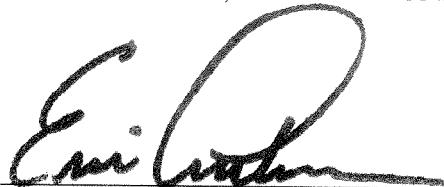
DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this ^{28th} day of June 2018.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT



KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER



ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Diane M. Hanian
Commission Secretary

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