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**IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**For Immediate Release**

**Case No. PAC-E-04-1**

**March 3, 2004**

**Contact: Gene Fadness (208) 334-0339**

**Website: [www.puc.state.id.us](http://www.puc.state.id.us)**

**PacifiCorp proposes to sell its interest in Washington hydro plant**

Boise – PacifiCorp is seeking approval from the Idaho Public Utilities Commission to sell its interest in the Skookumchuck Hydroelectric Plant near Centralia, Wash.

PacifiCorp contends the 1-megawatt plant does not produce enough energy to make it worth the costs of operating and maintaining it. PacifiCorp's share of the approximate \$7.57 million sale price of the plant is 47.5 percent. PacifiCorp claims customers in its Idaho jurisdiction would benefit from a \$700,000 reduction from the rate base that's used to compute rates for customers.

The project is an earth-filled dam and hydroelectric generating plant built in 1973. The dam serves as a water storage facility for the nearby Centralia Power Plant. PacifiCorp proposes to sell and transfer to Washington LLC the dam, powerhouse, water rights, land, easements and other assets of the project.

Other owners include Avista Corp., Public Utility District No. 1 of Snohomish (WA) County, Puget Sound Energy, City of Tacoma, City of Seattle and Public Utility District 1 of Grace Harbor County. Washington LLC plans to continue operation of the project to provide cooling water supply to the Centralia Power Plant and to sell remaining output on the wholesale market.

The commission will take written comment on the matter through March 11.

Persons wishing to submit comments can do so via e-mail by accessing the commission's homepage at [www.puc.state.id.us](http://www.puc.state.id.us) and clicking on "Comments & Questions." Fill in the case number (PAC-E-04-1) and enter your comments. Comments can also be mailed to P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074 or faxed to (208) 334-3762.

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