

**IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Case No. PAC-E-05-3, Order No. 29731**

**March 21, 2005**

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**PacifiCorp wants to offer renewable power purchases in bulk**

Boise – PacifiCorp, which does business in southeastern Idaho as Utah Power, is seeking commission approval of a program that allows the company's customers to buy renewable energy in bulk at a reduced rate.

PacifiCorp already has a renewable purchase option called "Blue Sky" for primarily residential customers. However, the purchase price for energy derived from wind, geothermal or solar sources is too expensive for commercial and industrial customers who want to buy renewable energy in much larger quantities. While about 700 residential customers participate in PacifiCorp's Blue Sky program, only 10 non-residential customers do so.

Under the Blue Sky program, PacifiCorp currently allows customers to buy renewable energy, such as wind, geothermal or solar, for an additional \$1.95 per month for every 100 kilowatt-hours purchased.

Under the proposed bulk-purchase option, customers who agree to enroll for a minimum of one year and agree to purchase at least 101 blocks of 100-kWh of renewable energy would pay 70 cents for every block. That's down from the \$1.95 per 100-kWh block customers who buy in smaller amounts would pay.

PacifiCorp uses two methods to secure the renewable energy. One is to buy green energy directly and to make arrangements for transmission of that energy to its eastern Idaho territory within two years of when the energy is purchased by the customer. The other method is to purchase "green tags," or tradable renewable credits that allow the company to buy green energy for its use, although the actual kilowatts purchased may not directly go to the customer. However, the energy purchased becomes part of PacifiCorp's portfolio and eliminates the need for PacifiCorp to acquire that energy from non-renewable sources. The energy from the credit must be delivered within 18 months.

PacifiCorp offers this bulk-purchase option to its customers in Oregon and Utah and recently received approval to offer it in Wyoming and Washington.

The commission will proceed under a modified procedure that allows the case to be handled through written public comments rather than by public hearing. Those wishing to submit comments must do so by no later than April 13. Comments are accepted via e-mail by accessing the commission's homepage at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov) and clicking on "Comments & Questions." Fill

in the case number (PAC-E-05-3) and enter your comments. Comments can also be mailed to P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074 or faxed to (208) 334-3762.

A full text of the commission's order, along with other documents related to this case, are available on the commission's Web site. Click on "File Room" and then on "Electric Cases" and scroll down to the case number.