

DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER
COMMISSIONER RAPER
COMMISSIONER ANDERSON
COMMISSION SECRETARY
COMMISSION STAFF
LEGAL**

**FROM: KARL KLEIN
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL**

DATE: NOVEMBER 2, 2016

**SUBJECT: INTERMOUNTAIN GAS COMPANY’S GENERAL RATE CASE,
CASE NO. INT-G-16-02**

In this memo, Staff recommends that the Commission adopt an agreed-upon schedule for the case, and extend the suspension period for the proposed effective date by an additional 60 days as allowed by *Idaho Code* § 61-622(4).

By way of background, on August 12, 2016, Intermountain Gas Company applied to the Commission for authority to increase its rates and charges for natural gas service by \$10.2 million (4.06%). The Company requested a September 12, 2016 effective date. The Commission subsequently issued a Notice of Application and Notice of Intervention Deadline, and suspended the proposed effective date for 30 days and 5 months under *Idaho Code* § 61-622(4). The Commission also directed the Company, Staff, and intervening parties to confer about a proposed schedule. *See* Order No. 33593.¹ As directed, the parties to the case have informally conferred about, and agree that the Commission should adopt, the following case schedule:

DATE	ACTIVITY
December 16, 2016	Staff and Intervenors prefile direct testimony
February 15, 2017	All party rebuttal filing
March 1-2, 2017	Technical Hearing
March 24, 2017	Target Date for Commission Order
April 1, 2017	Intermountain implements new rates

¹ Besides the Company and Staff, the parties include the following intervenors: Community Action Partnership Association of Idaho; Northwest Industrial Gas Users; Idaho Conservation League and NW Energy Coalition; the Amalgamated Sugar Co. LLC; Snake River Alliance; and Federal Executive Agencies.

In addition, if the Commission adopts this schedule, the Commission will need to extend the current suspension period, which ends on March 12, 2017, for good cause to allow the parties and Commission sufficient time to complete the case. *See Idaho Code* § 61-622(4) (allowing the Commission to extend the initial suspension period for an additional 60 days upon a showing of good cause).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission issue a scheduling Order that adopts the parties' proposed schedule and, upon a finding of good cause, extends the suspension period for another 60 days under *Idaho Code* § 61-622(4). Per standard practice, the Commission's Order should also direct Staff to convene customer workshops in the Company's service territory (with the workshop date(s) left to Staff's discretion based on its staffing requirements), and should note that the Commission will schedule public hearings for customers at a later date.

COMMISSION DECISION

Does the Commission wish to issue a scheduling Order that adopts the parties' proposed schedule, suspends the proposed effective date for an additional 60 days upon a finding of good cause, directs the Staff to convene workshops for customers, and notes that public hearings for customers will be scheduled at a later date?



Karl T. Klein
Deputy Attorney General

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