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Attorney for the Commission Staff

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )  
SPIRIT LAKE EAST WATER COMPANY FOR ) CASE NO. SPL-W-13-01  
AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS RATES AND )  
CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICE. )  
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The Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, by and through its Attorney of Record, Neil Price, Deputy Attorney General, in response to the Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure, issued on April 10, 2013, Order No. 32783, submits the following comments.

**BACKGROUND**

On March 5, 2013, Spirit Lake East Water Company (“Spirit Lake” or “Company”) filed an Application for authority to increase its total revenue by \$77,544, or 106%. The Company is proposing to increase its base rate for water service from \$12.50 to approximately \$24.75 per month for usage up to 9,000 gallons per month. The Company does not propose any change of the commodity charge presently set at \$0.12 per 100 gallons consumed for all usage above 9,000 gallons for each month.

Spirit Lake also requests authority to change its meter reading and billing procedure from a quarterly to monthly schedule. The Company asserts that more frequent meter reading and billing