

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE INVESTIGATION)	CASE NO. ATL-E-18-01
OF ATLANTA POWER COMPANY)	
SERVICE AND CUSTOMER RELATIONS)	ORDER NO. 34017
_____)	

On March 14, 2018, two non-resident customers of Atlanta Power Company alerted the Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission that another customer's service line had fallen to the ground. The customers expressed concern that the line could endanger persons who come into contact with it. Staff investigated the situation and learned from local Atlanta residents that the line is in fact downed, but currently buried by snow in an inaccessible area off an unplowed road. The local residents further reported that the line is not grounding out, and not believed by them to pose an imminent danger. Nonetheless, Staff determined that the downed line clearly does not comply with National Electric Safety Code.

Based on these facts, the Commission finds the downed line does not promote the safety and health of customers and the public. Accordingly, the Commission, on its own motion, issues this emergency order directing the Company to immediately repair the downed line and make it safe. We further direct Staff to inspect the line and other facilities for other possible safety issues, and to report to us within 60 days on any other health and safety issues related to Company.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Commission has authority over Atlanta Power Company, an electric utility, under Idaho Code §§ 61-125 and -129. As an electric utility, Atlanta Power must "furnish, provide and maintain such service, instrumentalities, equipment and facilities as shall promote the safety, health, comfort and convenience of its patrons, employees and the public, and as shall be in all respects adequate, efficient, just and reasonable." *See* Idaho Code § 61-302. When an electric utility does not comply with this statutory mandate, the Commission is broadly empowered to "supervise and regulate [the] public utility . . . and to do all things necessary to carry out the spirit and intent of the" Idaho Public Utilities Law. *See* Idaho Code § 61-501. Further, Idaho Code § 61-515 specifies that the Commission may require the utility to "maintain and operate its line, plant, system, equipment, apparatus, and premises . . . to promote and safeguard the health and safety of its employees, customers and the public," and order "the installation, use, maintenance and

operation of appropriate safety or other devices or appliances . . . and . . . require the performance of any other act which the health and safety of [the utility's] employees, customers, or the public may demand.”

Based on the record before us, we find that sufficient evidence exists to require the Company to immediately repair the downed line. The Company is cautioned that failure to repair the line may result in further action including the imposition of civil penalties and the initiation of court proceedings. *See* Idaho Code §§ 61-701, et seq. Finally, we direct Staff to address any safety issues related to company facilities in its ongoing investigation. Staff shall report back to the Commission its findings on any health and safety issues within sixty days.

ORDER

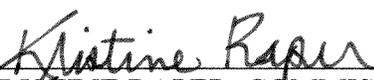
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Atlanta Power Company shall immediately repair the downed service line.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within sixty days, Staff shall investigate and report on health and safety issues at the Company.

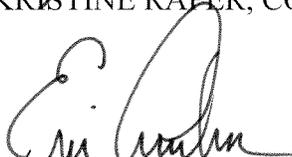
DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this *2nd* day of April 2018.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT



KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER



ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Diane M. Hanian
Commission Secretary

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