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March 13, 2015

Jean D. Jewell  
Commission Secretary  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

**Re: Prehearing Conference in Case Nos. IPC-E-15-01, AVU-E-15-01, PAC-E-15-03**

Dear Ms. Jewell:

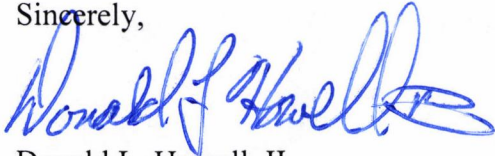
This letter is to inform the Commission of the outcome of the informal prehearing conference in the above-referenced cases held March 10, 2015. With all the parties in the three consolidated cases present except for Amalgamated Sugar, the parties reviewed the two sets of the Petitions to Clarify the Commission's Order No. 33222 in the lead proceeding, Case No. IPC-E-15-01. Following a discussion among the parties, there was a general consensus among all present that the Petitions to Clarify filed by Intermountain Energy Partners and Renewable Energy Coalition should be granted. More specifically, these intervenors suggested that the Commission's Order reducing new PURPA contracts from 20 years to five years on an interim basis be clarified to be inapplicable to SAR-based PURPA contracts. Idaho Power conceded and the other two utilities agreed that the requested interim relief of five-year maximum length contracts should not apply to PURPA QF projects eligible for published rates. Consequently, I'm pleased to report that all the parties agreed the Commission should amend its Order No. 33222 to reflect this clarification.

The other set of Petitions for Clarification were filed by Clearwater Paper and J.R. Simplot Company. They asserted that the five-year interim relief granted in Order No. 33222 should apply only to "new intermittent solar and wind projects." Cross-Petition at 3-4. They also argued that "there is no record suggesting a need to reduce the maximum contract length for any type of [PURPA] resource other than wind and solar." *Id.* at 5. The parties present at the informal prehearing conference were unable to reach consensus on the Petitions submitted by Clearwater and Simplot. Consequently, the parties suggested that the Commission set a schedule requiring responses to the Clearwater-Simplot Cross-Petitions be due March 19, 2015, and allow the petitioners to reply no later than March 26, 2015.

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The parties also proposed a schedule for processing this case, which will be presented to the Commission at its March 16 Decision Meeting.

Sincerely,



Donald L. Howell, II  
Deputy Attorney General

cc: Parties of Record (via e-mail)

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