

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

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Commissioner Marsha H. Smith Commissioner Mack A. Redford Commissioner Paul Kjellander Idaho Public Utilities Commission 472 West Washington Street P.O. Box 83720 Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

November 30, 2011

RE: Doc No. IPC-E-11-08 - U.S. DOE Request to Be Excused From Hearings

Dear Commissioners:

As you know, the United States Department of Energy ("the Department" or "DOE"), an intervenor in the above-captioned proceeding, has actively participated in development of the Stipulation which resolved most issues therein. The Department thanks the Commissioners, Commission Staff, and all of the parties, whose cooperation and courtesy have enabled it to participate fully in the proceeding. The Department supports the Stipulation and urges adoption by the Commission.

As you also know, hearings in the proceeding are scheduled for December 5 - 6, 2011. DOE's practice has been to attend all hearings in cases in which it intervenes. However, the Stipulation of most of the issues in the proceeding offers an opportunity to save travel expenses. Please be advised that DOE has taken no position on the issues that will be examined in the December 5 - 6 hearings. For these reasons, DOE respectfully asks to be excused from attendance at those hearings.

Thank you for your kind attention, and best wishes for a fine Holiday Season.

Very truly yours,

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cc: all parties (via email)

