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IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

April 30, 2018

Ms. Diane Hanian Secretary Idaho Public Utilities Commission PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0074

Re:

Case No. IPC-E-16-14

Tariff Schedule 63, A Community Solar Pilot Program

Idaho Power Company's 2018 Community Solar Annual Report

Dear Ms. Hanian:

In Order No. 33638, the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") approved a settlement stipulation that required Idaho Power Company ("Idaho Power" or "Company") to submit annual reports updating the Commission and stakeholders on a variety of items for the Community Solar Pilot Program ("Program"). The report was to be filed annually beginning in April 2018 and ending with the final year of the Program.

Due to subscription levels detailed in this report, construction of the community solar array has not commenced. Therefore, while the reporting requirements detailed in Order No. 33638 generally consist of data the Company would report on assuming the Program was fully enrolled and the community solar array was operational, for this report Idaho Power has provided data on Program participation and marketing expenditures.

Figure 1 - Total Participation

	# of Participants	Total Subscriptions
Active	126	166
Cancelled	49	100
Rejected	3	3
Total	178	269

Between November 2016 and April 2018, Idaho Power received a total of 178 applications, for 269 subscriptions. Of those applications three were rejected because they did not qualify to participate in the Program. Because the Program enrollment period has been extended beyond what was originally envisioned, participants have been allowed, at their request, to cancel their subscriptions. As of April 26, 2018, the Program was 10.6 percent subscribed and the enrollment consisted of 126 participants who had purchased 166 subscriptions.

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Figure 2 - Rate and Timing of Acquisition of Subscribers (November 2016 – April 2018)

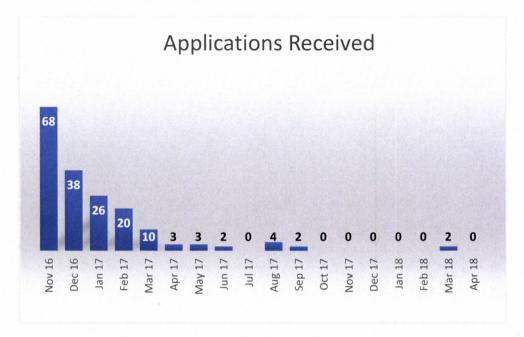


Figure 2 above shows the number of applications received by month. The Company's initial outreach to interested customers informing them that the Program was open was one of the biggest drivers of early subscription purchases. In fact, almost half of the subscriptions purchased occurred in November and December 2016. Despite continued marketing efforts, Program participation continued to decline after the initial batch of subscription purchases.

Figure 3 - Total Subscriptions by Rate Class (excludes rejected applications)

	Total Subscriptions	% of Total
Residential (01)	247	93%
Residential - Time of Day (05)	3	1%
Net Metering (R01)	7	3%
Small General Service (07)	1	0%
Large General Service - (9S)	6	2%
Large Power Service (19P)	2	1%
Total	266	100%

Of the 266 subscriptions, approximately 97 percent were purchased by residential customers (Residential, Time of Day, and Net Metering). The remainder of the subscriptions were purchased by large and small commercial customers. While 32 participants purchased more than one subscription, most purchased a single subscription.

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Figure 4 – Participation by Payment Option (excludes rejected applications)

## **Payment Options**

	24-Month	Bill Me	Check	Total
Residential (01)	54	117	76	247
Residential - Time of Day (05)	3	0	0	3
Net Metering (R01)	2	4	1	7
Small General Service (07)	0	1	0	1
Large General Service - (9S)	1	2	3	6
Large Power Service (19P)	0	2	0	2
Total	60	126	80	266
% of Payment by Option	23%	47%	30%	100%

Figure 4 above demonstrates that the majority of participants selected the Bill Me or Check option for their subscription purchases. The Bill Me option allows a participant to choose their method of repayment, which includes payment by debit/credit card. Currently, there are eight participants past due on the Bill Me option. Of those that chose the 24-month payment option, there are currently four participants past due.

Figure 5 - Marketing Expenses by Year

Year	Total
2016	\$14,215.22
2017	\$16,767.58
2018	\$355.00
Total	\$31,337.80

The Program costs detailed in the settlement stipulation included \$50,000 for marketing expenses over the life of the Program. Figure 5 above shows the Program marketing expenses by year. The program was marketed utilizing a variety of strategies and tactics, including awareness marketing reaching all customers, and targeted approaches reaching customers most likely to subscribe. Idaho Power also utilized existing resources to promote the Program such as public relations (face-to-face), the Idaho Power website, direct mail, and social media. Several local newspapers and television stations ran stories about the pilot Program. Additionally, stakeholder organizations promoted the Program through their various communication channels.

The Company is committed to pursuing options that would allow for construction of the solar array. Because the enrollment timeframe has been extended beyond what was originally envisioned, the Company has been and will remain in contact with participants and stakeholders to keep them informed on any progress.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Regulatory Analyst Kelley Noe at (208) 388-5736.

Sincerely,

Lisa Nordstrom

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018 I served a true and correct copy IDAHO POWER'S 2018 COMMUNITY SOLAR ANNUAL REPORT to the following named parties by the method indicated below, and addressed to the following:

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Snake River Alliance Ken Miller, Energy Program Director Snake River Alliance 223 North Sixth Street, Suite 317 P.O. Box 1731 Boise, Idaho 83701	<ul> <li>Hand Delivered</li> <li>U.S. Mail</li> <li>Overnight Mail</li> <li>FAX</li> <li>X Email kmiller@snakeriveralliance.org</li> </ul>
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