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IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY FOR)
AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH NEW) CASE NO. IPC-E-17-13
SCHEDULES FOR RESIDENTIAL AND)
SMALL GENERAL SERVICE CUSTOMERS)
WITH ON-SITE GENERATION.)
_____)

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

TIMOTHY E. TATUM

1 Q. Please state your name.

2 A. My name is Timothy E. Tatum.

3 Q. Are you the same Timothy E. Tatum that
4 previously presented direct testimony?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Have you had the opportunity to review the
7 pre-filed direct testimony of the City of Boise's witness
8 Stephan L. Burgos; the Idaho Clean Energy Association,
9 Inc.'s ("ICEA") witnesses Kevin King, Michael Leonard, and
10 Stephen White; the Idaho Conservation League's ("ICL")
11 witness Benjamin J. Otto; Sierra Club's witness R. Thomas
12 Beach; the Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association, Inc's
13 ("IIPA") witness Anthony J. Yankel; the Snake River Alliance
14 and NW Energy Coalition's ("SRA/NW Energy") witness Amanda
15 M. Levin; Vote Solar's witness Briana Kober; Auric Solar,
16 LLC's ("Auric Solar") witness Elias Bishop; and the Idaho
17 Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") Staff's
18 ("Staff") witnesses Michael Morrison and Stacey Donohue?

19 A. Yes, I have.

20 Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal
21 testimony?

22 A. The purpose of my rebuttal testimony is to
23 provide clarification and to respond to various arguments
24 raised by intervening parties and Staff ("Parties") in

25

1 their direct testimony. My testimony is comprised of five
2 sections.

3 In Section I, I explain the reasoning for the
4 Company's timing of the case and provide the Commission
5 with the Company's view on a number of important changes
6 occurring in the electric industry and associated
7 regulatory policy considerations.

8 In Sections II and III, I clarify the Company's
9 request in this case and respond to a number of issues
10 raised by Parties that are more appropriately addressed as
11 part of subsequent proceedings or are otherwise not within
12 the scope of this case and address other pertinent issues
13 raised by Parties.

14 In Section IV, I reaffirm the Company's position
15 that the different load service requirements and usage
16 characteristics of residential and small general service
17 ("R&SGS") customers who install on-site generation justify
18 the establishment of a separate customer class. I support
19 the Company's position with a summary of the results of
20 additional analyses performed by the Company that
21 demonstrate the load service requirements and the pattern
22 of use clearly distinguish customers with on-site
23 generation from customers without on-site generation.

24

25

1 In Section V, I respond to the Staff's proposal to
2 modify the compensation structure for net metering
3 customers.

4 **I. TIMING OF THE CASE AND OTHER STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS**

5 **1. Electric Industry Evolution**

6 Q. Why is now the right time for the Commission
7 to make a policy determination on customer classification
8 for customers with on-site generation?

9 A. Idaho Power Company ("Idaho Power" or
10 "Company"), like other utilities across the country, is
11 witnessing and experiencing a transformation of the
12 electric industry. Historically, the vertically integrated
13 utility has been called upon to provide fully bundled
14 services to its customers -- including generation,
15 transmission, and distribution services -- and Idaho Power
16 has provided those one-way services to its "full
17 requirements" customers for over 100 years. In recent
18 years, however, Idaho Power has experienced changing
19 customer preferences related to the services available to
20 them. This transformation has resulted in more engaged
21 segments of customers than ever before -- customers require
22 nearly instantaneous information related to their energy
23 usage and use that information to make decisions about
24 their energy consumption. One important question customers
25 today are asking themselves is about the decision to invest

1 in privately-owned generation. Some customers today would
2 rather take service as a "partial requirements" customer;
3 that is, this segment of customers is choosing to move away
4 from the same bundled services the rest of the Company's
5 customers require.

6 Q. How has Idaho Power responded to this
7 transformation?

8 A. Idaho Power has responded by improving its
9 infrastructure to provide more robust information to its
10 customers through the deployment of Automated Metering
11 Infrastructure and implementation of online services like
12 My Account. But more work needs to be done. Idaho Power
13 sees a growing need to modernize its transmission and
14 distribution grid to accommodate the rapidly growing
15 distributed generation ("DG") capacity coming online. As
16 technological advancements are made and innovative business
17 models emerge, the grid will likely look very different in
18 the future than it does today. Given the rapid adoption of
19 DG in Idaho Power's service area, it is no longer justified
20 to delay important policy decisions, such as the question
21 of customer classification brought to the Commission by the
22 Company in this case.

23 Q. Several parties urge the Commission to delay a
24 decision on customer classifications. What is your
25 response to that?

1 A. Operating in the status quo regarding rate
2 structure will not position Idaho Power to keep pace with
3 the transformation of the electrical system that is
4 currently underway. The outdated rate structure in place
5 today for on-site generation sends a false signal to
6 customers; that is, reducing net consumption (sometimes to
7 zero, but not always) reduces the cost to serve
8 commensurately. This signal is inaccurate and needs to be
9 addressed. Informing customers today that the pricing
10 structure in place for full requirements customers does not
11 work in the long-term for partial requirements customers is
12 the first step. Ensuring customers are making decisions
13 based on better information will allow the market to
14 advance those technologies that are competitive from a cost
15 standpoint, not those that compete based on subsidies.

16 Q. Are there benefits associated with addressing
17 this issue today instead of waiting?

18 A. Yes, there are several. Lower levels of
19 adoption to date make it easier to address issues like
20 "grandfathering" -- the contentiousness of this issue will
21 only grow as more customers adopt. Similarly, customer
22 education and communication are easier to facilitate with
23 lower levels of adoption. Sending a signal today that "net
24 metering with volumetric rates is not sustainable" will
25 communicate to those customers considering investing in

1 solar or other DG that changes in rate design will occur.
2 Establishing rates that send clear price signals will
3 enable growth of DG in a non-subsidized manner. Delaying a
4 decision on customer classifications will not get easier
5 with the passage of time.

6 **2. Grandfathering**

7 Q. Did the Company request "grandfathering" in
8 its proposal?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Can you please clarify the Company's request
11 as it relates to a transition period?

12 A. The Company requested that existing R&SGS net
13 metering customers remain on Schedule 84 for a period of
14 time, under the existing rate structure and compensation
15 method, and transition in the future to the proposed new
16 schedules over some period of years. The Company
17 understands that future rate changes will impact the
18 economics of decisions customers have made in years past
19 and is sensitive to those impacts. The Commission has, in
20 other cases, implemented modest transition periods, and the
21 Company's position is that if the Commission chooses to
22 implement a transition period in this case, it may be
23 appropriate.

24

25

1 **3. Delay Decisions Until a General Rate Case**

2 Q. Should the Commission delay a decision until a
3 general rate case ("GRC")?

4 A. No. Idaho Power has not filed a GRC since
5 2011 and it is unknown when it will do so. In IDACORP's
6 November 2, 2017, Q3 earnings release call, Idaho Power
7 President and CEO Darrel Anderson was asked for his
8 thoughts on the Company's near-term rate activity. Mr.
9 Anderson responded that:

10 [Idaho Power] would have to signal early
11 in '18 if we're going to do something for
12 '19 ... given what we would hope to see
13 as continued strong economic activity and
14 if we can continue to manage the expenses
15 like we have done this year, we would
16 hope to not have to go in.¹
17

18 Because the Company does not have definite near-term
19 plans to file a GRC, Idaho Power's requested relief in the
20 2017 Application purposefully does not impact customer
21 rates but will position the Company to make appropriate
22 rate proposals for Commission, customer, and stakeholder
23 consideration when that time comes.

24 **II. ISSUES OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF THIS PROCEEDING**

25 Q. What was the Company's request in its
26 Application filed in this case?

¹ IDACORP Inc. Earnings Call transcript, November 2, 2017, p. 7.
<http://www.idacorpinc.com/-/media/Files/IIIDACorp/conference-calls/ida-usg-transcript-2017-11-02.pdf>

1 A. In this case, the Company has requested (1) to
2 close Schedule 84, Net Metering Service to new R&SGS
3 customers with on-site generation, (2) establish new
4 classes for R&SGS customers with on-site generation, (3)
5 require smart inverters as defined by the Institute of
6 Electrical and Electronic Engineers ("IEEE") for all new
7 on-site generation installations, and (4) establish a
8 generic docket at the conclusion of this case to explore
9 the benefits and costs that on-site generation brings to
10 Idaho Power's system.

11 Q. Please explain why you feel there are several
12 issues raised by Parties that are not within the scope of
13 this case.

14 A. The Commission has provided clear direction as
15 to the scope of this case. In Order No. 33946, the
16 Commission denied ICEA's motion to dismiss, and also denied
17 ICEA's alternate recommendation to decide the value of DG
18 prior to addressing reclassification of net metering
19 customers. The Commission stated that it is "reasonable
20 for us to reexamine classification now instead of
21 waiting" ² Much of the testimony filed by Parties
22 diverts discussion to issues that are not relevant to the
23 Company's relatively limited request in this case. The
24 vast majority of the topics covered by the Staff and

² Order No. 33946, p. 6 (emphasis added).

1 intervenors go beyond the scope of this docket. Testimony
2 from City of Boise, ICEA, ICL, SRA/NW Energy, IIPA, and
3 Auric Solar appears to ignore the Commission's Order No.
4 33946 by continuing to recommend that the Commission deny
5 Idaho Power's Application and decide the value of DG prior
6 to addressing reclassification of net metering customers.³
7 In Order No. 33946, the Commission denied ICEA's motion to
8 dismiss, as well as denied ICEA's alternate recommendation
9 to decide the value of DG prior to addressing
10 reclassification of net metering customers.

11 **1. General Rate Case Vs. Standalone Issue**

12 Q. Several parties⁴ have suggested that customer
13 classification must be determined as part of a GRC and not
14 as a standalone issue. Ms. Kobor even goes as far as to
15 say that it is "not appropriate to modify customer class
16 definitions, nor rate design outside of a general rate
17 case"⁵ Do you believe that it is consistent with
18 Idaho law to determine customer classification as a
19 standalone issue outside of a GRC?

20

³ King DI, p. 17, ll. 22-23; White DI, p. 9, l. 12-13; Otto DI, p. 10, ll. 12-18; Beach DI, p. 6, ll. 9-19; Yankel DI, p. 6, ll. 20-21; Levin DI, p. 26, ll. 16-23; Kobor DI, p. 76, ll. 1-4; Morrison DI, p. 22, ll. 16-20; Donohue DI, p. 22, l. 24 through p. 23, l. 7.

⁴ Kobor DI, p. 28, ll. 7-8; Beach DI, p. 39, ll. 21-22; Levin DI, p. 22, l. 12.

⁵ Kobor DI, p. 55, l. 19 through p. 56, l. 1.

1 A. Yes. Based upon my understanding of the
2 results of an internal legal review, it would be consistent
3 with Idaho law to determine customer classification as a
4 standalone issue, outside of a GRC. The Idaho Legislature
5 specifically authorizes⁶ the Commission upon hearing to
6 investigate a single rate, or classification, or the entire
7 tariff schedule - and establish new rates, classifications,
8 or practices.

9 **2. Class Cost-of-Service Study Prerequisite**

10 Q. It has been suggested that⁷ a new class cost-
11 of-service study ("COSS") is required to determine customer
12 classification. Do you believe that a new COSS is required
13 in order to determine customer classification?

14 A. No. A COSS is necessary to inform any future
15 changes in rate design. The Company is not requesting to
16 address rate design as part of this case. Regardless of
17 the cost to serve these customers, and even if the cost to
18 serve this segment of customers was the same, the usage
19 characteristics of R&SGS customers with on-site generation
20 are different and require a separate rate structure in
21 order to provide a reasonable opportunity to recover the
22 costs of serving those customers.

23

⁶ Idaho Code § 61-503.

⁷ Kobor DI, p. 49, ll. 5-6.

1 **3. Benefits/Costs Study Prerequisite**

2 Q. Several parties⁸ suggest it is necessary to
3 conduct the generic docket, to understand the benefits and
4 costs that DG interconnection brings to the electric
5 system, prior to a determination on rate classifications in
6 the current case. How do you respond to that?

7 A. The question at the center of this case is
8 whether customers with on-site generation are fundamentally
9 different than full requirements customers. I believe the
10 suggestion by parties that the Commission cannot make a
11 decision on customer classification without cost and
12 benefits being evaluated is an attempt at stalling. The
13 determination of customer classification is not dependent
14 on the cost to serve those customers, nor is it dependent
15 on any benefits a customer's excess net energy exports may
16 provide to the system. Determining the costs and benefits
17 of on-site generation is not relevant when answering the
18 question about fundamental differences between a customer
19 who generates some or all of their own energy and one that
20 does not.

21 Q. Why does the Company believe it is critical
22 for the Commission to issue a determination on customer
23 classes prior to opening a generic docket to establish a

⁸ Burgos DI, p. 8, ll. 1-3; King DI, p. 18, ll. 10-11; Otto DI, p. 7, ll. 11-12; Beach DI, p. 6, ll. 9-19; Levin direct Testimony, p. 21, ll. 14-21; Kobor DI, p. 76, ll. 1-4.

1 compensation structure for customer-owned generation that
2 reflects both the benefits and costs that on-site
3 generation interconnection brings to the electric system?

4 A. Having the answer to customer classifications
5 is necessary because that determination will inform the
6 scope of the generic docket. First, if the Commission
7 declines to adopt new customer classes, there is no need to
8 evaluate the costs specific to net metering customers --
9 they will be assigned costs as part of the standard service
10 customer class. Second, if the Commission declines to
11 adopt new customer classes, a pricing discussion also
12 becomes irrelevant; if the Commission determines net
13 metering customers are no different than standard service
14 customers, they will continue to pay the same rate
15 structure as standard service customers.

16 Q. Does the Company have a recommendation for the
17 format of the generic docket?

18 A. Yes. I believe the process should include a
19 series of workshops held with all interested stakeholders
20 in the state, as a continuation of prior stakeholder
21 workshops that the Company has facilitated. The purpose of
22 the initial workshop could be for parties to establish a
23 framework for analyzing costs and benefits that customers
24 with on-site generation contribute to the electric system.
25 The Company and other stakeholders would bring studies or

1 recommendations demonstrating possible rate design and
2 compensation structures. The Company and stakeholders
3 would also solicit feedback about the types of studies and
4 considerations they feel the parties should focus on. A
5 second workshop could be held for parties to discuss how
6 the COSS should be conducted to inform the appropriate rate
7 design for customers with on-site generation. All parties
8 would then complete the requested studies and submit them
9 for all parties to review. A third workshop may be
10 necessary to discuss the results of the studies to help
11 inform what rate design each participating utility could
12 file in a future GRC. Following the final workshop, there
13 would be an opportunity for public comment. If parties
14 reach agreement, a settlement stipulation would be drafted
15 and submitted to the Commission to seek approval.

16 **4. Effect on Private Solar Industry**

17 Q. A number of intervenors contend that the
18 Company's proposal would have a negative impact on the
19 rooftop solar industry.⁹ How do you respond to that
20 contention?

21 A. These arguments either ignore or misconstrue
22 the Commission's role, which is to establish just and

⁹ Burgos DI, p. 10, ll. 2-3; King DI, p. 14, ll. 8-10; White DI, p. 9, ll. 8-10; Leonard DI, p. 1, ll. 14-16; Bishop DI, p. 2, ll. 8-9.

1 reasonable rates and regulation.¹⁰ The rooftop solar
2 industry should stand on its own without the benefit of the
3 subsidies embedded in existing rate designs. Customers who
4 want to participate in private generation have the right to
5 continue to do so under the Company's proposal.

6 The intent of the net metering service is to provide
7 a fair and sustainable option for customers to offset their
8 own usage with on-site generation. Idaho Power does not
9 believe it is the responsibility of its customers to
10 facilitate the expansion of private business interests
11 through subsidies provided by an outdated pricing
12 structure. That is, Idaho Power does not believe it is in
13 the best interest of its customers to ignore, and leave in
14 place, a pricing structure that fails to collect costs from
15 a segment of customers at the expense of other customers.

16 If as a matter of policy, the Commission wishes to
17 continue to promote the adoption of DG through financial
18 incentives or other subsidies, this goal is best
19 accomplished through direct and transparent mechanisms and
20 not through rate design. Intervenors have provided no
21 justification for why roof top solar industry
22 considerations should factor into this customer
23 classification proceeding. The Commission should reject

¹⁰ Idaho Code §§ 61-501 through 503.

1 these arguments, as they clearly assign a higher priority
2 for the financial well-being of an individual industry over
3 the pursuit of just and reasonable rates for Idaho Power's
4 customers.

5 **III. OTHER ISSUES RAISED BY PARTIES**

6 **1. Customer Choice**

7 Q. Do you agree with intervenors' claims or
8 suggestions that the Company's proposal will eliminate
9 customer choice for solar in Idaho?"

10 A. No. Idaho Power supports customers who want
11 to generate a portion of their own energy. Under the
12 Company's proposal, any customer who chooses to install on-
13 site generation will continue to be provided the same
14 opportunity to do so. To be clear, the Company is not
15 seeking to eliminate rooftop solar, or any type of on-site
16 generation, as an option available to its customers. The
17 Company's proposal would take an important step toward
18 establishing a framework in which a customer's decision to
19 install his or her own generation system can be informed by
20 the actual economics of doing so without hidden subsidies
21 that exist within an outdated rate design and compensation
22 structure.

23

¹¹ Kobor DI, p. 50, l. 20 through p. 51, l. 1; White DI, p. 4, l. 17, p. 8, l. 4; Beach DI, p. 14, ll. 6-7.

1 Q. How does the Company's proposal preserve
2 customer choice while still making progress toward
3 increased fairness in the assignment of costs among
4 customers?

5 A. The Company's proposal recognizes that, under
6 the status quo, the current pricing structure for R&SGS is
7 ill-suited to appropriately recover the costs associated
8 with the distinctly different usage characteristics of
9 R&SGS customers with on-site generation. The Company's
10 proposal seeks to address this issue gradually and
11 thoughtfully with input from customers, regulators, and
12 other stakeholders. The Company supports the establishment
13 of separate classes for R&SGS customers with on-site
14 generation as a reasonable first step. This first step
15 does not in any way impact the economics of customer
16 investment in on-site generation in the near-term, but
17 rather sends a clear signal to customers that future
18 pricing and compensation structures for R&SGS customers
19 with on-site generation may be modified.

20 The assertions that the Company's proposal in this
21 case may limit or eliminate customer choice appear to be
22 incorrectly premised on the belief that, absent the
23 Company's proposal, customers should be confident that the
24 pricing and compensation structure under net metering will
25 not materially change in the future. That is precisely the

1 misconception the Company's proposed initial step is
2 intended to address. The Company's proposal will serve to
3 better inform customer choice going forward and will do
4 nothing to limit customers' energy choices.

5 **2. Rate Certainty**

6 Q. Several witnesses¹² suggest that the Company's
7 proposal creates additional uncertainty that will
8 negatively impact future solar installations. Do you
9 believe that the Company's proposal creates more
10 uncertainty for customers considering an investment in on-
11 site generation?

12 A. No. Given the growing nationwide debate over
13 net metering, uncertainty would continue even if the Idaho
14 Commission did not address the issue at this time. By
15 making a filing, the Company intends to provide more
16 clarity to customers who are considering investing in
17 private DG.

18 Q. Would delaying the Company's request eliminate
19 the uncertainty and make future changes in rates easier for
20 those who are considering an investment in on-site
21 generation?

22 A. No. I believe the contrary is true -
23 prolonging the decision on customer classification could

¹² Burgos DI, p. 9, ll. 12-13; Bishop DI, p. 2, l. 15; King DI, p. 20, ll. 13-14; White DI, p. 5, ll. 6-9.

1 foster further uncertainty. Continued inaction perpetuates
2 the potential for misinformation and could be especially
3 harmful to customers who would benefit from more accurate
4 economic signals concerning on-site generation.

5 **3. Fixed Cost Adjustment Mechanism**

6 Q. Some parties, including the Commission Staff,¹³
7 point out that the Company is not financially harmed by net
8 metering because of its Fixed Cost Adjustment ("FCA"). Do
9 you agree with this assessment regarding the FCA?

10 A. Generally, yes. However, it should be noted
11 that the Company has not presented any concerns in this
12 case regarding financial impacts to Idaho Power resulting
13 from net metering. The FCA mechanism is designed to allow
14 the Company to recover the majority of the fixed costs of
15 providing service to R&SGS service customers, regardless of
16 the overall level of energy consumption per customer. In
17 the case of net metering, any shortfall in fixed cost
18 recovery that may result from the current net metering rate
19 structure would be tracked and recovered from all R&SGS
20 customers annually through the FCA. While it is correct to
21 point out that the FCA largely mitigates any financial
22 impact that net metering would otherwise have on Idaho
23 Power, it is also important to recognize that the FCA
24 facilitates annually any cost shifting that may exist

¹³ Donohue DI, p. 3, ll. 17-21; Levin DI, p. 24, ll. 6-16.

1 between net metering customers and non-net metering R&SGS
2 customers between GRCs. Therefore, any reduction in cost
3 shifting related to net metering service would reduce
4 future FCA collections that would have otherwise existed.

5 **IV. EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT SEPARATE CUSTOMER CLASSES**

6 Q. What do you believe is the most important
7 issue at the center of the case?

8 A. I believe that there is one relatively
9 limited, but important, policy issue to resolve in this
10 case, which is to answer the question: "Do the different
11 load service requirements and usage characteristics of
12 R&SGS customers who install on-site generation justify a
13 separate and unique rate structure to provide a reasonable
14 opportunity to recover the costs of serving those
15 customers?"

16 Q. Does the Company continue to believe that the
17 load service requirements and the usage characteristics of
18 R&SGS customers who install on-site generation are
19 different than that of R&SGS customers without on-site
20 generation and justify the establishment of a separate
21 customer class?

22 A. Yes. The Company maintains its position that
23 the load service requirements and the pattern of use of
24 R&SGS customers with on-site generation are distinctly

25

1 different from that of R&SGS customers without on-site
2 generation.

3 Q. Did Parties agree with Idaho Power that R&SGS
4 customers with on-site generation are different than
5 standard R&SGS customers and therefore require a separate
6 customer class?

7 A. While ICL witness Mr. Otto¹⁴ acknowledged that
8 customers with on-site generation are different in some
9 respects, generally, other parties¹⁵ suggested that the
10 Company did not provide sufficient evidence to justify that
11 R&SGS customers with on-site generation are different than
12 R&SGS customers without on-site generation.

13 Q. Did the Company perform additional analyses in
14 response to suggestions that the Company did not provide
15 sufficient evidence to justify that R&SGS customers with
16 on-site generation are different than R&SGS customers
17 without on-site generation?

18 A. Yes.

19 **1. Pattern of Usage**

20 Q. What analyses did the Company perform to
21 evaluate the pattern of use of residential customers with
22

¹⁴ Otto DI, p. 4, l. 11.

¹⁵ Levin DI, 7, ll. 9-10; Kobor DI, p. 32, ll. 18-33 through p.
33, l. 5; Donohue DI, p. 5, l. 5.

1 on-site generation and for residential customers without
2 on-site generation?

3 A. The Company studied the load factor, the load
4 profile, the system-coincident demands ("SCD") and the non-
5 coincident demands ("NCD") for residential customers with
6 on-site generation and for residential customers without
7 on-site generation.

8 Q. Please summarize the results of the additional
9 analyses performed by the Company that demonstrate the load
10 factor, the load profile, the SCD and the NCD for R&SGS
11 customers with on-site generation are different than R&SGS
12 customers without on-site generation.

13 A. Although Mr. David M. Angell will provide the
14 details of the additional analyses performed by the
15 Company, as well as the statistical results of the
16 analyses, the results can be summarized as follows:

- 17 • The Company's load factor analysis confirmed
18 that residential customers with on-site
19 generation have notably lower load factors than
20 residential customers without on-site
21 generation.¹⁶
- 22 • The Company's load profile analysis showed that
23 customers with on-site generation had a higher

¹⁶ Angell REB, p. 4, l. 20 through p. 7, l. 9.

1 demand for energy during the evening and
2 nighttime hours than customers without on-site
3 generation and their rate of change in usage
4 during the day is larger than for customers
5 without on-site generation. In addition, the
6 load profile analysis shows that energy for
7 customers with on-site generation flows in both
8 directions. The excess energy flowing to the
9 utility is greater in spring and summer months.¹⁷

10 • The Company's analysis of the SCD showed that
11 the SCD of customers with on-site generation is
12 lower from April through September than the SCD
13 of customers without on-site generation but
14 higher from October through March.¹⁸

15 • The Company's analysis of the NCD showed that
16 the NCD of customers with on-site generation is
17 higher than customers without on-site generation
18 for all 12 months of the year.¹⁹

19 Q. In addition to the Company's analyses, does
20 the Company have other evidence that suggests that R&SGS
21

¹⁷ Angell REB, p. 12, l. 6 through p. 13, l. 10.

¹⁸ Angell REB, p. 14, ll. 10-17.

¹⁹ Angell REB, p. 15, ll. 7-15.

1 customers with on-site generation are different from R&SGS
2 customers without on-site generation?

3 A. Yes. Dr. Ahmad Faruqui of the Brattle Group
4 has also conducted empirical analysis using Idaho Power
5 data. In his rebuttal testimony, Dr. Faruqui shares the
6 results of his analysis which find that the differences are
7 quite significant.²⁰

8 **2. Load Service Requirement**

9 Q. How does the load service requirement of a
10 customer with on-site generation differ from that of a
11 standard service residential customer?

12 A. A customer with on-site generation is a
13 partial requirements customer. Because partial
14 requirements customers generate all or some of their own
15 annual energy needs, the utility provides only certain
16 services that standard service customers require -- like
17 providing capacity. But the utility is also required to
18 provide different services that standard service customers
19 do not use -- like receiving excess net energy on a non-
20 firm, if, as, and when available basis.

21 Q. Is it necessary to place partial requirements
22 customers in a separate customer class?

23 A. Yes. Current rate designs were historically
24 developed to recover costs from full requirements customers

²⁰ Faruqui REB, p. 7, l. 14. - p. 15, l. 6.

1 on a fully bundled, volumetric basis. This approach has
2 been viewed as fair and reasonable when applied to
3 customers who rely on the utility to meet all their
4 electric needs. However, it is neither fair nor reasonable
5 to apply fully-bundled, volumetric rates to a group of
6 customers who choose to take unbundled services and make
7 investments whose sole purpose is reducing or eliminating
8 the volume of energy taken from Idaho Power.

9 **V. STAFF'S MODIFIED COMPENSATION STRUCTURE FOR NET**
10 **METERING CUSTOMERS**
11

12 Q. Please provide an overview of your
13 understanding of Staff's proposal to "correct the cost
14 shift."²¹

15 A. Staff witnesses Morrison and Donohue recommend
16 a modification to the compensation structure under Schedule
17 84, Net Metering Service, that would eliminate the current
18 practice of netting consumption and generation on a monthly
19 basis, and instead move to an hourly netting approach.
20 Staff's proposal would also assign a value to hourly net
21 excess generation equal to an avoided cost-based rate
22 instead of the full retail rate.

23 Q. Do you believe Staff's proposal to correct the
24 cost shift is a reasonable solution to the issue at the
25 center of the case?

²¹ Donohue DI, p. 13, l. 20.

1 A. I believe Staff's proposal represents a
2 reasonable step toward correcting the referenced cost
3 shift; however, it falls short of a complete solution.
4 While Staff's proposal does address part of the cost shift
5 issue by adjusting the compensation for excess net energy,
6 it ignores that the rate design applied to these customers
7 does not provide for an equitable assignment of the costs
8 of utility service.

9 Q. Does the Company support the adoption of the
10 Staff's proposal to modify the compensation structure for
11 customers with on-site generation as an interim step?

12 A. Yes. The Company does support adoption of the
13 Staff's recommendation for a modified compensation
14 structure for customers with on-site generation, because it
15 does represent meaningful movement toward addressing the
16 cost shifting at issue in this case. However, the Company
17 does not believe adoption of Staff's modification should
18 prevent the establishment of separate classes for R&SGS
19 customers with on-site generation. While Staff's proposal
20 may effectively address the appropriate level of
21 compensation for net excess generation, the rate design
22 flaws that exist by applying volumetric rates to net
23 metering customers would remain unaddressed. The Company
24 believes that the establishment of separate classes for
25

1 R&SGS customers with on-site generation, in conjunction
2 with Staff's proposal, would represent important steps
3 toward fair and sustainable rate and compensation
4 structures for this unique group of customers.

5 Q. If the Commission chooses to implement Staff's
6 proposed compensation structure to be applicable to the new
7 classifications of R&SGS customer with on-site generation,
8 what value should be assigned to the net excess generation?

9 A. The Company believes that the proxy value of
10 the DSM Alternative Cost used by Staff in its analysis
11 would represent a reasonable interim value for the net
12 excess generation. Should the Commission adopt a specific
13 DG valuation methodology following the conclusion of the
14 workshop process recommended earlier in this testimony, the
15 Company recommends that the Commission transition to
16 applying that resulting value on a going-forward basis.

17 **VI. CONCLUSION**

18 Q. Please summarize your testimony.

19 A. An increasing number of Idaho Power's
20 customers are choosing to invest in technologies that allow
21 them to interact with the Company's electric system, or the
22 grid, in new and innovative ways. In response to these
23 changes, the grid is transforming from a one-way service
24 provider to an interactive, enabling platform for the
25 interconnection of customer driven technologies. In

1 support of this transformation, it is essential that the
2 Company's pricing structures also transform to align with
3 new ways customers are choosing to take services from the
4 grid.

5 In this case, the Company has presented sufficient
6 evidence that the load service requirements and usage
7 characteristics of R&SGS customers who install on-site
8 generation are different than that of R&SGS customers
9 without on-site generation. These differences justify the
10 establishment of a separate rate structure to provide a
11 reasonable opportunity to recover the cost-of-service from
12 those customers. Taking steps today to recognize these
13 important differences will pave the way toward maintaining
14 a fair-priced and sustainable service offering into the
15 future.

16 Q. What is your recommendation for the
17 Commission?

18 A. The Company recommends that the Commission
19 issue an order authorizing the following: (1) closure of
20 Schedule 84, Customer Energy Production Net Metering
21 Service, to new service for Idaho R&SGS customers with on-
22 site generation, (2) establishment of two new
23 classifications of customers applicable to R&SGS customers
24 with on-site generation that request to interconnect to
25 Idaho Power's system on or after the date of the

1 Commission's order in this case, with no pricing changes at
2 this time, (3) acknowledgement that smart inverters provide
3 functionality that is necessary to support the ongoing
4 stability and reliability of the distribution system by
5 ordering the Company to amend its applicable tariff
6 schedules to require the installation and operation of
7 smart inverters for all new customer-owned generator
8 interconnections within 60 days following the adoption of
9 an industry standard definition of smart inverters as
10 defined by the IEEE, (4) commencement of a generic docket
11 at the conclusion of this case with the purpose of
12 establishing a generation value for customer-owned DG that
13 reflects both the benefits and costs that DG
14 interconnection brings to the electric system, and (5)
15 adoption of Staff's proposed compensation structure to be
16 applicable to the newly established rate classifications
17 referenced in subpart (2).

18 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

19 A. Yes, it does.

20

21

22

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26

ATTESTATION OF TESTIMONY

STATE OF IDAHO)
) ss.
County of Ada)

I, Timothy E. Tatum, having been duly sworn to testify truthfully, and based upon my personal knowledge, state the following:

I am employed by Idaho Power Company as the Vice President of Regulatory Affairs and am competent to be a witness in this proceeding.

I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the state of Idaho that the foregoing rebuttal testimony is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

DATED this 26th day of January, 2018.


Timothy E. Tatum

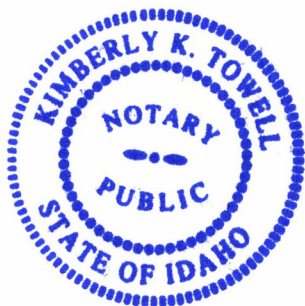
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 26th day of
January, 2018.

Kimberly K. Towell

Notary Public for Idaho

Residing at: Boise, Idaho

My commission expires: 12/20/20





CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 26th day of January 2018 I served a true and correct copy of REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF TIMOTHY E. TATUM upon the following named parties by the method indicated below, and addressed to the following:

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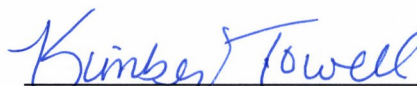
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