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IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

*Attorneys for Idaho Clean Energy Association, Inc.*

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

IN THE MATTER OF IDAHO POWER  
COMPANY'S APPLICATION FOR  
AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH NEW  
SCHEDULES FOR RESIDENTIAL AND  
SMALL GENERAL SERVICE  
CUSTOMERS WITH ON-SITE  
GENERATION

**Case No. IPC-E-17-13**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ELIAS BISHOP**

**ON BEHALF OF**

**AURIC SOLAR, LLC.**

ORIGINAL

1 Q. Please state your name and address.

2 A. My name is Elias Bishop and my business address is 2310 South 1300 West, West Valley  
3 City, UT 84119. Auric Solar's Idaho office is located at 3568 E Lanark Drive Meridian, ID  
4 83642.

5 Q. Please describe your professional background.

6 A. I have professionally worked in the solar industry full-time since 2009. I have held  
7 varying positions with a solar trade organization and with several solar contracting companies. I  
8 have worked with the U.S. Department of Energy to train hundreds of government officials on  
9 best practices for solar integration. I have a Bachelor's of Science in Business Management. I  
10 hold Utility Regulatory Certificates from Michigan State University and New Mexico State  
11 University along with a Solar Photovoltaic Energy Certificate from Solar Energy International.  
12 Through my professional experience, I have become familiar with the rooftop solar industry  
13 across the western United States, including the regulatory environment.

14 Q. On whose behalf are you testifying?

15 A. I am testifying on behalf of Auric Solar, LLC (Auric Solar).

16 Q. Please describe Auric Solar.

17 A. Auric Solar is an electrical contracting company that specializes in providing solar  
18 photovoltaic systems to residential and commercial clients. Auric Solar is a full-service firm that  
19 sells, designs, engineers, installs, and warrants those solar energy projects.

20 Q. What is your position with Auric Solar?

21 A. I am the Director of Government Affairs & Public Policy for Auric Solar.

22 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

23 A. The purpose of my testimony is to touch on the impact that the Idaho Power's (Company)

1 current proposal would have on Auric Solar and our customers. My testimony is intended to  
2 supplement the testimony of the Idaho Clean Energy Association (ICEA); Auric Solar agrees  
3 with the concerns identified in ICEA's testimony and does not repeat them here to avoid  
4 redundancy.

5 Q. The Company states in its Answer to ICEA's Motion to Dismiss that, "No additional  
6 uncertainty will be created because of the Commission issuing a determination on customer  
7 classifications." Could you please speak to that?

8 This statement shows that the Company does not understand the impact that their  
9 proposal would cause on the solar industry, and the Company's own customers who desire to  
10 install solar. If the Company's filing is accepted, customers will choose to wait and see what the  
11 eventual rate structure and pricing will be instead of investing in rooftop solar beforehand. While  
12 the Company has not proposed pricing changes at this time, the Company argues that it intends  
13 to send a price signal to potential customers, which can mean only that the Company intends to  
14 propose changes that are adverse to rooftop solar installations.

15 If the Company's filing is approved, the uncertainty will be severe. We project that, if the  
16 filing is approved, Auric Solar will simply not be able to sell rooftop solar installations to Idaho  
17 Power customers.

18 Q. If the Company's proposal is approved by the Commission, what would the impact be on  
19 Auric Solar?

20 If the Company's current proposal is approved, Auric Solar would effectively be out of  
21 business in Idaho. In Idaho, Auric Solar has 40 full-time employees which consist of sales  
22 representatives, installers, project managers, electricians, designers, human resource associates,  
23 lead generation representatives, analysts, purchasing/warehouse reps, safety personnel, and

1 others. All those jobs would be lost along with the revenue that they generate. Additionally, other  
2 supporting industries that rely on Auric Solar would be negatively impacted by our loss in  
3 business.

4 Q. What actions does Auric Solar recommend to the Commission in regards to the  
5 Company's proposal and net metering?

6 Auric Solar strongly recommends that the Commission adopts the requests and  
7 recommendations put forth in the Idaho Clean Energy Association's testimony.

8 Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?

9 A. Yes.



## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on December 22, 2017, a true and correct copy of the DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ELIAS BISHOP was served upon all parties of record in this proceeding via the manner indicated below:

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IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

December 22, 2017

Diane Hanian, Commission Secretary  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
472 W. Washington Street  
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Re: Direct Testimony  
Case No. IPC-E-17-13

Dear Ms. Hanian:

Enclosed for filing is the original and 9 copies of the Direct Testimony of Elias Bishop. Please accept the original as the reporter's copy under Commission Rule 231.04. Two CDs containing searchable PDF versions of this Direct Testimony are also enclosed. The parties will be served electronically.

Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Preston N. Carter

PNC/klh  
Enclosures  
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