SEAN COSTELLO DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION PO BOX 83720 BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0074 (208) 334-0312 IDAHO BAR NO. 8743

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IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Street Address for Express Mail: 472 W. WASHINGTON BOISE, IDAHO 83702-5918

Attorney for the Commission Staff

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

CASE NO. IPC-E-17-13

STAFF'S RESPONSE TO VOTE SOLAR'S PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION

BACKGROUND

On May 29, 2018, Vote Solar filed a Petition for Reconsideration ("Petition") of Commission Order No. 34046 ("Final Order"). The Final Order directed Idaho Power ("Company") to close Schedule 84 to all current and future Residential and Small General Service ("R&SGS") customers with on-site generation meaning all customers with on-site generation, whether they export energy to the grid or not, are now within the Company's new Schedules 6 and 8. In its Petition, Vote Solar seeks reconsideration of the scope of Schedules 6 and 8 and requests that the Commission require the Company to revise Schedules 6 and 8 to apply only to customers who export electricity to the Company's grid. Vote Solar's Petition for Reconsideration at 1.

Vote Solar argues that the Commission's findings, conclusions, and reasoning were specific to customers who both import and export energy, and do not support a decision to place customers who generate, but who do not export, into the new rate classes. Id. at 3-6.

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STAFF RECOMMEDATIONS

Staff generally concurs with the analysis presented in Vote Solar's Petition for Reconsideration. Staff maintains that those customers who are *incapable* of exporting energy to the grid should be exempt from inclusion in Schedules 6 and 8. Therefore, Staff recommends that the Commission require the Company to revise its new Schedules 6 and 8 to apply only to customers with on-site generation who do not eliminate their ability to export power to the Company's grid by means of a Grid Tie Limiter, Grid Inverter with Export Control, or similar device.

Staff also believes correcting this portion of the record may have the effect of fostering compromise in the forthcoming Idaho Power net metering docket related to costs, benefits, rates, rate design, and compensation for net excess energy. By making customers in Schedules 6 and 8 more similar to each other, disagreements over the appropriate inputs and analysis to utilize in that docket may be limited. More homogenous customer classes would also reduce Schedule 6 and 8 intra-class subsidies because on-site generation customers who do not export energy to the grid will not be assigned rates that include any costs associated with customers who export energy.

Respectfully submitted this

day of June 2018.

Sean Costello Deputy Attorney General

Umisc/Comments/ipce17.13sc reconsideration response

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE THIS 5TH DAY OF JUNE 2018, SERVED THE FOREGOING **STAFF'S RESPONSE TO VOTE SOLAR'S PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION,** IN CASE NO. IPC-E-17-13, BY MAILING A COPY THEREOF, POSTAGE PREPAID, TO THE FOLLOWING:

LISA D NORDSTROM REGULATORY DOCKETS IDAHO POWER COMPANY PO BOX 70 BOISE ID 83707-0070 E-MAIL: <u>lnordstrom@idahopower.com</u> dockets@idahopower.com

C TOM ARKOOSH ARKOOSH LAW OFFICES 802 W BANNOCK ST STE 900 PO BOX 2900 BOISE ID 83701 E-MAIL: <u>tom.arkoosh@arkoosh.com</u> <u>erin.cecil@arkoosh.com</u>

ELIAS BISHOP AURIC SOLAR LLC 2310 S 1300 W W VALLEY CITY UT 84119 E-MAIL: <u>elias.bishop@auricsolar.com</u>

ANTHONY YANKEL 12700 LAKE AVENUE UNIT 2505 LAKEWOOD OH 44107 E-MAIL: tony@yankel.net

TOM BEACH CROSSBORDER ENERGY 2560 9TH STREET, SUITE 213A BERKELEY CA 94710 E-MAIL: <u>tomb@crossborderenergy.com</u> TIMOTHY E TATUM CONNIE ASCHENBRENNER IDAHO POWER COMPANY PO BOX 70 BOISE ID 83707-0070 E-MAIL: <u>ttatum@idahopower.com</u> <u>caschenbrenner@idahopower.com</u>

MATTHEW A NYKIEL ID CONSERVATION LEAGUE 102 S EUCLID #207 PO BOX 2308 SANDPOINT ID 83864 E-MAIL: <u>mnykiel@idahoconservation.org</u>

ERIC L OLSEN ECHO HAWK & OLSEN PLLC PO BOX 6119 POCATELLO ID 83205 E-MAIL: <u>elo@echohawk.com</u>

KELSEY JAE NUNEZ LLC 920 N CLOVER DR BOISE ID 83703 E-MAIL: <u>kelsey@kelseyjaenunez.com</u>

ELECTRONIC ONLY MICHAEL HECKLER michael.p.heckler@gmail.com ZACK WATERMAN zack.waterman@sierraclub.org

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

ABIGAIL R GERMAINE DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY BOISE CITY ATTORNEY'S PO BOX 500 BOISE ID 83701-0500 E-MAIL: agermaine@cityofboise.org

DAVID BENDER EARTHJUSTICE 3916 NAKOMA ROAD MADISON WI 53711 E-MAIL: <u>dbender@earthjustice.org</u>

JOHN R HAMMOND JR FISHER PUSCH LLP PO BOX 1308 BOISE ID 83701 E-MAIL: jrh@fisherpusch.com

RYAN B FRAZIER BRIAN W BURNETT KIRTON McCONKIE PO BOX 45120 SALT LAKE CITY UT 84111 E-MAIL: <u>rfrazier@kmclaw.com</u> <u>bburnett@kmclaw.com</u> PRESTON N CARTER DEBORAH E NELSON GIVENS PURSLEY LLP 601 W BANNOCK ST PO BOX 2720 BOISE ID 83701 E-MAIL: <u>prestoncarter@givenspurlsey.com</u> den@givenspursley.com

BRIANA KOBOR VOTE SOLAR 986 PRINCETON AVENUE S SALT LAKE CITY UT 84105 E-MAIL: <u>briana@votesolar.org</u>

ELECTRONIC ONLY SNAKE RIVER ALLIANCE wwilson@snakeriveralliance.org

NW ENERGY COALITION diego@nwenergy.org

DOUG SHIPLEY INTERMOUNTAIN WIND AND SOLAR LLC 1953 WEST 2425 SOUTH WOODS CROSS UT 84087 E-MAIL: <u>doug@imwindandsolar.com</u>

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