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December 12, 2019

Idaho Public Utilities Commission Office of the Secretary RECEIVED

Diane Hanian, Commission Secretary Idaho Public Utilities Commission 11331 W. Chinden Blvd. Building 8, Suite 201-A Boise, ID 83714 diane.holt@puc.idaho.gov

DEC 1 2 2019

Boise, Idaho

Re: CASE No.: IPC-E-18-15

RE: APPLICATION FOR INTERVENOR FUNDING

Dear Ms. Hanian:

Enclosed you will find the original and seven (7) copies of the following:

1. Application for Intervenor Funding

Electronic copies have been served per the Certificate of Service.

Please file the Application in the case file. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eric L. Olsen

ELO/tf Enclosures

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Facsimile: (208) 478-1670 Email: elo@echohawk.com

Attorney for Intervenor Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association, Inc.

#### BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY'S APPLICATION TO STUDY THE COSTS, BENEFITS, AND COMPENSATION OF NET EXCESS ENERGY SUPPLIED BY CUSTOMER ON-SITE GENERATION CASE NO. IPC-E-18-15

APPLICATION FOR INTERVENOR FUNDING OF THE IDAHO IRRIGATION PUMPERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

COMES NOW the Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association, Inc. ("Irrigators"), by and through counsel of record, Echo Hawk & Olsen, PLLC, and hereby respectfully makes application to the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") for intervenor funding, pursuant to Idaho Code § 61-617A and IDAPA §§ 31.01.01.161 through .165, in this case, as follows:

- (A) A summary of the expenses that the Irrigators request to recover broken down into legal fees, witness fees and other costs and expenses is set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated by reference.
- (B) The Irrigators' Counsel, Eric L. Olsen of Echo Hawk & Olsen ("Mr. Olsen"), and Irrigators' witness, Anthony J. Yankel of Yankel and Associates, Inc. ("Mr. Yankel"), fully participated in these proceedings. Mr. Olsen and Mr. Yankel prepared and served written discovery, reviewed and analyzed the various parties' positions, and attended and participated via conference call or in person in the numerous workshops and settlement conferences held in

this matter. The Irrigators filed comments supporting the Stipulation and Settlement Agreement filed in this case and filed comments on the appropriate treatment of existing on-site generation customers.

- (C) The Irrigators' proposed findings and recommendations are encapsulated in the Stipulation and Settlement Agreement and in its supporting comments. One key issue for the Irrigators was making sure that an appropriate price was set for the for the excess distributed generation put back on Idaho Power's system ("Excess DG"). If Excess DG is priced too high, then other non-onsite generation customers are paying too much for energy and Idaho Power has difficulties managing this intermittent resource. If Excess DG is priced too low, then important renewable resources such as solar are not appropriately developed so as to appropriately lower overall system costs. The Irrigators believe that the Settlement strikes an appropriate balance on current pricing of Excess DG and provides an appropriate methodology in addressing these pricing issues in the future.
- (D) The expenses and costs incurred by the Irrigators set forth in Exhibit A are reasonable in amount and were necessarily incurred. The expenses and costs were incurred in participating in the numerous workshops and settlement conferences, in the drafting and review discovery responses, and in commenting on the Settlement Agreement and commenting on the appropriate treatment of existing on-site generation customers. Without incurring these expenses and costs, the Irrigators would not have been able to fully participate in this matter.
- (E) The costs described in Paragraph (A) above constitute a financial hardship for the Irrigators. The Irrigators are an Idaho nonprofit corporation qualified under I.R.C. § 501(c)(5) representing farm interests in electric utility rate matters affecting farmers in southern and central Idaho. The Irrigators rely solely upon dues and contributions voluntarily paid by members,

together with intervenor funding, to support its activities. Each year mailings are sent to approximately 7,000 Idaho Irrigators (approximately two-thirds in the Idaho Power Company service area), soliciting annual dues. The Irrigators recommend members make voluntary contributions based on acres irrigated or horsepower per pump. Member contributions have been falling which is believed to be attributable to increased operating costs and declining commodity prices.

From member contributions the Irrigators must pay all expenses, which generally include mailing expenses, meeting expenses and shared office space in Boise, Idaho, in addition to the expenses relating to participation in matters before the Commission. The Executive Director, Lynn Tominaga, is the only part-time paid contractor, receiving a retainer plus expenses for office space, office equipment, and secretarial services. Other Irrigator officers and directors are elected annually and serve without compensation.

It has been and continues to be a financial hardship for the Irrigators to fully participate in important cases such as this one due to the time and expense that must be incurred to fully participate in such a case. Because of the Irrigators' financial constraints, participation in this case, and filing of testimony and cross-examination of witnesses has been prudent.

- (F) The Irrigators' position urged to be adopted by in the settlement discussions materially differs from those addressed by the Commission Staff and other parties. The Irrigators urged that the price for Excess DG should rely most heavily market prices paid for solar projects, such as Jackpot Solar and less on avoided cost methodologies.
- (G) The Irrigators' participation addressed issues of concern to the general body of users or consumers on IPC's system. If Excess DG is priced too high, then other customer

classes are paying too much for their energy and their rates would not be fair, just and reasonable.

(H) The Irrigators represent the irrigation class of customers under Schedule 24 on IPC's system.

Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the Irrigators are a qualifying intervenor and should be entitled to an award of costs of intervention in the maximum amount allowable pursuant to Idaho Code § 61-617A and IDAPA §§ 31.01.01.161 through .165.

DATED this 12th day of December, 2019.

ECHO HAWK & OLSEN, PLLC

ERIC L. OLSEN Attorney for

Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association, Inc.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2019, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing by the method indicated below, and addressed to the following:

Diane M. Hanian, Secretary  Idaho Public Utilities Commission P.O. Box 83720 11331 W. Chinden Blvd. Building 8, Suite 201-A Boise, ID 83714 diane.holt@puc.idaho.gov	U.S. Mail Hand Delivered Overnight Mail Telecopy (Fax) Electronic Mail (Email)
Lisa D. Nordstrom Regulatory Dockets Attorney for Idaho Power Company P.O. Box 70 Boise, ID 83707 Inordstrom@idahopower.com dockets@idahopower.com	U.S. Mail Hand Delivered Overnight Mail Telecopy (Fax) Electronic Mail (Email)
Tim Tatum V.P. of Regulatory Affairs Idaho Power Company P.O. Box 70 Boise, ID 83707 ttatum@idahopower.com	U.S. Mail Hand Delivered Overnight Mail Telecopy (Fax) Electronic Mail (Email)
Anthony Yankel Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association, Inc. 12700 Lake Avenue, Unit 2505 Lakewood, OH 44107 tony@yankel.net	U.S. Mail Hand Delivered Overnight Mail Telecopy (Fax) Electronic Mail (Email)
Abigail R. Germaine Deputy City Attorney Boise City Attorney's Office 150 N. Capitol Blvd. P.O. Box 500 Boise, Idaho 83701 -0500 agermaine@)cityofboise.org	U.S. Mail Hand Delivered Overnight Mail Telecopy (Fax) Electronic Mail (Email)

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	 C. I. Olsen

Echo Hawk & Olsen

### **EXHIBIT A**

## **Expert Witness Expenses:**

1. Witness Fees of Anthony Yankel:

2. Travel Expenses: \$7,210.63

# **Legal Expenses:**

- 1. Paralegal Fees: 3 Hours @ \$90 = \$270.00
- 2. Legal Fees Eric L. Olsen: 105.7 Hours @ \$200 = \$21,140.00
- 3. Travel Expenses & Costs: \$826.61