

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION )  
OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY FOR )  
AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT POWER ) CASE NO. IPC-E-20-21  
COST ADJUSTMENT ("PCA") RATES )  
FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE FROM JUNE )  
1, 2020, THROUGH MAY 31, 2021. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

Timothy E. Tatum

1 Q. Please state your name, business address, and  
2 present position with Idaho Power Company ("Idaho Power" or  
3 "Company").

4 A. My name is Timothy E. Tatum. My business  
5 address is 1221 West Idaho Street, Boise, Idaho 83702. I  
6 am employed by Idaho Power as the Vice President of  
7 Regulatory Affairs.

8 Q. Please describe your educational background.

9 A. I earned a Bachelor of Business Administration  
10 degree in Economics and a Master of Business Administration  
11 degree from Boise State University. I have also attended  
12 electric utility ratemaking courses, including "Practical  
13 Skills for The Changing Electrical Industry," a course  
14 offered through New Mexico State University's Center for  
15 Public Utilities, "Introduction to Rate Design and Cost of  
16 Service Concepts and Techniques" presented by Electric  
17 Utilities Consultants, Inc., and Edison Electric  
18 Institute's "Electric Rates Advanced Course." In 2012, I  
19 attended the Utility Executive Course ("UEC") at the  
20 University of Idaho, and subsequently became a member of  
21 the UEC faculty in 2015.

22 Q. Please describe your work experience with  
23 Idaho Power.

24 A. I began my employment with Idaho Power in 1996  
25 in the Company's Customer Service Center where I handled

1 customer phone calls and other customer-related  
2 transactions. In 1999, I began working in the Customer  
3 Account Management Center where I was responsible for  
4 customer account maintenance in the areas of billing and  
5 metering.

6 In June of 2003, I began working as an Economic  
7 Analyst on the Energy Efficiency Team. As an Economic  
8 Analyst, I was responsible for ensuring that the demand-  
9 side management ("DSM") expenses were accounted for  
10 properly, preparing and reporting DSM program costs and  
11 activities to management and various external stakeholders,  
12 conducting cost-benefit analyses of DSM programs, and  
13 providing DSM analysis support for the Company's Integrated  
14 Resource Plan.

15 In August of 2004, I accepted a position as a  
16 Regulatory Analyst in the Regulatory Affairs Department.  
17 As a Regulatory Analyst, I provided support for the  
18 Company's various regulatory activities, including tariff  
19 administration, regulatory ratemaking and compliance  
20 filings, and the development of various pricing strategies  
21 and policies.

22 In August of 2006, I was promoted to Senior  
23 Regulatory Analyst. As a Senior Regulatory Analyst, my  
24 responsibilities expanded to include the development of  
25 complex financial studies to determine revenue recovery and

1 pricing strategies, including the preparation of the  
2 Company's cost-of-service studies.

3 In September of 2008, I was promoted to Manager of  
4 Cost of Service and, in April of 2011, I was promoted to  
5 Senior Manager of Cost of Service and oversaw the Company's  
6 cost-of-service activities, such as power supply modeling,  
7 jurisdictional separation studies, class cost-of-service  
8 studies, and marginal cost studies.

9 In March 2016, I was promoted to Vice President of  
10 Regulatory Affairs. As Vice President of Regulatory  
11 Affairs, I am responsible for the overall coordination and  
12 direction of the Regulatory Affairs Department, including  
13 development of jurisdictional revenue requirements and  
14 class cost-of-service studies, preparation of rate design  
15 analyses, and administration of tariffs and customer  
16 contracts.

17 Q. What is the Company requesting in this case?

18 A. The Company is requesting approval of its  
19 2020-2021 PCA rates to become effective June 1, 2020. If  
20 approved, the 2020-2021 PCA  
21 will result in an increase in total billed revenue of  
22 approximately \$58.7 million, or 5.21 percent.

23 Q. How is the Company's case organized?

24 A. The Company's case includes testimony from two  
25 witnesses. My testimony consists of four sections. In the

1 first section, I provide an overview of the PCA. In the  
2 second section, I detail the 2020-2021 PCA amount in  
3 comparison to last year's PCA amount, and identify and  
4 discuss the main factors contributing to this change. In  
5 the third section of my testimony, I detail the net  
6 customer impact of the 2020-2021 PCA rates if approved as  
7 filed. In the final section, I describe Idaho Power's  
8 careful consideration of this request in light of the  
9 financial challenges the Company and its customers are  
10 currently facing as a result of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus  
11 ("COVID-19") health crisis.

12 Nicole A. Blackwell, a Regulatory Analyst in the  
13 Regulatory Affairs Department, also provides testimony in  
14 this case. Ms. Blackwell's testimony provides  
15 quantification of the 2020-2021 PCA forecast amount,  
16 discusses additional PCA components related to revenue  
17 sharing and tax reform benefits, and presents the  
18 quantification of the 2020-2021 PCA rates to become  
19 effective June 1, 2020.

20 **I. PCA OVERVIEW**

21 Q. What is the purpose of the PCA and how does  
22 the mechanism function?

23 A. The PCA is a rate mechanism that quantifies  
24 and tracks annual differences between actual net power  
25 supply expenses ("NPSE") and the normalized or "base level"

1 of NPSE recovered in the Company's base rates, resulting in  
2 a credit or surcharge that is updated annually on June 1.  
3 The PCA mechanism uses a 12-month test period of April  
4 through March ("PCA Year") and includes a forecast  
5 component and a True-up component ("True-up"). The  
6 forecast component represents the difference between the  
7 Company's NPSE forecast from the March Operating Plan and  
8 base level NPSE recovered in the Company's base rates. The  
9 True-up component includes a backward-looking tracking of  
10 differences between the prior PCA year's forecast and  
11 actual NPSE incurred by the Company. The True-up contains  
12 a second component that tracks the collection of the prior  
13 year's True-up amount, referred to as the "True-up of the  
14 True-up."

15           With the exception of Public Utility Regulatory  
16 Policies Act of 1978 ("PURPA") expenses and demand response  
17 incentive payments, the PCA allows the Company to pass  
18 through to customers 95 percent of the annual differences  
19 in actual NPSE as compared with base level NPSE, whether  
20 positive or negative. With respect to PURPA expenses and  
21 demand response incentive payments, as actual annual  
22 expenses deviate from base level NPSE, the Company is  
23 allowed to pass 100 percent of the difference for recovery  
24 or credit through the PCA. The PCA is also the rate  
25 mechanism used by the Company to provide customer benefits

1 resulting from the revenue sharing mechanism approved by  
2 the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") in  
3 Order No. 33149.

4 Q. Does the revenue collected from customers  
5 through the annual PCA rate contribute toward the Company's  
6 net income?

7 A. No. The PCA mechanism provides for the annual  
8 collection or refund of net power supply cost differences  
9 between actual costs incurred by the Company and the base  
10 level NPSE component of base rates. Aside from the 95  
11 percent to 5 percent sharing component I just described,  
12 the PCA provides for a one-for-one collection or refund of  
13 actual NPSE incurred, or to be incurred, to provide safe,  
14 reliable electric service to customers.

15 Q. What are the components of the PCA base level  
16 NPSE?

17 A. The PCA base level NPSE includes the following  
18 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") accounts:  
19 Account 501, Fuel (coal); Account 536, Water for Power;  
20 Account 547, Fuel (gas); Account 555, Purchased Power;  
21 Account 565, Transmission of Electricity by Others; and  
22 Account 447, Sales for Resale (typically referred to as  
23 surplus sales).

24 The PCA base level expense component for FERC  
25 Account 555 includes costs of both PURPA and non-PURPA

1 (market) purchases. Per Order No. 32426, the Company  
2 adjusts FERC Account 555 to also include demand response  
3 incentive payments that the Company provides to customers  
4 who participate in any of its three demand response  
5 programs.

6 **II. 2020-2021 PCA**

7 Q. What is the total PCA collection that would  
8 result under the 2020-2021 PCA rates proposed by the  
9 Company in this case?

10 A. The 2020-2021 PCA rates, as quantified in Ms.  
11 Blackwell's testimony, would result in total PCA collection  
12 of \$69.8 million. This represents an increase in total  
13 billed revenue of \$58.7 million for the upcoming year, an  
14 increase of 5.21 percent.

15 Q. Have you prepared a table that details the  
16 \$58.7 million revenue impact by component?

17 A. Yes. Table 1 below presents a separation of  
18 the \$58.7 million increase into each component included in  
19 the Company's proposed rates.

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<b>Table 1</b>		<b>Revenue Impact by Component</b>		
<b>Line No.</b>	<b>Rate Component</b>	<b>2019-2020 PCA<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2020-2021 PCA<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Difference</b>
1	PCA forecast	\$ 83,775,043	\$ 112,441,726	\$ 28,666,683
2	PCA True-up	\$(64,855,320)	\$(42,648,330)	\$ 22,206,990
3	PCA Total	\$ 18,919,723	\$ 69,793,396	\$ 50,873,673
4	Revenue Sharing	\$ (5,096,850)	\$ 0	\$ 5,096,850
5	Tax Reform	\$ (2,715,902)	\$ 0	\$ 2,715,902
6	<b>PCA Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,214,205</b>	<b>\$ 69,793,396</b>	<b>\$ 58,686,425</b>

1 Q. What are the main factors driving the revenue  
2 change requested in this case?

3 A. The increase in this year's PCA largely  
4 reflects the return to a more normal level of NPSE as  
5 market energy prices have come down from unusually high  
6 levels reflected in last year's PCA. While it may seem  
7 counter-intuitive, NPSE expenses for Idaho Power tend to be  
8 lower during periods of higher market energy prices as  
9 resulting increased surplus sales revenues help to offset  
10 power supply costs.

11 The increase in this year's PCA forecast component  
12 is mostly attributable to lower hydro generation and  
13 significantly lower surplus sales revenues as compared to

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<sup>1</sup> Because Table 1 contains the expected billed revenue impact to customers, the "2019-2020 PCA" column reflects approved 2019-2020 PCA rates applied to the June 2020 through May 2021 sales forecast, and will not tie to the specific dollar amounts approved in the 2019 PCA filing.

<sup>2</sup> The "2020-2021 PCA" column reflects the Company's proposed rates applied to the June 2020 through May 2021 forecast, and may not tie exactly to the figures listed in the Company's testimony due to the rounding of rates to six digits.

1 last year's forecast. The PCA true-up component is also  
2 increasing as a result of lower surplus sales revenue.

3 In addition to the changes in the PCA forecast and  
4 True-up components, the currently effective PCA includes  
5 \$7.7 million in one-time customer benefits associated with  
6 revenue sharing and tax reform, which will expire at the  
7 end of the current PCA-year. These adjustments are more  
8 fully described in Ms. Blackwell's testimony.

9 Q. Why do you believe that this year's proposed  
10 PCA collection reflects a return to a more "normal" level?

11 A. Table 2 below includes this year's proposed  
12 PCA revenue collection compared to the prior four years,  
13 inclusive of the forecast and True-up components.

<b>Table 2</b>	<b>PCA Revenue Collection</b>				
	<b>2016-2017 PCA</b>	<b>2017-2018 PCA</b>	<b>2018-2019 PCA</b>	<b>2019-2020 PCA</b>	<b>2020-2021 PCA</b>
14	\$ 86,358,618	\$ 103,129,716	\$ 69,415,883	\$ 18,679,456	\$ 69,793,396

15 Table 2 demonstrates that last year's PCA stands out  
16 as an anomaly as compared to the other four years  
17 supporting the conclusion that the proposed increase in  
18 billed revenue associated with this year's PCA request  
19 reflects a more normal level of NPSE.

20 **A. PCA Forecast.**

21 Q. How does the Company's forecast of system-  
22 level NPSE for the 2020-2021 PCA compare to the system-  
23 level forecast included in last year's PCA?

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1           A.       Due to a return to more normal market energy  
2 price levels in this year's PCA forecast, as well as a  
3 reduction in forecast hydro generation, surplus sales  
4 revenue is expected to decrease. The decrease in market  
5 energy prices is also contributing to a reduction in  
6 forecast coal-fired generation as it is less economic for  
7 load service as well as off-system sales. Conversely, due  
8 to the lower market energy prices, the Company is expected  
9 to increase market power purchases.

10           Q.       Please elaborate on the changes in the 95  
11 percent sharing accounts for this year's forecast as  
12 compared with last year's forecast.

13           A.       The decrease in forecast market energy prices  
14 is causing a \$27,810,645 increase in non-PURPA purchased  
15 power, a 45 percent increase over last year's forecast.  
16 Non-PURPA purchased power expense includes market power  
17 purchases as well as power purchase agreements ("PPAs").  
18 The increase in forecast non-PURPA purchased power is  
19 primarily related to market power purchases, which are  
20 expected to increase from \$14,898,672 in last year's PCA  
21 forecast to \$41,404,266 in this year's PCA forecast, a 178  
22 percent increase. For the 2020-2021 PCA Year, the average  
23 forecast market purchase price is \$27.14 per megawatt-hour  
24 ("MWh"), as compared with \$36.73 in last year's PCA  
25 forecast, a 26 percent decrease.

1           At the same time, surplus sales revenues are  
2 expected to decrease 75 percent as compared to last year,  
3 from \$64,129,054 to \$16,076,860. For the 2020-2021 PCA  
4 year, the average forecast market sales price is \$15.14 per  
5 MWh compared with \$35.84 last year. The reduction in  
6 surplus sales is also driven by a reduction in hydro  
7 generation, which will be discussed later.

8           Due to the decrease in market energy prices, the  
9 Company's use of coal-fired generation, both for serving  
10 load as well as making economic surplus sales, is expected  
11 to decrease. Coal fuel expense is expected to decrease 30  
12 percent as compared to last year's forecast, from  
13 \$146,631,692 to \$102,534,012.

14           Forecast fuel expense at the Company's natural gas  
15 plants is expected to decrease \$2,124,490, or approximately  
16 5 percent, as compared to last year's forecast due to lower  
17 natural gas prices. The average per-unit cost of natural  
18 gas generation in this year's PCA forecast is \$21.59 per  
19 MWh compared to \$23.04 per MWh last year, a 6 percent  
20 decrease.

21           Finally, this year's PCA forecast includes water  
22 lease expense whereas last year's PCA forecast did not.  
23 While the Company has not yet procured the water lease, it  
24 anticipates water will be available due to snowpack  
25 conditions in the Upper Snake basin, which is discussed in

1 more detail later. Idaho Power has estimated water lease  
2 expense of \$1,500,000 for this year's PCA forecast.

3 Q. What factors are contributing to the change in  
4 the 100 percent sharing accounts?

5 A. Forecast expenses included in the 100 percent  
6 sharing accounts are expected to increase by less than 1  
7 percent as compared to last year, from \$199,703,576 to  
8 \$201,439,931. This change includes an increase in forecast  
9 PURPA expense of \$1,524,441 as compared to last year, which  
10 is less than 1 percent, and a \$211,914 increase, or 3  
11 percent, in forecast demand response incentive payments.

12 Q. How does forecast generation for this year's  
13 PCA forecast compare to last year?

14 A. Table 4 below details changes between last  
15 year's PCA forecast and this year's PCA forecast with  
16 respect to forecasted generation in MWh. As shown in Table  
17 4, the changes in total-system generation are related to  
18 coal, non-PURPA purchased power and surplus sales, similar  
19 to the changes in expense.

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<b>Table 4</b>				
<b>PCA Forecast Comparison Generation (Total System-MWh)</b>				
<b>Line No.</b>	<b>FERC Account</b>	<b>2019-2020 Forecast</b>	<b>2020-2021 Forecast</b>	<b>Difference</b>
1	Hydro	7,542,353	7,341,717	(200,636)
		-		
	<u>95% Sharing Accounts</u>	-		
2	Account 501, Coal	4,477,177	2,972,154	(1,505,023)
3	Account 547, Other Fuel	1,941,257	1,973,546	32,289
4	Account 555, Purchased Power Non-PURPA	974,474	2,095,454	1,120,980
	<u>95% Sharing Accounts</u>	14,935,262	14,382,871	(552,391)
	<u>100% Sharing Accounts</u>			
5	Account 555, PURPA	2,962,728	2,976,554	13,826
	<u>100% Accounts</u>	2,962,728	2,976,554	13,826
6	Total Generation	17,897,990	17,359,425	(538,565)
	<u>95% Sharing Accounts</u>			
7	Account 447, Surplus Sales	1,789,397	1,062,077	(727,320)
8	Total Load	16,108,593	16,297,348	188,755

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Q. Please elaborate on the changes in generation for this year's forecast as compared with last year's forecast.

A. Compared to last year's forecast, coal-fired generation is expected to decrease 1,505,023 MWh, or 34 percent. As discussed previously, the decrease in market energy prices is contributing to the decrease in coal-fired generation as it is less economic to dispatch for surplus sales and to serve load. The retirement of one unit at the North Valmy coal-fired plant ("Valmy") in December 2019, as well as the retirement of the Boardman coal-fired plant ("Boardman") in December 2020, are also contributing to the decrease in coal-fired generation. This year's PCA includes generation of 167,912 MWh at Valmy and 104,191 MWh at

1 Boardman as compared to 618,539 MWh and 330,559 MWh,  
2 respectively, for last year. The reduction in generation at  
3 these plants as compared to last year is due in part to the  
4 units no longer being available, but also due to economics.

5 The decrease in market energy prices is causing an  
6 increase in non-PURPA purchased power of 1,120,980 MWh. As  
7 mentioned previously, non-PURPA purchased power is  
8 comprised of market power purchases and PPAs. The market  
9 power purchases component is expected to increase 1,116,377  
10 MWh, or 273 percent, while PPAs are expected to increase by  
11 4,603 MWh, or less than 1 percent. The decrease in market  
12 energy prices is also causing a 41 percent decrease in  
13 surplus sales volumes as compared to last year, from  
14 1,789,397 MWh to 1,062,077 MWh.

15 Finally, hydro generation is expected to decrease by  
16 200,636 MWh, or 3 percent, from last year's forecast. The  
17 decrease in expected hydro generation is also contributing  
18 to the reduction in surplus sales.

19 Q. What is causing the decrease in expected hydro  
20 generation of 200,636 MWh?

21 A. The decrease in expected hydro generation is  
22 mainly due to lower projected inflows into Brownlee  
23 reservoir. The March Operating Plan used in this year's  
24 PCA forecast projects April through July inflows into  
25 Brownlee of 4.6 million acre-feet ("MAF") as compared with



1 5.0 MAF used to determine last year's PCA forecast, a  
2 decrease of 8 percent. Expected inflows into Brownlee were  
3 higher for last year's PCA forecast as a result of better  
4 snowpack conditions, which provide for sustained runoff and  
5 increased hydro generation during the spring and summer  
6 months. Although snowpack conditions in the Upper Snake  
7 River Basin, which directly impact stream flows at Milner  
8 Dam and, subsequently, through the majority of Idaho  
9 Power's hydroelectric plants, are above normal for this  
10 year's PCA forecast, snowpack conditions in the Boise and  
11 Payette Basins are well below normal. Weaker snowpack  
12 conditions in these basins are causing lower projected  
13 inflows into Brownlee and a reduction in forecast hydro  
14 generation for this year's PCA forecast as compared to last  
15 year.

16 Q. Why is the decrease in forecast hydro  
17 generation not proportional to the decrease in expected  
18 inflows at Brownlee as compared to last year?

19 A. Although forecasted inflows into Brownlee are  
20 8 percent lower for the months of April through July as  
21 compared to last year, total forecast generation is only 2  
22 percent lower than last year. This is due to strong  
23 carryover from last year. This year's PCA forecast reflects  
24 improved reservoir storage conditions, as compared to last  
25 year's forecast. The March Operating Plan used in this

1 year's PCA demonstrates that available storage in the 11  
2 reservoirs above Brownlee is 125 percent of normal and at  
3 82 percent of capacity, compared to last year's 2019 March  
4 Operating Plan, in which storage was 110 percent of normal  
5 and at 74 percent of capacity.

6 **B. True-up and True-up of the True-up.**

7 Q. What is this year's quantification of the  
8 True-up?

9 A. The True-up portion of the PCA is detailed in  
10 the deferral expense report, attached hereto as Exhibit No.  
11 1. This report compares actual NPSE amounts to actual power  
12 cost collections monthly, with the differences accumulated  
13 as a deferral balance. The balance at the end of March  
14 2020, with interest applied, was negative \$31,869,646, as  
15 shown on row 104 of Exhibit No. 1. The approximate  
16 negative \$31.9 million represents a refund due to customers  
17 in this year's PCA True-up.

18 Q. To what factors do you attribute the  
19 accumulation of the approximate negative \$31.9 million  
20 deferral balance?

21 A. The approximate negative \$31.9 million  
22 deferral balance was primarily driven by unpredictable  
23 changes in market energy prices and the resulting variation  
24 in forecast prices and actual prices. Because actual market  
25 energy prices were lower than expected, it resulted in

1 higher than forecast market power purchases, and  
2 alternatively, lower than forecast surplus sales revenue  
3 and coal fuel expense.

4 Last year's PCA forecast included an average market  
5 purchase price of \$36.73 per MWh. The actual average market  
6 purchase price for the 2019-2020 PCA year was \$19.60 per  
7 MWh, a 47 percent decrease from the average forecast price.  
8 Additionally, last year's PCA forecast included an average  
9 market sales price of \$35.84 per MWh. The actual average  
10 market sales price was \$22.83 per MWh, a 36 percent  
11 decrease from the average forecast price. As a result of  
12 the difference in forecast and actual market energy prices,  
13 market power purchases were higher than forecast while  
14 surplus sales revenues were lower than forecast.

15 As a result of market purchase prices being lower  
16 than expected, market power purchase volumes totaled  
17 1,761,557 MWh, which was 1,352,332 MWh, or 330 percent,  
18 more than forecast. Consequently, actual market power  
19 purchase expense for the 2019-2020 PCA Year was \$34,526,427  
20 compared to \$14,898,672 included in the forecast,  
21 representing a 132 percent increase.

22 The decrease in actual market energy prices also  
23 contributed to lower than forecast surplus sales revenues.  
24 Actual surplus sales revenue totaled \$50,014,065, which was  
25 22 percent lower than forecast surplus sales revenues of

1 \$64,129,054. Although the value of surplus sales was not as  
2 expected, actual surplus sales volumes were higher than  
3 forecast. For the 2019-2020 PCA Year surplus sales totaled  
4 2,189,829 MWh, which was 400,432 MWh more than last year's  
5 forecast of 1,789,397 MWh, reflecting a 22 percent  
6 increase. The increase in surplus sales volumes was also  
7 due in part to a 3 percent increase in actual hydro  
8 generation compared to forecast.

9 Actual coal generation totaled 2,342,998 MWh, which  
10 was 48 percent lower than forecast, and actual coal fuel  
11 expense was \$82,407,803, which was approximately 48 percent  
12 lower than forecast. Coal-fired generation was displaced  
13 with market purchased power as well as natural gas  
14 generation. Natural gas generation totaled 2,325,102 MWh  
15 for the 2019-2020 PCA Year, which was 383,845 MWh, or 20  
16 percent, higher than forecast. Actual natural gas expense  
17 totaled \$52,280,833, which was 17 percent higher than  
18 forecast.

19 Finally, the true-up also includes a \$2,100,000  
20 water lease expense for the 2019-2020 PCA Year that was not  
21 reflected in last year's PCA forecast.

22 Q. Please explain the water lease the Company  
23 entered into in 2019.

24 A. In 2019, Idaho Power entered into an agreement  
25 to purchase water from the Water District 1 supplemental

1 rental pool. The agreement totaled 70,000 acre-feet at a  
2 price of \$30 per acre foot for a total cost of \$2,100,000,  
3 as shown on line 26 of Exhibit No. 1. The water flowed  
4 through Idaho Power's system beginning at Milner Dam from  
5 August 1, 2019, through August 27, 2019.

6 Q. How did the water lease impact hydro  
7 generation?

8 A. Based on the actual daily water flow, the  
9 Company estimated that hydro generation from the water  
10 lease totaled 65,937 MWh, resulting in a price of  
11 approximately \$31.85 per MWh.

12 Q. Did the water lease expense and associated  
13 increase in hydro generation benefit customers?

14 A. Yes. During the period of flow, daily market  
15 energy prices ranged from \$25.24 per MWh to \$39.55 per MWh  
16 during light load hours and from \$32.94 per MWh to \$54.88  
17 per MWh during heavy load hours. Idaho Power was able to  
18 reduce market purchases during this time by using the  
19 leased water and running additional water through the Hells  
20 Canyon Complex. The purchase of leased water at \$31.85 per  
21 MWh compared favorably with the average price paid for  
22 market purchases during the month, which was approximately  
23 \$35.79 per MWh.

24 This additional hydro generation also contributed to  
25 Idaho Power's ability to sell into high-priced hours to the

1 benefit of customers. The average price for market sales  
2 during the month was \$60.70 per MWh, compared to the cost  
3 of the leased water at \$31.85 per MWh, resulting in net  
4 revenue from surplus sales.

5 Q. Were there any items included in this year's  
6 True-up in addition to actual NPSE incurred during the  
7 April 2019 through March 2020 period?

8 A. Yes. Per Commission Order No. 34100, Idaho  
9 Power included its actual costs of Western Energy Imbalance  
10 Market ("EIM") participation for April 2019 through March  
11 2020 in the True-up. Benefits associated with EIM  
12 participation are embedded in actual NPSE experienced over  
13 that same period.

14 Q. Please summarize the conditions of Order No.  
15 34100 as they pertain to EIM cost recovery through the 2020  
16 PCA.

17 A. Per the terms of the settlement stipulation  
18 ("EIM Stipulation") approved by Order No. 34100, Idaho  
19 Power agreed to include an EIM-related monthly revenue  
20 requirement in its monthly PCA deferral calculation based  
21 on actual EIM participation costs commencing April 1, 2018.  
22 The Company also agreed to apply a soft cap to EIM-related  
23 revenue requirement included in the PCA deferral equal to  
24 annual EIM benefits as reported by the California

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1 Independent System Operator ("CAISO") for the corresponding  
2 period.

3 Q. Is the EIM-related revenue requirement  
4 included in the April 2019 through March 2020 PCA deferral  
5 under the soft cap of annual CAISO-reported benefits for  
6 that same period?

7 A. Yes. For the April 2019 through March 2020  
8 period, the EIM-related revenue requirement totaled \$3.2  
9 million, while CAISO reported EIM benefits for Idaho Power  
10 of \$20 million from April through December (CAISO's first  
11 quarter 2020 report has not yet been published). Therefore,  
12 the Company's EIM-related revenue requirement is less than  
13 the soft cap agreed to in the EIM Stipulation.

14 Q. Does Idaho Power believe the EIM has provided  
15 net benefits to customers since joining in April 2018?

16 A. Yes. While Idaho Power believes the CAISO  
17 benefit calculation overstates estimated benefits to Idaho  
18 Power's system, the Company believes customers have  
19 realized significant net benefits since the Company's entry  
20 into the EIM in April 2018. As discussed in the Company's  
21 May 24, 2019, Report of EIM Benefits and Costs of  
22 Participation, filed in Case No. IPC-E-16-19, Idaho Power  
23 has developed a more precise methodology for determining  
24 EIM benefits that uses inputs specific to the Company.  
25 Based on this methodology, the Company believes benefits

1 achieved between April 2019 and March 2020 range between  
2 \$14 and \$18 million (benefits for March 2020 are not yet  
3 available). This level of EIM benefits compared to the  
4 Idaho-jurisdictional EIM costs of \$3.2 million,  
5 demonstrates a net benefit to the Company and, ultimately,  
6 its customers.

7 Q. Did the Company calculate the Sales Based  
8 Adjustment ("SBA") per the terms of the settlement  
9 stipulation approved in Order No. 33307 in Case No.  
10 IPC-E-15-15?

11 A. Yes. The Company's deferral report provided  
12 as Exhibit No. 1 reflects the SBA per the methodology  
13 approved in Case No. IPC-E-15-15. Beginning on line 10 of  
14 Exhibit No. 1, the Company calculates the SBA using actual  
15 Idaho jurisdictional billing month sales.

16 Q. What is this year's True-up of the True-up?

17 A. This year's True-up of the True-up balance is  
18 a credit to customers of \$10,778,801, as shown on row 124  
19 of Exhibit No. 1.

20 Q. What is the combined effect of the True-up and  
21 the True-up of the True-up in this year's PCA?

22 A. The sum of the negative \$31.9 million  
23 associated with the True-up and the negative \$10.8 million  
24 associated with the True-up of the True-up represents an  
25 approximate \$42.7 million credit to customers.



1 Q. How does this year's combined True-up and the  
2 True-up of the True-up compare to last year's amount?

3 A. The combined True-up and the True-up of the  
4 True-up for the last PCA Year was negative \$64,031,080, as  
5 compared with this year's amount of negative \$42,648,447.  
6 While this year's true-up reflects a credit to customers,  
7 it is less than the credit customers are currently  
8 receiving through last year's true-up, and ultimately  
9 reflects an increase in billed revenue of \$21,382,633.

10 **III. NET CUSTOMER IMPACT**

11 Q. What is the revenue impact of the requested  
12 PCA rate when compared with PCA rates currently in effect?

13 A. Attachment 2 to the Application filed  
14 contemporaneously with my testimony provides a detailed  
15 description of the overall revenue impact of this filing on  
16 each customer class. As shown in Attachment 2, applying  
17 the requested PCA rates, presented in Ms. Blackwell's  
18 testimony, to expected customer sales for the June 2020  
19 through May 2021 test year results in a PCA increase of  
20 \$58.7 million.

21 **IV. OTHER PCA IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS**

22 Q. Has Idaho Power been monitoring the recent  
23 impacts of the current coronavirus disease outbreak?

24 A. Yes. In February 2020, the World Health  
25 Organization ("WHO") designated the novel coronavirus disease

1 outbreak that began in 2019 as COVID-19 ('CO' stands for  
2 'corona,' 'VI' for 'virus,' and 'D' for disease). The  
3 infectious disease causes respiratory illness such as fever,  
4 cough, and shortness of breath 2-14 days after exposure from  
5 another infected person. As of April 14, 2020, WHO reports  
6 1,918,138 confirmed cases and 123,126 confirmed deaths in 213  
7 countries, areas, or territories related to the COVID-19  
8 pandemic.<sup>3</sup>

9 On March 25, 2020, Idaho Governor Little issued an  
10 "extreme emergency declaration" over the COVID-19 outbreak.  
11 As permitted by *Idaho Code* § 56-1003(7), on March 25, 2020,  
12 Governor Little and the Director of Idaho Department of Health  
13 and Welfare issued an Order to Self-Isolate for the State of  
14 Idaho ("Stay-Home Order") "to protect the public from the  
15 spread of infectious or communicable diseases" through April  
16 15, 2020 or until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or  
17 amended in writing by the Director.<sup>4</sup>

18 As a result of the impacts of COVID-19 and Idaho's  
19 state and local stay-home orders on Idaho businesses, Idaho  
20 Power expects that there will be a new subset of its customers

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<sup>3</sup> World Health Organization, Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic statistics available at <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>.

<sup>4</sup> Idaho Department of Health & Welfare Director Dave Jeppesen to All Citizens of the State of Idaho, Elected and Appointed Officials, Order to Self-Isolate for the State of Idaho (March 25, 2020).

1 that will have an inability, or will be challenged financially,  
2 to pay their Idaho Power bills until they can return to work.

3 Q. What is Idaho Power doing to help its customers  
4 who may be struggling financially during this difficult time?

5 A. On March 16, 2020, the Company temporarily  
6 suspended service disconnections for non-payment applicable to  
7 all Idaho and Oregon residential and small/medium business  
8 customers. On the same date, Idaho Power also began a temporary  
9 suspension of all late fees for applicable customer billings.  
10 In addition, Idaho Power has launched an energy efficiency  
11 educational campaign to further educate customers on ways to  
12 help them better manage their energy costs. The Company hopes  
13 that these measures will help contribute to the overall health  
14 and safety of customers during this unprecedented crisis, as  
15 well as to mitigate the short-term financial impact for  
16 affected customers.

17 Q. Did Idaho Power consider recommending some form  
18 of mitigation measures for this year's PCA in light of this  
19 ongoing COVID-19 event?

20 A. Yes. However, after thoughtful and careful  
21 consideration, Idaho Power believes its customers would be best  
22 served by implementing the full proposed PCA revenue increase  
23 effective June 1, 2020. While the Company is sensitive to the  
24 financial impact this proposed rate increase will have on its  
25 customers during this challenging time, the potential longer-

1 term downside risks outweigh the near-term relief of deferring  
2 a portion, or all, of the requested increase.

3 First, Idaho Power believes that postponing collection  
4 of known costs to a future period could create more harm than  
5 good by risking the compounding or "pancaking" of this current  
6 revenue increase on top of possible future rate increases.  
7 Secondly, the Company believes that revenue collection less  
8 than the proposed collection in this case could have  
9 significant negative financial impact on the Company.

10 **A. Rate Pancaking Concerns**

11 Q. Please explain the Company's concern regarding  
12 the risk of "rate pancaking" associated with the deferral of  
13 the proposed PCA increase?

14 A. Idaho Power believes that customers interests  
15 are generally best served by matching cost recovery as  
16 closely as possible with the period in which power supply  
17 costs are incurred. This matching minimizes compounding or  
18 pancaking of rates that could harm customers more in the  
19 future than a deferral would help those same customers  
20 today.

21 Q. Are there certain aspects of this year's PCA  
22 request that should be considered when evaluating the rate  
23 pancaking risk in this case?

24 A. Yes. As I mentioned earlier in my testimony,  
25 this year's PCA increase, if approved, would move the level

1 of PCA cost recovery back to a level that reflects a more  
2 normal expectation of NPSE. As can be seen in Table 2, PCA  
3 collection in each of the years preceding last year's PCA  
4 were either near or above the level of collection proposed  
5 in this case. Because the vast majority of this year's PCA  
6 increase is the result of removing non-recurring benefits  
7 (i.e., relatively high market energy prices, revenue  
8 sharing, and temporary tax reform benefits), the risk of  
9 rate pancaking from deferred cost recovery is quite high.

10 It should also be noted that this year's PCA  
11 forecast includes a slightly above normal level of hydro  
12 generation as compared to the 30-year median value. If  
13 hydro conditions were to worsen next year, any deferred  
14 collection from this PCA-year would add to the resulting  
15 higher NPSE next year. Further, approximately 51 percent of  
16 the proposed PCA forecast collection is related to recovery  
17 of PURPA costs - costs that are known today and are under  
18 contract. Deferral of known annual PURPA costs would surely  
19 result in compounding with future known PURPA cost  
20 collection.

21 Q. Has the Commission in the past expressed  
22 concerns about deferring PCA recovery into future periods?

23 A. Yes. The Commission has, on a number of  
24 occasions, expressed opposition to spreading the collection  
25 of PCA amounts over multiple years. As part of its order

1 regarding the 2001 PCA, the Commission made the following  
2 statement:

3 While the Commission is sympathetic to  
4 the request that the authorized rate  
5 increase or some portion thereof be  
6 amortized over time, the Commission  
7 declines to adopt this recommendation.

8

9 Order No. 28722 at 26. As part of its order regarding the  
10 2002 PCA, the Commission made the following statement:

11 The Commission is also concerned that  
12 the longer the power supply cost  
13 recovery is delayed, the greater the  
14 risk that the customers taking service  
15 when deferred costs were incurred will  
16 not be the same customers that will  
17 later pay for them.

18

19 Order No. 29026 at 15. As part of its order regarding the  
20 2008 PCA, the Commission made the following statement:

21 It is simply too risky, and potentially  
22 compounds the problem, to seek recovery  
23 from ratepayers across three future  
24 years.

25

26 Order No. 30563 at 7. As part of its order regarding the  
27 2009 PCA, the Commission made the following statement:

28 Despite the significant amount included  
29 for recovery in the PCA this year, the  
30 Commission declines to spread recovery  
31 of the amount into a subsequent year.

32

33 Order No. 30828 at 10. Most recently, as part of its order  
34 regarding the 2013 PCA, the Commission made the following  
35 statement:

36 The PCA was never intended for long  
37 term recovery of costs that continue

1           year to year. It was implemented to  
2           properly recover the Company's annual  
3           fluctuation in power supply costs and  
4           keep the customers from paying either  
5           too little or too much of those costs.

6  
7   Order No. 32821 at 11.

8   **B.    COVID-19 Financial Impacts**

9           Q.     If the Commission were to defer collection of  
10          some, or all, of the requested PCA increase, would the  
11          Company have financial concerns?

12          A.     Yes. Under normal circumstances deferred PCA  
13          collection of the amount requested in this case would not  
14          likely have a material financial impact on the Company.  
15          However, shortly following the announcement of the COVID-19  
16          outbreak in the United States, the resulting negative  
17          impacts on the financial markets have presented challenges  
18          for companies like Idaho Power. Reduced cash from PCA-  
19          related sales would further challenge the Company's ability  
20          to cost-effectively fund its near-term operations. If PCA  
21          collection were to be deferred, the Company may not be able  
22          to cost-effectively access financial markets to offset the  
23          lost cash in the near term.

24          Q.     Please provide some examples of how the COVID-  
25          19 crisis has impacted the Company's financing costs and  
26          its ability to access cash to fund operations.

27          A.     Idaho Power began 2020 with a solid short-term  
28          cash investing position; its short-term investments were

1 liquid and accessible. By the end of the first quarter of  
2 2020 that all changed, despite efforts to conserve cash.

3 The uncertain economic impact of COVID-19 on the  
4 cash forecast for the remainder of the year compelled Idaho  
5 Power to explore the possibility of short-term borrowing in  
6 March and April.

7 The Company typically issues commercial paper ("CP")  
8 for short-term borrowing; however, the market in March for  
9 CP was negatively impacted by the current crisis and did  
10 not represent a reliable option to finance short-term  
11 debt. At the same time, economic concerns tied to COVID-19  
12 caused a surge of investors exiting money market funds to  
13 raise cash during mid to late March. This caused short-  
14 term rates to rise steeply as there were many sellers and  
15 few buyers.

16 This unusual financial market turbulence had a  
17 particularly troubling impact on two Idaho Power-issued  
18 bonds with rates that reset weekly: the American Falls  
19 guarantee and the Port of Morrow Pollution Control Revenue  
20 Bonds. The aggregate principal amount outstanding for these  
21 two bonds is over 24 million dollars. The interest rates on  
22 these bonds went from 1.35 percent on March 11 to 4.2  
23 percent on March 19, and then increased to 5.2 percent on  
24 March 25. The financial market has recently stabilized  
25 somewhat with rates coming down to 2.15 percent on April



1 1. If rates were to stay at the 5 percent level, it would  
2 cost the Company over \$800,000 in additional annual  
3 interest expense. There would also be a high risk that the  
4 Company could be forced to buy back the bonds if there were  
5 not buyers in the market.

6 Several of the Company's banks had previously  
7 expressed interest in providing an 18-month to three-year  
8 loan to the Company at relatively favorable rates. The  
9 Company had a call with one of those banks the morning of  
10 March 23 to work through the details of the loan. By the  
11 afternoon of March 23, the bank pulled back its offer. The  
12 Company contacted all six banks that it normally transacts  
13 with and none were willing to execute a similar loan.

14 Q. What measures has the Company taken to ensure  
15 its ability to fund operations in response to these unique  
16 financial circumstances?

17 A. During the last week of March, the investment  
18 grade bond market presented some relatively favorable  
19 financing opportunities. The Company quickly moved a 30-  
20 year debt issuance planned for later in the year up to  
21 March 31st, to take advantage of favorable long-term  
22 rates. Idaho Power also increased the size of the proceeds  
23 received on its bonds to \$260 million from the \$220 million  
24 that was originally planned, to provide extra security as  
25 the Company continues to evaluate the unknown impacts of

1 COVID-19, including reduced revenue collections from  
2 customers. A large portion of the proceeds are earmarked  
3 for redemption of \$100 million of bonds that mature later  
4 in the year. Additionally, the Company is currently making  
5 best efforts to keep its \$300 million credit line in  
6 reserve for the future. On March 23, Idaho Power inquired  
7 of the availability of the \$300 million credit line and was  
8 assured the Company would continue to be allowed to draw on  
9 the credit line.

10 Q. Please summarize the Company's concerns  
11 regarding the financial impact to Idaho Power of deferring  
12 the proposed PCA collection to a subsequent period.

13 A. The financial impact of the COVID-19 health  
14 crisis on the CP market has already been felt by the  
15 Company. While Idaho Power has been able to successfully  
16 navigate financial market impacts to-date, further  
17 financial stress caused by deferred PCA cost recovery would  
18 likely exacerbate an already challenging operating  
19 environment.

20 **V. CONCLUSION**

21 Q. Please summarize the Company's request in this  
22 case.

23 A. The PCA is a rate mechanism that quantifies  
24 and tracks annual differences between actual NPSE and the  
25 normalized level of NPSE recovered in the Company's base

1 rates, resulting in a credit or surcharge that is updated  
2 annually on June 1. The calculation of the proposed 2020-  
3 2021 PCA rates complies with the methodology that was  
4 approved in Order Nos. 30715, 33149, and 33307. If  
5 approved, the 2020-2021 PCA will result in an increase in  
6 total billed revenue of approximately \$58.7 million, or  
7 5.21 percent.

8           While the Company is sensitive to the financial  
9 impact this proposed rate increase will have on its  
10 customers during this challenging time, the potential  
11 longer-term downside risks outweigh the near-term relief of  
12 deferring a portion, or all, of the requested increase.  
13 After thoughtful and careful consideration, Idaho Power  
14 believes its customers would be best served by implementing  
15 the full proposed PCA revenue increase effective June 1,  
16 2020.

17           Q.     Does this conclude your testimony?

18           A.     Yes, it does.

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**DECLARATION OF TIMOTHY E. TATUM**

I, Timothy E. Tatum, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Idaho:


1. My name is Timothy E. Tatum. I am employed by Idaho Power Company as the Vice President of the Regulatory Affairs Department.

2. On behalf of Idaho Power, I present this pre-filed direct testimony and Exhibit No. 1 in this matter.

3. To the best of my knowledge, my pre-filed direct testimony and exhibit are true and accurate.

I hereby declare that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that I understand it is made for use as evidence before the Idaho Public Utilities Commission and is subject to penalty for perjury.

SIGNED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 2020, at Boise, Idaho.

Signed:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy E. Tatum

**BEFORE THE  
IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
CASE NO. IPC-E-20-21**

**IDAHO POWER COMPANY**

**TATUM, DI  
TESTIMONY**

**EXHIBIT NO. 1**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q
1	Power Cost Adjustment																
2	April 2019 thru March 2020																
3																	
4	PCA Forecasted Revenues																
5	Actual Idaho Jurisdictional Billing Month Sales																
6	% of Prior Period Billings at Old Rate																
7	% of Current Period Billings at New Rate																
8	Forecasted Billing Month Revenues	\$ 6.315	\$	\$ 5.836													
9																	
10	Sales Based Adjustment																
11	Actual Idaho Jurisdictional Billing Month Sales																
12	Normalized Idaho Jurisdictional Billing Month Sales																
13	Sales Change																
14	% of Prior Period Billings at Old Rate																
15	% of Current Period Billings at New Rate																
16	Sales Adjustment Prior to Sharing																
17	Sharing Percentage																
18	Sales Based Adjustment																
19																	
20	Actual Non-QF																
21	Fuel Expense-Gas																
22	Fuel Expense-Coil																
23	Non-Firm Purchases																
24	Third Firm Transmission																
25	Surplus Sales																
26	Water for Power (Leases)																
27	Total Actual Non-QF																
28	Idaho Allocation																
29	Net Idaho Jurisdictional Actual Non-QF																
30																	
31	Base Non-QF																
32	Fuel Expense-Gas																
33	Fuel Expense-Coil																
34	Non-Firm Purchases																
35	Third Firm Transmission																
36	Surplus Sales																
37	Water for Power (Leases)																
38	Net 95% Items																
39	Idaho Allocation																
40	Net Idaho Jurisdictional 95% Items																
41																	
42	Idaho Jurisdiction Change From Base																
43	Sharing Percentage																
44	Net Power Supply Costs Deferral																
45																	
46	Emission Allowance and REC Sales																
47	Emission Allowance Sales Credit																
48	Renewable Energy Credit Sales																
49	Total Emission Allowances and REC Sales																
50	Idaho Allocation																
51	Sharing Percentage																
52	Net Emission Allowances and REC Sales																
53																	
54	Idaho Allocated EIM Participation Costs																
55	Return on EIM Capital Investment																
56	Operating Expenses																
57	Total																
58	Sharing Percentage																
59	EIM Participation Costs																
60																	
61	Demand Response Incentive Payments																
62	Actual																
63	Base																
64	Change From Base																
65	Idaho Allocation																
66	Sharing Percentage																
67	Demand Response Incentive Payment Deferral																
68																	
69	Actual QF																
70	Actual QF (Includes Net Metering, Refit River 100% & Liquidated Damages)																
71	Idaho Allocation																
72	Idaho Jurisdictional Actual QF																
73																	
74	Base QF																
75	Idaho Allocation																
76	Idaho Jurisdictional Base																
77	Idaho Jurisdiction Change From Base																
78	Sharing Percentage																
79	Idaho Allocation																
80	QF Deferral																
81																	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q
1	Power Cost Adjustment																
2	April 2019 thru March 2020																
3																	
82	Total Deferral																
83																	
84																	
85	True-Up Summary:																
86	Principal Balances:																
87																	
88	Beginning True-Up Balance																
89	Amount Deferred																
90	Ending True-Up Balance																
91																	
92																	
93	Interest Balances:																
94																	
95	Accrual thru Prior Month																
96	Monthly Interest Rate (Annual 2% for 2019)																
97	Monthly Interest Incl(Exp)																
98	Interest Accrued to date																
99	Ending True-Up Balance																
100																	
101																	
102																	
103	True-Up of the True-Up Summary:																
104	Beginning Balance True-Up of True-Up																
105	Adjustments:																
106	Revenue Sharing																
107	DSM Rider Forecasted Surplus Funds Order No.																
108	2018-19 PCA Insrfr per IPUC Ord No. 34351																
109	True-Up of True-Up Balance																
110	Monthly Interest Rate (Annual 2% for 2019)																
111	Monthly Interest																
112	True-Up of True-Up Including Interest																
113	Monthly Collection Applied To Balance																
114	Ending True-Up of the True-Up Balance																
115																	
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130	Idaho Billed Sales																
131	Oregon Billed Sales																
132	Total																
133	Idaho % Billed Sales																
134	Oregon % Billed Sales																
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137																	