

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY FOR) CASE NO. IPC-E-23-11
AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS RATES)
AND CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE)
IN THE STATE OF IDAHO AND FOR)
ASSOCIATED REGULATORY ACCOUNTING)
TREATMENT.)
_____)

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

MATTHEW T. LARKIN

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 Matthew T. Larkin. My business
5 address is 1221 West Idaho Street, Boise, Idaho 83702. I am
6 employed by Idaho Power as the Revenue Requirement Senior
7 Manager in the Regulatory Affairs Department.

8 Q. Please describe your educational background.

9 A. I received a Bachelor of Business
10 Administration degree in Finance from the University of
11 Oregon in 2007. In 2008, I earned a Master of Business
12 Administration degree from the University of Oregon. I have
13 also attended electric utility ratemaking courses,
14 including the *Electric Rates Advanced Course*, offered by
15 the Edison Electric Institute, and *Estimation of*
16 *Electricity Marginal Costs and Application to Pricing*,
17 presented by National Economic Research Associates, Inc.

18 Q. Please describe your work experience with
19 Idaho Power.

20 A. I began my employment with Idaho Power as a
21 Regulatory Analyst in January 2009. As a Regulatory
22 Analyst, I provided support for the Company's regulatory
23 activities, including compliance reporting, financial
24 analysis, and the development of revenue forecasts for
25 regulatory filings.

1 Affairs Mr. Timothy E. Tatum regarding the development of
2 the Company's 2023 Test Year ("2023 Test Year" or "Test
3 Year"). I then detail two specific adjustments to the
4 Company's 2023 Test Year regarding the recovery of costs
5 related to Idaho Power's defined benefit pension plan and
6 the recovery of non-fuel coal-related costs. Next, I
7 discuss the broader methodologies utilized by the Company
8 to forecast the remainder of the test year components. My
9 testimony concludes with a summary of the direction I gave
10 to other Company witnesses in developing the 2023 Test
11 Year, and a quantification of the Company's requested Idaho
12 jurisdictional revenue requirement.

13 Q. Did you consult with Mr. Tatum, Vice President
14 of Regulatory Affairs, regarding the development of the
15 2023 Test Year?

16 A. Yes. The 2023 Test Year development
17 methodology presented in my testimony is a direct result of
18 numerous discussions with Mr. Tatum.

19 Q. Did Mr. Tatum provide you with any specific
20 instructions or guidance regarding the development of the
21 test year presented in this proceeding?

22 A. Yes. Mr. Tatum instructed me to develop a
23 2023 Test Year based on 2022 actual financial data in a
24 manner similar to that presented to the Idaho Public
25 Utilities Commission ("Commission") in the Company's last

1 general rate case, IPC-E-11-08 ("2011 Rate Case").
2 However, Mr. Tatum instructed me to deviate from the
3 methodology used in the 2011 Rate Case in a number of
4 specific areas.

5 First, Mr. Tatum instructed me to set the recovery
6 of 2023 Test Year pension expense at approximately \$35
7 million, an increase above the level currently reflected in
8 rates of \$17 million. Second, Mr. Tatum directed me to
9 maintain the North Valmy Power Plant ("Valmy") and the Jim
10 Bridger Power Plant ("Bridger") non-fuel coal-related cost
11 recovery at current levels, with the exception of
12 collection related to previously deferred revenue
13 requirement amounts. Third, Mr. Tatum directed me to update
14 base net power supply expenses ("NPSE") to be included in
15 base rates and tracked through the Power Cost Adjustment
16 ("PCA") on a going forward basis. Fourth, Mr. Tatum
17 instructed me to hold non-labor operations and maintenance
18 ("O&M") expense at 2022 levels with specific adjustments
19 for known and measurable changes. Fifth, Mr. Tatum
20 instructed me to hold test year levels of wildfire
21 mitigation costs to 2022 actual costs, and include
22 amortization into rates of previously deferred wildfire
23 mitigation costs, excluding deferred vegetation management
24 costs, over a seven-year amortization period.

1 Prior to discussing the broader methodology utilized
2 to develop the 2023 Test Year, I will first address the
3 Company's methodologies related to pension and non-fuel
4 coal-related costs at Bridger and Valmy.

5 **II. PENSION COST RECOVERY**

6 Q. Please provide an overview of the regulatory
7 treatment for the Company's defined benefit pension plan
8 expense in Idaho rate proceedings.

9 A. In Order No. 30333 issued in 2007, the
10 Commission authorized Idaho Power to account for its
11 defined benefit pension expense on a cash basis and to
12 defer and account for accrued Statement of Financial
13 Accounting Standards ("SFAS") 87 / Accounting Standards
14 Codification ("ASC") 715 pension expense as a regulatory
15 asset. Then in 2010, the Commission determined in Order No.
16 31003 that the previously authorized regulatory asset could
17 be considered a balancing account to track, on a cumulative
18 basis, the difference between the cash amounts contributed
19 to the pension plan and the amounts included in rates.
20 Additionally, the Commission determined that recovery of
21 deferred cash contributions and ASC 715 expense and the
22 associated amortization period were to be evaluated during
23 a revenue requirement proceeding.

24 Q. Do customers benefit under the current
25 regulatory treatment for pension expense?

1 A. Yes. The balancing account established by
2 Order No. 31003 provides for a greater level of cost
3 tracking that assures customers pay no more than the actual
4 cost as well as providing a better opportunity to match
5 costs with revenues. The balancing account is also an
6 effective tool to mitigate financial market volatility as
7 well as discount rate volatility. The balancing account
8 results in the Company addressing both market and discount
9 rate volatility while the customer impact of the volatility
10 is mitigated. The balancing account also provides the
11 Commission with the opportunity to determine an appropriate
12 amortization period for rate recovery.

13 Q. What is the Company's current annual level of
14 pension expense recovery?

15 A. In Order No. 32248 issued in 2011 in Case No.
16 IPC-E-11-04, the Commission authorized recovery of
17 \$17,153,713 per year.

18 Q. Aside from the current level of base rate
19 recovery, have there been any other reductions to the
20 balancing account?

21 A. Yes. Due to the Company's revenue sharing
22 mechanism,¹ from 2011 to 2014 the pension balancing account

¹ Case No. IPC-E-09-30, Order No. 30978. This ADITC/Revenue Sharing mechanism was subsequently extended, and percentages, thresholds, and accounting were modified by the Commission in Order Nos. 32424, 33149, and 34071.

1 was reduced by approximately \$68 million, as earnings above
2 a 10.5 percent return on equity were used to offset future
3 rate increases associated with pension deferrals.

4 Q. What is the current balance in the pension
5 balancing account?

6 A. As of December 31, 2022, the balance was \$221
7 million.

8 Q. What is the Company's requested level of
9 pension expense recovery in the 2023 Test Year?

10 A. At Mr. Tatum's direction, the Company is
11 requesting \$35 million of pension amortization, reflecting
12 an approximate increase of \$18 million compared to the
13 amount currently in rates.

14 Q. Is there a risk to customers of over-recovery
15 if assumptions regarding pension costs or funding levels
16 change?

17 A. No. The existing balancing account methodology
18 ensures that customers never pay more than actual pension
19 costs. If future contributions are less than \$35 million
20 the balance in the account will be reduced sooner. If
21 contributions continue to be higher than the recovery of
22 \$35 million, the pension balancing account will grow but
23 will not impact customers without future rate approvals, as
24 has been illustrated over the period since Idaho Power's
25 last general rate case.

1 **III. NON-FUEL COAL-RELATED COST RECOVERY**

2 Q. How are non-fuel coal-related costs generally
3 recovered in rates?

4 A. On May 31, 2017, the Commission authorized the
5 Company in Order No. 33771 to establish a balancing
6 account, with the necessary regulatory accounting, to track
7 the incremental costs and benefits associated with the
8 accelerated Valmy end-of-life as part of the Valmy
9 levelized revenue requirement mechanism.² Similarly, on June
10 1, 2022, the Commission authorized the Company in Order No.
11 35423 to establish a balancing account, with the necessary
12 regulatory accounting, to track the incremental costs and
13 benefits associated with the Company's cessation of coal-
14 fired operations at Bridger as part of the Bridger coal-
15 related levelized revenue requirement mechanism.³ The
16 recovery of these amounts is embedded in the Company's
17 currently-approved base rates.

18 Q. What direction did you receive from Mr. Tatum
19 with regard to the inclusion of non-fuel coal-related costs
20 in the 2023 Test Year?

21 A. Mr. Tatum directed me to maintain the Valmy
22 and Bridger non-fuel coal-related cost recovery at current

² Case No. IPC-E-16-24, Order No. 33771.

³ Case No. IPC-E-21-17, Order No. 35423.

1 levels, with the exception of collection related to
2 previously deferred revenue requirement amounts.

3 Q. How did the Company achieve this directive?

4 A. This directive was achieved as reflected in
5 Ms. Jeppsen's testimony and exhibits, through the removal
6 of these costs from 2022 actuals. As discussed by Ms.
7 Jeppsen, actual non-fuel coal-related costs at Bridger and
8 Valmy were adjusted out of actual costs in all pertinent
9 cost categories, including non-fuel O&M, electric plant-in-
10 service, and property taxes.

11 Q. How is Idaho Power accounting for the existing
12 cost recovery through these coal mechanisms in its
13 presentment of the 2023 Test Year?

14 A. With regard to revenues, the Company's
15 existing base rates already reflect the amount of current
16 recovery of these levelized amounts, therefore the 2023
17 Test Year retail revenues calculated by Ms. Brady and
18 provided to Ms. Noe reflect revenues the Company is
19 currently receiving related to these levelized revenue
20 requirements. With regard to costs, Idaho Power has
21 quantified the current level of authorized cost recovery
22 for both the Bridger coal-related and Valmy levelized
23 revenue requirement mechanisms. Because coal-related
24 Bridger and Valmy costs were removed from actual 2022
25 financials by Ms. Jeppsen, the Company has added the

1 currently authorized Idaho jurisdictional recovery levels
2 to the 2023 Test Year revenue requirement, as detailed in
3 the jurisdictional separation study ("JSS") prepared by Ms.
4 Noe. As described in the Direct Testimony of Mr. Tatum,
5 these amounts also include the total incremental annual
6 Bridger-related cost recovery associated with previously
7 deferred revenue requirement amounts.

8 **IV. TEST YEAR METHODS**

9 Q. Will you briefly summarize how the Company
10 developed its 2023 Test Year?

11 A. Yes. The development of the 2023 Test Year
12 began with 2022 actual financial data ("2022 Actuals").
13 2022 Actuals were compiled and adjusted by Ms. Jeppsen to
14 reflect standard ratemaking adjustments and to arrive at
15 2022 adjusted actual financial information ("2022 Base").
16 The 2022 Base was then adjusted to reach 2023 forecasted
17 financial levels ("2023 Unadjusted Test Year"). Finally,
18 annualizing adjustments were made to the 2023 Unadjusted
19 Test Year to reach the Company's 2023 Test Year.

20 Q. Which forecast methodologies were used to
21 adjust the 2022 Base to the 2023 Unadjusted Test Year?

22 A. There were two primary methods developed and
23 applied to the 2022 Base Year to forecast the 2023
24 Unadjusted Test Year. First, the Company used the unchanged
25 2022 Base Year financial data when the Company believed

1 that certain amounts would continue to remain at 2022
2 levels or if account balances were relatively small.
3 Alternatively, "Other Adjustments" were applied based upon
4 known or probable factors for 2023 that relate to a
5 particular account. Examples of these factors include, but
6 are not limited to, new billing and volume contract terms,
7 discontinued services, anticipated levels of economic
8 activity, and existing regulatory commission orders.

9 Q. Have you prepared exhibits that list all
10 accounts and identify the specific method used to forecast
11 the 2023 Unadjusted Test Year?

12 A. Yes. I directed the preparation of Exhibit No.
13 25 to present a summarized list of all accounts to which
14 the two previously discussed methods were applied. Each
15 methodology is described in more detail within the Forecast
16 Methodology Manual, provided as Exhibit No. 26, which was
17 also prepared at my direction. To develop the Forecast
18 Methodology Manual, the Company performed a review of each
19 group of accounts included within the test year. Based upon
20 specific knowledge and analysis of each account grouping,
21 the Company either used 2022 Actuals or applied an Other
22 Adjustment methodology to that account to represent an
23 appropriate level of anticipated spending.

1 Q. Have the data and the associated adjustments
2 made to your exhibits and supporting schedules been
3 calculated on a total system basis?

4 A. Yes. Ms. Noe will address the determination of
5 the Idaho jurisdictional test year values in her testimony.

6 Q. What are the major areas or groupings of
7 financial accounts addressed by the methodologies included
8 in the Forecast Methodology Manual (Exhibit No. 26)?

9 A. The major areas or groupings of financial
10 accounts addressed in Exhibit No. 26 include Other
11 Operating Revenues (Accounts 451, 454, and 456), Operation
12 and Maintenance Expenses (Accounts 500 through 935),
13 Depreciation and Amortization Expense (Accounts 403 and
14 404), and Electric Plant in Service (Account 101). A
15 detailed discussion of the individual accounts and methods
16 used is provided in Exhibit No. 26.

17 Q. Which methodology was used to forecast 2023
18 Other Operating Revenues (Accounts 447, 451, 454, and 456)?

19 A. Consistent with Mr. Tatum's directive, Surplus
20 Sales Revenues (Account 447) were included in the Company's
21 quantification of base NPSE as further detailed in Ms.
22 Brady's testimony. The remaining Other Operating Revenues
23 (Accounts 451, 454, and 456) were kept at year-end 2022
24 Actuals, with the exception of six items: 1) miscellaneous
25 service revenues, 2) cogeneration and small power

1 production, 3) revenues from dark fiber rents, 4) payments
2 to water districts, 5) facilities charges, and 6) third-
3 party transmission revenues.

4 Account 451 contains Miscellaneous Service Revenues,
5 and was forecast based on proposed changes to Schedule 66
6 (the Miscellaneous Charges tariff that governs these
7 offerings) that are further discussed in the Direct
8 Testimony of Company Witness Mr. Riley Maloney.
9 Cogeneration and small power production revenues were
10 determined by applying a five-year compound average growth
11 rate ("CAGR"), as the Company believes this method reflects
12 a reasonable expectation for the 2023 timeframe. Revenues
13 from dark fiber rents will cease in February 2023,
14 therefore they were removed as a forecast adjustment.
15 Payments from water districts were calculated based on a
16 five-year average, as these payments fluctuate based on
17 demand for water and availability. Expected facilities
18 charge revenues were based on the Company's proposed
19 facilities charge rate filed in this case applied to
20 expected applicable investment in the 2023 Test Year, as
21 further addressed by Mr. Maloney. Network services and
22 other long-term firm and point-to-point transmission
23 revenues were projected based on information more
24 reflective of current circumstances and an anticipated Open
25 Access Transmission Tariff rate update in October 2023.

1 Q. Which methodology was used to forecast 2023
2 O&M Expenses (Accounts 500 through 935)?

3 A. Based on the instructions I received from Mr.
4 Tatum, the general process to determine 2023 Test Year O&M
5 began with the separation of the majority of O&M components
6 into two elements: labor and non-labor. Each element was
7 then forecast separately and allocated to the individual
8 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") accounts.

9 Based upon the instructions I received from Mr.
10 Tatum, there were several O&M accounts that were determined
11 separately from this process. First, the base NPSE accounts
12 tracked through the PCA were updated by Ms. Brady primarily
13 utilizing the AURORA model. The PCA expense accounts
14 include Fuel Expense (Accounts 501 and 547), Water for
15 Power Expense (Account 536.003), Purchased Power Expense
16 (Account 555), and Transmission of Electricity by Others
17 (Account 565).

18 The Idaho Energy Efficiency Rider Expense (Account
19 908) was removed in its entirety from the 2023 Test Year,
20 while the labor component was added back to this account,
21 as discussed in the Direct Testimony of Mr. Tatum.

22 Incentive Expense (included in Account 920) was
23 forecasted for 2023 to include only the normalized
24 incentive components that are attributable to Customer
25 Satisfaction and Reliability, consistent with the method

1 approved in Case No. IPC-E-08-10 ("2008 Rate Case"), Order
2 No. 30722, and filed in the Company's 2011 Rate Case.
3 Incentive expense represents the "at-risk" portion of
4 employees' total compensation package.

5 Pension Expense (Account 926) for the Idaho
6 jurisdiction was increased to reflect \$35 million in annual
7 collection, as discussed previously in my testimony.

8 Regulatory Commission Expenses (Account 928) were
9 adjusted to include known changes in amortizations for
10 recovery of Commission-ordered intervenor funding.

11 Q. What methodology was used to forecast 2023 O&M
12 labor expense?

13 A. The 2023 labor expense was forecasted by
14 applying historical monthly labor cost relationships to the
15 first two calendar months of 2023 actual labor costs. More
16 specifically, the 2023 O&M labor forecast was developed by
17 first calculating the three-year historical average of
18 February year-to-date actual O&M labor costs as a
19 percentage of the total year actual O&M labor costs. The
20 resulting percentage was determined to be 16.0 percent.
21 This percentage was then applied to the actual February
22 2023 year-to-date O&M labor to estimate the total 2023 O&M
23 labor costs. The February amount was first reduced by
24 pension expense and incentive expense. The resulting 2023
25 labor projection of \$188.8 million was then allocated to

1 the applicable FERC accounts based on 2022 actual labor
2 charges to those same accounts.

3 This method is similar to that utilized by
4 Commission Staff ("Staff") in the 2008 Rate Case to
5 validate the Company's labor forecast as additional actual
6 labor cost data became available throughout the test
7 period, and mirrors the Company's filed approach in the
8 2011 Rate Case. A more detailed discussion of the labor-
9 related O&M adjustment is provided in Exhibit No. 26, pages
10 5 and 6.

11 Q. Did Idaho Power make any adjustments to
12 expected labor costs related to the Energy Efficiency Rider
13 ("Rider")?

14 A. Yes. As described in the Direct Testimony of
15 Mr. Tatum, in this case Idaho Power is proposing to
16 transfer approximately \$3.5 million in Rider-funded labor
17 costs into base rates. As discussed later in my testimony,
18 the movement of these labor costs from the Rider to base
19 rate recovery is one of two rate neutral transfer
20 adjustments the Company is proposing in this case.

21 Q. What methodology was used to forecast 2023
22 non-labor O&M expenses?

23 A. 2023 non-labor O&M expenses, excluding the
24 accounts mentioned above, were projected to be equal to the
25 2022 actual expense level with adjustments only for

1 relatively large known changes. At my direction, the O&M
2 expenses were reviewed by subject matter experts to
3 identify and adjust those areas, based on specific
4 knowledge, where expense levels are expected to be
5 materially different than those included in the 2022 Base.
6 The review identified specific increases or decreases to
7 the 2022 non-labor actual levels in the following
8 categories:

- 9 • Idaho Fish and Game's Projected Hatchery Expense
- 10 Increases
- 11 • Fleet Adjustment
- 12 • Water for Power Adjustment
- 13 • Langley and Bennett Mountain Plant Maintenance
- 14 • Western Resource Adequacy Program ("WRAP")⁴ Costs
- 15 • Uncollectible / Bad Debt Expense
- 16 • Solar Payback Calculator

17 Actual 2022 non-labor O&M, excluding these items
18 listed for known changes, equaled \$157.6 million.

19 Following the adjustments for significant known changes,
20 non-labor O&M is projected to increase by \$339,424, to
21 \$157.9 million. This reflects a non-labor O&M amount for
22 the 2023 Test Year that has increased by less than 0.25
23 percent. A more detailed discussion of the non-labor O&M

⁴ The WRAP and its associated benefits are currently the subject of an open case before the Commission (Case No. IPC-E-23-08).

1 adjustments is provided in Exhibit No. 26, pages 6 through
2 16.

3 Q. Is there any specific regulatory accounting
4 treatment that the Company is seeking related to the list
5 of known and measurable adjustments you just identified?

6 A. Yes. The Company requests specific regulatory
7 accounting authority related to the known and measurable
8 adjustment item "Langley and Bennett Mountain Plant
9 Maintenance." As can be seen on pages 7 and 8 of Exhibit
10 No. 26, Langley and Bennett Mountain Plant Maintenance –
11 Account 554 was decreased from the 2022 Base by \$3,423,030.
12 For this non-labor component, this account was projected to
13 be equal to the 5-year average. The 2022 base included
14 cyclical plant maintenance related to Langley and Bennett
15 Mountain major overhaul and inspections that do not occur
16 on an annual basis.

17 Consistent with the accounting authority previously
18 granted in Order No. 32426,⁵ the Company requests the
19 Commission authorize the deferral and amortization of
20 annual differences between actual costs and the annual
21 recovery amount authorized in this case to allow for a

⁵ Order No. 32426 issued in Case No. IPC-E-11-08 approved a settlement stipulation containing the following ¶ 6(b) Amortization provision: "The Signing Parties agree to a deferral of \$299,546 in expenses associated with the Bennett Mountain combustor inspection with a four-year period beginning on the date that the Company's new base rates become effective."

1 proper matching of cost and revenue for this periodic cost.
2 The Company further recommends this treatment be allowed
3 until new rates become effective in a future general rate
4 case or are otherwise modified by the Commission.

5 Q. What accounting will the Company use to track
6 the annual differences between actual costs and the annual
7 authorized recovery amount?

8 A. Idaho Power will defer the difference between
9 actual costs and the annual recovery amount to Account
10 182.3 Other Regulatory Assets with an offsetting entry to
11 Account 554 Maintenance of Miscellaneous Other Power
12 Generation Plant.

13 Q. What methodology was used to forecast 2023
14 Depreciation and Amortization Expense (Accounts 403 and
15 404)?

16 A. The 2023 depreciation expense, amortization
17 expense, and related reserve accounts were calculated based
18 on the monthly estimated 2023 plant balances. Depreciation
19 rates authorized by Commission Order No. 35272 were used
20 for the entire 2023 Test Year. The determination of the
21 Depreciation and Amortization Expense adjustments is
22 detailed in Exhibit No. 26, pages 16 and 17.

23 Q. Which methodology was used to forecast 2023
24 Electric Plant in Service (Account 101)?

1 A. Electric Plant in Service ("EPIS") is a
2 function of multiple components, including actual year-end
3 2022 EPIS and construction work in progress ("CWIP")
4 balances, estimated 2023 spending, expected 2023 closings
5 of CWIP, and estimated retirements. Therefore, it was
6 necessary to use several methodologies to develop the 2023
7 Unadjusted Test Year EPIS balances, which are detailed in
8 Exhibit No. 26, pages 21 through 22.

9 To project 2023 construction expenditures and 2023
10 closings of CWIP to EPIS, at Mr. Tatum's instruction, the
11 Company first bifurcated into two separate and distinct
12 parts, those projects in excess of \$8 million and those
13 under \$8 million.

14 Projects in excess of \$8 million were reviewed by
15 the individual project managers, who estimated the costs to
16 complete and the in-service date of each project. The
17 investment in projects under \$8 million (excluding
18 vehicles) closing to EPIS as a group, were forecast based
19 on the five-year average of the percent of similar-sized
20 projects to the previous year's CWIP balance multiplied by
21 the year-end 2022 CWIP balance.

22 Q. Which methodology was used to forecast AFUDC
23 associated with Hells Canyon relicensing CWIP?

24 A. While AFUDC continues to increase relating to
25 the Hells Canyon relicensing efforts, the Company is

1 requesting recovery of the same amount (\$6,815,472)
2 previously included in the 2011 Rate Case and subsequently
3 approved in Order No. 32426. This adjustment is explained
4 in greater detail in Exhibit No. 26, page 20.

5 **V. ADDITIONAL ADJUSTMENTS**

6 Q. In Ms. Jeppsen's testimony, she describes the
7 various adjustments that were made to 2022 Actuals to
8 arrive at the 2022 Base Year. Do these same adjustments
9 need to be made in 2023?

10 A. No. These adjustments are standard ratemaking
11 adjustments based on prior Commission orders and are
12 adjustments to charges included in the 2022 Actuals. By
13 removing them from 2022 Actuals prior to applying the
14 various methodologies to arrive at the Company's proposed
15 2023 Unadjusted Test Year, the same adjustments are already
16 accounted for.

17 Q. What were your instructions to Ms. Brady with
18 regard to the determination of the test year retail sales
19 revenues?

20 A. I instructed Ms. Brady to determine the 2023
21 Test Year retail sales revenues using the same methodology
22 approved by the Commission in the 2008 Rate Case, Order No.
23 30722, and applied in the Company's 2011 Rate Case. That
24 is, my instructions were to develop the test year retail
25 sales revenues based upon forecasted billing determinants

1 under normal weather and precipitation assumptions. As Ms.
2 Brady will cover in greater detail in her testimony, the
3 2023 Test Year billing determinants were developed based on
4 the Company's energy sales and customer count forecasts
5 prepared for this case. To derive the demand-related
6 billing determinants, historical demand-to-energy
7 relationships were applied to the energy sales forecast.
8 The forecasted billing determinants were then applied to
9 the rates in effect at the time of the filing to determine
10 the 2023 Test Year retail sales revenues.

11 Q. Was the customer, sales, and load forecast
12 prepared at your direction?

13 A. Yes. The customer, sales, and load forecast
14 for the 2023 Test Year was prepared at my direction. This
15 forecast was utilized to determine the billing components
16 for the 2023 retail sales revenue forecast, as well as the
17 allocation factors utilized by Ms. Noe and Mr. Goralski as
18 well.

19 Q. Did you direct Ms. Brady to make any
20 adjustments to the 2023 retail sales revenues relative to
21 the methodology utilized in the 2011 Rate Case?

22 A. Yes. Due to the Commission's approval of a
23 revised special contract for electric service ("Special
24 Contract") with Micron Technologies ("Micron") on March 9,

1 2022,⁶ I directed Ms. Brady to exclude the component of
2 Micron's retail revenues that will be offset by generation
3 from the Black Mesa Solar Facility ("Black Mesa").

4 Q. Can you describe the mechanics of Micron's
5 revised Special Contract and how it pertains to the 2023
6 retail sales revenue calculation?

7 A. Per the terms of the revised Special Contract,
8 a portion of Micron's retail sales will be offset by
9 generation from Black Mesa. Functionally, that means Micron
10 will pay Idaho Power for 100 percent of the output from
11 Black Mesa, which will offset the retail energy rates
12 Micron would otherwise pay. Consequently, the portion of
13 Micron's sales offset by Black Mesa must be separately
14 calculated from other retail revenues to ensure these
15 contract components are appropriately accounted for
16 throughout the various steps in the rate development
17 process.

18 Q. Did you have any additional instructions for
19 Ms. Brady?

20 A. Yes. In addition to the development of 2023
21 Test Year retail revenues, Ms. Brady is also the Company's
22 expert with regard to the modeling of base NPSE. As
23 mentioned earlier in my testimony, Mr. Tatum directed me to
24 update the PCA expense accounts to expected 2023 normalized

⁶ Case No. IPC-E-22-06, Order Nos. 35482, 35607 and 35735.

1 levels. Consistent with this directive, Ms. Brady updated
2 base NPSE as provided in Exhibit No. 30 to her testimony.

3 Q. When was base NPSE last updated in customer
4 rates?

5 A. Idaho Power last updated base NPSE in customer
6 rates through Order No. 33000 issued in Case No. IPC-E-13-
7 20, which became effective June 1, 2014 ("2013 NPSE
8 Update").

9 Q. Did you direct Ms. Brady to make any
10 methodological changes to the determination of base NPSE
11 relative to the method utilized in the 2013 NPSE Update?

12 A. Yes. Due to the aforementioned Black Mesa
13 component of Micron's revised Special Contract, I directed
14 Ms. Brady to include the generation from the Black Mesa
15 project in the Company's resource stack, but exclude the
16 corresponding costs from Account 555, as these costs will
17 be directly paid for by Micron. Further, due to changes in
18 conditions since the filing of the 2011 Rate Case, I also
19 directed Ms. Brady to modify the treatment of Account
20 447.050, which reflects revenues received due to third-
21 party transmission wheeling losses. Lastly, given current
22 and expected changes in the Company's resource stack, I
23 directed Ms. Brady to include in the 2023 Test Year the
24 availability of gas-fired generation at Bridger units 1 and
25 2.

1 Q. What methodology adjustment was made related
2 to Account 447.050, revenues from wheeling losses?

3 A. Account 447.050 reflects financial payments
4 made to Idaho Power as compensation for the Company
5 generating electricity to offset transmission losses to
6 third parties wheeling through Idaho Power's transmission
7 system. In past determinations of base NPSE, Idaho Power
8 did not include 447.050 revenues in these quantifications,
9 nor did it include any costs associated with the additional
10 generation required to serve third party losses. In the
11 current case, however, Idaho Power is proposing to include
12 in its base NPSE determination both the cost of serving
13 third party losses as well as the offsetting revenues
14 received through Account 447.050. Therefore, Idaho Power
15 added 36 average megawatts ("aMW") to its load forecast
16 utilized for AURORA modeling purposes to account for this
17 load service requirement, and Ms. Brady determined an
18 offsetting revenue amount to include in Account 447.050.

19 Q. Why is Idaho Power proposing to make this
20 methodological change?

21 A. Theoretically, the inclusion or exclusion of
22 Account 447.050 and the corresponding cost to serve third
23 party losses would ultimately yield the same result; the
24 exclusion of these components would have no impact on
25 revenue requirement because they would be entirely removed

1 from the quantification, while the inclusion of these
2 components would net to zero.

3 Additionally, when the 2013 NPSE Update was
4 performed, third party wheeling customers had the option to
5 account for wheeling losses in two ways: 1) financially -
6 meaning the customer would pay Idaho Power to generate the
7 additional energy to account for the losses, or 2)
8 physically - meaning the customer would generate or acquire
9 additional physical energy to account for the losses
10 themselves, resulting in no additional payment to Idaho
11 Power. However, with the advent of the energy imbalance
12 market ("EIM"), nearly all wheeling customers now settle
13 their losses financially, meaning they pay Idaho Power to
14 generate the physical energy to account for wheeling losses
15 through the Company's system. Because of this, the Company
16 is proposing to modify the base NPSE methodology to include
17 both the cost to serve third-party wheeling losses and the
18 offsetting revenues received by the Company.

19 Q. Given this change, is the Company proposing
20 that Account 447.050 would be included in the PCA as well?

21 A. Yes. Under the Company's proposal, Account
22 447.050 would become part of base NPSE utilized in PCA
23 calculations as of the effective date of rates resulting
24 from this case.

1 Q. What direction did you give Ms. Brady with
2 regard to the Company's resource stack?

3 A. The timing of Idaho Power's 2023 Test Year
4 corresponds with changes in the Company's resource stack,
5 resulting in the need for an adjustment to assumed resource
6 availability. Under current operations, the Jim Bridger
7 Power Plant consists of four coal-fired units. However, the
8 Company will cease coal-fired operations at units 1 and 2
9 at year-end 2023, converting these units to natural gas,
10 with an expected online date of summer 2024. Because of
11 this timing, I directed Ms. Brady to model the availability
12 of two gas units and two coal units at Bridger, which
13 better aligns with expectations on a going forward basis.

14 Because the Company's requested effective date in
15 this case is January 1, 2024, and because the PCA will
16 capture differences between actual NPSE and base NPSE on a
17 going forward basis until base NPSE are reset in a future
18 proceeding, Idaho Power believes the modeling of gas-fired
19 generation at Bridger units 1 and 2 is preferable to the
20 modeling of four coal-fired units at Bridger, which would
21 be immediately outdated as of the day rates go into effect.

22 Q. Are there any additional adjustments that need
23 to be made to properly determine the 2023 Test Year?

1 A. Yes. It is necessary for the Company to make
2 additional annualizing and known and measurable
3 adjustments.

4 Q. Which other annualizing adjustments were made
5 under your direction to the 2023 Test Year?

6 A. I instructed Ms. Noe to make annualizing
7 adjustments to certain expense and rate base items to
8 reflect them as though they have been in existence for the
9 entire 2023 Test Year; that is, at year-end 2023 levels.
10 These include operating payroll, depreciation expense and
11 reserve, and plant placed in service during 2023 in excess
12 of \$8 million with the associated estimated property taxes
13 and insurance premiums. Such adjustments are appropriate to
14 reflect conditions that will be in effect at the time rates
15 are placed in effect. Ms. Noe provides additional detail
16 regarding the annualizing adjustments in her testimony.

17 Q. Has an exhibit been prepared that details each
18 of the adjustments that were made to move from the 2022
19 Actuals to the 2023 Test Year?

20 A. Yes. Ms. Noe's Exhibit No. 34 summarizes the
21 adjustments that were made to each FERC Account to: 1) move
22 from the 2022 Actuals to the 2022 Base, 2) move from the
23 2022 Base to the 2023 Unadjusted Test Year, and 3) move
24 from the 2023 Unadjusted Test Year to the 2023 Test Year.

1 Q. How did you direct Ms. Noe to reflect the
2 costs and revenues associated with Black Mesa and the
3 Micron Special Contract?

4 A. Due to the offsetting nature of these costs
5 and revenues, I directed Ms. Noe to exclude both components
6 from the Idaho jurisdictional revenue requirement.

7 Q. Did you direct Ms. Noe to make any additional
8 adjustments prior to quantifying the Company's requested
9 revenue requirement in this case?

10 A. Yes. As previously discussed, in order to
11 determine an accurate revenue requirement change, Ms. Noe
12 had to first include the currently authorized recovery for
13 non-fuel coal-related costs. I directed Ms. Noe to include
14 the requested Bridger and Valmy levelized revenue
15 requirements as separate lines in the JSS. Further, as
16 discussed in Mr. Tatum's testimony, Idaho Power is
17 proposing to offset the revenue requirement increase
18 stemming from the battery projects to be installed in 2023
19 through the acceleration of accumulated deferred investment
20 tax credits ("ADITC"). I directed Ms. Noe to incorporate
21 this proposed rate mitigation into the quantification of
22 the Company's request as well. Lastly, I directed Ms. Noe
23 to reflect two transfer adjustments in the body of the JSS.

24 Q. What is meant by transfer adjustment?

1 A. Two of the Company's proposed updates in this
2 case will have corresponding offsetting impacts on other
3 rate mechanisms, thus reducing the net increase to customer
4 bills. The term "transfer adjustment" is in reference to
5 the fact that the recovery of these components of revenue
6 requirement is already reflected in customer rates, and the
7 Company's request in this case merely reflects the transfer
8 of this recovery to base rates rather than a true increase
9 to customer bills.

10 Q. What comprises the transfer adjustments?

11 A. The transfer adjustments are comprised of the
12 aforementioned Rider labor adjustment and an update to PCA-
13 related items.

14 Q. Please describe the transfer adjustment
15 related to the Rider.

16 A. The Rider labor adjustment is simply the
17 movement of labor-related costs out of the Rider and into
18 base rates. As discussed by Mr. Tatum, the Company is
19 proposing a corresponding reduction in the Rider
20 percentage, thus resulting in no material impact to
21 customer bills.

22 Q. What comprises the PCA-related transfer
23 adjustment?

24 A. The PCA transfer adjustment is comprised of
25 two subcomponents: 1) the reduction to the PCA due to an

1 update to base NPSE, and 2) removal of EIM-related revenue
2 requirement from PCA recovery.

3 Q. How will the PCA be reduced as a result of the
4 base NPSE update?

5 A. A primary component of PCA rates contained in
6 Schedule 55 is the difference between base NPSE and the
7 forecast of NPSE for the PCA year. Therefore, when base
8 NPSE are updated— and in this case, increased— the
9 difference between base NPSE and the forecast established
10 in the PCA is reduced, necessitating a reduction in
11 Schedule 55 PCA rates. Consequently, the increase in NPSE
12 proposed to be included in base rates is mostly offset by a
13 corresponding reduction in the PCA rate. The only net
14 impact to customers stems from the difference between full
15 recovery in base rates of base NPSE, as compared to 95
16 percent recovery of deviations between base NPSE and
17 forecast NPSE for certain accounts through the PCA. Ms.
18 Brady quantifies this component of the PCA transfer
19 adjustment in her testimony.

20 Q. Please explain the component of the PCA-
21 related transfer adjustment stemming from EIM costs.

22 A. In accordance with Order No. 33706, which
23 approved Idaho Power's entrance into the EIM, the Company
24 currently collects actual EIM-related costs through the PCA
25 balancing adjustment. Order No. 34100 authorized Idaho

1 Power to recover its actual EIM-related costs on a
2 backward-looking basis, as benefits in the form of reduced
3 NPSE also flow through the PCA balancing adjustment via
4 actual realized NPSE. This method of cost recovery was
5 intended to capture these costs until they could be
6 included in the Company's base rates as Idaho Power is
7 proposing in this case. Therefore, to recognize that the
8 Company's 2023 Test Year includes EIM-related costs that
9 are currently collected through the balancing adjustment,
10 Idaho Power has included a transfer adjustment in its
11 quantification of the 2023 revenue requirement computation.

12 Q. What is the total amount of the transfer
13 adjustments reflected in the presentment of the Company's
14 2023 revenue requirement computation?

15 A. The three transfer adjustments are listed in
16 the following table on an Idaho jurisdictional basis:

17 **Table 1: Transfer Adjustments by Component**

| Component | Amount |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Rider Labor Transfer | \$3,474,555 |
| PCA Transfer - EIM | \$2,456,681 |
| PCA Transfer - Base Update | \$170,912,271 |
| Total | \$176,843,507 |

18
19 Q. What direction did you provide Ms. Noe with
20 regard to the inclusion of the transfer adjustments?

21 A. To recognize that these costs are already
22 reflected in customer rates, I directed Ms. Noe to include

1 these transfer adjustments in 2023 Test Year operating
2 revenues.

3 Q. According to Ms. Noe's analysis using the 2023
4 Test Year and incorporating the adjustments she made at
5 your direction, what is the Company's revenue requirement
6 on an Idaho jurisdictional basis?

7 A. Using the 2023 Test Year financial
8 information, Ms. Noe has calculated the Company's revenue
9 requirement to be \$1,404.3 million on an Idaho
10 jurisdictional basis. Ms. Noe calculated the Company's
11 annual revenue deficiency, the amount that the test year
12 revenue requirement exceeds the test year retail sales
13 revenue, to be \$111.3 million on an Idaho jurisdictional
14 basis, which would result in an overall average increase to
15 customer rates of 8.61 percent.

16 Q. Is it appropriate for the Commission to
17 determine the Company's Idaho-jurisdictional revenue
18 requirement to be \$1,404.3 million, its revenue deficiency
19 to be \$111.3 million, and therefore, approve an overall
20 8.61 percent increase to customer rates?

21 A. Yes. The \$1,404.3 million figure is a
22 reasonable determination of the Company's annual Idaho-
23 jurisdictional revenue requirement. The \$111.3 million
24 quantification of revenue deficiency is also reasonable.
25 It is in the best interest of the Company and its customers

1 for the Commission to approve a rate increase to provide an
2 8.61 percent increase to the Company's Idaho jurisdictional
3 revenues.

4 Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony in
5 this case?

6 A. Yes, it does.

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DECLARATION OF MATTHEW T. LARKIN

I, Matthew T. Larkin, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Idaho:

1. My name is Matthew T. Larkin. I am employed by Idaho Power Company as the Revenue Requirement Senior Manager.

2. On behalf of Idaho Power, I present this pre-filed direct testimony and Exhibit Nos. 25 through 26 in this matter.

3. To the best of my knowledge, my pre-filed direct testimony and exhibits 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 1st day of June 2023, at Boise, Idaho.

Signed: 
MATTHEW T. LARKIN