# BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF IDAHO POWER'S	)	CASE NO. IPC-E-24-10
APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY TO	)	
IMPLEMENT FIXED COST ADJUSTMENT	)	NOTICE OF APPLICATION
RATES FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE FROM	)	
JUNE 1, 2024, THROUGH MAY 31, 2025	)	NOTICE OF
	)	MODIFIED PROCEDURE
	)	
	)	ORDER NO. 36134

On March 15, 2024, Idaho Power Company ("Company") applied to implement new Fixed Cost Adjustment ("FCA") rates for electric service from June 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025, and a corresponding revised tariff Schedule 54 ("Application"). The Company proposed a \$10,575,831, or 1.44 percent, increase for Residential and Small General Service customers' rates. The bill of a typical residential customer using 950 kilowatt-hours ("kWh") per month will increase by \$1.69, if approved. The Company requested its Application be processed through modified procedure with an effective date of June 1, 2024.

The Commission now issues this Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure establishing a public comment and Company reply deadline.

## **BACKGROUND**

The FCA is a rate adjustment mechanism designed to break the link between the energy a utility sells and the revenue it collects to recover fixed costs<sup>1</sup> of providing service, thus decoupling the utility's revenues from its customers' energy usage. This decoupling removes a utility's incentive to increase sales to increase revenue and profits and encourages energy conservation. It applies to Residential and Small General Service customers.

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Company seeks recovery of the 2023 FCA balance and approval of proposed rates. The Company proposed a Residential Customer FCA of \$35,484,197 and \$1,297,615 for the Small General Service class. Taken together, the FCA would represent a \$36,781,811 increase in the affected classes' rates. The Company stated, "the proposed

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE

**ORDER NO. 36134** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Fixed costs" are a utility's costs to provide service, such as infrastructure and customer service, which do not vary with energy use, output, or production, and remain relatively stable between rate cases.

FCA deferral balance exceeds the current FCA deferral balance collected in impacted customers' rates.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company requested to increase the FCA rate for Residential customers to 0.6182 cents per kWh and increase the FCA rate for Small General Service customers to 0.7638 cents per kWh. If approved, the proposed FCA rates would increase current billed revenue from the affected customer classes by \$10,575,831, or 1.44 percent, based on forecasted energy sales between June 1, 2024, and May 31, 2025.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company will notify customers about its Application through a press release to relevant media outlets in the Company's service area and a customer notice distributed in customers' bills. The Company states it is distributing the customer notice during the current billing cycle, and the last notices will go out on April 26, 2024.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application, proposed tariff, and testimony have been filed with the Commission and are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission's office. The Application and testimonies are also available on the Commission's website at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click on the "ELECTRIC" icon, select "Open Cases," and then click on the case number as shown on the front of this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq*.

#### NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has determined that the public interest may not require a formal hearing in this matter, and that it will proceed under Modified Procedure pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure 201-204, IDAPA 31.01.01.201-.204. The Commission notes that Modified Procedure and written comments have proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that persons desiring to state a position on this Application may file a written comment explaining why the person supports or opposes the Application. Persons who would like a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments and explain why written comments alone are insufficient. **Persons interested in filing** 

NOTICE OF APPLICATION NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE ORDER NO. 36134 written comments must do so by May 2, 2024. Comments must be filed through the Commission's website or by e-mail unless computer access is unavailable. To comment electronically, please access the Commission's website at <a href="http://www.puc.idaho.gov/">http://www.puc.idaho.gov/</a>. Click the "Case Comment Form" and complete the form using the case number as it appears on the front of this document.

To file by e-mail, persons must e-mail the comments to the Commission Secretary and all parties at the e-mail addresses listed below. Persons submitting a comment by e-mail must provide their name, address, and the Case Number under which they are commenting. Persons submitting a comment by e-mail also acknowledge that submitting a comment in an open case constitutes a public record under *Idaho Code* § 74-101(13), and all information provided by such person is available for public and media inspection.

If computer access is unavailable, then comments may be mailed to the Commission and the Parties at the addresses below. Persons submitting a comment by mail must provide their name, address, and the Case Number under which they are commenting. Persons submitting a comment by mail also acknowledge that submitting a comment in an open case constitutes a public record under *Idaho Code* § 74-101(13), and all information provided by such person is available for public and media inspection.

#### For the Commission:

Commission Secretary Idaho Public Utilities Commission P.O. Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0074 secretary@puc.idaho.gov

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## For the Company:

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YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that Idaho Power must file any reply comments by May 9, 2024.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE ORDER NO. 36134 YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no written comments or protests are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider this matter on its merits and enter its order without a formal hearing. If written comments are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider them and, in its discretion, may set the same for formal hearing.

#### ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this case be processed by Modified Procedure. Persons wishing to file written comments must do so by May 2, 2024. The Company must file any reply comments by May 9, 2024.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that parties comply with Order No. 35375, issued April 21, 2022. Generally, all pleadings should be filed with the Commission electronically and will be deemed timely filed when received by the Commission Secretary. *See* Rule 14.02. Service between parties should continue to be accomplished electronically when possible. However, voluminous discovery-related documents may be filed and served on CD-ROM or a USB flash drive.

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DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this  $12^{th}$  day of April 2024.

ERIC ANDERSON, PRESIDENT

THIN R. HAMMOND JR., COMMISSIONER

EDWARD LODGE, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

Monica Barrios-Sanchez Commission Secretary

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