BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF IDAHO POWER)
COMPANY'S COMPLIANCE FILING TO) CASE NO. IPC-E-24-22
UPDATE THE CUSTOMER SURCHARGE)
TO COLLECT INCREMENTAL COSTS OF)
DISTRIBUTION UNDERGROUNDING OF) ORDER NO. 36381
THE NEW 138 KV TRANSMISSION LINE IN)
THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY AND)
ESTABLISH NECESSARY REGULATORY)
ACCOUNTING TREATMENT)
)

On May 31, 2024, Idaho Power Company ("Company") submitted a compliance filing requesting that the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") update the surcharge paid by customers residing in Blaine County, Idaho for incremental costs of distribution-related undergrounding charges for the new 138 kilovolt Wood River Valley Transmission Line ("Filing"). The Company's compliance filing also included four Attachments. The Company requested issuance of a final order with rates effective by December 1, 2024.¹

On August 23, 2024, the Commission issued a Notice of Virtual Public Workshops and Notice of Modified Procedure establishing public and Company reply comment deadlines. Order No. 36297.

On October 16, 2024, the Company submitted a Motion to Suspend Procedural Schedule ("Motion"). The Company's Motion stated that the comment period was based upon an assumption that the distribution line would be energized in November of 2024. However, the Company stated that events outside its control had delayed this energization. The Company asked that the Commission suspend the comment period and schedule until the line is completed and energized. Once energized, the Company stated that it would file a motion asking the Commission to institute a new schedule in the case.

At the Commission's October 29, 2024, Decision Meeting, Staff recommended that the case schedule be stayed for up to six months or until the Company files a motion to reinstate a case schedule—whichever comes first.

ORDER NO. 36381

¹ The compliance filing stated that the Company expected the distribution line would be energized before December 2024 with updated surcharge rates effective December 1, 2024, unless the project was delayed. Filing at 17-18.

COMMISSION FINDINGS AND DECISION

The Company's Motion complies with Commission Rules of Procedure 56 and 256. IDAPA 31.01.01.56; IDAPA 31.01.01.256. The Company has stated that, due to events outside its control, the distribution line will not be energized as anticipated. Staff agreed that it did not have enough information to make an informed recommendation on the Company's Application without the distribution line being energized. Accordingly, the Commission stays this case for up to six months from the issuance of this Order or until the Company files a motion to initiate a new case schedule—whichever comes first. We direct the Company to file to resume this case as soon as practical once the distribution line is energized.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this case is stayed for up to six months from the issuance of this Order or until the Company files a motion to initiate a new case schedule—whichever comes first.

THIS IS AN INTERLOCUTORY ORDER rather than a final and appealable Order of the Commission. While the Commission may review, stay, or clarify an interlocutory order, the period of reconsideration will not begin until the Final Order is issued.

DONE by order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 1st day of November 2024.

ERIC ANDERSON, PRESIDENT

JOHN R. HAMMOND JR., COMMISSIONER

EDWARD LODGE, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

Monica Barrios-Sanchez Commission Secretary

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