MATT HUNTER DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION PO BOX 83720 BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0074 (208) 334-0318 IDAHO BAR NO. 10655 RECEIVED 2020 DEC -3 PM 2: 02 IDAGO PUBLIC UTRATES COMMISSION

Street Address for Express Mail: 11331 W CHINDEN BVLD, BLDG 8, SUITE 201-A BOISE, ID 83714

Attorney for the Commission Staff

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER'S APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OR REJECTION OF A POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN PACIFICORP AND BIRCH HYDRO COMPANY

CASE NO. PAC-E-20-07

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION STAFF TO AMENDED APPLICATION

STAFF OF the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, by and through its Attorney of record, Matt Hunter, Deputy Attorney General, submits the following comments.

BACKGROUND

On June 3, 2020, Rocky Mountain Power ("Company"), a division of PacifiCorp, applied for consideration of a power purchase agreement ("PPA") with Birch Hydro Company for energy generated by a small hydro facility in Clark County, Idaho.

Commission Staff filed timely written comments, recommending several amendments to the PPA. The Company filed timely reply comments and accepted all of Staff's recommendations. The Company stated that the "Company and the Seller will work expeditiously to file an updated contract and exhibits incorporating Commission Staff's comments as soon as possible." The Commission issued an interlocutory order on September 1, 2020. The order directed the Company to file the amended PPA by September 15, 2020. The Commission also granted persons until September 22, 2020 to file written comments on the amended PPA and set a September 29, 2020 reply comment deadline for the Company. Order No. 34768.

The Company did not file the amended PPA until November 3, 2020, because amending the PPA took longer than the Company initially expected.

STAFF ANALYSIS

In its comments filed on August 10, 2020, Staff recommended the parties file an amended PPA that includes the following updates: (1) update Exhibit A to include correct monthly estimate information; (2) incorporate the 82.4% discount for purposes of converting firm market prices to non-firm market prices throughout the PPA; and (3) correct mistakes and errors in Exhibit K.

Staff reviewed the amended PPA and believes that it has incorporated the recommendations made by Staff in its comments filed on August 10, 2020.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the amended PPA between Rocky Mountain Power and Birch Hydro Company. Staff also recommends that the Commission declare that the avoided cost rates set forth in the amended PPA are just and reasonable, in the public interest, and that the Company's incurrence of such costs are legitimate expenses.

Respectfully submitted this 3rd day of December 2020.

Matt Hunter Deputy Attorney General

Technical Staff: Yao Yin

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STAFF COMMENTS

DECEMBER 3, 2020

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE THIS 3RD DAY OF DECEMBER 2020, SERVED THE FOREGOING **COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION STAFF TO AMENDED APPLICATION,** IN CASE NO. PAC-E-20-07, BY E-MAILING A COPY THEREOF, TO THE FOLLOWING:

TED WESTON ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER 1407 WEST NORTH TEMPLE STE 330 SALT LAKE CITY UT 84116 E-MAIL: <u>ted.weston@pacificorp.com</u> <u>idahodockets@pacificorp.com</u>

ADAM LOWNEY McDOWELL RACKNER GIBSON 419 SW 11TH AVE SUITE 400 PORTLAND OR 97205 E-MAIL: <u>adam@mrg-law.com</u> JACOB A McDERMOTT ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER 1407 WEST NORTH TEMPLE STE 320 SALT LAKE CITY UT 84116 E-MAIL: Jacob.mcdermott@pacificorp.com

DATA REQUEST RESPONSE CENTER E-MAIL ONLY: datarequest@pacificorp.com

SECRETARY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE