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Attorney for Intervenor Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association, Inc.

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER FOR
AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS RATES
AND CHARGES IN IDAHO AND
APPROVAL OF PROPOSED ELECTRIC
SERVICE SCHEDULES AND
REGULATIONS**

CASE NO. PAC-E-21-07

**APPLICATION FOR INTERVENOR
FUNDING OF THE IDAHO
IRRIGATION PUMPERS
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

COMES NOW the Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association, Inc. (“Irrigators”), by and through counsel of record, Echo Hawk & Olsen, PLLC, and hereby respectfully makes application to the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) for intervenor funding, pursuant to Idaho Code § 61-617A and IDAPA §§ 31.01.01.161 through .165, in this case, as follows:

(A) A summary of the expenses that the Irrigators request to recover broken down into legal fees, witness fees and other costs and expenses is set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

(B) The Irrigators’ Counsel, Eric L. Olsen of Echo Hawk & Olsen (“Mr. Olsen”) and Irrigators’ witness Anthony J. Yankel of Yankel Associates, Inc. (“Mr. Yankel”) participated in these proceedings. Mr. Olsen prepared and served written discovery, reviewed and analyzed the various parties’ positions, and attended and participated via video conference in the various

technical conferences and settlement conferences held in this matter focusing on the appropriateness of the various aspects of PacifiCorp's the general rate case.

Although, the parties have entered into a Settlement Stipulation, Mr. Yankel's review efforts focused on the Test Year revenue figures used by PacifiCorp in its filing. Mr. Yankel's prepared testimony would have concluded that PacifiCorp's proposed Test Period revenue is too low. The Test Period revenue was listed as \$271,491,124 and should start at a very minimum of \$274,842,355— which is an increase of \$3,351,231. This Test Period revenue adjustment, along with all the other adjustments proposed by the other Intervenors and Commission Staff, were all considered in coming up with the numbers included in the Settlement Stipulation.

(C) The Irrigators' proposed findings and recommendations are captured in the Settlement Stipulation and Attachments (the "Stipulation") filed with the IPUC on October 25, 2021. As a signatory, the Irrigators believe that the Stipulation and the resulting proposed revenue requirement and new rates are fair, just and reasonable resolution to issues addressed therein.

(D) The expenses and costs incurred by the Irrigators set forth in Exhibit A are reasonable in amount and were necessarily incurred. The expenses and costs were incurred in participating in the technical and settlement conferences, in the drafting and review discovery responses, and negotiating the final terms of the Stipulation. Without incurring these expenses and costs, the Irrigators would not have been able to fully participate in this matter.

(E) The costs described in Exhibit A constitute a financial hardship for the Irrigators. The Irrigators are an Idaho nonprofit corporation qualified under I.R.C. § 501(c)(5) representing farm interests in electric utility rate matters affecting farmers in southern and central Idaho. The Irrigators rely solely upon dues and contributions voluntarily paid by members, together with intervenor funding, to support its activities. Each year mailings are sent to approximately 7,000

Idaho Irrigators (approximately one-third in the Rocky Mountain Power service area), soliciting annual dues. The Irrigators recommend members make voluntary contributions based on acres irrigated or horsepower per pump. Member contributions have been falling which is believed to be attributable to increased operating costs and declining commodity prices.

From member contributions the Irrigators must pay all expenses, which generally include mailing expenses, meeting expenses, post office box, in addition to the expenses relating to participation in matters before the Commission. The Executive Director, Amy McKoon, is the only part-time paid contractor, receiving a retainer plus expenses for office space, office equipment, and secretarial services. Other Irrigator officers and directors are elected annually and serve without compensation.

It has been and continues to be a financial hardship for the Irrigators to fully participate in important cases such as this one due to the time and expense that must be incurred to fully participate in such a case. Because of the Irrigators' financial constraints, participation in this case, preparing to file testimony, and participating in the settlement negotiations has been focused and prudent.

(F) The Irrigators' Test Year revenue issue was not raised by other parties and factored into the revenue numbers included in the final Stipulation. As such, the issues that the Irrigators raised and urged to be adopted by in the settlement discussions materially differed from those addressed by the Commission Staff and other parties.

(G) The Irrigators' participation addressed issues of concern to the general body of users or consumers on Rocky Mountain Power's system in that the Irrigator adjustments adopted in the Stipulation reduced the proposed rate increase for all customer classes.

(H) The Irrigators represent the irrigation class of customers under Schedule 10 on Rocky Mountain Power's system.

Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the Irrigators are a qualifying intervenor and should be entitled to an award of costs of intervention in the maximum amount allowable pursuant to Idaho Code § 61-617A and IDAPA §§ 31.01.01.161 through .165.

DATED this 5th day of November, 2021.

ECHO HAWK & OLSEN



ERIC L. OLSEN

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 5th day of November, 2021, I served a true, correct and complete copy of the Petition of Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association, Inc. for Leave to Intervene to each of the following, via U.S. Mail or private courier, email or hand delivery, as indicated below:

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ERIC L. OLSEN

EXHIBIT A

Expert Witness, Anthony Yankel, Expenses:

1. Witness Fees: 277 Hours @ \$200 = \$55,400.00

Legal Expenses:

1. Paralegal Fees: 7 Hours @ \$90 = \$ 630.00

2. Legal Fees Eric L. Olsen: 27.6 Hours @ \$200 = \$ 5,520.00

3. Soft Costs (Copies/Postage) \$ 109.70

Sub Total: \$ 6,259.70

Grand Total: \$61,659.70