

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION</b>	)	<b>CASE NO. PAC-E-23-19</b>
<b>OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER TO</b>	)	
<b>DECREASE THE BPA REP CREDIT</b>	)	
<b>EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 2023 THROUGH</b>	)	<b>ORDER NO. 35933</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 2025</b>	)	
	)	

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On August 30, 2023, Rocky Mountain Power, a division of PacifiCorp (“Company”) filed an application (“Application”) with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) to decrease the Bonneville Power Administration’s (“BPA”) residential and small farm credit. The Company requested that the Commission issue an order approving a Schedule 34 Residential Exchange Program (“REP”) credit of \$0.007376 per kilowatt-hour (“kWh”) for rate schedules 1, 6A, 7A, 10, 23A, 35A and 36, to be effective October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2025.

The Northwest Power Act of 1980 created the REP program administered by BPA. The REP allows participating utilities, including the Company, to pass the benefits of the Federal Columbia River Power System to eligible residential, small farm, and irrigation customers through rate credits.

The Company represented that the current Schedule No. 34 REP credit is \$0.010133 per kWh. Application at 3-4. The Company stated that this credit was established in 2021 based on an annual BPA REP credit amount of \$10.3 million. *Id.* at 4.

The Company stated that over the next two years the annual BPA REP credit amount will be \$7.93 million per year. *Id.* The Company represented that calculating the credit amount with the number of qualifying customers produces a new Schedule No. 34 credit rate of \$0.007376 per kWh. *Id.*

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Staff verified the initial inputs and independently recalculated the rate. Staff believed that the Company correctly calculated the rate of \$0.007376 per kWh and recommended the rate be approved.

Staff explained that the Company’s current residential and small farm credit rate is \$0.010133 per kWh. The proposed credit rate is \$0.007376 per kWh. The Company’s total allocation of the BPA REP credit for fiscal year 2024 through 2025 (October 2023 through September 2025) decreased approximately \$11.9 million, from \$86.6 million in 2023 to \$74.7

million. Idaho's share of the Company's total REP allocation also decreased slightly from 11.76% to 11.69%.

The BPA REP credit available to qualifying Idaho customers is \$17.5 million, reduced by a negative REP balance of \$1.6 million in Idaho's REP balancing account for a net amount of \$15.86 million to amortize over the next two years. The REP credit is \$7.93 million per year. The \$7.93 million REP credit was divided by calendar year 2022 usage level of the qualifying customers of approximately 1.07 Gigawatt hours, to produce the Schedule No. 34 rate of \$0.007376 per kWh.

### **Customer Notice, Press Release, and Public Comments**

Staff reviewed the Company's customer notice and press release documents and Staff believed both met the requirements of Rule 125 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure. *See* IDAPA 31.01.01.125. However, Staff explained that customer notices were to be included in the September billing cycle, which begins September 5, 2023, and ends October 4, 2023, after the requested effective date and after the deadline for customer comments of September 18, 2023. Staff believed that although the Company reported that the local TV station in Pocatello, KPVI, mentioned the rate increase and that it is available on their website, many, if not most of the customers would not receive the customer notice before the deadline. Staff recommended that the Commission accept and consider any late filed comments from customers.

### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommended that the Commission approve the Application as filed; and that the Commission accept and consider any late filed customer comments.

### **COMPANY REPLY COMMENTS**

The Company did not submit any reply comments.

### **COMMISSION FINDINGS AND DECISION**

The Commission has jurisdiction over the Company's Application and the issues in this case under Title 61 of the Idaho Code including *Idaho Code* §§ 61-301 through 303. The Commission is empowered to investigate rates, charges, rules, regulations, practices, and contracts of all public utilities and to determine whether they are just, reasonable, preferential, discriminatory, or in violation of any provisions of law, and to fix the same by order. *Idaho Code* §§ 61-501 through 503.

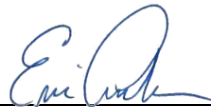
Having reviewed the Application, all submitted comments, and all submitted materials, the Commission finds it fair, just, and reasonable to approve the Application as filed.

**ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Application is approved as filed.

THIS IS A FINAL ORDER. Any person interested in this Order may petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of the service date upon this Order regarding any matter decided in this Order. Within seven (7) days after any person has petitioned for reconsideration, any other person may cross-petition for reconsideration. *See Idaho Code §§ 61-626 and 62-619.*

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023.



ERIC ANDERSON, PRESIDENT

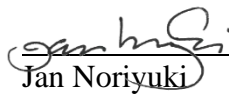


JOHN R. HAMMOND JR., COMMISSIONER



EDWARD LODGE, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Jan Noriyuki  
Commission Secretary

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