

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: COMMISSIONER ANDERSON
COMMISSIONER CHATBURN
COMMISSIONER HAMMOND
COMMISSION SECRETARY
COMMISSION STAFF
LEGAL

FROM: TAYLOR R. BROOKS
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATE: MARCH 22, 2022

SUBJECT: IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSION STAFF'S FORMAL COMPLAINT CONCERNING INTERMOUNTAIN GAS COMPANY'S PRACTICES OF ALLOWING UNQUALIFIED OPERATORS TO PERFORM LIVE METER EXCHANGES; CASE NO. INT-G-22-01.

On April 23, 2021, Jesse Urzua ("Urzua") contacted the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") expressing concern that he was an unqualified operator who was performing live residential meter exchanges. Through investigation and self-reporting by the Company, Commission Staff ("Staff") discovered that the Company had violated pipeline safety requirements by allowing 1,847 work orders to be issued and performed by unqualified operators. *See generally Staff Formal Complaint.*

On March 1, 2022, the Commission accepted Staff's formal complaint ("Complaint"). On March 3, 2022, the Commission issued a Summons to the Company requiring it to respond to Staff's Complaint within 21 days. *See Summons to Intermountain Gas Company.*

On March 16, 2022, the Company filed a request for an extension of time to answer Staff's Complaint. *See Company's Request for Extension of Time.* The Company requested that the Commission allow it until April 25, 2022, to respond to Staff's Complaint. *Id.* The Company represented that it was engaged in active settlement discussions with Staff and hoped to achieve a mutually agreeable solution prior to filing a formal answer to Staff's Complaint. *Id.*

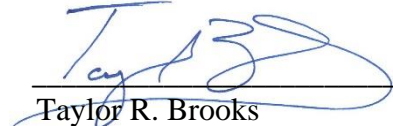
STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission approve the Company's Request and allow it until April 25, 2022, to respond to Staff's Complaint. Staff is actively engaged in settlement discussions

with the Company and has notified the Commission Secretary pursuant to Rule 272 that it is engaged in settlement negotiations with the Company.

COMMISSION DECISION

Does the Commission wish to grant the Company's request for an extension of time and allow it until April 25, 2022, to respond to Staff's Complaint?



Taylor R. Brooks
Deputy Attorney General

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