

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE COVID-19 RESPONSE

) **CASE NO. GNR-U-20-01**

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) **ORDER NO. 34602**

On Friday, March 13, 2020, Idaho Governor Brad Little issued a Proclamation declaring a state of emergency and providing directives to combat the spread of COVID-19, provide essential services and limit public exposure. On March 16, 2020, the President of the United States advised that no more than 10 persons be gathered simultaneously. Given these public health and safety concerns, the Idaho Public Utilities Commission finds, under Rule 13 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure (IDAPA 31.01.01.13), it is neither practical nor in the public interest for utilities, parties, and the public to adhere to certain Commission Rules that might otherwise foster in-person contact. Consequently, until such time as an alternative order is issued, the Commission hereby declares the following:

1. **The Public Utilities Commission Office Will Remain Open.** The Commission's Office will remain open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Our staff will do everything they can to assist you. If you have business with the Commission, we encourage you to utilize our online services at <https://puc.idaho.gov/>. or call (208) 334 0300 for assistance.
2. **Open Meetings and Hearings Will Be Conducted Telephonically/Virtually.** In an effort to avoid situations that would cause persons or parties to gather in unacceptable numbers, live, in-person attendance at Commission decision meetings, public hearings, technical hearings, and other proceedings is suspended. All such meetings will be conducted telephonically and/or electronically. We encourage persons and parties to mediation, settlement, workshops, and other Commission-related matters to also utilize telephonic/electronic means to conduct meetings. *See* Rules 211 through 215; 243; and 271 through 277.
3. **Electronic Filing by Parties.** The requirements of Rules 61 and 62 that a specified number of copies of different pleadings be filed with the Commission is suspended. Filings of applications and other pleadings with the Commission will be deemed timely filed when the electronic submission is received by the Commission Secretary. *See*

Rule 14.02. Service between parties should also be accomplished electronically. (Voluminous discovery-related documents, may be filed and served on CD-ROM or a USB flash drive.) Notice to customers of a change in rates must still be accomplished by a mailing. *See* Rule 125.

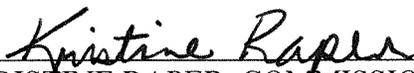
4. **Electronic Service of Commission Notices and Orders.** The Commission Secretary has the discretion to serve all Commission notices and orders by electronic mail. *See* Rule 16.01. Consequently, the Commission will be issuing all notices and orders by electronic mail, with the EXCEPTION of any Summons or Complaint, which will continue to be served by registered/certified mail. *See* Rule 16.01.

This order is effective upon issuance and will remain in effect until such time as the Commission issues an alternative order further modifying and/or removing the suspension of these Rules of Procedure.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 17th day of March 2020.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT



KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER



ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Diane Hanian
Commission Secretary