



Idaho Public Utilities Commission

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Brad Little, Governor

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John R. Hammond, Jr., Commissioner

Edward Lodge, Commissioner

Case No. BGR-R-24-01
Order No. 36216
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NEWS RELEASE: Commission holds railroad company's late fees in abeyance.

BOISE (June 10, 2024) – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission is temporarily halting financial penalties imposed on a north Idaho railroad after it failed to pay its annual assessment fees.

BG & CM Railroad, Inc. received a \$10,000 penalty that will be held in abeyance if the railroad complies with terms spelled out by the commission.

Railroads and public utilities in Idaho that are overseen by the commission pay an annual assessment that covers the commission's expenses for supervising and regulating the utilities during the next fiscal year. At most, a railroad's annual assessment can be 1 percent of its gross intrastate operating revenues, but not less than \$50. After calculating each railroad's proportionate assessment based on all the railroads' reported intrastate operating revenues for the previous year, the commission notifies each one of its assessed regulatory fee by May 1 of each year. The railroads are then required to pay their fees in equal, semi-annual installments by May 15 and Nov. 15 of each year.

BG & CM was late paying its 2023 assessment and interest from 2022 that carried forward. The 2023 assessment balance was \$14,775.57. In addition, the railroad owed \$308.46 in interest on the unpaid 2023 assessment and \$49.25 in interest carried forward from the 2022 assessment.

Michael Williams, the railroad's president, paid the balance for 2023 after attending a show cause hearing at the public utilities commission. The commission agreed to waive the \$10,000 at the end of five years if the railroad pays annual assessments for 2024 through 2028 on time.

Additional information is available at puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/7256.