

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	
OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY FOR)	CASE NO. IPC-E-10-25
ACCEPTANCE OF ITS 2011 RETIREMENT)	
BENEFITS PACKAGE)	NOTICE OF WORKSHOP
)	

On October 1, 2010, Idaho Power Company filed an Application with the Commission requesting the Commission accept the Company’s 2011 retirement benefits package. Last year the Company requested authorization to recover in customer rates its 2010 cash contributions to its defined benefits portion of its employee retirement package. The Commission approved the request in Order No. 31091, but directed Idaho Power to review and consider changes to its pension plan.

On October 15, 2010, the Commission issued a Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure establishing a 60-day period for filing written comments, followed by a 14-day responsive comment period. The Commission Staff and the Industrial Customers of Idaho Power (ICIP) filed comments on December 14, 2010, and Idaho Power filed responsive comments on December 28, 2010. On December 30, 2010, ICIP filed a Motion for Leave to File Sur-Reply Comments, with the comments attached. Idaho Power filed responsive comments on January 6, 2011.

The Commission Staff and ICIP raised similar objections in their comments, stated that Idaho Power failed to follow the Commission’s instructions to carefully review possible changes to its benefits package, and recommended the Commission deny the Company’s request for acceptance of its 2011 retirement benefits package. The Company in its reply comments asserts it complied with the Commission’s instruction to “consider changes to its retirement plan to address shareholder and employee liabilities in the assignment of pension plan investment risk.”

On December 30, 2010, ICIP filed a Motion for Leave to File Sur-Reply Comments, with the comments attached. ICIP contends Idaho Power raised legal arguments not raised in its Application or prefiled testimony and also noted the Company’s reply comments attached a report by its consultant that was not previously provided to Staff or ICIP.

On January 6, 2011, Idaho Power filed comments in response to ICIP's Motion to Allow Additional Comments. Idaho Power responded to ICIP's characterization of the Company's suggestion that potential terms of a defined contribution benefit plan could violate relevant federal regulations. Idaho Power stated that "Changes to any qualified plan design require careful consideration, taking into account the particular plan's ability to pass applicable discrimination tests, including, but not limited to, those under Code Sections 401(a)(4), 410(b), and 414(s)." Idaho Power Response to Sur-Reply Comments, p. 2.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Commission has determined to convene a workshop to provide the parties an opportunity to clarify statements and concerns expressed in their written comments, and provide the Commission the opportunity to ask questions to clarify the record. The workshop will convene on **MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2011, AT 9:30 A.M. IN THE COMMISSION HEARING ROOM, 472 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, BOISE, IDAHO.**

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be held in facilities meeting the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Persons needing the help of a sign language interpreter or other assistance in order to participate in or to understand testimony and argument at a public hearing may ask the Commission to provide a sign language interpreter or other assistance at the hearing. The request for assistance must be received at least five (5) working days before the hearing by contacting the Commission Secretary at:

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
PO BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0074
(208) 334-0338 (Telephone)
(208) 334-3762 (FAX)
E-mail: secretary@puc.idaho.gov


YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code and that the Commission may enter any final Order consistent with its authority under Title 61.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

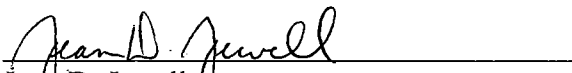
DATED at Boise, Idaho this 12th day of January 2011.


JIM D. KEMPTON, PRESIDENT


MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER


MACK A. REDFORD, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


Jean D. Jewell
Commission Secretary

bls/O:IPC-E-10-25_ws2_workshop