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BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSION'S)
INQUIRY INTO IDAHO POWER COMPANY'S) **CASE NO. IPC-E-14-17**
FIXED COST ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM.)
) **COMMENTS OF THE**
) **COMMISSION STAFF**
)

The Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission comments as follows on the Settlement Stipulation and Motion to Approve Settlement Stipulation filed in this case. For the reasons discussed below, Staff believes the proposed settlement is reasonable and in the public interest and recommends that the Commission grant the Motion and approve the Settlement Stipulation.

BACKGROUND

In Idaho Power Company's last Fixed Cost Adjustment (FCA) case, Case No. IPC-E-14-03, Staff recommended that the Commission reevaluate the FCA mechanism for future application because the mechanism may be flawed. On July 1, 2014, the Commission opened this docket to allow Commission Staff, the Company, and other interested persons to evaluate the FCA mechanism and determine whether it effectively removes the Company's financial disincentive to aggressively pursue energy efficiency programs. The Commission set an intervention deadline and directed Staff to convene an informal prehearing conference after the opportunity for intervention expired. *See* Order No. 33068. The Idaho Conservation League