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IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Attorneys for Micron Technology, Inc.

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY'S APPLICATION TO INITIATE A MULTI-PHASE COLLABORATIVE PROCESS FOR THE STUDY OF COSTS, BENEFITS, AND COMPENSATION OF NET) EXCESS ENERGY ASSOCIATED WITH CUSTOMER ON-SITE GENERATION

CASE NO. IPC-E-21-21) MICRON TECHNOLOGY, INC.'S FINAL COMMENTS

Micron Technology, Inc. ("Micron" or "Intervenor"), pursuant to the Commission's Notice issued October 7, 2021, submits its Final Comments regarding the proposed Study Framework Idaho Power will utilize to comprehensively evaluate the cost and benefits of on-site generation. Micron's comments focus on the "Cost-of-Service & Rate Design" section of the proposed Study Framework. Micron encourages the Commission to approve a Study Framework that includes the important issues described in that section.

Cost-of-Service & Rate Design

Micron is an Idaho Power Special Contract customer and is Idaho Power's single largest customer. Micron is supportive of Idaho Power's net metering offerings and recognizes that, when implemented properly, net metering programs can provide benefits to customer-generators, Idaho

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Power, and all Idaho Power customers. However, as a large electricity consumer, Micron is also particularly susceptible to cross-subsidies between customer-generators and customers who have not installed on-site generation and do not take advantage of net metering programs. Micron is interested in participating in this and other Idaho Power net metering proceedings to ensure that net metering programs are just and reasonable for all Idaho Power customers and that compensation paid to customer-generators does not create inappropriate cost shifts to non-customer-generators. It is not Micron's intention in this proceeding to allege or assert that such cost shifts currently exist. Rather, Micron believes that this proceeding presents an opportunity to further investigate the issue.

To that end, Micron proposed, and Commission Staff incorporated, the following section to the Study Framework under the "Cost-of-Service & Rate Design" section:

14. Evaluate how various cost of service methodologies and potential rate designs impact non-customer-generators in each rate class (including Special Contract customers) including the potential for cross-subsidies between customer-generators and non-customer-generators.

Micron believes that incorporating this language into the Study Framework is crucial to ensure that Idaho Power, the Commission, and all interested stakeholders have the necessary information to consider and propose potential changes to Idaho Power's net metering compensation rates and methodology. Indeed, Idaho Power's Application in this proceeding states:

Ultimately, the Company anticipates proposals to implement changes to the on-site generation offering will be informed by the studies and should seek to eliminate or minimize potential cross-subsidies that exist between participants and non-participants of on-site generation through rate design and compensation structures for on-site generation customers.¹

¹ Application, p. 6

However, at this point Micron is unaware of data that would indicate if and to what extent subsidies currently exist in Idaho Power's net metering programs and how to best address such subsidies if they do exist. Micron has reviewed Staff and Idaho Power's Initial Comments filed in this proceeding and is encouraged that both parties seem to share Micron's view that cost-of-service, rate design, and potential subsidies are important items to include in the Study Framework.²

However, Micron is concerned that some parties' comments support excluding cost-ofservice, rate design, and potential subsidy issues from the Study Framework. For example, Clean Energy Opportunities states that "any additional attempt to calculate intra or inter class subsidies caused by some customers reducing their purchases from the Company via self-generation should not be reviewed outside of a comprehensive rate case."³ Additionally, Idaho Clean Energy Association states that "in terms of minimizing subsidies across classes, this study is not the place to presume that reducing one's usage via on-site generation creates 'subsidies' any different than other customers who reduce their usage."⁴ Finally, the Idaho Conversation League states that Idaho Power's Application "continues the long trend of making unsubstantiated assertions about subsidization, cost shifts, and customer-generators not paying their fair share."⁵

It is clear by these comments that there is considerable disagreement and a lack of information regarding whether and to what extent subsidies result from Idaho Power's current net metering policies. This disagreement and lack of information underscores the *need* to include these issues in the Study Framework and should not serve as a basis to *exclude* them from the Study Framework. Indeed, the Commission has ordered Idaho Power to:

² See Commission Staff's October 13 Comments p. 13-14; Idaho Power's Initial Comments, p. 11.

³ Initial Comments of Clean Energy Opportunities, p. 4.

⁴ Idaho Clean Energy Association Initial Comments on Study Framework, p. 1.

⁵ Idaho Conservation League Initial Comments on Study Framework, p. 4.

Initiate a docket to comprehensively study the costs and benefits of on-site generation on Idaho Power's system, as well as proper rates and rate design, transitional rates, and related issues of compensation for net excess energy provided as resource to the Company.⁶

Idaho Power has committed in this proceeding to undertake a comprehensive multi-year study process with robust input from the public and interested stakeholders, after which all parties will have access to in-depth data. This data will be invaluable in proposing and debating modifications to Idaho Power's net metering offerings. Limiting the scope of the comprehensive study would be a missed opportunity that would ultimately hinder Idaho Power's, the Commission's, and the parties' ability to make constructive changes to its net metering programs that are grounded in accurate data and are in the public interest.

It is of the utmost importance to ensure that Idaho Power's comprehensive study produces the data necessary to inform future changes to its net metering programs and to have confidence that such programs result in just and reasonable rates for all customers whether they install on-site generation or not. Therefore, Micron encourages the Commission to include cost-of-service and rate design issues in the study framework, including Micron's proposed study framework item number fourteen regarding potential subsidies.

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⁶ IPC-E-17-13, Order No. 34046, p. 31.

Respectfully submitted November 16, 2021.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on November 16, 2021, a true and correct copy of the within and foregoing MICRON TECHNOLOGY, INC.'s FINAL COMMENTS was served in the manner shown to:

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