



Idaho Public Utilities Commission

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Case No. IPC-E-20-26
Order No. 34854
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NEWS RELEASE: Commission grants legacy treatment to existing commercial, industrial, and irrigation customers with on-site generation and approves a switch to single-meter systems for all new net metering customers

BOISE (Dec. 4, 2020) – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission on Tuesday issued an order granting legacy treatment to customers who have installed, or submitted an application to install, an on-site generation system under Schedule 84 as of Dec. 1, 2020. Schedule 84 defines the terms for commercial, industrial, and irrigation customers to net meter. Existing Schedule 84 customers will continue to take service under the present terms of Schedule 84 for a period of 25 years.

A net metering program allows Idaho Power customers to pay an independent contractor to have solar panels or other systems installed on their homes or property and then receive credit from Idaho Power for the surplus energy they deliver to the company.

The commission found it fair, just, reasonable, non-discriminatory, and in the public interest to grandfather these customers according to the same terms the commission ordered for residential (Schedule 6) and small general service customers (Schedule 8) with on-site generation in IPC-E-18-15. The commission found that Schedule 84 customers made significant investments in on-site generation systems based on a reasonable reliance on program stability, similar to Schedule 6 and Schedule 8 customers.

The commission took testimony from interested members of the public at a public hearing and received nearly 100 written comments on Idaho Power's application. Public testimony reflected thoughtful consideration of the economic proposition by current and potential Schedule 84 customers based on the program design in place. Investments were analyzed and made on the understanding that they would be recovered over 25 years, the expected useful life of the asset.

Commercial, industrial, and irrigation customers who submit an application to interconnect an on-site generation system after Dec. 1, 2020 will be subject to any future changes ordered by the commission following Idaho Power's comprehensive study of the costs and benefits of on-site generation. Additionally, after Dec. 1, 2020, all new Schedule 84 customers will be required to install a single-meter system and will no longer be able to install a dual-meter system. The

change to a single-meter reduces customer costs, streamlines program implementation, and facilitates Idaho Power's holistic study of net metering program design going forward.

For additional information on the order, please visit: <https://puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/6523>.