

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: October 19, 2004

REGULAR X CONSENT EFFECTIVE DATE October 20, 2004

DATE: September 22, 2004

TO: Lee Sparling through Ed Busch

FROM: Judy Johnson

SUBJECT: IDAHO POWER COMPANY: (Docket No. UE 167/Advice No. 04-06)
Requests a general rate increase in the company's Oregon annual revenues of \$4,418,908, or 17.52 percent overall.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend that the Commission suspend Idaho Power Company's application for revised tariff schedules in Advice No. 04-06.

DISCUSSION:

On September 21, 2004, Idaho Power Company (Idaho Power) filed Advice No. 04-06, an application for revised tariff schedules, along with an application to implement the rates on Less Than Statutory Notice. The filing has been docketed as UE 167. The tariffs would implement a general rate revision, increasing Idaho Power's revenues by \$4.4 million, or 17.5 percent overall. The percentage increases by rate class are 17.5 percent for residential customers, 17.5 percent for commercial customers, 15.9 percent for industrial customers, and 25.0 percent for irrigation customers.

Staff recommends the Commission suspend the tariffs for investigation. Suspending the tariffs will allow the commission to evaluate the reasonableness of the company's proposed rates. ORS 757.215(1) allows the Commission to suspend the proposed rates an additional three months if it finds the investigation will not be completed by the end of the initial six-month suspension period. Due to the fact that it has been ten years since Idaho Power's last rate case, Staff believes there is sufficient cause for the Commission to determine that the investigation cannot be completed within the initial suspension period, and the additional three-month suspension should be approved at this time.

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PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Idaho Power's application for revised tariff schedules in Advice No. 04-06 (UE 167), with a proposed effective date of October 20, 2004, be suspended for nine months.