

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
IDAHO POWER COMPANY FOR AN ORDER)
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF UP) Docket No. 20005-37-ES-16
TO \$500,000,000 OF APPLICANTS FIRST) (Record No. 14352)
MORTGAGE BONDS AND DEBT SECURITIES)

ORDER
(Issued May 17, 2016)

This matter is before the Wyoming Public Service Commission (Commission), upon the application of Idaho Power Company (Idaho Power or the Company), for authority to incur up to \$500 million aggregate principal amount of first mortgage bonds and debt securities, as more fully set forth below. The Commission, having reviewed the application and attachments, its files regarding Idaho Power, applicable Wyoming utility law, and being otherwise fully advised in the premises, FINDS and CONCLUDES:

1. Idaho Power is an operating public utility as defined by W.S. § 37-1-101(a)(vi)(C), subject to the Commission's jurisdiction pursuant to W.S. § 37-2-112. Specific authority regarding the issuance of securities is found in the provisions of W.S. §§ 37-6-101, *et seq.*

2. Idaho Power is an Idaho corporation having its principal place of business in Boise, Idaho. The Company is duly qualified and in good standing to conduct business in Wyoming as a foreign corporation. The Company currently owns a portion of the Jim Bridger thermoelectric generation facility, located near Rock Springs, Wyoming, which is operated by PacifiCorp.

3. On March 28, 2016, Idaho Power filed its application for authority to issue and sell [a] up to \$500 million aggregate principal amount of one or more series of first mortgage bonds (Bonds) and [b] up to \$500 million aggregate principle amount of one or more series of unsecured debt securities (Debt Securities), provided that the total principal amount of the Bonds and Debt Securities to be issued and sold will not exceed \$500 million. Idaho Power plans to use the proceeds for the acquisition of property; the construction, completion, extension or improvement of its facilities; the improvement or maintenance of its service; the discharge or lawful refunding of its obligations; and, for general corporate purposes. To the extent that the proceeds from the sale of the Bonds or Debt Securities are not immediately so used, they will be temporarily invested in short-term discounted or interest-bearing obligations.

4. Idaho Power is also requesting the Commission's Order in Docket No. 20005-34-ES-13 remain in effect for the remaining \$130,000,000 for a period of thirty days following the date of the Commission's Order in the instant docket. Idaho Power was authorized to issue up to \$500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Bonds and Debt Securities in Docket No. 20005-34-ES-13, of which \$130,000,000 still remains authorized for issuance. This thirty day extension is a new request made by the banks providing loans to Idaho Power to address concerns of potential Parties intervening and requesting a hearing.

5. The aggregate amount of its current and proposed outstanding debt and equity will be \$4.591 billion as compared to the net total fair market value of its assets of \$6.909 billion.

6. The proposed transactions were approved by the Company's Board of Directors through certified resolutions on April 25, 2016.

7. Idaho Power's application was considered by the Commission pursuant to due notice at its open meeting of April 28, 2016. Patrick Harrington, Corporate Secretary, appeared by telephone on behalf of the Company and provided a summary of the application, generally describing the information provided above.

8. Based upon the representations of the Company in its application and at the open meeting and the analysis and recommendations of the Commission Staff, the Commission finds and concludes the proposed transactions described above will be used for lawful objects within the business purposes of the Company and will be compatible with the public interest. The objects thereof are necessary, appropriate and consistent with the proper performance by the Company of its obligations to serve as a public utility and will not impair its ability to perform that service. Consistent with the requirements of W.S. § 37-6-102, the aggregate amount of Idaho Power's current and proposed outstanding debt and equity will not exceed the fair value of the properties and business of the Company. A formal hearing would therefore serve no useful purpose.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. Pursuant to open meeting action taken on April 28, 2016, Idaho Power Company is hereby authorized to issue and sell of up to \$500,000,000 of its first mortgage bonds and debt securities, under the terms and conditions set forth in its application.

2. The Order issued in Docket No. 20005-34-ES-13 is to remain in effect for the remaining \$130 million for a period of thirty days following the date of the Commission's Order in the instant docket.

3. The Company shall file with the Commission copies of all executed documents relating to the closing of the transactions described herein.

4. The Company shall use the proceeds from the securities issuances for the purposes set forth in its application and herein, and for no other purposes.

5. The issuance of this *Order* authorizing the hereinabove described securities transaction is a securities authorization only and does not constitute the Commission's determination of any utility rate making issues whatsoever, which issues are expressly reserved for decision until they are presented regularly to the Commission in appropriate proceedings.

6. The issuance of this *Order* shall further not be construed as prior approval by the Commission of any proposed construction of or addition to any plant or property of the Company, and it shall further not be construed as (a) any evaluation, rejection or acceptance whatsoever of any risk or proportion thereof which may or may not be attributable to or borne by the Company's

Wyoming customers, if any, or (b) any determination of the percentage of any investment made with the proceeds of the herein authorized securities which might be or become attributable to the Company's Wyoming customers, if any.

7. Nothing in this *Order* shall be construed to obligate the State of Wyoming to pay or guarantee in any manner whatsoever any security authorized, issued, assumed or guaranteed under the provisions of this *Order*.

8. This *Order* is effective immediately.

MADE and ENTERED at Cheyenne, Wyoming, on May 17, 2016.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING



ALAN B. MINIER, Chairman



WILLIAM F. RUSSELL, Deputy Chairman



KARA BRIGHTON, Commissioner



Attest:



STEVE MINK, Assistant Secretary