

November 1, 2023

Elliot Mainzer
President and CEO, California ISO
250 Outcropping Way
Folsom, CA 95630

Subject: The Southwest Intertie Project – North

Dear Mr. Mainzer:

Idaho Power is pleased to provide this letter of support regarding the Southwest Intertie Project – North (“SWIP-N”) and detail of Idaho Power’s potential interest in the project. Idaho Power hopes that the CAISO Board of Governors will find this letter helpful when considering the approval of CAISO assuming Great Basin Transmission’s (GBT) entitlements on SWIP-N as a joint regional policy-driven project with Idaho Power.

SWIP-N appears to provide a unique transmission opportunity for the CAISO and Idaho Power to meet the future needs of our customers in a cost-effective and reliable manner.

- SWIP-N has secured all federal permits and is near shovel-ready – a rare regional transmission opportunity in the west.
 - The project may be placed in-service as early as 2027.
- SWIP-N will enable over 1,000 MW of incremental bidirectional transfer capability.
 - Cost responsibility is only for the 285-mile SWIP-N project; but
 - SWIP-N enables connectivity across a 500+ mile corridor between Idaho and CAISO by unlocking capacity on the existing One Nevada Line.
- CAISO and Idaho Power may have an opportunity to jointly share in the cost of the project.

Transmission infrastructure is a primary key enabler to a cost effective, reliable, and clean energy future. Idaho Power believes that cost effective transmission is a no-regret investment. All feasible scenarios related to electric grids of the future will continue to heavily utilize interregional transmission infrastructure.

Idaho Power is working with GBT, the SWIP-N project developer, to explore terms for an interest in 500 MW of south-to-north capacity in the project. Idaho Power's 500 MW would represent a 22.83% interest in the cost and capacity of the project, reducing the cost to CAISO and its customers. The 500 MW interest is expected to be valuable in enabling Idaho Power to leverage the significant regional resource and demand diversity existing across the 500+ mile transmission link. Discussions between Idaho Power and GBT are ongoing.

If discussions are successful with GBT, Idaho Power would execute definitive agreements with GBT, with conditions. Major conditions will include, but not be limited to: (1) CAISO approval of the project, (2) FERC approval of the GBT and Idaho Power agreement(s), (3) sufficient Idaho Power benefits to justify the project cost, and (4) necessary state regulatory approvals of the project.

Pending successful discussions with GBT, Idaho Power would plan to file a SWIP-related case with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission which will include: (1) the project business case detailing the benefits to justify the project cost, (2) agreements between GBT and Idaho Power, and (3) details related to the CAISO Board of Governors approval of the project. The CAISO Board of Governors approval of the project, as the majority interest, will be critical in demonstrating that SWIP-N has certainty. It will take at least six months to obtain necessary state regulatory approvals, which, assuming definitive agreements can be reached in the upcoming months and a case can be filed by year-end 2023, an order may reasonably be expected around mid-year 2024.

Idaho Power would like to thank CAISO for considering this project in the 2023 calendar year and looks forward to potentially enjoying the joint benefits of this unique transmission opportunity.

Sincerely,



Mitch Colburn
Vice President, Planning, Engineering & Construction
Idaho Power

cc: Board of Governors, California ISO
Neil Millar, Vice President, Infrastructure and Transmission Planning, California ISO