

Interim Transitional Cluster Study Cluster Area 3 Study Report

July 19, 2024

Report v1.0

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1. Study Overview

1.1 Introduction

Transitional Cluster Area 3 (CA3) is generally described as the Magic Valley area and includes the following Interconnection Requests: GI #718 and GI #719. Interconnection Requests within CA3 have proposed a total of 200 megawatts (MW) of new generation.

In accordance with Section 7.3 of Transmission Provider's (hereinafter referred to as Idaho Power) Large Generator Interconnection Procedures (LGIP), this Cluster Study evaluated the impact of the proposed generation interconnections on the reliability of Idaho Power's Transmission System. The Cluster Study considered the Base Case as well as all generating facilities (and with respect to (iii) below, any identified Network Upgrades associated with such higher queued interconnection) that, on the date the Cluster Study is commenced:

- (i) are directly interconnected to the Transmission System;
- (ii) are interconnected to Affected Systems and may have an impact on the Interconnection Request;
- (iii) have a pending higher queued Interconnection Request to interconnect to the Transmission System; and
- (iv) have no Queue Position but have executed an LGIA or requested that an unexecuted LGIA be filed with FERC.

1.2 Study Assumptions

- Generation Interconnection Requests GI #530, GI #551, GI #558, GI #567, GI #570, GI #587, GI #588, GI #590, GI #604, GI #605, GI #614/616, GI #620, GI #621, GI #624, GI #625, GI #630, GI #633, GI #635, GI #636, GI #656, GI #659, GI #665, GI #667, GI #669, GI #704, GI #708, GI #710, GI #713, and GI #716 are senior-queued projects in the affected area of Idaho Power's transmission system. Idaho Power studied this Cluster Area with all Network Upgrades for the identified senior-queued projects as in-service. Changes to senior-queued projects, including in-service date and withdrawal from the queue, may trigger a restudy of this Cluster Area, and the results and conclusions could significantly change.
- Generation Interconnection Requests GI #704, GI #708, GI #710, GI #716, GI #718, GI #719, GI #723, GI #724, GI #725, GI #730, GI #731, GI #732, GI #734, and GI #737 are similarly queued projects in Idaho Power's Transitional Cluster Study. Changes to similarly queued projects within the Transitional Cluster Study, including in-service date and withdrawal from the queue, may trigger a restudy of this Cluster Area, and the results and conclusions could significantly change.
- Network Resource Interconnection Service (NRIS) does not convey transmission service.
- Power flow analysis requires WECC base cases to reliably balance under peak load conditions the aggregate of generation in the local area, with the Generating Facility at full output, to the aggregate of the load in Idaho Power's Transmission System. However,

Idaho Power's Balancing Authority Area has proposed generation in the interconnection queue that far surpasses projected load. To reliably balance the power flow case, it is necessary to assume some portions of other resources are displaced by these Interconnection Requests. Based on the volume of senior-queued Interconnection Requests and in order to assess the impact of interconnecting this generation, some generation is being transferred regionally through the Transmission System.

- The Most Severe Single Contingency (MSSC) is the balancing contingency event, due to a single contingency, that results in the greatest loss (measured in MW) of resource output used by the Balancing Authority at the time of the event to meet firm system load and export obligation. Idaho Power's MSSC is 330 MW. An NRIS interconnection request greater than 330 MW must mitigate single contingencies that would result in the loss of more than 330 MW. This includes, but is not limited to, single contingencies in the Interconnection Customer's Interconnection Facilities.
- Idaho Power will not mitigate thermal or voltage violations with remedial action schemes (RAS) in the generation interconnection process.
- Telecommunication requirements are not fully contemplated in this study and could require significant upgrades up to and including line rebuilds to accommodate OPGW, for example. Telecommunication requirements identified during the final Transitional Cluster Study could impact the estimated cost of the project included in this report.
- The following Idaho Power planned system improvements were assumed in service. Any facility that has been determined to be contingent will be listed in Section 5 of this report.
 - Boardman to Hemingway 500kV transmission line (Q2 2027)
 - 50% series capacitance compensation on the Kinport to Midpoint 345kV transmission line (Q2 2026)
 - Midpoint Substation T502 500:345kV transformer (Q2 2026)
 - Hemingway to Bowmont 230kV transmission line (Q4 2025)
 - Bowmont to Hubbard 230kV transmission line (Q3 2026)
 - Midpoint to Hemingway #2 500kV transmission line (2028)

1.3 Power Flow Case Description

The WECC 2024 Light Winter and Heavy Summer Operating cases serve as the Base Cases for the power flow and transient stability analysis for this Transitional Cluster Study. The Base Cases have been modified to:

- Increase power flow across the Transmission System to stress relevant transmission paths,
- Include future Idaho Power transmission projects identified in Section 1.2 of this report,

- Include senior-queued generation Interconnection Requests, their Interconnection Facilities, and their Network Upgrades in accordance with Section 7.3 of Idaho Power's LGIP, and
- Generating Facilities interconnected to Affected Systems that may have an impact on the Interconnection Requests in this Cluster Area.

The WECC 2024 Heavy Summer Operating base case was modified to represent a summer month with high west-to-east (eastbound) transfers across the Midpoint West path.

The WECC 2024 Light Winter Operating base case was modified to represent a shoulder month condition with high east-to-west (westbound) transfers across the Midpoint West path.

2. Cluster Area

Idaho Power performed the Transitional Cluster Study based on geographically and/or electrically relevant areas on Idaho Power's Transmission System known as Cluster Areas. Idaho Power has determined that the Interconnection Requests described below are in a geographically and/or electrically relevant area on Idaho Power's Transmission System, and thus were assigned Cluster Area 3 in this Cluster Study.

Cluster Area 3 is generally described as Idaho Power's Transmission System in the Magic Valley area in Idaho. This Cluster Area consists of the Interconnection Requests described below.

2.1 GI #718 Description

Interconnection Customer has proposed to interconnect 100 MW of hybrid solar and battery storage generation to Idaho Power's Moonstone 138kV substation located in Blaine County, Idaho. The requested Commercial Operation Date (COD) for GI #718 is June 1, 2026.

Interconnection Customer will NOT operate this generator as a Qualified Facility as defined by PURPA.

The Interconnection Request will be studied for NRIS.

2.2 GI #719 Description

Interconnection Customer has proposed to interconnect 100 MW of hybrid solar and battery storage generation to Idaho Power's Moonstone 138kV substation located in Blaine County, Idaho. The requested COD for GI #719 is June 1, 2028.

Interconnection Customer will NOT operate this generator as a Qualified Facility as defined by PURPA.

The Interconnection Request will be studied for NRIS.

3. NRIS Requirements

3.1 Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities

Transmission Provider's Interconnection Facilities (hereinafter referred to as Idaho Power's Interconnection Facilities) are defined in Section 1 of Idaho Power's LGIP as all facilities and equipment owned, controlled, or operated by Idaho Power from the Point of Change of Ownership to the POI, including any modifications, additions or upgrades to such facilities or equipment. In accordance with Section 4.2.1 of Idaho Power's LGIP, costs for Idaho Power's Interconnection Facilities are directly assigned to Interconnection Customer.

Listed below are Idaho Power's Interconnection Facilities required to interconnect the generation Interconnection Requests at their respective requested POIs.

3.1.1 GI #718 Interconnection Facilities

- Two (2) 138kV disconnect switches
- One (1) 138kV breaker
- 138kV bus sections, protective relays, 3-phase potential transformers (PT), 3-phase current transformers (CT), and SCADA and remote connectivity

3.1.2 GI #719 Interconnection Facilities

- Two (2) 138kV disconnect switches
- One (1) 138kV breaker
- 138kV bus sections, protective relays, 3-phase PTs, 3-phase CTs, and SCADA and remote connectivity

3.2 Substation Network Upgrades

Substation Network Upgrades are defined in Section 1 of Idaho Power's LGIP as Network Upgrades that are required at the substation located at the POI; this includes all switching stations. In accordance with Section 4.2.1(a) of Idaho Power's LGIP, costs for Substation Network Upgrades are allocated per capita to each Generating Facility interconnecting at the same substation.

Listed below are the required Substation Network Upgrades required to interconnect the Projects at their respective POIs.

3.2.1 GI #718 and GI #719 Substation Network Upgrades

- **Moonstone 138kV 101A Breaker**
The Moonstone 138kV substation will require a line breaker on the XXXX 138kV line with disconnect switches, protective relays, 3-phase PTs, 3-phase CTs.
- **Moonstone Substation Expansion**
The Moonstone substation will need to be expanded to support the 138kV King to Wood River line breaker and the POIs for GI #718 and GI #719.

Table 1 Substation Network Upgrades

Facility Description	Outage	Cost Allocation	Cost Estimate
Moonstone 138kV 101A Breaker	XXXX	GI718—50% GI719—50%	\$2,949,750
Moonstone Substation Expansion	XXXX	GI718—50% GI719—50%	\$1,450,000

3.3 NRIS System Network Upgrades

System Network Upgrades are defined in Section 1 of Idaho Power’s LGIP as Network Upgrades that are required beyond the substation located at the POI. In accordance with Section 4.2.1(b) of Idaho Power’s LGIP, costs for each specific System Network Upgrades are allocated based on proportional impact of each individual Generating Facility in the Cluster Study.

Listed below are the required System Network Upgrades required for NRIS.

- Rebuild 2.0-mile Wood River to Hailey 138kV transmission line**
 Rebuild the 138kV line with XXXX. At Wood River and Hailey line terminals, upgrade XXXX.
- Rebuild 5.2-mile King to Upper Salmon 3–4 138kV transmission line**
 Rebuild the 138kV line with XXXX. At the King line terminal, XXXX.

Table 2 NRIS System Network Upgrades

Facility Description	Outage	Cost Allocation	Cost Estimate
Rebuild 138kV WDRI–HALY line	XXXX	GI718 – 50% GI719 – 50%	\$3,221,437
Rebuild 138kV KING–US34 line	XXXX	GI718 – 50% GI719 – 50%	\$8,383,500

3.4 Battery Charging

The Interconnection Customers for both GI #718 and GI #719 have chosen to self-charge the energy storage system (ESS) component of each project from the project’s own solar generation. Grid charging results are not shown in this report. Idaho Power will enable an additional relay setting at the POI to trip the Project if grid-charging is detected.

3.5 NRIS Cost Estimates

GI #718

Interconnection Facilities	\$1,238,642
Substation Network Upgrades	\$2,199,737
System Network Upgrades	\$5,802,469
Total: \$9,240,848	

GI #719

Interconnection Facilities	\$1,238,642
Substation Network Upgrades	\$2,199,737
System Network Upgrades	\$5,802,469
Total: \$9,240,848	

3.6 Estimated Time to Construct

Based on the identified scope of work for this Cluster Area, Idaho Power’s non-binding, good-faith estimate of time to construct is a minimum of 4–5 years from LGIA execution, funding, and notice to proceed (Project Initiation). A detailed and refined timeline will be provided for each project in the final Transitional Cluster Study Report.

4. Contingent Facilities and Affected Systems

Contingent Facilities are defined in Section 1 of Idaho Power’s LGIP as those unbuilt Interconnection Facilities and Network Upgrades upon which the Interconnection Request’s costs, timing, and study findings are dependent, and if delayed or not built, could cause a need for restudies of the Interconnection Request or a reassessment of the Interconnection Facilities and/or Network Upgrades and/or costs and timing.

There are no identified Contingent Facilities for Cluster Area 3.

5. Transient Stability Analysis

The WECC 2024 Light Winter operating case and PowerWorld Simulator version 23 Transient Stability analysis tool were used to perform the transient stability analysis.

The results showed no transient stability violations. Per NERC Standards, the Generator Owner is responsible to ensure the modeling data utilized accurately reflects inverter operations and to provide updates to Idaho Power if testing or real-time observations indicate a need.

6. Voltage Stability Analysis

A Voltage Stability analysis was performed using the WECC 2024 Light Winter case with Midpoint West east-to-west flows at 105% of the path rating. All contingencies solved successfully; there were no voltage stability issues found for the Project.

The Projects will be required to control voltage in accordance with a voltage schedule as provided by Idaho Power's Load Serving Operations. Interconnection Customers will be required to manage the real power output of their Generating Facilities at the POI.

7. Protection and Control

7.1 GI #718 Protection and Control

For 138kV line protection, Idaho Power's System Protection Department utilizes permissive and line differential protection schemes integrated with digital communication infrastructure. Idaho Power will require OPGW in the static wire position for any gen-tie lines and fiber communication between co-located facilities. Interconnection Customer is responsible to provide communication infrastructure between Interconnection's Customer's 138kV collector substation and Idaho Power.

Studies indicate that there is adequate load and short circuit interrupting capability on the Transmission Provider's existing 138kV breakers after this Project is interconnected.

The proposed 138kV Wye-Grounded/Wye-Grounded with a Delta tertiary transformer specified in the Interconnection Request should provide an adequate ground return path for transmission line protection/relaying.

7.2 GI #719 Protection and Control

For 138kV line protection, Idaho Power's System Protection Department utilizes permissive and line differential protection schemes integrated with digital communication infrastructure. Idaho Power will require OPGW in the static wire position for any gen-tie lines and fiber communication between co-located facilities. Interconnection Customer is responsible to provide communication infrastructure between Interconnection's Customer's 138kV collector substation and Idaho Power.

Studies indicate that there is adequate load and short circuit interrupting capability on the Transmission Provider's existing 138kV breakers after this Project is interconnected.

The proposed 138kV Wye-Grounded/Wye-Grounded with a Delta tertiary transformer specified in the Interconnection Request should provide an adequate ground return path for transmission line protection/relaying.

8. Description of Operating Requirements

Generation Interconnection projects will be required to control voltage in accordance with a voltage schedule as provided by Idaho Power's Load Serving Operations. Interconnection Customers will be required to manage the real power output of their Generating Facilities at the POI. Projects will be required to provide reactive power versus real power capability measured at the high side of the main power transformer that complies with IEEE 2800.

Projects are required to comply with the applicable Voltage and Current Distortion Limits found in IEEE Standard 519-2014 *IEEE Recommended Practices and Requirements for Harmonic*

Control in Electrical Power Systems or any subsequent standards as they may be updated from time to time.

Installation of phasor measurement unit devices at the POI and maintenance costs associated with communication circuits needed to stream PMU data will also be required to be provided to interconnect the Projects. The specific costs associated with the Idaho Power requirements for Interconnection Customers with aggregate facilities larger than 20 MW to provide PMU data to Idaho Power will be identified in the final Transitional Cluster Study should Interconnection Customer choose to proceed to that phase of the interconnection process. Also, it may be beneficial for Interconnection Customers, for their own modeling compliance requirements, to install additional PMU devices at their facilities to monitor the generations sources separately.

Appendices

A-1 Method of Study

The power flow case for the Cluster Study is built using Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) power flow cases as a Base Case in Power World Simulator. The Base Cases are then modified to include the senior-queued generation Interconnection Requests identified in Section 1.2 and their respective Network Upgrades and Interconnection Facilities. The Interconnection Requests being studied are then added to the cases with the model provided by the Interconnection Customers at the requested MW injection at the agreed-upon POI. The Base Cases are then rebalanced such that the applicable WECC transmission paths are at their WECC path rating with reasonable pre-contingency energy transfers utilizing the Idaho Power (Idaho Power) Transmission System. The power flow model is then analyzed using P1 and P2 category contingencies contained in Table 1 of NERC standard TPL-001. WECC and Idaho Power reliability criteria are applied to the results of the contingency analysis, and any violations are mitigated with Network Upgrades or Contingent Facilities.

A-2 Acceptability Criteria

The following acceptability criteria were used in the power flow analysis to determine under which system configuration modifications may be required:

- The continuous rating (P-0) of equipment is assumed to be the normal thermal rating of the equipment. This rating will be as determined by the manufacturer of the equipment or as determined by Idaho Power. Less than or equal to 100% of continuous rating is acceptable.
- Idaho Power's Voltage Operating Guidelines were used to determine voltage requirements on the system. These state, in part, that distribution voltages under normal operating conditions are to be maintained within plus or minus 5% (0.05 per unit) of nominal everywhere on the feeder. Therefore, voltages greater than or equal to 0.95 pu voltage and less than or equal to 1.05 pu voltage are acceptable.
- Voltage flicker while starting or stopping the generator is limited to 5% as measured at the POI, per Idaho Power's T&D Advisory Information Manual.
- Idaho Power's Reliability Criteria for System Planning was used to determine proper Transmission System operation.
- All customer generation must meet IEEE 519 and ANSI C84.1 Standards.
- All other applicable national and Idaho Power standards and prudent utility practices were used to determine the acceptability of the configurations considered.
- The stable operation of the system requires an adequate supply of volt-amperes reactive (VAr or VARs) to maintain a stable voltage profile under both steady-state and dynamic system conditions. An inadequate supply of VARs will result in voltage decay or even collapse under the worst conditions.
- Equipment, line, or Path ratings used will be those that are in use at the time of the study or that are represented by Idaho Power upgrade projects that are either currently under construction or whose budgets have been approved for construction in the near future. All

other potential future ratings are outside the scope of this study. Future transmission changes may, however, affect current facility ratings used in the study.

A-3 Grounding Guidance

Idaho Power requires interconnected transformers on the distribution system to limit their ground fault current to 20 amps at the POI.

A-4 Electrical System Protection Guidance

Idaho Power requires electrical system protection per Facility Connection Requirements found on the Idaho Power website,

<https://docs.idahopower.com/pdfs/BusinessToBusiness/FacConnReq.pdf>

A-5 WECC Coordinated Off-Nominal Frequency Load Shedding and Restoration Requirements

Idaho Power requires frequency operational limits to adhere to WECC Under-frequency and Over-frequency Limits per the WECC Coordinated Off-Nominal Frequency Load Shedding and Restoration Requirements, which are available upon request.

A-6 Grid Enhancing Technology

The following technologies are considered when addressing voltage instability: static synchronous compensator, static VAR compensator, and synchronous condensers. Voltage instability was not found in the study.

The Transmission System interconnects all major generating stations and main load centers in the system. For reliable service, a bulk electric system must remain intact and be capable of withstanding a wide variety of disturbances. The integrated electric system is designed and operated such that the more probable contingencies can be endured with no loss of load and the more adverse contingencies do not result in uncontrolled and widespread power outages. The need to modify the electric configuration of the system or apply transmission switching was not found in the study.

Voltage source converters are used to connect HVAC and HVDC systems. Idaho Power does not act as a Transmission Provider for HVDC systems.

Advanced conductors have a higher cost when compared to more traditional conductors. However, reconductoring with advanced conductors may be less expensive than building new transmission lines. The need to modify the conductors used in an existing line, or rebuild a line was found in the study. Existing structures are wood poles; due to fire risk and age of existing wood pole transmission lines, advanced conductors are not an option.

Power flow control devices are considered when a transmission element is overloaded and would benefit from a redistribution of flow. This can be accomplished through series reactors, series capacitors, or an equivalent technology. Power flow control devices are more expensive than the identified solution and were not evaluated further in this study.

Raising lattice tower heights to provide more clearance may facilitate reconductoring a transmission line instead of rebuilding the transmission line. Existing structures are wood poles, so tower lifting is not an option.

Revision History

Date	Author	Revisions
07/19/2024	Patrick Perry	Transitional Cluster Study Cluster Area 3 Interim Study Report
