## Agreement

### Between

## **Inland Power & Light Company**

### &

### **Local Union No. 77**

## International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

# January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026

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#### **TERM OF AGREEMENT**

This agreement, between Inland Power & Light Company, hereinafter called the "Cooperative" and Local Union No. 77 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, hereinafter called the "Union", will take effect on January 1, 2024 and will remain in full force and effective until December 31, 2026 and will continue thereafter from year to year unless either party notifies the other party in writing not less than 60 days prior to December 31, 2026 or any subsequent year of its desire to terminate or amend this agreement. Without giving notice of termination or amendment, this agreement will be subject to such changes as will be mutually agreed upon by the parties hereto.

If, during the term of this agreement, it is discovered that provisions of the agreement conflict with applicable laws or government regulations or if new laws or regulations are adopted during the term of this agreement with which provisions of this agreement conflict, the laws and regulations will prevail and this agreement will be subject to revision by mutual agreement of the parties hereto, to resolve such conflict. Until such conflict is resolved, the parties are obligated to comply with laws and regulations and such compliance will not be considered a breach of this agreement. If any provision of this agreement is adjudged to be unlawful or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, those provisions will be considered null and void, but all other provisions of this agreement will continue in full force and effect.

If the Cooperative should change its corporate status through consolidation, merger, sale, transfer or change in ownership, this contract may be opened by either the Cooperative or the Union for negotiations on provisions, terms and conditions thereof. The provisions, terms and obligations herein contained will be binding on the successors and assigns of the Cooperative and on the Union and its members.

#### **PURPOSE OF AGREEMENT**

The Cooperative and the Union have a common and sympathetic interest in providing electric power to the members of the Cooperative in a reliable, efficient and cost-effective manner. Both parties intend this agreement to provide the framework for maintaining the harmonious relations between the Cooperative and the Union necessary to accomplish that purpose.

#### **NON-DISRUPTION OF SERVICE**

The Cooperative is engaged in public service requiring continuous operation and it is agreed that neither the Cooperative nor the Union and its members will take any action that would disrupt the ability of the Cooperative to provide such continuous service.

#### **ARTICLE 1 – RECOGNITION**

- The Cooperative recognizes the Union as the exclusive bargaining representative of all classifications of employees of the Cooperative covered in Exhibit "A", hereto attached, for the purpose of collective bargaining concerning wages, benefits, hours and working conditions.
- 2. The Union recognizes that, except as expressly limited by the terms of this Agreement, all regular and customary rights and functions of the Cooperative in the conduct of business are exclusively reserved to and vested in the Cooperative. Both the Cooperative and the Union recognize the selected "Union Shop Stewards" as the communication link between the Cooperative and the Union. The Cooperative will be notified promptly of any change in the Union Shop Stewards.

#### ARTICLE 2 – UNION SECURITY

- **1.** All regular employees of the Cooperative falling under the classifications covered by this agreement will be required to share in the cost of maintaining and operating the Union as their collective bargaining agency in accordance with its rules.
- 2. The forgoing provision will not be construed to deny the right of the Cooperative to select its supervised employees regardless of whether such employees are members of the Union, but it is the intent of the parties that new supervised employees will pay minimum dues thirty days after the date of employment and will become members of the Union at the end of their first 90 days of employment.
- **3.** Upon authorization by each individual employee, the Cooperative agrees to deduct Union dues from the pay of its employees monthly and send a check to the Union for the total amount deducted along with a list of the names of the individuals from which the deductions were taken.
- **4.** The Cooperative will make appropriate provision in any agreement entered into with any contractor for the furnishing to the Cooperative of work customarily done by the classifications in Exhibit A of this contract, that such contractor or subcontractor will conform to the current and prevailing Union schedule of wages and working conditions.
  - a. If requested, the Cooperative will provide the necessary information to confirm if the non-union contractors are paying the prevailing rate for the classifications in Exhibit A. Information will only be provided for positions matching Union classifications.

#### ARTICLE 3 – GENERAL WORKING RULES

- **1.** Ten (10) consecutive working hours will constitute a day's work and four (4) working shifts falling in consecutive order will constitute a work week.
- **2.** At each established headquarters, the Cooperative may designate one journeyman lineman to be the individual in charge.

- **3.** No employee will be required to stand by for duty outside their regular work hours. However, when contacted to report for emergency work, they will report immediately.
- **4.** The construction, maintenance, and retirement of all overhead and underground facilities, including repairs of said facilities and all other tasks generally accepted as line work shall be considered Journeyman Lineman's work. This work may be done with the assistance of Operators, Groundmen, Apprentices, and/or outside contractors, as long as no other provisions of this agreement are violated.
- 5. The Cooperative retains the right to exercise discipline in the interest of good service and the proper conduct of its business and may terminate the employment of any employee for good or just cause at any time. Any employee laid off or discharged will, upon request, be advised of the reason or reasons for such action and will be entitled to a hearing as herein provided.
- **6.** Employees with less than 12 months' employment with the Cooperative will be given one week's notice of termination and employees with 12 months or more service will be given two weeks' notice of termination if the termination is through no fault of the employee as a result of a reduction in force.
- **7.** When, in the opinion of the Cooperative and the Union, any employee, by reason of physical or mental condition, cannot perform their regular duties; the employee may be transferred to another position. The Cooperative, however, is not obligated to create a position for placement of such employee.
- 8. The Cooperative will pay employees twice monthly on regularly designated paydays.

#### ARTICLE 4 – HOURS

- Ten consecutive working hours will constitute a days' work and four working shifts falling in consecutive order on Monday through Thursday or Tuesday through Friday will constitute a work week. During the ten-hour shifts, normal working hours will be 6:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Working hours and days may be modified by mutual agreement.
- 2. During the regular workday shift a 30-minute meal period will normally commence at either 11:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. If employees work through the meal period, they shall be paid overtime at the double time rate for the missed meal period. When the meal period is missed the employee will be allowed a reasonable amount of time during the normal shift to eat as long as the normal workflow is not interrupted. If the workflow is interrupted the normal break period will be used. Since missed meal periods are considered overtime, and with the exception of outages and emergencies, all overtime is subject to approval of management.

#### ARTICLE 5 – WAGES, OVERTIME & EXPENSES

- **1.** Wage rates for the various classifications covered by this agreement are a part of this agreement and may be found in Exhibit A attached.
- 2. A crew consisting of two Journeyman Linemen, a Journeyman Lineman and an apprentice or a Journeyman Lineman and a contractor hired by the Cooperative or installing the Cooperative's facilities will have one Journeyman Lineman paid at the Lead Lineman rate.
- **3.** A crew consisting of three Journeyman Linemen, two Journeyman Linemen and an apprentice or two Journeyman Linemen and a contractor hired by the Cooperative or installing the Cooperative's facilities will have one Journeyman paid at the Foreman rate.
- **4.** A crew containing three or more employees of any classification will have one journeyman lineman designated as foreman who will be compensated at the wage rate for that classification.
- **5.** Opportunity for overtime work within classifications covered by this Agreement will be made as equitably as practical.
- **6.** Employees working outside of regular hours will be paid at a double time rate. Calls received to determine availability will not be considered compensable time.
  - a. <u>Call Outs</u> Such pay will begin when they leave their homes and, except while on a regular shift, will end when they return to their home. It is expected that employees will respond to call outs in a timely manner. Unless called out within 1 ½ hours of regular starting time, employees reporting for work outside regular working hours on order of the Cooperative will receive a minimum of two hours double time pay. If called out within 1 ½ hours, pay will be for actual time worked. Employees notified before leaving work to report for work outside regular shift hours will be paid only from the time they report to headquarters and return to headquarters.
  - b. <u>Non-Call Outs</u> Employees will receive a minimum of fifteen (15) minutes of double time pay per phone call or per response for calls taken between 5:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Employees will receive a minimum of thirty (30) minutes of double time pay per phone call or per response for calls taken between 9:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. If the call or response requires more than the minimum call time to address, the employee will be paid for the actual time worked at a double time rate of pay. If the response requires the employee to depart their location, the minimum call out will apply.

- **7.** An employee will be entitled to ten (10) consecutive hours of rest unless instructed otherwise by Management, under the following conditions:
  - a. When an employee takes two (2) or more call outs, with a break in pay, at the overtime rate after the end of their shift and the start of their regular shift;
  - b. When an employee has worked sixteen (16) or more consecutive hours; or
  - c. When an employee works six (6) or more hours at the overtime rate between 8:00 p.m. and the start of their regular shift.

If, in the event of an emergency, an employee is called back to work during the rest period, the employee will be paid at the overtime rate for all hours worked until the employee receives his rest period.

In the event that any part of the rest period overlaps the employee's regular shift, the employee will be compensated at their regular rate of pay for the full overlap.

The employee may also use PTO or "no pay" for any of the hours in the "overlap period". No employee will be allowed to work more than sixteen (16) consecutive hours except in an emergency when no replacement worker is available.

During major emergency situations (wide-spread and extended electrical system disruption) there will be a maximum of thirty-six (36) continuous hours worked by an employee, then a mandatory eight (8) hours of rest. Hours will resume thereafter sixteen (16) on – eight (8) off, with all hours worked paid at the overtime rate. During sixteen (16) on – eight (8) off shift, paid rest will not apply.

Travel time to/from an employee's home shall not be considered part of an employee's rest period.

- **8.** On regular time, employees will provide their own meals and eat on or near the job site. Established mealtimes will be set at 6 a.m., 12 p.m., 6 p.m., and 12 a.m. Applicable to overtime meals only. Time paid is time worked. On extension of shift the employee must work past the start of the 6 p.m. mealtime. The Cooperative will, at their option, pay for or provide meals and pay for up to thirty minutes of time to eat the meal plus reasonable travel time. If a meal is not provided, the employee will receive a meal chit equal to 50% of straight time lineman hourly wage rate per missed meal plus 30 minute missed meal allowance.
- **9.** "Tool Replacement" The Cooperative will supply pneumatic tools necessary to the mechanics' job duties.

#### ARTICLE 6 - HOLIDAYS

- Holidays with pay will be: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and three (3) Henry Miller Days (floating holidays) to be taken on days mutually agreed upon by each employee and the Cooperative.
  - a. In the event a paid holiday falls on an employee's regular day off, the holiday shall be observed on the closest regular scheduled workday to the holiday.
- **2.** Employees requested by the Cooperative to work on any of the above-named holidays will be paid at their double time rate plus holiday pay.
- **3.** Employees that work on a holiday or the observed holiday shall have an option with the allotted holiday pay. The employee may either accept the holiday pay as usual or may elect to transfer the allotted ten (10) hours of holiday pay into the employee's PTO bank.

#### ARTICLE 7 – Paid Time Off (PTO)

- 1. <u>Conversion:</u>
  - a. For active employees as of December 15, 2023, and using pay period data ending December 15, 2023, Management will calculate a one-time conversion of an employee's existing vacation and sick leave banks into a PTO bank to be available to employees based on the following conversion:
    - i. 100% of employee's vacation balance will convert to PTO;
    - ii. A flat 52 hours of employee's 100% sick leave bank will convert to PTO;
    - iii. 20% of employee's 90% sick leave bank will convert to PTO and
    - iv. 0% of employee's 50% sick leave bank will convert to PTO.
- 2. Accrual Rate:
  - a. Full-time employees are entitled to PTO in accordance with the following accrual schedule:

Years of Service Completed	PTO Days Earned Per Year (10 hour)	Annual Hours Earned	Accrual Rate Per Pay Period
0 years	15.20	152.00	6.34
1 years	15.20	152.00	6.34
2 years	15.80	158.00	6.59
3 years	16.40	164.00	6.84
4 years	16.80	168.00	7.00
5 years	17.40	174.00	7.25
6 years	18.00	180.00	7.50
7 years	18.60	186.00	7.75
8 years	19.00	190.00	7.92

9 years	19.60	196.00	8.17
10 years	20.20	202.00	8.42
11 years	20.80	208.00	8.67
12 years	21.20	212.00	8.84
13 years	21.80	218.00 9.09	
14 years	22.40		
15 years	23.00	230.00	9.59
16 years	23.40	234.00	9.75
17 years	24.00	240.00	10.00
18 years	24.60	246.00	10.25
19 years	25.20	252.00	10.50
20 years	25.60	256.00	10.67
21 years	26.20	262.00	10.92
22 years	26.80	268.00	11.17
23 years	27.40	274.00	11.42
24 years	27.80	278.00	11.59
25 years	28.40	284.00	11.84
26 years	29.00	290.00	12.09
27 years	29.60	296.00	12.34
28 years	30.20	302.00	12.59
29 years	30.60	306.00	12.75
30 years and above	31.20	312.00	13.00

- b. The above PTO accruals will be prorated for any year where the individual is an active paid employee for less than 12 months, i.e., year of hire and year of separation. For years following the year of hire, the employment anniversary date shall be considered January 1 for PTO accrual.
- c. Part-time employees expected to work more than 1,000 hours/year will be entitled to a prorated amount of PTO benefits.
- d. PTO does not accrue while employees are absent for an unpaid leave of absence.
- e. On an annual basis, 40 hours will be added to a PTO bank if an employee works over 400 hours of overtime in a year. These hours will be calculated and rewarded each January for the previous year.
- f. New employees that have not had tenure to build up a PTO bank will be front loaded 40 hours of their first year's accrual rate upon hire. They will then accrue the remainder of their PTO allocation throughout their first year of employment.

If an employee leaves employment before they have accrued their full PTO balance, the unaccrued amount will be deducted from their final paycheck.

#### **3.** <u>PTO Utilization:</u>

- a. The PTO program is a benefit that allows employees to accrue a "bank" of hours, based on years of service, to use for vacation, personal business, personal illness, family illness or recovery from sickness or accident.
- b. Full-time employees will be required to take a minimum of 40 hours off per year.
- c. PTO balances can accrue to a maximum of 750 hours per employee.
- d. Employees will be required to keep a minimum PTO balance of 40 hours to be used in cases of short-term disability.
- e. Scheduled PTO absences require prior supervisor approval. Unscheduled PTO absences require notification to supervisor before your shift starts or as soon as possible in extenuating circumstances.

#### 4. <u>PTO Cash-Out Rules</u>:

- a. Cash outs will be paid out at 100% of the employee's regular straight-time rate of pay.
- b. Upon written request to payroll made prior to December 31<sup>st</sup>, employees will have the option of cashing out PTO up to three times in the succeeding calendar year. PTO cash outs are in excess of 80 hours and the employee must demonstrate that they have utilized one consecutive week (40 hours) of time off during the current calendar year.

Additionally, a written cash out request may be made anytime for an unforeseen emergency (illness, accident, causality). Guidance regarding unforeseen emergencies can be found in Procedure 7-4-3 PTO, in accordance with IRS regulations.

- c. Any amount accrued in excess of 750 hours as of December 31, annually, will be cashed out to the employee at 100% of the employee's regular straight-time rate of pay. Payment typically will be made in the month of January of the following year.
- d. Upon separation of employment, including retirement, PTO balances will be cashed out. Employees who voluntarily leave Inland Power and fail to provide two weeks' notice will forfeit any unpaid PTO. If the separated employee is eligible for a cash out and elects to continue any health/dental/vision group

benefits, the PTO cash out will be used to pay for these benefits with a tax advantage unless the tax rules change. Otherwise, all PTO cash outs will be subject to applicable taxes.

If an employee wishes to cash out PTO to contribute to a 401(k), 457(b), flexible spending, or H.S.A. account, please see the finance department as there may be tax consequences.

#### <u>ARTICLE 8 – SHORT-TERM DISABILITY & PAID FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE (PFML)</u>

1. Election

If an employee is eligible for both short-term disability (STD) (Appendix F - Policy 7-6 – Wage Replacement During Leave Policy) and Washington Paid Family Medical Leave (PFML), employees must elect to use either STD PFML, but not both. PTO may be used to cover any applicable waiting period.

- 2. Eligibility
  - A. All employees who work at least 820 hours in first 4 of last 5 completed calendar quarters or, if eligibility is not established, the last four completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the application for leave and work for the Cooperative for 340 hours of the 820, can access PFML. If an employee was covered under a Voluntary Plan (as defined by PFML) by their previous employer, they are immediately eligible for this benefit.
  - B. PFML may be used for the following:
    - Employee's own serious health condition as defined by RCW 50A.040.010 (19) (a);
    - ii. Bonding after birth of a baby or the adoption or placement of a child younger than 18;
    - iii. A family member's (child, parent, spouse, registered domestic partner, grandparent, grandchild and sibling) serious health condition; or
    - iv. Military-connected events as defined by RCW 50A.040.010 (9)(c).
  - C. An employee can utilize PFML for up to 12 weeks plus 2 additional weeks for a total of 14 weeks if pregnancy complications are applicable. If both medical and family leave applies, the employee may utilize PFML for up to 16 weeks plus 2 additional weeks if pregnancy complications are applicable for a total of 18 weeks.
- 3. Benefits
  - A. The amount of the benefit provided by PFML will be equal to the state plan by calculating the employees weekly average wage as defined in the PFML to a maximum of \$1,000.00 per week in the year 2020 with annual adjustments thereafter in accordance with RCW 50A.04.020.

- B. While utilizing PFML, the employee will have job protection if the employee was employed at the Cooperative at least 9 months and worked 965 hours in a 12-month period before the leave began.
- C. If the employee was enrolled in the Cooperative health care plans, the Cooperative will continue to cover the employee and dependents at the same level when the leave commenced as long as the employee continues to pay the employee's share of any premium.

#### 4. Utilization

- A. There is a seven (7) calendar day waiting period before PFML can be utilized but PTO may be used to cover the seven (7) day waiting period at the employee's option. However, no waiting period is required for leave for the birth or placement of a child.
- B. If the reason for leave is foreseeable, the employee shall provide the Cooperative with thirty days' notice of your intention to take leave before the date the leave is to begin.
- C. If the reason for leave is not foreseeable, the employee must notify the Cooperative of the leave as soon as is practical.
- D. Employees must make a reasonable effort to schedule foreseeable treatment so as not to disrupt unduly the operations of the Cooperative.
- E. The Cooperative will provide employee a statement of their rights regarding PFML within five business days after the employee's seventh consecutive day of absence due to family or medical leave, or within five business days after the employer has received notice that the employee's absence is due to family or medical leave, whichever is later.

#### ARTICLE 9 – WORKERS COMPENSATION

1. In the case of injury or illness which is covered by State Industrial Insurance, the Cooperative will provide a supplemental amount that, when combined with the temporary Worker's Comp time loss benefits, will be equal to 100% of his regular pay. Such payments will continue as long as the employee is receiving the Worker's Comp time loss benefits but will not exceed the following schedule\_according to years of service.

0 -5 years	26 weeks
6 – 10 years	52 weeks
11 plus years	104 weeks

#### ARTICLE 10 – IBEW LEAVES OF ABSENCE

**1.** An employee covered by this agreement who is elected to office in the I.B.E.W. which requires time off from the job will, upon written request to the Cooperative, be granted a leave of absence for a period of up to six years. If the leave is for less than one (1)

year, after notification to the Cooperative, the employee will be returned to the position they vacated. Cooperative and Journeyman Lineman Classification seniority will accrue while on IBEW approved leave. In the event the leave is greater than one (1) year, upon leaving the Union Business Office and being available to return to the Cooperative, the employee shall be offered the first available opening in their classification (right of first refusal) and the employee shall return at the same level of Cooperative seniority and shall retain their position on the Union seniority list as if the employee was without any break in service.

Thirty (30) days before leaving the Union Business Office or before the approved leave of absence expires, the employee must notify the cooperative of their intent to invoke their right of first refusal or the right of first refusal expires.

The employee's right of first refusal can only be invoked once. If the employee does not accept the first available opening, the right of first refusal is waived.

Pension and 401(k) will follow plan documents. Filling the position would be done as if filling the position was from outside the Cooperative as internal posting procedures would be followed first.

- 2. When the Cooperative has received a written request from the Union with the name of an employee elected to any one of the following: 1) the Executive Board, 2) Examining Board, 3) Unit Chairman, or as a Union-Cooperative Safety Representative the Cooperative shall approve such request limited to one employee on an annual basis for the requested day(s). It is understood that excessive or unreasonable days off unrelated to the above aforementioned positions shall be at the discretion of the Cooperative.
- **3.** Employees requested to serve as a delegate to the IBEW national convention or that are appointed by the Business Manager to attend a Union function will have the request reviewed and considered by the Cooperative, but the sole determination to approve the request of more than one employee is based on business and operational needs.
  - a. In such cases the employee will provide reasonable notice to the supervisor, and arrangements will be made that will cause the least disruption to work procedures. The Cooperative will bill the Union for lost time at the employee's rate of pay for actual straight-time hours and the actual benefits rate as prescribed by FEMA guidelines, while maintaining the employee on the payroll.
- 4. Any employee inducted into the Armed Forces of the United States of America will be granted a military leave for the period of their active duty without pay or benefits and may return to their former position without penalty in seniority provided the employee is physically able and qualified to perform the duties of that position and returns within the legal period following separation from the Armed Forces.

**5.** Employees participating in active reserve units of the Armed Forces may be granted a temporary leave of absence without pay to attend compulsory annual unit training. Request for leave must be submitted to the Cooperative at least thirty days prior to the leave beginning date and verification of attendance must by provided to the Cooperative within one week after return to work.

#### ARTICLE 11 – OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

- Employees and their eligible dependents may participate in the medical, dental, vision, life and disability insurance programs sponsored by the Cooperative. The Cooperative will pay 90% of the premiums for these programs and the employees will pay 10%.
  - a. The Cooperative will continue to pay medical, dental, and vision premiums at 90% while an employee is on LTD for up to two years but not longer. When the employee becomes Medicare eligible the Cooperative will cease to pay the premiums.
  - b. The employer shall contribute monthly the sum of \$.25 for each hour worked for all employees covered by this agreement to the Electrical Workers HRA VEBA Trust. It is understood that this contribution shall reduce all employees' hourly rates in "Exhibit A" by \$.25 per hour.
- 2. Benefit Changes -

Provided that the levels of benefits for group insurance for medical, dental, vision, prescription, life, disability, and/or any other such coverage remain available from the provider, they will not be reduced during the life of this Agreement.

- a. If any increases in existing deductibles, co-pays (including prescriptions), or coinsurance are mandated by the provider, the Union will be notified, and the Cooperative will select the next best available provider option then available. In such case, the Cooperative will furnish the Union with proof from the provider of unavailability of the then current selection and verification that the replacement is the next best option still made available by the provider.
- **b.** If any reduction in benefit provisions other than those outlined immediately above is mandated by the provider, the Cooperative will notify and provide the Union with the opportunity to request bargaining. In such cases the Cooperative will furnish the Union with proof from the provider of such reduction.
- **c.** The Cooperative has the right to select providers. If the Cooperative changes providers, then provided that the benefit provisions from the new provider, including deductibles, co-pays, out-of-pocket limit or co-insurance, are the same or better than those afforded by the prior provider, the Cooperative may change providers. Any deterioration in benefit provisions incident to a change in provider requires prior agreement of the Union and the Cooperative and shall be the subject of bargaining.

- **d.** If Federal, State or local government laws, rules, regulations, taxes or fines, have impacts on health care benefits, the Parties agree to open discussions regarding health care benefits to negotiate these impacts to include but not limited to those impacts imposed by the Affordable Care Act. This clause will not be triggered by de minimis impacts.
- e. Employees will be offered a PPO consumer driven health care plan. The plan has deductibles of \$2,500/\$5,000 and out-of-pocket limits of \$4,000/\$8,000 per calendar year. Medical, Vision and Dental coverage will be provided by NRECA.
- f. During each year of this agreement, a monthly employer contribution will be deposited into each current employees' HRA or HSA depending on which account the employee elects. The monthly amount of the contributions will be \$500.00 for Family and \$250.00 for individual coverage.
- **g.** An employee is eligible to have the HRA or HSA contribution advanced because of their own or dependents' serious health condition has depleted the employee's HRA or HSA account.
- **h.** A retiring or resigning employee may be responsible for reimbursing the Employer, from their final paychecks, a pro-rata amount for the portion of the year they were not employed but received a lump sum HRA or HSA contribution.
- **3.** The Cooperative will offer to eligible Inland bargaining unit employees the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Retirement and Security Program. The benefit level of this program will be 1.9% for the employees hired prior to June 1, 2011. For employees hired after June 1, 2011, the benefit level will be 1.9% with a normal retirement age between 62 or 65 based on program cost. The attached "Grandfather Pension Letter") contains more details. The salary of record for an employee who worked 50% or more in a job classification higher than Journeyman Lineman in a temporary assignment will include an adjustment for the percent of hours worked in the prior year in the higher classification. The employee must notify HR of the eligibility prior to September 15<sup>th</sup> of the year of the upgrade to gualify. The Cooperative will offer to eligible employees a 401k savings plan. The Cooperative will match employee contributions into this plan up to 5.5% of the employee's adjusted base salary. When an employee temporarily works in a job classification higher than his/her current classification, the Cooperative will match at the upgraded pay rate for upgraded time worked during that pay period. The salary of record for an employee who worked 50% or more in a job classification higher than Journeyman Lineman will include an adjustment for the percent of hours worked in the prior year in the higher classification.

**4.** Employees who retire from the Cooperative at age 55 or older may continue participation in the medical, dental and vision insurance offered by the Cooperative at group rates until Medicare eligible, but the cost of continuation will be paid in full by the retiree. If an employee elects to continue these post-retirement benefits, the cash value of their PTO accrual will be utilized to pay for these benefits until fully utilized. If the post-retirement benefits cease prior to the PTO cash value balance being fully utilized, any PTO cash value balance remaining will be paid out subject to applicable taxes.

#### **ARTICLE 12 – HEADQUARTERS**

- Headquarters and warehouse are terms that are used interchangeably throughout this labor agreement and have the same meaning. Headquarters is defined to be the locations where employees report to work. If an employee is assigned a headquarters by the Cooperative, they will travel from headquarters to headquarters on Cooperative time.
- 2. "Assigned Personnel." In order to provide a reasonable response time to outages, union employees, other than temporary, who have an assigned headquarters shall live within a thirty-five mile radius of that headquarters. Employees will consult with the Cooperative before taking up permanent residency. The Cooperative reserves the right to make a final determination on this requirement.
- **3.** "Headquarters/Residency Changes." If the Cooperative closes or moves a headquarters, the employees previously assigned to that headquarters may be required to move in order to comply with the residency requirement. Such decision will be made by the Cooperative and based on the memberships' needs. If a move is required, the employee will have up to twenty-four months to comply. Extensions of time beyond twenty-four months must be approved by the Cooperative. Potential, Headquarters are segregated into the following four geographic areas:

North - 3Y and Suncrest;

South – Colfax and Pomeroy;

Central – Four Lakes and Trentwood; and

West – Davenport.

**4.** "Rovers." Personnel not assigned to a particular headquarters will be assigned a headquarters within a twenty-five-mile radius of the IBEW Local 77 business office address located at 7903 E. Broadway Ave., Spokane Valley, WA 99212. These employees will report to the appropriate warehouse at the regular starting time as assigned by the Cooperative during the previous workday. These employees shall live within a thirty-five mile radius of the IBEW Local 77 business office. The Cooperative reserves the right to make a final determination on this requirement. Travel outside

the twenty-five-mile radius will be addressed by the Cooperative according to the applicable Cooperative policies and provisions of this Agreement.

- **5.** Employees may be assigned temporary headquarters other than their designated headquarters. While so assigned, employees will be furnished reasonable board and lodging reimbursement. If board and lodging cannot be provided within a ten-mile radius of temporary headquarters, IRS approved mileage rates will be paid for driving personal vehicles and appropriate wages will be paid for time traveled beyond the ten-mile radius. Employees working out of temporary headquarters will be allowed to return to their assigned headquarters on weekends.
- **6.** Apprentice lineman, assigned to a headquarters in the North Central area, will on their own time show up at any of the Cooperative's North Central area warehouses for work for the purpose of getting experience on different crews and working on a variety of projects for training purposes.
  - a. It is the intent of both parties to expose the apprentices to varied training opportunities by providing advance notice to apprentices prior to moving from one location to another as well as an expectation of time in each location. Apprentices will be notified the week prior to moving to a different headquarters.
  - b. Apprentices assigned to Colfax or Davenport will also report on their own time to the Four Lakes warehouse when assigned during their apprenticeship for training purposes.
    - i. In the event an apprentice works more than 12 consecutive hours, the Cooperative shall provide a room and the standard meal per diem pursuant to Cooperative policy and procedures.

#### **ARTICLE 13 – SENIORITY**

- **1.** The appropriate seniority will be the determining factor when specified in this agreement.
- **2.** Cooperative seniority will be determined by length of continuous full-time employment with the Cooperative.
- **3.** Journeyman Lineman Classification seniority shall be defined as the length of full-time employment in a Journeyman Lineman, or higher, classification while being continuously employed by the Cooperative.
  - **a.** When an Apprentice has served an Apprenticeship at the Cooperative and becomes a Journeyman, his/her Journeyman Lineman seniority date shall be counted from the date he/she started their 5<sup>th</sup> step at the Cooperative.
- **4.** In the case of a reduction in force in any given classification listed in Exhibit A, the employee with the lowest Cooperative seniority in said classification will be laid off

first. For the purpose of this section, ASRs, Line Servicemen, and Foremen shall be considered to be Journeyman Linemen.

**5.** The first twelve months of employment for regular bargaining unit employees shall constitute a probationary period, during which time continued employment is at the option of the Cooperative. Leaves of absence will not count towards the probationary period. After the first twelve months, the seniority will be counted as the date of employment. Management's decision to separate an employee during their probationary period is not grievable under Article 18.

#### ARTICLE 14 – APPRENTICES

- **1.** The Cooperative agrees to participate in established apprenticeship programs but is not required to create positions for the sole purpose of training.
- 2. An apprentice must work under direct supervision of a journeyman.
- **3.** Not more than one apprentice will be employed in a working crew from three to six journeymen, provided, however, that each warehouse area may have one apprentice and when employees from those areas work together, this rule will not apply.
- 4. In view of the nature of the business of the Cooperative and of the inherent responsibility of both the Cooperative and the Union to provide the maximum in highly skilled service, it is essential that apprentices be broadly trained in all aspects of their craft. To accomplish this purpose each apprentice is to be provided with systematic work experience and off-the-job related instruction when it is possible to arrange such instruction.

#### 5. Definitions:

- a. "Apprentice" shall mean an employee who has signed an Apprenticeship Agreement with the Cooperative or has otherwise been entered into an Apprenticeship classification to learn one (1) of the crafts classified within this agreement.
- b. "Apprenticeship Agreement" shall mean a written agreement between the Cooperative and the person employed as an apprentice.
- c. "Joint Apprenticeship Committee" is that committee established by the Cooperative and the Union, composed of equal representation from each, and charged with the administration of the apprenticeship program. The Union shall have two (2) members on the JATC who will be elected by the Union membership every three (3) years.

#### 6. Term:

- a. The term of apprenticeship, depending on the craft shall be two (2), three (3) or four (4) years of reasonably continuous employment and experience in the principal operations of such craft.
- b. The first six (6) months of the term of apprenticeship shall be considered a probationary or try-out period. During this period the continued employment as an apprentice shall be entirely at the option of the Cooperative.

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- c. An apprentice shall be promoted one (1) pay classification at the completion of each six (6) months of work as an apprentice if his field progress, as reported by his Supervisor to the Joint Apprenticeship committee, has been satisfactory and if he/she has fulfilled his obligations as to related instruction when this instruction is available.
- d. An employee moving to an apprenticeship program from a position classification within this agreement will be evaluated by the Joint Apprenticeship Committee on his knowledge and skills level of that craft and may be placed at any apprenticeship step wage above step one (1) and remain at the apprenticeship step wage until his apprenticeship step progression pay equals or exceeds his predetermined starting wage.

#### 7. Further Provisions

- a. An apprentice for who related instruction has been arranged shall be required to enter into an Apprenticeship Agreement with the Cooperative and shall enroll in a course of related instruction which is to be conducted as determined by the Joint Apprenticeship Committee. Time spent on any such related instruction shall not be classified as hours of work and shall not be compensable.
- b. At the end of his/her term of apprenticeship an apprentice will be examined by the Union to determine his/her qualifications for journeyman. If he/she has been enrolled in a related course of instruction he/she shall be examined only after being certified by the Joint Apprenticeship Committee. When the apprentice passes his/her examination he/she shall be judged qualified for the rating of journeyman and paid at the Journeyman rate.
- c. If an apprentice fails to pass his examination, he/she shall be given a second opportunity six (6) months later. If he/she fails the second examination or does not take the examination at this time, he/she will be removed from the apprentice classification and his continued employment shall be at the option of the Cooperative.
- d. An apprentice having served his apprenticeship shall not be removed in favor of a new apprentice nor shall a journeyman be hired until the waiting apprentice, if qualified, has been made a journeyman.
- **8.** The selection of apprentices will be made from a pool of current employees or outside applicants received from a job posting. The responsibility of and authority for the selection rests with the Cooperative and not the Joint Apprentice Committee. Selection will be made solely from qualified employees or applicants as determined by the Cooperative.

#### 9. Training/Travel:

- a. Compensation for mandatory out of town apprentice training as determined by the IPL JATC (such as Camp Rilea or other schools and/or training programs) shall be in accordance with the following schedule.
- b. First and Second year apprentices shall be compensated eighty (80) hours of pay (forty (40) hours for each weekly pay period) at their regular hourly rate for each session of training attended at Camp Rilea or similar two-week program: this pay shall compensate the apprentice for the modified work schedule to accommodate the training.
- c. In addition to the aforementioned compensation, an apprentice shall be compensated r for travel time for each session.
- d. Third year apprentices shall be compensated forty (40) hours of pay at their regular hourly rate for each session of training attended at Camp Rilea or similar one-week program.
- e. Regular apprentice bi-weekly JATC related instruction "Saturday school at the Jack Stewart Training Center" shall not be classified as hours worked and shall not be compensable.

#### ARTICLE 15 – JOB OPENINGS AND BIDDING RIGHTS

- **1.** All positions covered by this Agreement will be filled by using a bidding process as described below.
- **2.** When a position is to be filled, it will be posted internally for seven days, and any qualified employee may bid for the position. The following processes will be used to determine the awarding of the position.
  - a. The Cooperative shall notify employees of the vacant position via e-mail and the employee will submit an internal application expressing their interest in the vacancy.
  - b. Journeyman Lineman Classification Seniority will be used for awarding open positions for Journeyman Linemen.
  - c. Temporary upgrades to Lead position will be based on Journeyman Lineman Classification seniority on the crew. Temporary Upgrades to Foreman positions will be based on Journeyman Lineman Classification seniority if deemed qualified by the crew. With crew safety being paramount, final determination will be made by the General Foreman.
  - d. Journeyman Lineman Classification Seniority shall be used to select the candidates for the Line Serviceman position. The pool of candidates will include the most senior applicant and any others within 5 years seniority of the highest

applicant. This pool of candidates will then go through the selection process based on qualifications. Temporary upgrades to Line Serviceman positions shall be based on the highest Journeyman Lineman Classification Seniority in the same geographical area. Travel to the assigned location of the Serviceman will be on the employee's own time.

- e. ASR and Foreman positions will be awarded using a selection process based on qualifications. All qualifications being equal, Journeyman Lineman Classification Seniority will be the determining factor.
- f. Lead mechanic temporary upgrades will be based on seniority and for full days only when the Mechanic Foreman is absent. Permanent bids are based on the Cooperative's selection process.
- **3.** If no successful bid is made, the position may be filled from outside the Cooperative.
- **4.** Apprentices shall be awarded a position at a headquarters upon the date of indenturing in the apprenticeship program. Bid will be open internally for Journeyman Lineman or Apprentices prior to hiring an Apprentice from the outside.
- **5.** Apprentices will be assigned a headquarters; however, will operate as defined in Article 12, Section 6.
- **6.** The Union shall be notified of all bargaining unit job openings and postings. Notifications shall be presented to the Union prior to the closing of the postings.

#### **ARTICLE 16 – SAFETY AND TRAINING**

- **1.** It is expected that every employee will fully comply with all safety rules and regulations of the Cooperative as well as with Washington State Electrical Workers Safety Rules. Such rules and regulations will be readily available to the employees.
- **2.** In the interest of the safety of all employees, all new employees will be required to pass a physical examination prior to employment. Arrangements for such physicals will be made by the Cooperative with a licensed physician and costs of the physical will be paid by the Cooperative.
- **3.** The Cooperative will furnish safety straps and gaffs on a replacement basis to the employees.
- **4.** The Cooperative and Union agree that safety is the highest priority in our field of work. In furtherance of increasing safety and providing for the opportunity of Journeymen Linemen to increase their skills, the Cooperative will pay for the costs associated with each Journeyman Lineman attending training classes. The class content, location, and time are to be mutually agreed to by the Journeyman Lineman and the Cooperative from those courses regularly offered in the region. It is anticipated that each Journeyman Lineman will attend training classes as recommended by the Cooperative in furtherance of these goals.

- **5.** Compensation for training shall be in accordance with the following schedule.
  - a. Employees attending out-of-town training that requires travel shall be compensated at their regular hourly rate for their scheduled shift for each day of training.
  - b. Prior to out-of-town training it shall be mutually agreed between the Cooperative and the affected employee/employees if a change in the work week or hours is necessary to accommodate an overnight stay or weekend travel. The Cooperative shall provide room and board for overnight stays that are approved.
  - c. All employees traveling for training shall be compensated per Washington State Wage and Hour regulations.
  - d. Voluntary training that is after regular working hours, which was approved by the Cooperative shall be compensated per Washington state wage and hour regulations.

#### ARTICLE 17 – DISCIPLINE

- 1. The Union and the Cooperative agree that in their respective roles primary emphasis shall be placed on preventing situations requiring disciplinary actions through effective employee-management relations. The primary objective of discipline shall be to correct and rehabilitate, not punish or penalize. To this end, in order of increasing severity, the disciplinary actions that the Cooperative may take against an employee include:
  - a. Verbal warning
  - **b.** Written reminder
  - c. Demotion
  - d. Suspension
  - e. Termination
- 2. A problem requiring formal discipline may be minor, serious or major in nature. Depending on the severity or reoccurrence of the problem(s), any of the above steps; verbal warning, written reminder, demotion, suspension or termination may be issued depending on the situation. The termination decision is made when either the disciplinary process is not appropriate because of the severity of the offense or when the disciplinary process has failed to correct the problem.
- **3.** In all cases involving discipline, the Cooperative has the burden of proving "good or just cause."
- **4.** In cases of suspension, demotion, or discharge, the specific charges shall be furnished to the employee in writing.

**5.** When a member of management holds a meeting with a bargaining unit employee that may or will lead to discipline, management shall inform the employee that such a meeting may or will lead to discipline prior to commencing with the meeting. The closest Shop Steward will be made available if the employee requests a steward. If no shop steward is available, then another bargaining unit employee may act on behalf of the employee for the Shop Steward. The employee also has the right not to have a Shop Steward at the meeting.

#### ARTICLE 18 – GRIEVANCES

- **1.** It is the intent of this Article that any action believed to be legitimate grounds for a grievance be fully explored and discussed and settlement reached at the earliest possible level. To accomplish this objective either party may request a Union/Management meeting, on a grievance, at any point in the grievance process. Time limits assure orderly and timely progression through levels of discussion, and settlement by arbitration if necessary.
  - a. A grievance shall be defined as an allegation of misapplication, non-compliance with, or misinterpretation of this Agreement. Any grievance not presented within sixteen (16) calendar days after the occurrence causing the grievance shall not be processed through the grievance procedure. The time limits in Steps 1 and 2 may be extended by mutual agreement.
- 2. Step 1 Oral -Supervisor. An employee with a grievance shall present the matter to the Supervisor. The employee may discuss the matter with the Union Steward if desired. It is the intent of the parties to make reasonable efforts to resolve problems at this level. If no settlement has been achieved through this procedure within sixteen (16) calendar days, then the grievance may proceed to Step 2. The employee and Shop Steward must move the grievance to Step 2 within sixteen (16) calendar days.
- 3. Step 2 Written Chief Operating Officer (COO) (or equivalent Manager) level. The grievance will be reduced to writing; using forms supplied for that purpose (see Exhibit "B" "Grievance Report"). The employee must state the grievance issue with enough detail to identify the nature and subject of the grievance, the date (on or about) of the occurrence, the remedy sought and the specific Article(s) of this Agreement which have been violated. Only one subject matter will be covered in any one grievance. The employee shall fill out a "Grievance Report" and sign it and it shall be given to the Supervisor in charge.
  - a. Their Supervisor will forward the written grievance to the COO. The COO or designee will schedule a grievance meeting with the employee and Steward within sixteen (16) calendar days. The grievance answer shall be provided within sixteen (16) calendar days of the meeting.

- 1. The grievance, after being answered by the COO or designee, shall be distributed to the Union Business Office, the Union Steward, grievant and Cooperatives HR Department.
- b. A grievance that has been processed at Step 2 shall be considered settled if it is not moved to Step 3 within ten (10) working days from the date of the written Step 2 answer.
- 4. Step 3 If not resolved at Step 2, the Union shall notify the Cooperative CEO or designee in writing of its desire to pursue the grievance to Step 3. Such notice shall be within sixteen (16) calendar days of receipt of the Step 2 answer and include an explanation of why the Step 2 answer failed to resolve the grievance. The parties shall meet in an attempt to resolve the grievance within sixteen (16) calendar days from the date the CEO or designee receives the Union's request. The Cooperative will give its written Step 3 answer within sixteen (16) calendar days after the meeting. If desired, time limits may be extended by mutual written agreement.
  - a. The Cooperative or the Union may enter the Step 3 level of this procedure with respect to differences of opinion as to interpretations and/or violations of this Agreement. Such differences of opinion will be discussed at this level and a written Step 3 answer shall be provided within sixteen (16) calendar days after the completion of the discussion. If the matter remains unresolved, it shall be subject to Arbitration under Article 19.
- **5.** General discussions between the Union Business Representative and Cooperative management concerning matters of mutual interest other than grievances may be held at mutually agreeable times at the request of either party.

#### **ARTICLE 19 – ARBITRATION**

- **1.** Any grievance resulting from a difference of opinion as to the interpretation of this Agreement which remains unsettled after having been fully processed pursuant to the provisions of the grievance procedure may be submitted to arbitration (or mediation by mutual agreement) providing written application is made within ten (10) working days following receipt of the written Step 3 answer. Before proceeding to arbitration, the parties may move the dispute to non-binding mediation by mutual agreement. The mediator will be selected by mutual agreement and the cost of the mediator's services will be split equally by the parties. If a dispute is not settled in mediation, it may be moved to arbitration.
- **2.** Either party may give notice of its intention to arbitrate and both parties shall, within five (5) working days of service of such notice, name its representative.
- **3.** The parties shall, within five (5) working days, mutually agree upon a third and impartial person who shall act as a single Arbitrator. In the event of failure to agree upon such third person, notice is to be given to the parties, who shall, with five (5) working days, request a list of nine (9) Arbitrators from the Federal Mediation and

Conciliation Service. Using such list, the parties shall by agreement or alternately striking names until one remains, select the Arbitrator. Such selection is to be made, and notification to the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service sent, within ten (10) working days of receipt of the list. Upon response from the Arbitrator, the parties' will have five (5) working days to agree to arbitration hearing dates and send notification to the Arbitrator.

- **4.** In the event of the failure of either party to name its representative, the Arbitrator shall proceed to hear the evidence and make findings and issue a final award and shall in all respects possess and exercise the powers of the Arbitrator.
- 5. Arbitration hearings will be conducted in as short a time as possible and the Arbitrator shall designate the time and place of the hearing, preferably at the Cooperative headquarters, and cause due notice thereof to be given. Each party shall be given the opportunity to appear in person and/or by attorney, to produce witnesses and cross-examine.
  - a. The Arbitrator shall pass on the admissibility of the evidence. Each of the parties agree to produce all its books, records and documents, or any other material or certified copies thereof, which, in the opinion of the Arbitrator are relevant to the issues in dispute. The Arbitrator's decision and award shall be published, giving the reason(s) therefore.
- **6.** The award of the Arbitrator shall be final and conclusive on the parties hereto. The Arbitrator shall have the power only to interpret this Agreement and shall not have power to alter or amend it, or any applicable supplementary Agreements.
- 7. Each party will be responsible for paying its attorney fees, witness fees (if the witnesses are Cooperative employee(s) the Union will pay the lost time wages of said employee(s) if called by the Union), its costs and the party who is not upheld shall pay the Arbitrator's costs. Should the Arbitrator be unable to determine which of the parties is not upheld, then he/she shall order the Arbitrator's costs to be divided equally.

#### ARTICLE 20 – GENERAL FOREMAN

- **1.** Line and Substation General Foreman will typically be assigned to either the Four Lakes or Trentwood as their headquarters but will not be subject to the residency requirements found in Article 12, Section 2. Line General Foremen will be placed at the bottom of the call out list in their assigned warehouse.
- 2. After hours 911/Emergency Calls: When CRC/dispatch receives a 911/emergency call, they will contact a Line General Foreman first to facilitate/manage the 911/emergency call. Depending on the urgency, the Line General Forman may contact the closest ASR or may respond themselves. A Line General Foreman may respond immediately if there is a danger to life, limb or property.

- **3.** Line General Foreman will take a company owned vehicle home. Travel time from Line General Foreman's home to his/her assigned headquarters/warehouse will not be compensable time but travel to a different warehouse/headquarters or job site is compensable time.
- 4. Line General Foreman may fill in as a lineman. Examples include addressing short term issues such as unexpected absences or when called out after regular work hours. Foremen or lead linemen will not be displaced at a job site when a General Foreman fills in as a lineman.

#### ARTICLE 21 – CASUAL EMPLOYEES

- **1.** The Company may hire casual employees when required to meet workload needs. A casual employee is defined as an employee hired by the hour for a limited period of time, not to exceed six months unless mutually agreed upon.
  - a. These casual employees will work under the work rules of Inland Power & Light Company and may be added to Company crews.
  - b. Casual employees will not have bidding rights.
  - c. The retention of casual employees is at the sole discretion of the Company and termination of employment of such employees shall not be subject to review through the grievance procedure.
  - d. The Spokane Office of Local 77 shall be used, when possible, on an informal basis, to secure casual employees.
- **2.** Rates of pay for casual employees shall be as follows:
  - a. Journeyman Lineman, Tree Trimmers, and Equipment Operators (Line Equipment Man) shall be paid at the wage rates currently in effect in the agreement between Local 77 of the IBEW and the Northwest Line Constructors Chapter of NECA plus the current rates in the same agreement for 1) Health and Welfare and 2) Pension.
  - b. Laborers shall be paid at the Groundman wage rate currently in effect in the agreement between Local 77 of the IBEW and the Northwest Line Constructors Chapter of NECA plus the current rates in the same agreement for 1) Health and Welfare and 2) Pension.
- **3.** Wage rates for other classifications of casual employees shall be determined in the same manner as those above and as mutually agreed between the Union and the Company.
- 4. To establish qualifications, casual employees will be required to present evidence of current paid-up membership in the appropriate craft union. It is understood and agreed that the above wage and benefit rates cover all wages and non-statutory benefits and that casual employees shall not be eligible for holiday pay, PTO, insurance coverage, pension coverage, or items of a similar nature and will not accrue seniority with the Company. Casual employees will be entitled to sick leave pursuant to Washington law.

**5.** If a casual employee is subsequently hired as a regular employee, the time served as a casual employee will not count in any seniority ranking nor the probationary period.

#### ARTICLE 22 – AREA SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES (ASRs)

- ASRs will perform work, to include but not limited to, overhead and underground line work, service work, meter work, collections, meter reading, line design and public relations.
  - a. The work may be performed independently by the ASR during regular shifts, callouts, or scheduled overtime where it is safe (complies with Inland Employee Safety and Health Program), legal (complies with WAC 296.45) and physically possible.
  - b. The ASR will make the onsite determination in all instances as to whether, where, and when additional help is needed. The work may be performed independently as it occurs including during regular shifts, callouts, or scheduled overtime when safe and physically possible.
  - c. The ASR will make the onsite determination in all instances as to whether, where, and when additional help is needed.
  - d. The ASR may team up to form a crew with another Inland Power ASR, or lineman to perform work that two or more linemen can perform safely and efficiently.
  - e. The ASR will not team up to form a crew with contractors, but the ASR can perform quality assurance/control reviews of contract crews.
  - f. Inland Power crews are designated as support in an ASR area when needed but this does not prohibit contract crews, pursuant to Article 2, Section 4 of the Parties labor agreement, from working in an ASR area.
  - g. If safety concerns arise concerning ASRs, the parties agree to address these concerns through the safety committee of the Coop. This does not preclude the Labor-Management Committee from addressing an ASR safety issue.
- **2.** ASRs must reside in a permanent residence within their assigned service area. The cooperative reserves the right to make a final determination on this requirement.
- **3.** ASRs will be responsible for responding to outages and system problems within their assigned service area during their regular shift and after hours unless unavailable.
- **4.** The ASRs assigned headquarters will be their permanent residence, located within their respective service area. A vehicle will be made available to each ASR, to store at their assigned headquarters. The ASR will start and end their shift from their assigned headquarters.
  - a. The vehicle assigned to the ASR may be used for de minimis personal use pursuant to Inland Power Policy 2.4 Code of Ethics. It is appropriate to use a vehicle assigned to an ASR when such use encourages ASR availability to respond to outages and/or member needs.

- **5.** ASRs will be called out first for after hour call outs if the issue is within their assigned service area. If unavailable, the designated back-up ASR's will be called in order. Regarding after hour call outs in the Central geographic area, the ASRs in the Central geographic area will be called first until one ASR responds. If the responding Central area ASR requires additional linemen, those linemen on the call out list will be called next depending on the location of the call out (either Four Lakes or Trentwood). The ASR will be responsible to determine and request the appropriate amount of additional help needed. ASRs will call for a crew when needed for crew work.
- **6.** The cooperative will provide the tools, materials and equipment necessary for the ASRs to perform their jobs. The ASRs will utilize all provided communication tools during and after their shift. The cooperative will compensate the ASR for using the ASR's personal property.
  - a. Storage of tools and material and other miscellaneous expenses (WiFi) will be compensated at \$50 per month.
  - b. Permanent structure (frame with tarp would not apply) to house and secure assigned vehicle will be compensated at \$200 per month if the vehicle is housed in the permanent structure.
- **7.** If the cooperative chooses to temporarily upgrade a qualified employee to backfill for an ASR on extended leave, the upgrade will be offered to the senior qualified employee living in the affected ASR service area. It is agreed that all the duties and expectations of the ASR position must be fulfilled during the temporary upgrade assignment. Crews or servicemen performing work in an ASR area is not considered a temporary upgrade.
- **8.** If an Inland employee is the successful candidate to fill an ASR vacancy and will be required to move, the cooperative will reimburse the selected employee for moving expenses and closing costs of selling their permanent residence, if applicable, up to a maximum of \$15,000. The successful candidate will have up to 24 months to move.

#### ARTICLE 23 – SUBSTATION

- 1. The construction, maintenance, and retirement of all substation facilities, including repairs of said facilities and all other tasks generally accepted as substation work shall be considered Journeyman Substation work. This work may be done with the assistance of Journeyman Lineman, Groundmen, Apprentices, and/or outside contractors, as long as no other provisions of this agreement are violated.
- 2. When business requirements allow, substation personnel may report to remote worksites instead of their normal headquarters upon mutual agreement between Coop and Substation personnel.
- 3. Substation General Foreman shall follow Article 20 rules as applicable.

#### ARTICLE 24 – METER SHOP

- **1.** The construction, maintenance, and retirement of metering equipment facilities, including repairs of said equipment and all other tasks generally accepted as meter shop work. This work may be done with the assistance of Meter Coordinators, Journeyman Lineman, Substation Department, Groundmen, Apprentices, and/or outside contractors, as long as no other provisions of this agreement are violated.
- 2. When business requirements allow, meter shop personnel may report to remote worksites instead of their normal headquarters upon mutual agreement between Coop and Meter Shop personnel.
- **3.** In the event a Journeyman Lineman accepts a Meter Shop position, they will be required to obtain a metering certificate within two (2) years. Upon completion, the employee will be compensated at the 107% rate of pay for the dual classification.

In witness hereof, the parties have signed this Agreement on the 4 day of 4 day of 4 and 4 day of 4

INLAND POWER & LIGHT CO.

Jasen Bronec Chief Executive Officer

Timothy O'Brien General Counsel

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL NO. 77

Rex Habner **Business Manager** 

Dave Garegnani Business Representative

IBEW Apprentice Crafts	% of Jmn Lnm	1/1/2024	1/1/2024	1/1/2025	1/1/2025	1/1/2026	1/1/2026	
(After HRA MOU)			5.50%		4.50%		4.00%	
		Calc	Pay	Calc	Pay	Calc	Pay	ATTACHMENT
		Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	T
General Foreman	120.00%	\$72.60	\$72.10	\$75.86	\$75.36	\$78.90	\$78.40	A
Substation Maintenance General Foreman	120.00%	\$72.60	\$72.10	\$75.86	\$75.36	\$78.90	\$78.40	H
District Foreman	117.50%	\$71.09	\$70.59	\$74.28	\$73.78	\$77.26	\$76.76	Μ
Technical Service Foreman	117.50%	\$71.09	\$70.59	\$74.28	\$73.78	\$77.26	\$76.76	E
Area Service Representative	114.00%	\$68.97	\$68.47	\$72.07	\$71.57	\$74.96	\$74.46	AT
Foreman	112.50%	\$68.06	\$67.56	\$71.12	\$70.62	\$73.97	\$73.47	
Line Inspection Foreman	112.50%	\$68.06	\$67.56	\$71.12	\$70.62	\$73.97	\$73.47	"A"
Vegetation Management Foreman	112.50%	\$68.06	\$67.56	\$71.12	\$70.62	\$73.97	\$73.47	1
Substation Maintenance Foreman	112.50%	\$68.06	\$67.56	\$71.12	\$70.62	\$73.97	\$73.47	Z
Substation Maintenance Technician	107.00%	\$64.74	\$64.24	\$67.65	\$67.15	\$70.35	\$69.85	INLAND
Sub Tech Apprentice - 8th step	104.00%	\$62.92	\$62.42	\$65.75	\$65.25	\$68.38	\$67.88	5
Sub Tech Apprentice - 7th step	100.00%	\$60.50	\$60.00	\$63.22	\$62.72	\$65.75	\$65.25	D
Sub Tech Apprentice - 6th step	92.00%	\$55.66	\$55.16	\$58.16	\$57.66	\$60.49	\$59.99	POWER
Sub Tech Apprentice - 5th step	86.00%	\$52.03	\$51.53	\$54.37	\$53.87	\$56.55	\$56.05	VC
Sub Tech Apprentice - 4th step	82.00%	\$49.61	\$49.11	\$51.84	\$51.34	\$53.92	\$53.42	VE
Sub Tech Apprentice - 3rd step	79.00%	\$47.80	\$47.30	\$49.94	\$49.44	\$51.94	\$51.44	
Sub Tech Apprentice - 2nd step	77.00%	\$46.59	\$46.09	\$48.68	\$48.18	\$50.63	\$50.13	æ
Sub Tech Apprentice - 1st step	75.00%	\$45.38	\$44.88	\$47.42	\$46.92	\$49.31	\$48.81	LI
Journeyman Lineman - Lead Position	106.00%	\$64.13	\$63.63	\$67.01	\$66.51	\$69.70	\$69.20	LIGHT
Serviceman	105.00%	\$63.53	\$63.03	\$66.38	\$65.88	\$69.04	\$68.54	ĽН
Journeyman Lineman and Meterman Technician	107.00%	\$64.74	\$64.24	\$67.65	\$67.15	\$70.35	\$69.85	0
Journeyman Meterman	100.00%	\$60.50	\$60.00	\$63.22	\$62.72	\$65.75	\$65.25	СО.
Apprentice - 6th step	92.00%	\$55.66	\$55.16	\$58.16	\$57.66	\$60.49	\$59.99	Ū
Apprentice - 5th step	86.00%	\$52.03	\$51.53	\$54.37	\$53.87	\$56.55	\$56.05	Z
Apprentice - 4th step	82.00%	\$49.61	\$49.11	\$51.84	\$51.34	\$53.92	\$53.42	UNION
Apprentice - 3rd step	79.00%	\$47.80	\$47.30	\$49.94	\$49.44	\$51.94	\$51.44	Z
Apprentice - 2nd step	77.00%	\$46.59	\$46.09	\$48.68	\$48.18	\$50.63	\$50.13	W
Apprentice - 1st step	75.00%	\$45.38	\$44.88	\$47.42	\$46.92	\$49.31	\$48.81	AC
Journeyman Lineman	100.00%	\$60.50	\$60.00	\$63.22	\$62.72	\$65.75	\$65.25	WAGE RATES
Apprentice - 6th step	92.00%	\$55.66	\$55.16	\$58.16	\$57.66	\$60.49	\$59.99	R
Apprentice - 5th step	86.00%	\$52.03	\$51.53	\$54.37	\$53.87	\$56.55	\$56.05	AT
Apprentice - 4th step	82.00%	\$49.61	\$49.11	\$51.84	\$51.34	\$53.92	\$53.42	E
Apprentice - 3rd step	79.00%	\$47.80	\$47.30	\$49.94	\$49.44	\$51.94	\$51.44	
Apprentice - 2nd step	77.00%	\$46.59	\$46.09	\$48.68	\$48.18	\$50.63	\$50.13	
Apprentice - 1st step	75.00%	\$45.38	\$44.88	\$47.42	\$46.92	\$49.31	\$48.81	
Temporary Pre-Apprentice Groundman	55.00%	\$33.28	\$32.78	\$34.77	\$34.27	\$36.16	\$35.66	

	1/1/2024	1/1/2024 5.50%	1/1/2025	1/1/2025 4.50%	1/1/2026	1/1/2026 4.00%
	Calc	Pay	Calc	Pay	Calc	Pay
	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate
IBEW Non-Apprentice Crafts (After HRA MOU)						
Equipment Technician	\$52.41	\$51.91	\$54.77	\$54.27	\$56.96	\$56.46
Mechanic Foreman	\$58.98	\$58.48	\$61.63	\$61.13	\$64.10	\$63.60
Lead Mechanic	\$55.31	\$54.81	\$57.80	\$57.30	\$60.12	\$59.62
Fleet Mechanic	\$52.41	\$51.91	\$54.77	\$54.27	\$56.96	\$56.46
Heavy Equipment Operator	\$51.24	\$50.74	\$53.55	\$53.05	\$55.69	\$55.19
Head Groundman	\$47.16	\$46.66	\$49.28	\$48.78	\$51.25	\$50.75
Warehouseman Foreman	\$50.71	\$50.21	\$53.00	\$52.50	\$55.11	\$54.61
Lead Warehouseman	\$47.88	\$47.38	\$50.04	\$49.54	\$52.04	\$51.54
Warehouseman - 6th 6 mos.	\$45.07	\$44.57	\$47.10	\$46.60	\$48.99	\$48.49
Warehouseman - 5th 6 mos.	\$43.37	\$42.87	\$45.32	\$44.82	\$47.14	\$46.64
Warehouseman - 4th 6 mos.	\$41.69	\$41.19	\$43.57	\$43.07	\$45.31	\$44.81
Warehouseman - 3rd 6 mos.	\$39.99	\$39.49	\$41.79	\$41.29	\$43.46	\$42.96
Warehouseman - 2nd 6 mos.	\$37.74	\$37.24	\$39.44	\$38.94	\$41.02	\$40.52
Warehouseman - 1st 6 mos.	\$36.05	\$35.55	\$37.68	\$37.18	\$39.18	\$38.68
Lead Electronic Technician	\$59.98	\$59.48	\$62.67	\$62.17	\$65.18	\$64.68
Electronic Technician	\$56.48	\$55.98	\$59.02	\$58.52	\$61.38	\$60.88
Electronic Tech 7th 6 mos.	\$51.82	\$51.32	\$54.15	\$53.65	\$56.32	\$55.82
Electronic Tech 6th 6 mos.	\$48.33	\$47.83	\$50.50	\$50.00	\$52.52	\$52.02
Electronic Tech 5th 6 mos.	\$45.99	\$45.49	\$48.06	\$47.56	\$49.98	\$49.48
Electronic Tech 4th 6 mos.	\$42.50	\$42.00	\$44.41	\$43.91	\$46.19	\$45.69
Electronic Tech 3rd 6 mos.	\$39.60	\$39.10	\$41.38	\$40.88	\$43.03	\$42.53
Electronic Tech 2nd 6 mos.	\$36.67	\$36.17	\$38.32	\$37.82	\$39.85	\$39.35
Electronic Tech 1st 6 mos.	\$33.18	\$32.68	\$34.67	\$34.17	\$36.06	\$35.56
Utility Pole Inspector	\$41.22	\$40.72	\$43.07	\$42.57	\$44.79	\$44.29
Meter Coordinator	\$36.09	\$35.59	\$37.71	\$37.21	\$39.22	\$38.72
Field Representative	\$41.22	\$40.72	\$43.07	\$42.57	\$44.79	\$44.29
Field Rep - 4th 6 mos.	\$38.43	\$37.93	\$40.16	\$39.66	\$41.76	\$41.26
Field Rep - 3rd 6 mos.	\$36.09	\$35.59	\$37.71	\$37.21	\$39.22	\$38.72
Field Rep - 2nd 6 mos.	\$33.77	\$33.27	\$35.29	\$34.79	\$36.70	\$36.20
Field Rep - 1st 6 mos.	\$31.44	\$30.94	\$32.86	\$32.36	\$34.17	\$33.67
Facility & Grounds Utilityman	\$27.36	\$26.86	\$28.59	\$28.09	\$29.73	\$29.23
Summer Groundman	\$23.28	\$22.78	\$24.32	\$23.82	\$25.30	\$24.80

#### ATTACHMENT "B" – GRIEVANCE REPORT

Location:	GRIEVAN	Date:	
Employee's Name:		Section(s) of Agreement Affected	
Work Classification:			
Steward's Name:		Other Than Agreement-	Safety Rules, etc
Presented to: Supervisor's Name:			
NATURE OF GRIEVAN	<u>CE:</u>		
REMEDY SOUGHT:			
		Signature of Steward an	d/or Employee
		Signature of Steward an	a/or employee
SUPERVISOR'S RESPO	NSE:		
DISTRIBUTION:	Operations Manager Labor Relations Union	Signature of Supervisor	Date
	Shop Steward Grievant/Shop Steward		

#### ATTACHMENT "C" – GRANDFATHER PENSION LETTER

#### Amendment to Tentative Agreement of November 18, 2011 IBEW Local 77 and Inland Power and Light Company As of February 7, 2012

Following labor negotiation on January 31, 2012 the parties, through Federal mediation agree to the following additions/changes to the tentative agreement/offer of November 18, 2011 subject to approval by the Board of Directors and acceptance by the bargaining unit. The November 18, 2011 tentative agreement/offer is modified only as set forth below.

- 1. Pension Grandfather Provisions Letter will be modified. A brief summary of the changes are:
  - a. Employees hired prior to June 1, 2011 will be grandfathered into retirement plan noted as Plan A.
  - b. Employees hired after June 1, 2011 will be covered by Plan B pension plan new age benefit formula.

This is a summary only. The attached pension grandfather provision letter explains the changes in more detail.

2. Article 11.3 will be modified as follows:

The Cooperative will offer to eligible Inland bargaining unit employees the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Retirement and Security Program. The benefit level of this program will be 1.9% for the employees hired prior to June 1, 2011. For employees hired after June 1, 2011, the benefit level will be 1.9% with a normal retirement age between 62 or 65 based on program cost. The attached "Grandfather Pension Letter" contains more details. The salary of record for an employee who worked 50% or more in a job classification higher than Journeyman Lineman will include an adjustment for the percent of hours worked in the prior year in the higher classification.

3. If the Agreement is ratified on February 7, 2012, bargaining unit employees will receive back pay from June 1, 2011 on all hours worked. Retroactive payments will be processed on the March 7, 2012 paycheck following ratification of the Agreement. A payment of \$370 will be deposited from the paycheck into the employees' HRA account.

Both parties recommend acceptance of this modified tentative agreement dated 02-07-2012.

George Brown Operations Manager Inland Power and Light Company John Trumble Business Representative IBEW Local 77

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#### **Pension Grandfather Provisions**

During the 2011 contract negotiations agreement was reached to modify the pension benefit formula for new hires and rehires on and after June 1, 2011. The new pension benefit formula will be referred to as the **Plan "B" Pension Plan**. The pension benefit formula for employees employed as of June 1, 2011 will be referred to as the **Plan "A" Pension Plan**. The terms of the Plans will include the following formulas.

	Plan "A" Pension Plan	Plan "B" Pension Plan
Final Average Pay	Highest effective salary received during the five out of the last ten years of employment or the average if employed less than five years	Same
Pension Multiplier	1.9% of final average pay per year of Benefit Service	Same
Early Retirement Discount	Must be a least 55 For every year before normal retirement age of 62-deduct 1/15 <sup>th</sup> for each of 1 <sup>st</sup> 5 years 1/30 <sup>th</sup> for each of 2 <sup>nd</sup> 5 years	Must be at least 55 For every year before normal retirement age as determined by the system cost (1)-deduct 1/15 <sup>th</sup> for each of 1 <sup>st</sup> 5 years 1/30 <sup>th</sup> for each of 2 <sup>nd</sup> 5 years
NRECA System Cost Bracket	No Bracket	<ul> <li>If in any 3 of a 5 year period, the system cost (1) as determined by NRECA is 15% or below the normal retirement age for the Plan B</li> <li>Pension Plan will change to 62 going forward. There will be no pension buy back.</li> <li>Then if in any 3 of a 5 year period, the system cost (1) as determined by NRECA is 18% or above the normal retirement age for the Plan B</li> <li>Pension Plan will change to 65 going forward. There will be no pension buy back.</li> </ul>

(1) The system cost is as defined in the attached NRECA chart as an example.

The intent of the Parties is to grandfather individuals employed as of May 31, 2011 under the "A" Pension Plan and maintain the "A" Pension Plan on an ongoing basis. Other than changes required by federal or state law, if the Company finds it necessary to propose changes to (a) the "A" Pension Plan formula, (b) the benefit accrual terms or (c) other provisions of the "A" Pension Plan which would reduce or restrict payments to participants covered under the "A" Pension Plan (collectively referred to as "Proposed Changes"), the Parties agree that negotiations over the Proposed Changes to the "A" Pension Plan will be conducted outside of the timeframe for regular contract negotiations. Any negotiations over the "A" Pension Plan will be separate from and not a part of any other contract package proposal.

The Cooperative agrees and represents that it waives any right it may have to implement Proposed Changes absent compliance with the process set forth below.

The Parties agree that Proposed Changes require negotiation with the Union and approval by active employees under the "A" Pension Plan at the time the Proposed Changes are bargained. This voting procedure is consistent and will be consistent in the future with Local 77 bylaws.

This Agreement shall continue in full force and effect during the term of the 2011 - 2014 collective bargaining agreement, any successor or new collective bargaining agreement as well as during any contract hiatus, and shall not be terminable or modified, absent mutual agreement in the manner set forth above.

With the above having been stated and agreed to, the Parties further understand that should the Cooperative file a bankruptcy Petition, this Letter Agreement would be subject to Court review and further action.

System Cost: is defined in the attached NRECA chart. Attached to this letter is the chart that the parties used during negotiations.

The parties have entered into this Agreement after the opportunity to consult with counsel regarding all aspects of the Agreement.

Agreed for the Cooperative

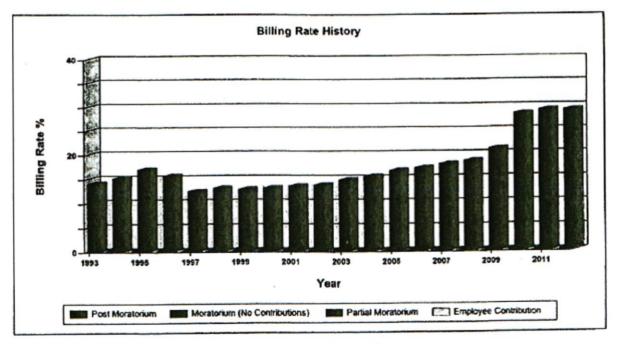
Agreed for the Union

George Brown Operations Manager Inland Power & Light John Trumble Business Representative IBEW Local Union 77

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#### NATIONAL RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION **Retirement Security Plan**

	Sy	stem #: 0	1-48018-001	Pla	n ID: RM	NR01A		
0	Na	me: II	NLAND POWER	AND LIGH	HT COMPA	NY		
Year	Benefit	System Cost	Employee Contribution	Plan	COLA	Average Age	100% Death Benefil	Salary Type
1993	1.70	14.10	0.00	62	Yes	41	No	BS
1994	1.70	15.11	0.00	62	Yes	40	No	BS
1995	1.90	16.89	0.00	62	Yes	40	No	BS
1996	1.90	15.61	0.00	62	Yes	41	No	BS
1997	1.90	12.49	0.00	62	Yes	42	No	BS
1998	1.90	13.13	0.00	62	Yes	43	No	85
1999	1.90	12.89	0.00	62	Yes	42	No	BS
2000	1,90	13.13	0.00	62	Yes	43	No	BS
2001	1.90	13.54	0.00	62	Yes	43	No	BS
2002	1.90	13.75	0.00	62	Yes	43	No	BS
2003	1.90	14.73	0.00	62	Yes	44	No	BS
2004	1.90	15.47	0.00	62	Yes	44	No	BS
2005	1.90	16.62	0.00	62	Yes	45	No	BS
2006	1.90	17.14	0.00	62	Yes	44	No	BS
2007	1.90	17.99	0.00	62	Yes	44	No -	BS
2008	1.90	18.68	0.00	62	Yes	45	No	BS
2009	1.90	21.12	0.00	62	Yes	46	No	BS
2010	1:90	28.50	0.00	62	Yes	46	No	BS
2011	1.90	29.25	0.00	62	Yes	47	No	BS
2012	1.90	29.25	0.00	62	Yes	47	No	BS



Note: The System Cost is the total of the Trust Contribution and the Administrative Fee.

Your Retirement Security Plan's salary type is "base salary." As a result, your contribution cost is applied as a percentage of each participant's annualized base rate of pay in effect on November 15, 2011, which is that participant's effective salary for the 2012 plan year. Beginning with your January 2012 monthly statement, the estimated amount due will be based on this percentage. Rates noted are for the plan in effect as of January 1 for each year.

# ATTACHMENT "D" - LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHARTER STATEMENT

## LABOR/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHARTER STATEMENT \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

## IBEW LOCAL UNION 77 and INLAND POWER AND LIGHT

## The purpose of the Labor/Management Committee: While representing the interests of constituencies, is

- To provide input and resolve emerging issues and problems.
- To enhance and promote the cooperation and working relationships between the parties resulting in higher morale and increased trust.
- To improve communications and understanding by serving as a link between the Company and the Union.

## **Guiding Principles:**

- Adopt, promote and model Interest Based Bargaining principles.
- Focus on interests, not positions, by developing options through active listening, constructive input, and the sharing of information.
- Remember the other person's problem is my problem.
- Don't turn disagreement into trust issues.
- Look for results that can be based on objective standards.
- Consider impacts on interests third parties (real customers, etc)

## Boundaries

- Operate within the parameters of current Labor agreement and comply with Federal and State regulations.
- Strive for consensus in decision making with results adopted, after approval through the appropriate processing, maintaining accountability to our constituents.

# Ground Rules:

- 1. Meetings will be co-chaired
- 2. Start on time
- 3. Stick to agenda
- 4. Be courteous and no personal attacks
- 5. Be open and honest
- 6. Listen as an ally
- 7. Keep confidences
- 8. Facilitators will not be present during off-record discussion unless requested by the chair. Offrecord discussions are okay.
- 9. Anyone can call a caucus and you will recess immediately.
- 10. Everyone participates. No one monopolizes.

It is the purpose of the Joint Labor/Management Committee to disclose, investigate, study and develop proposed solutions to issues and interests affecting labor and/or management. The Joint Labor/Management Committee process shall be transparent, well defined, and timely. The Union and the Cooperative are mutually committed to the Joint Labor/Management process and agree to be held accountable.

The Joint Labor/Management Committee process may address the causes of grievances, but is not intended by the parties to be used as a forum to resolve grievances filed under the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Nothing in the Joint Labor/Management process will restrict, impair, or interfere with the party's right to file and process grievances under the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

The responsibility of chairing the meeting will be shared between the Union and the Cooperative.

Summary minutes shall be taken during each meeting and shall consist of the topics discussed and the disposition of each. The minutes shall be prepared by the Cooperative in electronic format and distributed electronically to the committee member vis e-mail. The minutes will be approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting, and once approved, shall be distributed to all warehouses to be posted on the warehouse bulletin board.

The Joint Labor/Management Committee shall set the agenda at their previous meeting. Additional issues will be placed on the agenda at the request of either party, provided the request is a least two (2) weeks in advance of the scheduled meeting. The agenda shall include a brief description of each item to be discussed. The agenda items will be distributed by the Cooperative to each warehouse via e-mail to be posted on the warehouse bulletin board at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting.

It is understood that any and all modifications to the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement shall be subject to ratification by the affected parties.

The Joint Labor/Management Committee shall be comprised of four (4) Management Representatives appointed by the Company and four (4) Union Representatives appointed by the Union. This Committee shall meet twice a year or as mutually agreed upon.

# ATTACHMENT "E" – HENRY MILLER STATEMENT

Inland Power & Light and IBEW Local 77 have agreed to designate the floating holiday as Henry Miller Day. Who was Henry Miller and why do we honor him?

Henry Miller was a Lineman who worked throughout the country for railroads, Western Union, and fledging utilities in the east. In 1886, Henry Miller was working for the St. Louis Municipal Electric Light and Power Company when forming a union for workers became one of his goals.

During the St. Louis Exhibition of 1890, which prominently featured electricity and its uses, he saw an opportunity to establish a national union for electrical workers. On December 4, 1891, Henry Miller and nine other men were granted a Charter by the American Federation of Labor and the IBEW was born.

Henry Miller's goals for the union were to provide a safe workplace for all workers in the industry; to provide death benefit payment and to provide a training or apprenticeship that would insure quality workmanship and increased productivity for the electrical industry. In addition to being President of the International Union, he continued to work in the field organizing Locals wherever he traveled.

Like so many Linemen of that era, Henry Miller died young. On July 10, 1896, he suffered a severe electrical shock and fell from a utility pole. The resulting injuries caused his death at age 38, only five years after his dream of forming a national union had been realized. Henry Miller died while working in the field of his choice and promoting his dream of a safe workplace.

As the Cooperative and Union prosper from our partnership, we honor Henry Miller in conjunction with the personal holiday. In doing so, we recognize, accept, and promote his ideas of providing a safe working environment for all workers; that we strive to be the best workers in the industry, and that we instill pride in our craftsmanship and in the quality of our work.

# ATTACHMENT "F" – POLICY 7-6



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10110 W. HALLETT RD. SPOKANE, WA 99224-7435

# POLICY NO. 7-6

# WAGE REPLACEMENT DURING LEAVE POLICY

## PURPOSE OF POLICY:

To provide a policy to administer wage replacement for the cooperative's short-term disability plan, paid family medical leave (PFML), work related injury leave, bereavement leave and various leaves of absence.

#### ELECTION:

If an employee is eligible for short-term disability (STD) and paid family medical leave (PFML), the employee must elect to use either STD or PFML, but not both.

#### SECTION 1 - SHORT-TERM DISABILITY (STD)

The cooperative provides compensated short-term disability for wage replacement during qualifying absences.

#### ELIGIBILITY:

You are eligible to participate in the short-term disability if you are a:

- a) Full-time employee, or
- b) Part-time employee working more than 1,250 hours/year; and
- c) Have been employed at Inland Power for over six months.

#### SHORT-TERM DISABILITY (STD) BENEFIT DESCRIPTION:

Employees who accrue PTO are eligible for the short-term disability (STD) benefit. When an employee suffers a non-work related illness or injury, which prevents the employee from working 40 consecutive work hours, short-term disability will begin on the following work day. To be eligible for the benefit the employee must:

- a) Provide the cooperative with objective medical information from his/her healthcare provider that certifies the need for short-term disability and verifies the employee is not able to perform their normal job duties.
- b) Initiate the application process by providing the cooperative with a completed STD/FMLA packet that includes objective medical information (explains why disability is needed) from his/her healthcare provider. In the event an employee suffers an unforeseen disabling

Policy No. 7-6



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condition, he/she must notify the cooperative on the fifth calendar day of disability to initiate the application process and provide the necessary medical information as soon as possible. Failure by the employee to initiate the STD application process may result in delay of STD benefits.

- c) If the cooperative has reason to doubt the validity of a medical certification they may elect to obtain a second medical opinion to review the need for disability benefits. The cooperative pays for the second doctor's appointment. Pending receipt of the second (or third) medical opinion, the employee is provisionally entitled to the benefits of STD until the second opinion is given.
- d) Should the first two doctors' assessments of disability be different, the cooperative may consult with a third doctor (mutually agreed upon by employee and company). The cooperative pays for the third doctor's appointment. This opinion shall be final and binding.

Once the STD benefits claim is approved by the cooperative, STD benefits will be available to cover the employee's absence up to 26 weeks or until he/she has returned to his/her regular, full-time position, whichever occurs first. If, during the employee's recovery period, the worker is released to part-time hours, STD will be available on pro-rated basis. Once the employee returns to work on a regular, full-time basis and STD benefits have not been used for a period of 30 days; the claim will be considered closed. If the condition will require additional time away from work, after the claim has closed, a statement from the employee's medical provider relating the condition to the prior claim should be provided to re-open the claim.

### ELIGIBILITY AND RATE OF BENEFITS ACCRUAL:

#### Employees hired prior to Dec. 1, 2013:

An eligible employee of Inland Power is entitled to receive up to 26 weeks of STD benefits if the above requirements are met. The benefit would be paid at 90% of an employee's salary for the medically approved amount of STD leave. If an employee chooses, they may supplement pay from their accrued PTO bank to bring pay up to 100%.

#### Employees hired after Dec. 1, 2013:

Employees hired after Dec. 1, 2013 are entitled to the following STD benefits if the above requirements are met. If an employee chooses, they may supplement pay from their accrued PTO bank to bring pay up to 100%.

Policy No. 7-6



Years of Service	Weeks Paid at 90%	Weeks Paid at 66.67%
6 months to a year	1	0
1	2	24
2	4	22
3	6	20
4	8	18
5	10	16
6	12	14
7	14	12
8	16	10
9	18	8
10+	20	6

Any short-term disability payments made by the cooperative are made as conditional payments to the employee. On occasion, employees may receive disability benefits, insurance benefits, social security benefits or wage loss compensation from third parties. Benefits or compensation provided by these other programs or sources will offset the STD benefit and in no event will the employee be entitled to more than 100% of their regular wages. In the event the employee receives payments or benefits from these other programs or sources to cover all or a portion of any STD leave, disability or wage loss, then the cooperative shall have the right to reimbursement from the employee of any conditional disability payments that it made under this short-term disability plan.

The cooperative will pay medical, dental and vision premiums at 90% while an employee is on STD.

### SECTION 2 – PAID FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ELIGIBILITY:

A. Employees are eligible for family and medical leave benefits as provided in this title after working for at least eight hundred twenty hours in employment during the qualifying period. A "Qualifying Period" means the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters or, if eligibility is not established, the last four completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the application for leave. Employees applying for either family leave or medical leave, or both, are eligible for the plan benefits if the employee meets the requirements of RCW 50A.15.010 and have worked at least three hundred forty hours for the employer during

Policy No. 7-6



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the twelve months immediately preceding the date leave will commence. A clam year is defined in WAC 192-500-070. Minimum claim duration must be eight consecutive hours as defined in WAC 192-620-005. If an employee was covered under a Voluntary Plan (as defined by RCW 50A.30.010) by their previous employer, they are immediately eligible for PFML.

- a. PFML may be used for the following:
  - i. Employee's own serious health condition as defined by RCW 50A.05.010 (22) (a) (medical);
  - Bonding after birth of a baby or the adoption or placement of a child younger than 18 (family);
  - iii. A family member's, (as defined in RCW 50A05.010) serious health condition (family); or
  - iv. Military-connected events and exigency as defined by 50A.05.010 (9)(c) and 10 (c) (family).
  - b. An employee can utilize PFML for up to 12 times the typical workweek hours plus 2 times the typical workweek for a total of 14 times the typical workweek if pregnancy complications are applicable. If both medical and family leave applies, the employee may utilize PFML for up to 16 times the typical work week plus 2 times the typical work week if pregnancy complications are applicable for a total of 18 times the typical work week.

#### BENEFIT DESCRIPTION:

- A. The amount of the benefit provided by PFML will be equal to the state plan by calculating the employee's weekly average wage as defined in RCW 50A.15.020 to a maximum of \$1,000.00 in the year 2020, increased to \$1,206.00 for 2021 and is adjusted annually pursuant to RCW 50A.15.020. At no time benefits will fall below the state calculation for benefits.
- B. While utilizing PFML, the employee will have job protection if the employee was employed at the Cooperative at least 9 months and worked 965 hours in a 12-month period before the leave began.
- C. If the employee was enrolled in the Cooperative health care plans, the Cooperative will continue to cover the employee and dependents at the same level when the leave commenced as long as the employee continues to pay the employee's share of any premium.

UTILIZATION:

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- A. There is a seven (7) consecutive calendar day waiting period before PFML can be utilized but PTO may be used to cover the seven (7) day waiting period at the employee's option. However, no waiting period is required for leave for the birth or placement of a child or for military exigency. A "week" is a period of seven consecutive calendar days beginning on Sunday 12:00 a.m. and ending at 11:59 p.m. the following Saturday.
- B. If the necessity for leave is foreseeable, the employee shall provide the human resources department with not less than thirty days' notice, before the date the leave is to begin.
- C. If the necessity for leave is not foreseeable, the employee must notify the human resources department of the leave as is practicable.
- D. Employee must make a reasonable effort to schedule any foreseeable treatment so as not to disrupt unduly the operations of the cooperative.
- E. The human resources department will provide employee a statement of their rights regarding PFML within five business days after the employee's seventh consecutive day of absence due to family or medical leave, or within five business days after the employer has received notice that the employee's absence is due to family or medical leave, whichever is later.

### SECTION 3 - LONG-TERM DISABILITY

An employee must apply for NRECA's long-term disability benefit for wage replacement once he/she has been off from work for five consecutive months. Long-term disability coverage, if approved, will take effect after six months of continuous STD.

The cooperative will pay medical, dental and vision premiums at 90% while an employee is on LTD for up to 24 months from the date that the LTD starts. If the employee becomes Medicare eligible while on LTD, the cooperative will cease to pay the premiums.

### SECTION 4: PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH OR RELATED MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions are treated as short-term disability or paid family medical leave. See Policy 7-7 for full details on pregnancy disability leave. The employee may use one or more of the following options for wage replacement during their time away from work due to pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions:

- a) Qualified short-term disability or paid family medical leave,
- b) Available compensated PTO allowance, and/or
- c) Unpaid leave of absence.

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#### SECTION 5 - WAGE REPLACEMENT DURING LEAVE DUE TO WORK-RELATED INJURIES

Leaves resulting from an injury or illness incurred by cooperative personnel while working and covered by Washington State Industrial Insurance are considered work-related absences. In such situations, the cooperative will supplement Worker's Compensation time loss benefits. During the first 15 days of time loss, the injured worker will be Keep on Salary. The human resource department may extend the injured worker on Keep on Salary if in their assessment, it appears the injured worker will be returning to work in short order either in a light duty capacity or to the job of injury without restrictions. If the injured worker is removed from Keep on Salary and placed on Labor and Industries time loss, the cooperative will supplement the Worker's Compensation time loss benefit so that the employee receives 100% of his/her regular pay. Such payments will continue as long as the employee is receiving the Worker's Comp time loss benefits, but will not exceed the following schedule according to the employee's years of service with the cooperative: (per claim)

0 – 5 years	26 weeks
6 - 10 years	52 weeks
11+ years	104 weeks

Benefits include the cooperative's pension plans, medical, dental, vision, business travel accident, life and disability insurance. The cooperative will continue benefits for the applicable PTO balance at the time of injury. The employee must continue to pay their portion of the premium.

If an employee's work related illness or injury is due to a violation of the cooperative's drug and alcohol policy or, if applicable, a violation of the CBA, the employee will be responsible for 100 percent of all premium payments while on leave due to the illness or injury.

#### SECTION 6 – UNPAID LEAVES OF ABSENCE

An unpaid leave of absence may be granted to retain a relationship with the employee in hopes of an eventual return to work. The cooperative may provide, subject to CEO or designee approval, unpaid leaves of absence for full-time employees, including:

- Personal Leaves Leaves requested for employee's personal reasons.
- Medical Leaves Where the employee's illness or injury makes it impossible for the employee to continue working at his/her normal duties.
- Military Leaves When needed to satisfy an obligation to military duty in accordance with

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legal requirements.

If the leave requested is for a medical or family reason, unpaid leave through the Family and Medical Leave Act may be available to eligible employees (see Policy No. 7-7 on FMLA).

Criteria for granting unpaid non-FMLA leaves include the length of service, the employee's performance record, and the feasibility of temporarily filling the employee's vacancy. However, the cooperative reserves the right to deny any request for an unpaid leave not mandated by state or federal law.

If an unpaid non-FMLA leave of absence is granted, the cooperative has the sole discretion to return the employee to the same or different position depending on the cooperative's business needs. However, guarantees of reinstatement are not given unless required by law or approved in advance by the CEO.

All group plan benefit premiums, which include medical, dental, vision, life, 24-hour accident and long-term disability, will be paid 100% by the employee during an unpaid leave of absence.

## SECTION 7 - BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

No amount of time or resources can eliminate the loss one feels when an immediate family member or a spouse's immediate family member (spouse, parent, child, sibling or grandparent of employee) passes away. However, to help reduce the stress, the cooperative will pay the employee full pay during this absence for up to three days, subject to advance approval.

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## **RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION:**

The CEO is responsible for the administration of the cooperative's wage replacement during leave plan.

POLICY APPROVAL DATE 11/27/23

POLICY EFFECTIVE DATE 11/27/23

Raudy Autos Fandy Suess, President Board of Trustees

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Date Created: Sept. 1, 1997 Last Revised: Jan. 26, 2004, Mar. 27, 2009, Oct. 26, 2010, Mar. 29, 2012, Sept. 26, 2013, Nov. 12, 2015, April 27, 2017, Nov. 27, 2023 Last Reviewed: Nov. 27, 2023

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