

✓ Glen Arke
Notice of Pub. Workshops
sent 1/2/04

✓ To Av.

✓ To Commis
: H

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2004 JAN -2 AM 9:02

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

TO Idaho Power/ PUC;

I was unable to locate a number or address to submit comments related to the Proposed Rate increase. I trust that mailing this to the address provided for information will find its way to the appropriate person.

Please consider this letter in determining Rate increase as requested by IPCo. Although I understand IPCo. has spent a great deal of money ^(\$50 million) -- to use their word -- "Investing in the electrical system" to serve an addition 10,000 customers along w/ existing customers; I fail to see why the consumer must pay for what must have been a bad investment. I would assume if a business is investing, they would expect to make money on that investment. The 10,000 new customers should be paying power bills thus paying for the investment. ~~But~~ I would assume IdPower evaluated the cost vs the return on their investment prior to investing. So was this an investment gone bad? Also, the IPCo. must look long term - upfront costs to cover long-term gains. Since they have 400,000 customers being served -- many which are very long ~~ter~~ time customers - we would assume the line installation costs etc were paid long ago to those people and a portion of their monthly bill goes to generating cash for the future

investments-- such as the 850 million in Question.

I would like to run a business where I spend the money and then ~~can~~ ask to get bailed out because it was a bad investment.

Is when the 850 million is paid would rates go down? I doubt it. ~~If~~ If the money generated by your billing covers only power generation costs (no infrastructure) then you have a point. I suspect, however, that you collect money each month toward line maintenance & future expansion.

The increase requested is overboard. I suspect the IPco. made poor assumptions on ^{the} future & is now passing this to the consumer. We may not have a choice in this matter, given the regulated industry must survive. But I feel we need to think long & hard about Idaho's economy before you apply a substantial increase in the rates. Believe me when I say I am not alone in my concerns. Please keep me informed on the process.

SUE DOUGLAS
MIKE CHRISTANSON
PO Box 286
Council ID 83612-0286
208-253-4734

✓ Gen Ark & Workshops
Notice of Pub. Utilities
sent 1/24/04. ✓ To Adv. ✓ To Comm. ? 14

DECEMBER 13, 2003

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2003 DEC 22 AM 10:51

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
P.O. Box 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0074

REFER: IDAHO POWER'S REQUEST FOR RATE INCREASE

COMMISSIONERS:

I AM OPPOSING RATE INCREASE FOR IDAHO POWER.
IT SEEMS EVERY YEAR THEY REQUEST A RATE
ADJUSTMENT AND OR RATE INCREASE.

IDAHO POWER NEEDS TO LEARN HOW TO OPERATE
LIKE THE REST OF THE CORPORATE WORLD. NOT
ALL CORPORATION'S HAVE A PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION TO GO TO AND ASK FOR
MORE MONEY.

IDAHO POWERS PROPOSED CUSTOMER CHARGE/
SERVICE CHARGE RATE INCREASE FROM \$2.51
PER MONTH TO \$10.00 PER MONTH IS A 300%
INCREASE! THAT IS TOTALLY LUDICROUS!

THEIR OCTOBER 2003 REQUEST FOR 17.7% AVERAGE
INCREASE IN BASE RATES IS ALSO LUDICROUS!

THE COMMISSION NEEDS TO DENY THEIR REQUEST.

REGARDS,

NORVAL D. SCOTT
353 E ELM ST.
POCATELLO, IDAHO 83201

✓ Gen Ack
; Notice of Workshops
sent 11/2/04.

✓ T. A.V.

✓ To Comms.
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2003 DEC -5 PM 2:52

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

December 04, 2003

Mr Dennis Hansen, Commission Chairman
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
P.O. box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

re: case No. IPCO-E-03-13

Mr. Hanson

On Saturday, October 18, 2003, the Idaho Statesman published an article concerning Idaho Power's request for a 17.7% rate hike on which I have questions and would like to comment.

1. Where did all the millions of dollars go which were made a couple years ago? It was apparently enough money that Idaho Power was embarrassed about the amount and, when asked in a company meeting, Mr. Rick Gale avoided answering this question.
2. Why, when Idaho Power was so set on splitting Ida-Corp and Idaho Power a few years ago, do they now group them together in an attempt to show the need for money for Idaho Power? Ida-Corp made senior management millions of dollars just a few years ago.
3. I question if Idaho Power, Ida-Corp, and the other companies under this umbrella are good money managers. They seem to do well on bonuses and incentive pay, as well as the promotion of managers to the V.P. ranks. I believe this is the highest number of vice presidents in their history. One V.P., as you well know, exceeded 2.4 million dollars approximately two years ago and then promptly left the company as a Sr. V.P. This practice has to affect the rate base. Where else does the money come from to pay their salaries and retirement?
4. "The service charge is meant to recover the increased cost associated with providing electrical services to new customers such as meters, distribution facilities and billing services." This statement is a quote made by Mr. Rick Gale and published in the Idaho Statesman as explanation to why the monthly service charge is increasing. When a new customer requests service, a work order is made and the customer is charged to prepare this work order. Before construction begins, the customer pays the work order cost for construction, less terminal facilities costs. So why should the existing customers be saddled with this cost again?

5. It would seem appropriate that an independent study done on Idaho Power's operations process be done since this has a great affect on the need for rate relief that is shouldered by the rate payers. What happens if a work order is \$5000.00 and the Idaho Power line crew beats the work order cost (which is very common). What happens to this money? It's not refunded to the customer. When Idaho Power constructs an underground subdivision and ALL the facilities except the service hook up are installed and no one connects to this system for years. The terminal facilities are an overhead cost to the company. Why should the rate payers cover this cost simply because it is easier for Idaho Power and they can depreciate it out when it is not being used. There are other ways to deal with these types of situations for considerably less money. Sometimes it's good to have someone look at our processes with a new perspective and give suggestions on things we work with every day and may never see another way.

Idaho Power is advertising on television about how the cost of milk and bread have increased since their last rate case. Apparently they have forgotten the temporary rate increases given them by your governing body to offset costs that they had not prepared for. We all are aware that an accounting ledger can tilt the way the input is entered, this is just business, and business tends to tilt it their way.

I know your job concerning ths rate case is going to be very demanding and difficult. Being a rate payer I just ask that you make them justify the need for higher rates and not give Idaho Power an open checkbook In the past few years there have been a number of large electric utilities go down and out of business because of a number of bad business decisions and poor management. Don't let this happen here in Idaho.

Thank You for your time.



Alan Robinson
10146 Vistair Place
Payette, Idaho 83661