

✓ Done responded
to questions

✓ To A.V.
for Int. Parties list

✓ To Commis.
H

2/25/04

To E. Howell:

I am writing in regards to the Idaho Power Co. proposed rate increase. Please let me know if I am addressing the right person. I understand they have increased costs to accommodate new customers. I am a third generation farmer in Idaho. All of my 5 siblings have left Idaho to pursue off-farm careers. Of my 7 children raised on the farm the adult children have left to pursue off-farm careers. The profit margins are so tight I'm not encouraging them to stay on the farm now. At my farm we do all we can to Irrigate efficiently and control pumping costs. Including Low-pressure sprinklers and Idaho Power buy back and time of use metering. It seems to me that if the new customers are the reason for the rate increase they should pay for it. I don't think irrigators are responsible for the increase. In some cities they call it "Impact Fees", surely there is enough precedent to establish that. My second question is the 12% profit margin Idaho Power Co. is guaranteed. Is that too high? And are there expenses limited?

Sincerely,



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