

✓ Gen. Ask  
sent 5/5/04

✓ To Comm  
; It

Idaho Rural Council  
P O Box 118  
Bliss, Idaho 83314  
(208) 352-4477 Fax: (208) 352-4645  
www.idahoruralcouncil.org

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
P O Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074  
FAX: (208) 334-3762

Re: IPC-E-03-13

Dear Commissioners;

The Idaho Rural Council would like to make the following comments concerning Idaho Power's Proposed Rate Increase, IPC-E-03-13.

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission should require Idaho Power to: implement measures that reduce the impacts of any rate increase on those customers who will be most seriously affected by the increase; immediately begin to implement a progressive, aggressive Demand Management Program that would minimize demand peaks and improve the efficiency of Idaho Power's system; and begin to implement measures that diversify its energy portfolio.

Many of the measures that would mitigate the effects of a rate increase would also contribute to an effective Demand Management Program.

#### **1. Mitigate Impacts on Customers Most Affected by Rate Increase**

Idaho Power's Proposed Rate Increase would be devastating to many of its customers. Low-income and fixed-income families and irrigation customers would be the hardest hit. Idaho Power should be required to implement measures that reduce the impacts of any rate increase on these customers.

The Idaho Rural Council supports an increase in funding for weatherization programs to an annual amount of \$1.2 million. We also support time of a use rate structure and tiered rate structure with the threshold raised from 800 kw 1000 kw.

## **2. Implement a Progressive, Aggressive Demand Management Program**

Within Idaho Power's customer base there exists a large and virtually untapped conservation and efficiency resource. Idaho Power has done very little to take advantage of this tremendous resource. An effective Demand Management Program could reduce the effects on those most impacted by higher energy prices, reduce the demand spikes, diversify the energy portfolio and hedge against future energy crises and high prices.

An effective Demand Management Program should consider the unique needs and opportunities of each customer class and use them to fully take advantage of this resource. A progressive, aggressive Demand Management Program would utilize this resource to reduce the demand peaks, levelize demand and improve the efficiency of the Idaho Power system. that makes customers an active participant and works with customers to manage demand would utilize this resource and increase ownership in the system by making them an active participant

There are a variety of measures that could be used in a progressive, aggressive Demand Management Program. A few examples are time of use rates, tiered rate structure (based on usage), and cycling (voluntarily turning off power for short periods of time during peak use times in return for lower rates or some other incentive).

The Idaho Rural Council is strongly opposed to an increase in fixed charges. Fixed charges discourage conservation. The Idaho Rural Council supports the use of a true-up mechanism to allow for the recovery of demand management costs.

The Commission should require Idaho Power to immediately begin implementing a progressive, aggressive Demand Management Program.

An effective Demand Management Program would contribute to the diversification of Idaho Power's energy portfolio.

## **3. Diversify Energy Portfolio**

Idaho Power relies a very limited portfolio of energy sources for its power needs. This has resulted in unnecessarily high prices, price instability and concerns about the adequacy of supply during periods of very high demand. The Commission should require Idaho Power to begin to implement measures to meaningfully diversify its energy portfolio.

Idaho Power's heavy reliance on hydro power results in wild fluctuations in the amount of inexpensive electricity available to its customers. Idaho Power's remedy for this problem is wholly inadequate - to add gas fueled power plants when the demand and price for natural gas is high and continues to escalate.

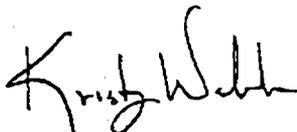
The Commission should require Idaho Power Company to include a significant amount of non-hydro renewable energy in its energy portfolio. Idaho Power's recent interest in wind power is a small step in the right direction, but Idaho Power Company needs to do much more to encourage and acquire non-hydro renewable energy.

The Demand Management Program described above would also contribute significantly to a meaningful diversification of Idaho Power Company's energy portfolio.

Further, we believe that Idaho Power needs to invest in renewable energy within Idaho.

As a regulated monopoly, Idaho Power Company has an obligation to consider what is in the best interest of its customers. Idaho Power's business as usual approach is not in the best interest of its customers. Idaho Power Company can do a lot to reduce the adverse impact of its proposed rate increase. It can also reduce future price increases by implementing a progressive, aggressive Demand Management Plan and diversifying its energy portfolio. The Commission should require Idaho Power to do so.

Thank you for considering our comments.



Kristy Webb  
Idaho Rural Council

✓ Gen Ack sent 5/5/05

✓ To Comm's  
: H

RECEIVED  
FILED

# LARSON Magic FARM'S

PRODUCERS OF PREMIUM ALFALFA IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

4600 N. 600 E.  
BUHL, IDAHO 83316  
Res 208-543-2543 Mobile 208-731-2543  
FAX 208-543-8640  
E-Mail [hayman@magiclink.com](mailto:hayman@magiclink.com)

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
472 West Washington Street  
Boise, Idaho 83720

April 5, 2004

Attention: Paul Kjellander, President, & Commissioners Marsha Smith & Dennis Hansen  
RE: Idaho Power rate increase Case # IPC-E-03-13

Commissioners:

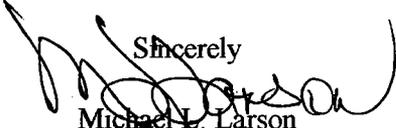
**We are adamantly opposed to the rate increases requested by Idaho Power for the following reasons.**

- 1- Agriculture is being discriminated against as a rate payer in shouldering the largest portion of rate increase IPC is requesting. Power usage by agriculture is flat, compared to the increase usage by industry (Micron & others) and new home & commercial construction. IPC says they need a rate hike to cover increased infrastructure costs. None of these increased cost are attributed to agriculture. Why must we pay the largest share?
- 2- Our cost to operate, (fuel, insurance, POWER, fertilizer, chemical etc.) is on the constant increase and we are unable to pass on those increase costs for our farm products. Crop prices have been flat for several years.
- 3- IPC has shown no restraints in their spending. They have learned that PUC will give them all money they need to pay exorbitant salaries and cover their luxury expenses. I do commend PUC for uncovering some of the luxury expenses and denying them. How much more have they hidden?
- 4- Our electrical cost have DOUBLED in the past 5 years, even though we have installed every power and water saving device available. Our water usage has gone down and power cost have continued to climb. In 1998 our power cost was \$215,000. In 2003 it had risen to \$407,000. We still farm the same amount of acres.

**We Cannot afford any more increases.**

**Idaho loses largest business,** will be the headline when agriculture can no longer operate in Idaho.

When cash flow is tight and income is down, businesses cut cost in order to compete. Look at Micron. Appleton took no salary when things were tough. **HOWEVER, Idaho Powers top executives continue to take salaries and bonuses in excess of 2 MILLION dollars a year,** knowing they will be able to pass it on the rate payers....especially agriculture.

Sincerely  
  
Michael L. Larson  
Owner

✓ Ben Acke  
sent 5/5/05

St. Comm  
EH

April 29, 04

RECEIVED

FILED

Public Utilities Commission

004 MAY -3 PM 4:39

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

We are very much against your  
approval by a rate increase for  
the average base rate for the  
following reasons. 1) We have  
a converted ~~duplex~~ duplex so  
our "service rate fee" would go  
up not 19.9% but double that.  
2) We are very conservative about  
electrical use (ie. rate no computer)  
but this increase would be al-  
most a punishment because  
it's a set rate & not a consumed  
rate. 3) I know several small  
woodworking/cabinetry shops  
which would have to close  
it such a rate increase  
were approved.

P.S. I doubt if this isn't a done  
deal!

Sincerely  
Judge  
Cantrell

✓ Gen Ack  
sent 5/15/05  
✓ To Comm  
YH



Mr. Marvin L. McBride  
83 Cedar Hills Dr.  
Pocatello, ID 83204

4-29-04

Dear Members of IPUC:

Please, in the name of heaven,  
Vote for a small % of electric  
rate hike. Residential

The gas hike you granted  
Intermountain Gas last year had  
a devastating blow to our budget,  
when the the govt \$\$ & Persi  
give us 2% raises & you  
give utilities a 20% hike -  
can't you see the effects on  
us on fixed incomes?

Thank you,

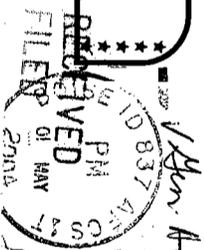
Marvin & Roma McBride

RECEIVED   
FILED

2004 MAY -3 PM 4:38

BOARD PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Busch  
17864 Homedale Rd  
Caldwell, ID 83607



IDAHO PRESS-TRIBUNE

# Opinion

@idahopress.com

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2004

Editorial assistant Ineke Neumeier 465-8115 op-ed@idahopress.com

## ▼ Letters to the Editor

Mail: P.O. Box 9399, Nampa ID 83652  
Drop off: 1618 N. Midland Blvd., Nampa  
Fax them to: 467-9562  
E-mail to: op-ed@idahopress.com  
Call: 465-8115 or 465-8110 for more information  
Editorial archives: www.idahopress.com

## ▼ Guest opinion

*I - This True?*

# PUC should protect us from monopoly

By Phil Morford

Once upon a time there was a group of people who, having seen the abundance of free flowing rivers in Idaho, decided to exploit that resource. They then went back to Maine to the close proximity of the big-moneyed people — the Rockefeller, Dupont, etc., to file papers for incorporation — the thing to do back then. (Idaho Power is now registered in Idaho.)

Then they came back to Idaho and, upon a promise to the politicians that were in office here of cheap electricity for the people of this state, got them to agree to allow dams to be built and turbines installed to generate cheap electricity. They even promised to net the salmon below the dams and trans-

port them by truck upstream and release them there.

Meantime, the investors in this foreign corporation were happy to be receiving their profits from the deal.

The agreement continued for a time, but it wasn't long before it became too expensive to keep the promise made to the people of the state of Idaho, so the price of electricity began to steadily climb. The investors in this foreign corporation were getting greedier, so they sent their men to the politicians again and got more money for the product — electricity generated by the water, which didn't belong to the corporation but to the people of Idaho.

The raises in the price of electric-

ity wasn't enough to satisfy the foreign corporation, so they began selling the excess electricity to neighboring states and creating fake shortages so they could get the politicians to give them an increase in rates.

What did the people of Idaho do when the state gave our water to the Maine corporation? Nothing.

What did they do when the electricity rates began to soar? Nothing. What did they do when the fish began piling up at the dams? Nothing.

When they found out that the shortage of electricity claims were a sham? Nothing.

What can we do about the rising rates for power? Hope and pray that the Idaho Public Utilities Commission has enough intestinal

fortitude to turn down this rate increase and to tell the New York corporation that enough is enough, that their investors are making a sufficient return on their investment now, and it is time they stopped squeezing the Idaho rate payers for more money.

We have already given them our most precious resource — our water. Where will the greed end?

It is the responsibility of the Public Utilities Commission to protect the citizens from monopolies. We are unable to get power from any other company, so we expect the Public Utilities Commission to protect us.

■ Phil Morford is a resident of Caldwell.

▼ Guest opinion

*I agree. Please consider this a letter from me. I can't say it near as well as John Rumb*

# Wrong people paying for Idaho Power's mistakes

By Ray Arp

Anybody who owns a business, or is employed by one, can understand some basic aspects of fair and sound business practices: treat customers fairly and don't make customers pay for your mistakes.

It would be great if Idaho Power stuck by these rules. Unfortunately, its latest proposal to increase rates is unfair to the general public and singles out farmers for the largest increase — all in an effort to make customers pay for the company's failed investments and inability to fairly fund growth. Over the past 10 years, the total amount of electricity used by irrigators has remained unchanged, yet Idaho Power wants to raise rates on irrigators 25 percent.

Here's an example of a mistake we're all being asked to pay for: the \$49 million

Danskin Power Plant in Mountain Home, which could be called the "White Elephant Generating Station." It has the highest cost per kilowatt generated of any facility in the Idaho Power system.

I understand that Idaho Power was trying to do its best to respond to the energy crisis in late 2000 and early 2001. But was it prudent to build and operate so quickly two 45-megawatt peaking units near Mountain Home, which only operate two hours per day, or 15 percent of permitted capability? This translates to a very high energy cost because the construction costs are fixed. This level of operation is far below what the company told the Idaho Public Utilities Commission it needed when it was justifying building the plants.

Additionally, the energy crisis was almost over when the PUC approved

Idaho Power's application. Idaho Power management should have reassessed the economic impact before proceeding.

The upcoming Bennett Mountain generating facility may be a similar situation. Idaho Power should not try to recoup these kinds of costs from ratepayers. I agree that eating these costs will be expensive for the Idaho Power shareholders, but not as devastating to the bottom line of Idaho Power customers and, therefore, the state's economy. And it's just not fair.

Idaho Power says it needs the money to pay for \$720 million invested in new generating, transmission and distribution facilities added since 1993. But this highlights the company's failure to fund growth. Sewer, water, natural gas and even local highway districts

charge impact or connection fees to help new growth pay for itself. Idaho Power should find a way to do the same thing.

One thing's for sure: The increased demand for electricity hasn't happened because of agriculture. Over the past decade, the amount of electricity used by homes is up 18 percent, the amount used by large commercial interests is up 54 percent and the amount used by Micron is up 130 percent. The forecast is that irrigation will remain relatively flat while residential, commercial and industrial growth will keep growing.

In response, you'd think Idaho Power would be thinking of ways to get these groups to curtail energy usage, since they are driving the need for more power plants. Why isn't Idaho Power

pressing forward with tiered rates for residential customers (charging more during peak times)?

Agreed, irrigators are a big factor in summer peak demands. But irrigators haven't been behind the need for new power plants. In fact, they've been at the forefront of conserving water (and therefore electricity) with drip irrigation, computer-controlled sprinkling and high-efficiency pumps. It's now time for residential and commercial users to show similar conservation success.

If you agree, I urge you to contact the Idaho Public Utilities Commission about this issue by April 30. Do not allow the PUC to finance Idaho Power's mistakes at the expense of the ratepayers.

■ Ray Arp is an electrical engineer and a resident of Nampa.

OPINION

Guest opinion

*I agree. She says it better.*

# Pull plug on Idaho Power's rate hike

By Retta Green

Idaho families are having trouble making ends meet. Idaho Power's CEO and President Jan Packwood is apparently no exception. In 2002, Packwood made almost \$800,000, but he has so much trouble paying his bills, apparently, that he wants to ask the ratepayers to pick up the tab for his membership at the Arid Club. Idaho Power included a \$7,200 bill for executive memberships to the exclusive Boise club in its request for a 17.7 percent rate increase from Idaho ratepayers.

Fortunately, the Idaho Public Utilities Commission's staff

caught this and many other attempts by Idaho Power to pad the bill. Just a few of the goodies the staff pulled out of Idaho Power's request are:

- Almost \$10 million for pension expenses. As the Commission staff pointed out, though, Idaho Power hasn't put a penny in the pension fund since 1995.
- Over \$5 million for an executive incentive plan, in addition to salaries and a pension plan that the staff evaluated and found to be very generous.
- \$246,048 to a lobbying group whose work benefits

Idacorp shareholders, not the ratepayers.

- \$2,000 to the Democrat and Republican parties and tens of thousands more to charities like the American Lung Association. As the staff explained, ratepayers should be allowed to decide for themselves whether to donate to these groups, not have Idaho Power make those decisions.
- Management expense accounts that included items like green fees at golf courses, purchases at liquor stores and wine purchases.
- Legal costs in a case that's really about Idaho Energy, a dif-

ferent company, which made huge profits during the energy crisis while Idaho Power ratepayers were paying inflated prices.

- Over \$1 million for a cloud seeding experiment that Idaho Power didn't bother to prove had any benefit to the ratepayers.
- A pattern of overestimating costs and trying to charge ratepayers for things that benefit only the shareholders — Packwood among them.
- Idaho Power claims to need an additional \$86 million to get by every year. After cutting all the padding out of Idaho

Power's budget, the Commission staff found that Idaho Power only needs an additional \$15 million a year.

- This isn't business as usual. This is just pure greed. While Packwood and his colleagues were enjoying free admission to their exclusive club, Idaho Power disconnected power to close to 1,000 low-income families last year when they could not make their payments. Idaho Power should not be allowed to force families to choose between heating their homes and paying for other basic necessities by padding the heating bill in this way.

The Public Utilities Commission has been holding public hearings on the Idaho Power rate hike across the state this month. There will be a hearing on Wednesday at the Commission's office in Boise at 472 W. Washington St. Please come and help me explain to the commissioners why Idaho Power's rate increase request should be denied.

■ Retta Green, Caldwell, is a longtime Canyon County resident and grassroots leader with Idaho Community Action Network, a community organization that works on social, economic and racial justice issues.

Managing Editor: Vickie Holbrook, 465-8110, vholbroo



I agree

# Idaho Power doesn't need big rate hike

▲ SUMMARY: State commissioners should grant staff recommendation instead of electric company's request

▲ Our view

Idaho Power is a historically significant company that helped the state develop and prosper. It built and operates a series of hydroelectric dams that provide local residents with some of the lowest power bills in the nation.

But history doesn't absolve the utility of responsibility, compassion and reason in its relationship with today's ratepayers.

It is appalling that, after customers faced sky-high electric costs during the Western energy crisis, the company now wants to pass on a nearly 20 percent rate increase to residents when electric staff at the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, residential customers would see a 2.5 percent increase instead of the 19.9 percent increase sought by Idaho Power.

Like other businesses, Idaho Power must pay for its investments. The Treasure Valley is the most rapidly growing population center in the Northwest. It's understandable that the utility needs to collect

understandable increase instead of a 13.9 percent increase.

Industrial customers would see no increase.

Large commercial customers would see a 1.2 percent increase instead of a 15 percent increase.

Small commercial customers would see a 4.2 percent increase instead of a 21 percent increase.

Other customers would be affected as follows by the state recommendation:

Under the recommendations made by staff at the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, residential customers would see a 2.5 percent increase instead of the 19.9 percent increase sought by Idaho Power.

Other customers would be affected as follows by the state recommendation:

Small commercial customers would see a 4.2 percent increase instead of a 21 percent increase.

Large commercial customers would see a 1.2 percent increase instead of a 15 percent increase.

Industrial customers would see no increase instead of a 13.9 percent increase.

## How requests compare

some money to pay for power plants, major transmission lines and other improvements. But state regulators and every day citizens agree — soundly — that Idaho Power wants too much. The state Public Utilities Commission's staff members have submitted their own plan to commission. The full commission must weigh the state recommendation with Idaho Power's request — as well as the comments from citizens across the state. Not surprisingly, the vast majority of those who spoke on the issue oppose the full rate hike. Although no one wants to pay higher electric bills, most people can agree that businesses have to pay their own bills. But Idaho Power's request appears to be exorbitant — especially when the state's economy is still sluggish. Paul Zatica of Paul's Markets made his case against the increase simply but clearly: "The economy's been tough in Idaho," he said. "Everybody has to tighten their belts. We certainly have." Yes, most people certainly have. People have lost jobs and found new ones with less pay. Companies have trimmed expenses and cut staff. And investors have watched once double-digit increases in their savings plans slow to a trickle. Idaho Power needs to understand these same realities. It needs to operate more efficiently and economically. Commission staff represented Idahoans well when they recommended a 3 percent increase. When the full commission makes a decision next month, it should make the same commitment to protect Idahoans from this unrealistic gouge in electric rates.

▲ Our view

Idaho Power is a historically significant company that helped the state develop and prosper. It built and operates a series of hydroelectric dams that provide local residents with some of the lowest power bills in the nation.

But history doesn't absolve the utility of responsibility, compassion and reason in its relationship with today's ratepayers.

It is appalling that, after customers faced sky-high electric costs during the Western energy crisis, the company now wants to pass on a nearly 20 percent rate increase to residents when electric staff at the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, residential customers would see a 2.5 percent increase instead of the 19.9 percent increase sought by Idaho Power.

Other customers would be affected as follows by the state recommendation:

Small commercial customers would see a 4.2 percent increase instead of a 21 percent increase.

Large commercial customers would see a 1.2 percent increase instead of a 15 percent increase.

Industrial customers would see no increase instead of a 13.9 percent increase.

Under the recommendations made by staff at the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, residential customers would see a 2.5 percent increase instead of the 19.9 percent increase sought by Idaho Power.

Other customers would be affected as follows by the state recommendation:

Small commercial customers would see a 4.2 percent increase instead of a 21 percent increase.

Large commercial customers would see a 1.2 percent increase instead of a 15 percent increase.

Industrial customers would see no increase instead of a 13.9 percent increase.

Under the recommendations made by staff at the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, residential customers would see a 2.5 percent increase instead of the 19.9 percent increase sought by Idaho Power.

Other customers would be affected as follows by the state recommendation:

Small commercial customers would see a 4.2 percent increase instead of a 21 percent increase.

Large commercial customers would see a 1.2 percent increase instead of a 15 percent increase.

Industrial customers would see no increase instead of a 13.9 percent increase.

Under the recommendations made by staff at the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, residential customers would see a 2.5 percent increase instead of the 19.9 percent increase sought by Idaho Power.

Other customers would be affected as follows by the state recommendation:

Small commercial customers would see a 4.2 percent increase instead of a 21 percent increase.

Large commercial customers would see a 1.2 percent increase instead of a 15 percent increase.

Industrial customers would see no increase instead of a 13.9 percent increase.

Under the recommendations made by staff at the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, residential customers would see a 2.5 percent increase instead of the 19.9 percent increase sought by Idaho Power.

Other customers would be affected as follows by the state recommendation:

Small commercial customers would see a 4.2 percent increase instead of a 21 percent increase.

Large commercial customers would see a 1.2 percent increase instead of a 15 percent increase.

Industrial customers would see no increase instead of a 13.9 percent increase.

Under the recommendations made by staff at the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, residential customers would see a 2.5 percent increase instead of the 19.9 percent increase sought by Idaho Power.

Other customers would be affected as follows by the state recommendation:

Small commercial customers would see a 4.2 percent increase instead of a 21 percent increase.

Large commercial customers would see a 1.2 percent increase instead of a 15 percent increase.

Industrial customers would see no increase instead of a 13.9 percent increase.

Under the recommendations made by staff at the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, residential customers would see a 2.5 percent increase instead of the 19.9 percent increase sought by Idaho Power.

Other customers would be affected as follows by the state recommendation:

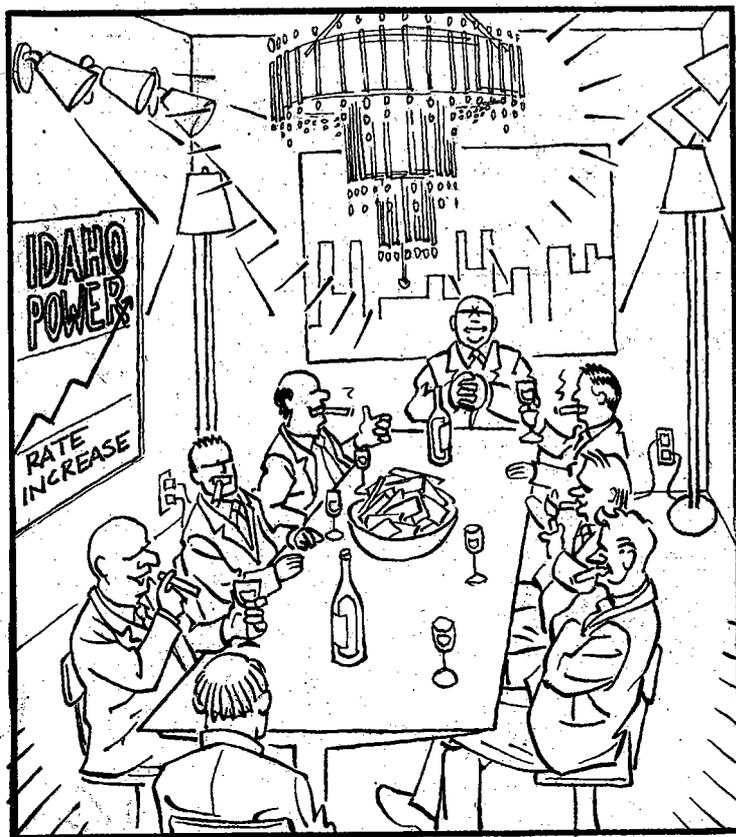
Small commercial customers would see a 4.2 percent increase instead of a 21 percent increase.

Large commercial customers would see a 1.2 percent increase instead of a 15 percent increase.

Industrial customers would see no increase instead of a 13.9 percent increase.

Our view is based on the majority opinions of the Idaho Press-Tribune editorial board. Members of the board are Stephanie H. Pressly, publisher; Vickie Holbrook, managing editor; David Woolsey, assistant managing editor; Bob Pedersen, subscriber services director; Jon Brown, copy editor; and community representatives Norm Batt of Caldwell, Michelle Deraedt of Albion College of Idaho, Joanie Vasquez of Nampa, Vicki Asay of Nampa and Jerry Robinson of Nampa.

How to comment  
Citizens can submit written comments on Idaho Power's pending rate increase request through April 30 from the commission's Web site at www.puc.state.id.us. At the site, click on "Comments" and Questions," insert the case number, IPC-E-03-13, and enter your comments. Comments can also be mailed to the commission at P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID, 83720-0074, or faxed to 334-3762. Power wants too much.



POWER



ALLEN GLADFELTER  
FOR THE IDAHO PRESS-TRIBUNE

HUNGRY & COLD  
my heat is set on 55°

✓ Gen Ack sent 5/5/04  
Sto Commas 7#

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

P.O. Box 83720

Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
FILED



2004 MAY -3 PM 4:27

I STRONGLY OPPOSE IDAHO POWER RATE INCREASE OF ANY KIND, UNLESS YOU AND IDAHO POWER CAN ASSURE ME SOCIAL SECURITY WILL GET THE SAME BENEFIT INCREASE THAT I MAY PAY FOR THEIR INCREASE.

I HAVE THE MISFORTUNE OF LIVING IN A TOTAL ELECTRIC HOME - MEDALLION AND ALL.

I HAVE TO WORK AND WILL PROBABLY NEVER GET AHEAD ENOUGH TO GET AUXILIARY HEAT.

UNTIL TWO WEEKS AGO I HAVE LIVED VERY COLD SINCE MY HUSBAND DIED IN 1994 AND ESPECIALLY THE LAST 4 WINTERS - YEAR AROUND - TRYING TO CONSERVE ON POWER. MY BATHROOM WAS THE ONLY ROOM YOU COULD TAKE YOUR COAT OFF.

I TRIED AND HAVE USED EVERY SUGGESTION EVERY ONE HAS GAVE ME, VISQUEEN ON THE WINDOWS, DRAPES & SHADES DRAWN, TURN WATER HEATER OFF IF I'M AWAY ONLY TURN IT ON WHEN I BATH, DO DISHES, MOP & CLEAN AND I ARRANGE, TIME WISE, TO GET ALL THINGS THAT HAS TO BE DONE WITH HOT WATER IN THE SAME TIME FRAME.

TWO WEEKS AGO MY SON MOVED IN WITH ME.

HE LIKES TO BE WARM AND HAVE HOT WATER SO THERE WILL PROBABLY BE \$300 & \$400 POWER BILLS AGAIN.

NO, I VERY STRONGLY OPPOSE IDAHO POWER'S RATE INCREASE AND HIGH PROFITS UNTIL SOCIAL SECURITY AND LOW INCOME FAMILIES CAN HAVE THE SAME RATE INCREASE IN THEIR, OUR, INCOME

Respectfully

Chelma Ann Evans  
675 Sunset American Falls Idaho

✓ Ann Ark sent 5/5/04 ✓ to Commes & H

Idaho Public Utilities Commission

(Idaho Power Co. increase)

RECEIVED  
FILED 5/3



Mr. - Ms.,

2004 APR 33 AM 9:45

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Retired People oppose  
increases: -- NO-NO-NO!!!

IPUC's 3 percent Proposed base  
rate increase be adapted.

Idaho Power can produce more than  
they are!

Retiree,

Wayne B Lewis

Wayne B. Lewis

845 Barton Rd. #17

Pocatello, ID. 83204-1829

✓ Gen. Acct  
sent 5/15/04

✓ To Commis  
1/15

**Wada Farms Inc.**

RECEIVED  
FILED

2004 APR 30 AM 9:45



Shipper / Grower of Quality World Famous Idaho Potatoes

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

April 29, 2004

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
Commission Secretary  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Re: Case # IPC-E-03-13

Dear IPUC members,

I, along with hundreds of other Idaho irrigators, am concerned with Idaho Power's proposal to increase irrigation power rates by 15-25%. I believe it is unfair to levy this cost to existing irrigation customers at a higher rate than for residential, large commercial and industrial users. There has been flat growth for irrigator power use and hook-ups while other types of users have had higher growth rates and increased hook-ups. I believe that new users who create the need for more power should pay their fair share of the bill.

To pass a general rate increase for irrigators of the magnitude and in the manner sought will be an unfair and unbalanced solution to Idaho Power's desire to add to their profitability. The irrigated crop growing industry in eastern Idaho is hardly in any economic condition to be able to pay for added power costs levied and passed in this manner. Profitability of our irrigated farming operations is not the issue, but rather a fight for economic survival and minimization of losses.

Thank you for considering my comments and concern.

Sincerely,



Albert T. Wada

President and CEO, Wada Farms Inc.  
326 S. 1400 West  
Pingree, Idaho 83262  
208-681-9232  
[albertw@wadafarms.com](mailto:albertw@wadafarms.com)

✓ Ben Beck  
sent 5/5/04

✓ To Comm  
# 513

4,29,04

Dear RECEIVED, FILED

2004 APR 33 AM 4:46

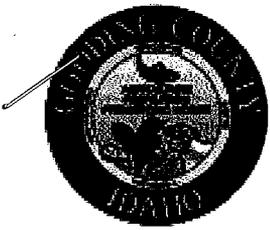
IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

I am writing you on behalf of the Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association. I work for the Sugar Co. inampa. I have for 23 year. And by you raising the rates to farmer. You will put farmer out of raising beets and put me out of a job. With the gov. getting raw sugar in from Mexico and raw sugar from Central Amer. The beet farm is about to go under. Then the sugar co. goes under because of on beets. We want have

The money to by Power.



Leonard Cutler  
#



✓ Men Mike sent 5/5/04 ✓ To Commis 9/18

**GOODING COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
P O BOX 417  
GOODING, IDAHO 83330**

RECEIVED  
FILED 5/3  
2004 APR 30 AM 9:47

Thomas O. Bingham Dist I 934-4022  
Carolyn Elexpuru Dist II 934-8355  
Rob Sauer Dist III 536-2141

Helen P. Edwards, Clerk 934-4021  
UTILITIES COMMISSION 934-8066

April 28, 2004

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
P O Box 83720  
Boise ID 83720-0074

Re: Idaho Power  
Proposed Power Rate Increase

To Whom It May Concern:

As Commissioners of Gooding County ID we are concerned about the proposed rate increases of 15% by Idaho Power. As you may be aware we are primarily an agricultural community, an increase of this magnitude will eliminate many farmers who are already in marginal financial situations. We have no control over oil products, equipment costs, fertilizer and parts – the only part of production that state could help us with is our cost of electricity.

If this increase goes into effect, we are sure would lose at least 10% of our irrigated acres, this would cause approximately 11,000 acres to become dry grazing instead of irrigated ag. This would have an impact on our schools, roads and other entities depending on tax revenues.

The state's growth has happened primarily in Ada, Canyon, Kootenai and Twin Falls Counties. We feel that it is unfair to ask agriculture to pick up the tab for this growth.

Agriculture is the backbone of our small rural communities – without agriculture we will not be able to survive.

Thank you for your time to consider our side of the issue.

Respectfully,

Rob Sauer  
Chairman

Carolyn Elexpuru  
Commissioner

Thomas O. Bingham  
Commissioner

/hpe

✓ Gen Ack  
sent 5/5/04

✓ To Comm  
5/11

Dear P.U.C.  
4-29-04

RECEIVED   
FILED   
5/3  
2004 APR 30 AM 9:50

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

I want to protest the Idaho Power requested 25% increase for irrigation. I know many of my neighbors feel the same way as myself. I sold most of my property in 2000 but, I still have 45 acres, which has a small pivot that irrigates 35 to 36 acres. Idaho Power put a meter on it that tells time and date when you run the pump. I went on their program in 2002 to run from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. the next day but, I couldn't keep my 35 to 36 acres of pasture wet enough to keep it producing grass. In 2003 I irrigated it when it needed it. My cost for that year was \$3,141.92 or approximately \$87.27 per acre. To add another 25% to that would be approximately \$785.48 for a total of \$3927.74 or \$109.09 per acre. In 2002 my irrigation cost was \$3008.89.

A little history, in 1974 my father and I developed approximately 340 acres. We put in a well and paid Idaho Power for the construction of the power lines to get electricity to that well. I put a home on the property and paid for the construction of the power lines to it also. Now Idaho Power is wanting us to pay a large increase to pay for the construction costs for all the construction that they have done in the recent years. It seems to me they should make their newer add-ons pay for their own. We should not have to pay for their management mistakes they made in the Enron Era.

Truly,

Jerry Strickland

send to: [www.puc.state.id.us](http://www.puc.state.id.us)

Yankl comments & questions

✓ Gen Ack  
sent 5/5/04

✓ To Commis  
I H

# Cardinal thriftway

RECEIVED  
FILED 5/3  
2004 APR 30 AM 9:59

4.28.04



Rick D. Farnsworth  
Owner, President

Members of  
Associated Food Stores, Inc.

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

We protest Idaho Power  
rate increase.

We are struggling as it is  
trying to compete against  
Wal Mart etc

We feel our electric rates are  
too high as it is -- so please  
do not let them raise our  
rates.

Sincerely,  
Rick D. Farnsworth  
Margaret M. Farnsworth  
Owners

*✓ Gen Ark  
sent 5/5/04*

*✓ To Commus  
§ H*

**Jean Jewell**

---

**From:** Front  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2004 8:01 AM  
**To:** Jean Jewell  
**Subject:** FW: Complaint acknowledgement

-----Original Message-----

From: Ed Howell  
Sent: Monday, May 03, 2004 8:53 AM  
To: Front; Beverly Barker; Ed Howell; Tonya Clark  
Subject: Complaint acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Monday, May 03, 2004  
7:53:18 AM

Name: Mike Jensen  
Street Address: 358 S. 1000 W.  
City: Blackfoot  
State: Idaho  
ZIP: 83221  
Home Telephone: 684-4121  
Work Telephone:  
E-Mail:  
Home Business: Both  
Business Name:  
Business Street Address:  
Business Phone:  
Complaint Company: Idaho Power  
Local Provider:  
Contacted utility: No

Complaint description: I am writing to object to Idaho Power's request for rate increases. They are stating the reason they need rate increases is to fund the infrastructure they have needed to develop for their growing customer base. When I built a new home in 1996, I had a heavy Idaho Power bill because a new power pole and line had to be added to their system. As a home owner, I paid the cost of extending their line. I believe Idaho Power has been recovering their costs of developing infrastructure for home owners and business as those services have been built. In addition, with so many new customers using Idaho Power's services, they are certainly gaining more gross revenue from these new customers. I don't believe their request for higher rates is justified. Thanks for your consideration.  
Mike Jensen

Transaction ID: 53753.18  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/cons>  
User Address: 67.129.133.130  
User Hostname: 67.129.133.130

✓ Gen Bk  
sent 5/5/04

✓ To Commis  
3/14

April 29, 2004

RECEIVED  
FILED



2004 APR 30 PM 3:53

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Black Mesa Farms, LLC.  
PO Box 82  
Glenns Ferry, ID 83623

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Attention: Idaho Power Rate Case E-03-13

Dear Idaho Public Utilities Commission,

I am writing regarding the proposed rate increase for irrigators. Black Mesa Farms is a farming partnership in the Glenns Ferry area that supports two families and contributes 1.5 million dollars to the local economy each year for supplies and services.

If power costs are raised 25%, this farm will be out of business in 2005. The crops are already planted for 2004. We otherwise would have shut down this year if the rate increase is approved.

In the 1960's and 1970's, Idaho Power campaigned to get farmers to pump water from the Snake River to the lands 300-600 feet above the river. Our farm is located on one of those high lift projects. Now, Idaho Power wants to price us out of business.

This is simply not good for the Idaho economy and not good for farmers who are struggling with cost increases for other crop inputs.

I urge you to save Idaho agriculture by refusing to increase irrigation power rates. Let those demanding more power pay for the expensive increased supply which is needed.

Sincerely,



Don J. Bryant  
Black Mesa Farms

✓ Gen Akh  
sent 5/5/04

✓ To Commis  
: H

RECEIVED  
FILED

2004 APR 30 PM 3: 53

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

April 27, 2004

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720

The dramatic rate increase proposed by the Idaho Power Company could be disastrous to Idaho farmers. You are probably aware of the very precarious financial position of the Idaho agricultural economy. Profit margins in agriculture are often slim or nonexistent. You must pursue options to protect this vital sector of the economy from financial ruin.

Thank you for your consideration.



Reid S. Stewart  
Stewart Ranch  
Malta, Idaho 83342



**THE AMALGAMATED SUGAR COMPANY LLC**

3184 ELDER STREET • BOISE, ID 83705  
PHONE: (208) 383-6500 • FAX: (208) 383-6688

April 30, 2004

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

Subject: Idaho Power Rate Increase Impact on Agriculture  
Case #IPC-E-03-13

RECEIVED  
FILED  
2004 APR 30 PM 3:56  
IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Commissioners,

Generally speaking, the Idaho Power rate increase proposal has been considered primarily from the perspective of how it would affect homeowners, especially in the state's cities. But urban and rural Idaho still rely on each other, and what happens to one, affects the other.

The proposed rate hike will have a negative effect on businesses and industry located in major cities. Much of that industry involves food processing, whose raw material is now sourced from Idaho farms. Cities are where people go to buy cars, appliances, obtain medical care and other services that are not largely available in rural areas.

If Idaho Power is allowed to raise irrigation rates by 25 percent, as it wishes, that will spell the end of a large part of Idaho's economy. Our grower/owners have approximately 500,000 acres statewide which rely on Idaho Power electricity for water to grow various crops, including sugarbeets. Hard hit will be southern Idaho where affordable electricity is essential to sustain sugarbeet production. For example, the Bell Rapids Irrigation Company, a farmer-owned business located near Buhl, uses 62 million kilowatts to vertically pump water 550 feet out of the Snake River. Approximately 18,500 acres of farmland rely on this water, and these acres produce nearly \$12 million in crops. A 25 percent rate hike would put Bell Rapids out of business wiping out all sugarbeet production tied to it. Similarly, other numerous irrigation projects developed across southern Idaho would suffer the same fate.

Since the year 2000, electricity has almost doubled in cost. Fertilizer, gasoline and diesel have also escalated. Prices for sugar remain at low levels, and prices for other commodities have also been at or near, historical lows in recent years. Farmers do not have a mechanism in place to pass along their increased production costs to the consumer, as does Idaho Power and other commercial entities. If a farmer's costs become more than what he receives for his products, his only choice is to go out of business or drastically scale back his farming operations. This surely will happen to many farmers should any proposed power rate increase become a reality. This will have a serious economic impact on Amalgamated Sugar Company's processing plants in Nampa, Twin Falls, and Paul, Idaho, as well as Nyssa, Oregon, adversely affecting its 1,200 grower/owners and over 2,000 employees.

*✓ Gen. Ack sent 5/5/04*

*✓ To Comm. 5/4*

Idaho Power claims an increase in rates is necessary to pay for power plants needed to keep up with growth. The real injustice of the rate hikes is that irrigators are not the cause of the increasing demand for electricity.

Raising irrigation rates 25 percent will damage the economy and seriously impact livelihoods throughout our state. Quoting from an Idaho Power publication from the mid 1960's:

*"It remains for the people of Idaho and the nation to do everything possible to encourage men of vision who will continue the expansion of irrigation pumping and help create the climate of economic factors which justify expansion of reclamation onto the more marginal lands by individual enterprise."*

With this vision, Idaho Power used incentives such as attractive power rates and a no cost electrical infrastructure to encourage the private development of the desert with sprinkler irrigation into productive farm grounds generating tremendous positive impact on the economy of the State of Idaho. These same positive dynamics are still in effect today.

The resulting farming operations that have grown from hundreds of thousands of reclaimed acres require machinery, equipment, housing, and labor. Businesses have been started and/or expanded in rural communities, and these communities have been strengthened and stabilized. Processing plants, such as those operated by The Amalgamated Sugar Company and others, have been supplied the raw agricultural commodities to support their operations, sustaining and creating opportunities for employment and business investment. The tax base associated with sprinkler irrigated agriculture has been broadened with increased land values and improvements, crop incomes, working wages, processing facilities, and supporting industries and businesses.

Additionally, for agriculture to remain competitive with today's global market influences, changes had to be initiated in operations to achieve efficiency of scale benefits, to assure adequate labor in a tightening market, and conserve water usage through more efficient application methods. Sprinkler irrigation supports all of those goals.

From Idaho Power's vision of 40 years ago, huge benefits have been derived in all areas (economic stability and strength, tax base, etc.) as a result of the development of sprinkler acres. Unfortunately, with the power rate proposals now being considered from both Idaho Power and the PUC staff, the viability of many of those sprinkler irrigated acres is being severely challenged. Testimony presented by irrigators at the PUC hearings clearly stated the ramifications of rate increases at the proposed levels.

How real is the threat to agriculture? Even at today's rate, in combination with the current power cost adjustment (PCA), acres are being idled through portions of the rotation cycle because certain crops do not support costs of production which include substantial per acre power costs. The threat is very real.

Are we prepared for the consequences to Idaho's overall agricultural economic base from an implosion of all that has been realized over the last 40+ years from the development of Idaho's desert into irrigated and productive farm ground; a development that was encouraged and supported by Idaho Power? Even if there is a perceived inequity in the cost of providing electrical service to Idaho's pump irrigated agriculture, do we really believe that we can afford the costs associated with parity not only to individual growers, but to the overall economy?

Clearly there are more questions than answers. We are requesting a delay in the power rate increase for Idaho's pumpers until a complete and thorough review of rate increase consequences upon Idaho's agricultural community, and in turn, on the state and its citizens, can be more accurately determined. Idaho needs the stability that comes from a strong agricultural economic base.

Again, the crux of Idaho Power's argument for a rate increase is that they have made investments for growth which are not recoverable in the current rate structure. The proposal to recoup those costs involves a shift in the rate structure to require significantly greater participation of the agricultural community in supporting that growth. As previously stated, the disproportionate rate increase for agriculture is not economically viable in today's farm commodity markets.

Supporting growth in the cities using only the present rate methodology will destroy the economy of rural Idaho. Other methods of supporting new growth must be found.



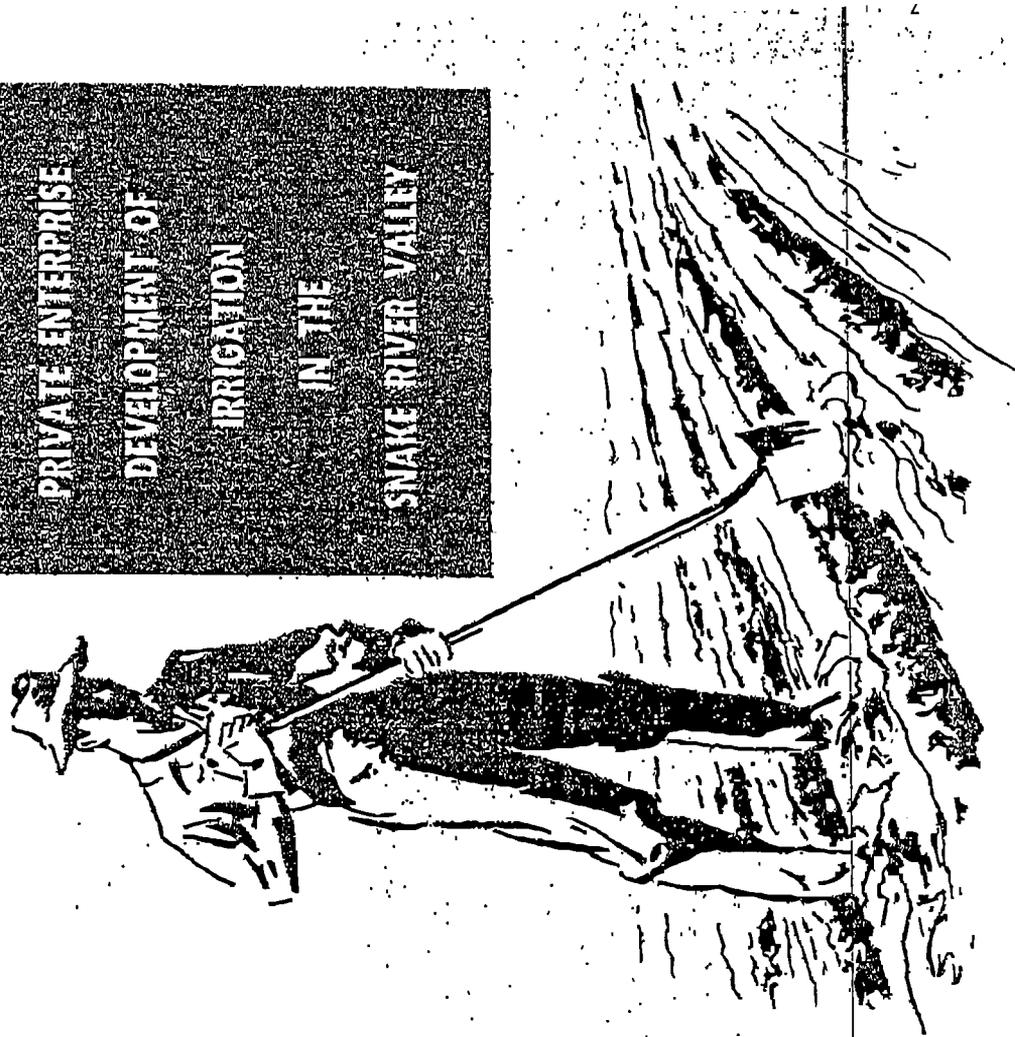
Mr. Terry L. Ketterling  
Chairman  
Snake River Sugar Company



Mr. Ralph C. Burton  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
The Amalgamated Sugar Company LLC  
(208) 383-6500

# WATER on the LAND

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE  
DEVELOPMENT OF  
IRRIGATION  
IN THE  
SNAKE RIVER VALLEY



# FOREWORD

History of the Snake River Valley's economic growth is synonymous with the development of land through irrigation.

Early irrigation was accomplished by diverting water from rivers and streams, utilizing natural forces of gravity to carry water onto thousands of acres of Idaho's rich desert lands and creating in the Snake River Valley one of the largest and most productive irrigation developments in the world.

A generation ago, with the opportunities for sound economic development of large scale gravity projects virtually exhausted, a significant change occurred in new land reclamation methods. Visionary men sank deep wells, tapping underground water to reclaim vast acreages where gravity systems were either impractical or impossible.

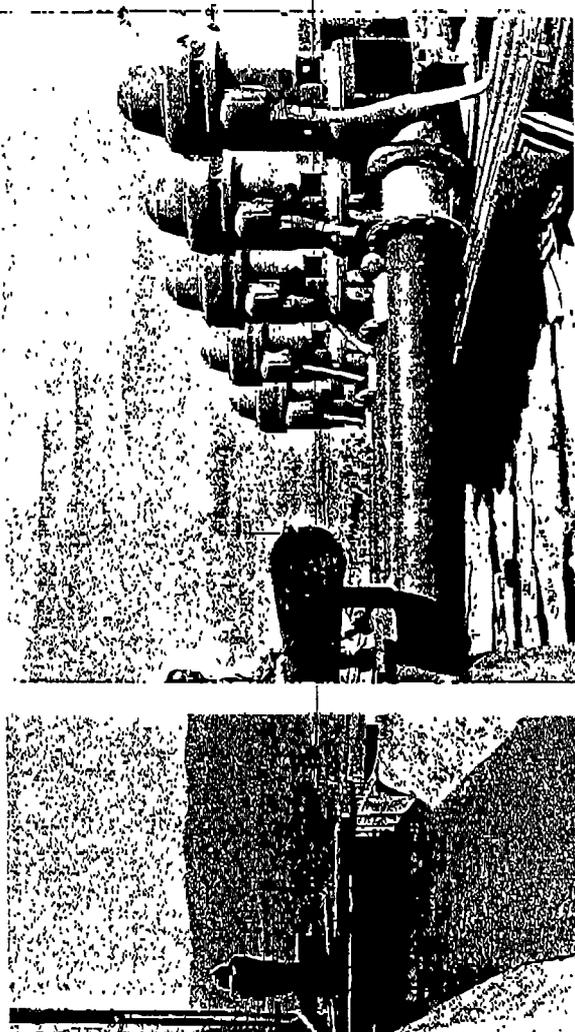
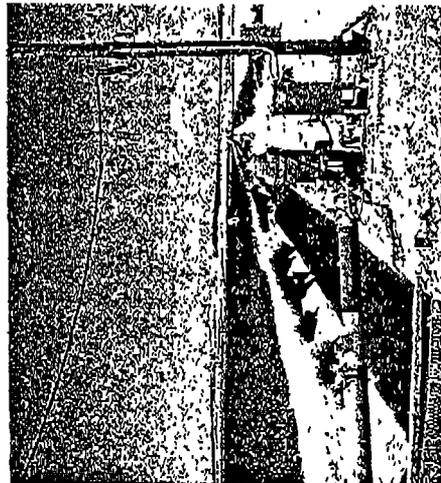
Thus began a second phase of Idaho's growth . . . an ingenious and enormous land development that in less than 20 years has added over a million new acres under cultivation. It is an expansion which has been accomplished by individual enterprise without federal aid, and no tax dollar obligation. This growth has outstripped any federal reclamation project in America, including the famed Columbia Basin project in Washington.

Millions more virgin acres wait only for the magic of irrigation. Continued expansion of any magnitude in the Snake River Valley will be accomplished only by pumping. Ample surface and underground water is available, and low cost, investor-owned power stands ready to pump it. Future orderly development, coincident with economic factors which justify land expansion, hinges on the encouragement Idaho and the nation provides for individual enterprise to create new agricultural wealth from Idaho's large areas of virgin desert lands.

This booklet discusses many little-known facts about the rapid development of this new-method concept in desert land reclamation and includes observations by some of the men who have played a vital role in its development.

Compiled and presented by

IDAHO POWER COMPANY



### Enterprise Builds Idaho

Private development, without taxpayers' funds, is adding 50,000 acres of new Idaho croplands a year. Above, Sailor Creek pumps. Pumps below are part of the Dry Lake project.



# WATER ON THE LAND

## A CENTURY OF DEVELOPMENT BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN IDAHO

Idaho today ranks third in the nation for irrigated lands. Over three million acres of this development lie in the southern half of the state.

Extensive southern Idaho land development began shortly after the turn of the century through efforts of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and private developers. Today, about 500,000 acres have been developed entirely as Bureau projects, and another 1,000,000 acres developed by private enterprise receive supplementary water from federal storage projects. The remaining 1,500,000 acres have been brought under cultivation entirely by private enterprise without need for federal funds.

Over 1 million of these acres have been reclaimed by pump irrigation, either from deep wells into underground flows or reservoirs, or by pumping directly from the Snake River and its tributaries.

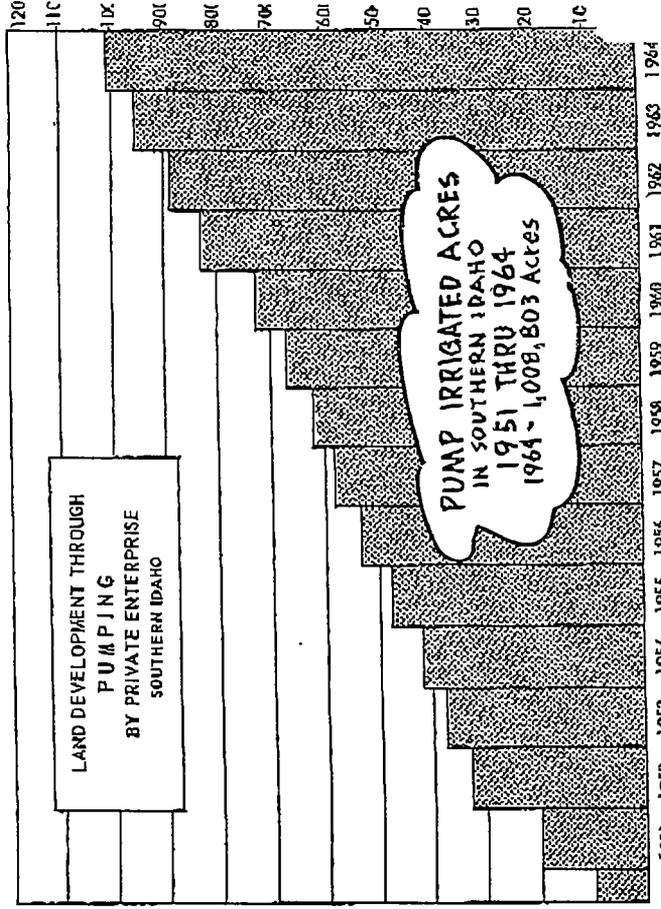


## UNLIMITED RESOURCES AVAILABLE

There appears to be an abundant reserve of water for the future. Some 11 million acre-feet of water leave the valley annually in the Snake River, and a tremendous reserve of virtually untapped underground water is evidenced.

Giant 1,250 horsepower electric pumps are already lifting water economically more than 600 feet, and higher lifts appear to be both practical and economical. The growing use of sprinklers for irrigation points the way to conservation of existing water, for better land use and for crop control. Ample investor-owned power is available for the foreseeable future at seasonal power rates that are among the lowest in the nation. Financing is more readily available as more and more projects are proving the sound economy of irrigation pumping.

It remains for the people of Idaho and the nation to do everything possible to encourage men of vision who will continue the expansion of irrigation pumping and help create the climate of economic factors which justify expansion of reclamation onto the more marginal lands by individual enterprise.

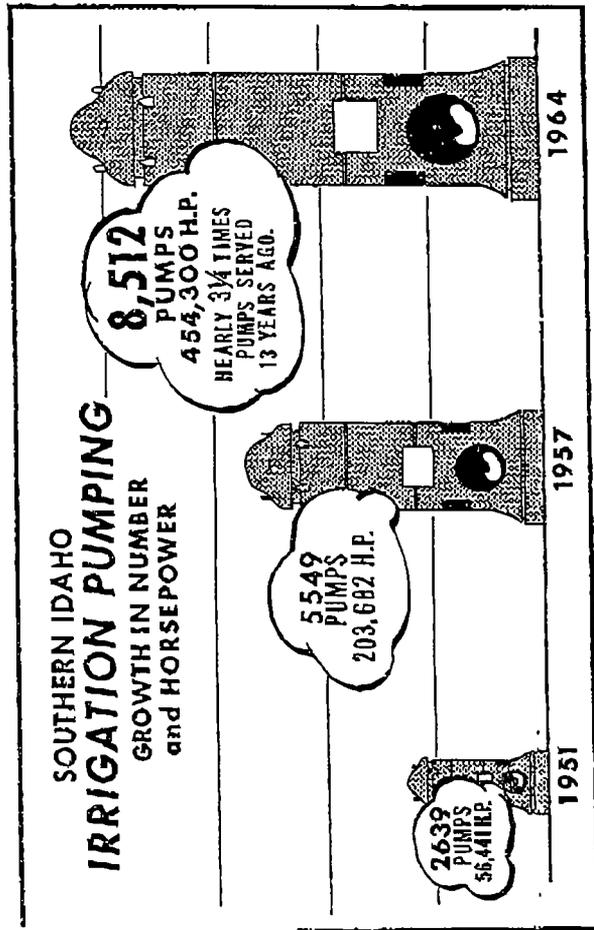


This chart shows the tremendous increase in pump-irrigated reclamation that has occurred in southern Idaho during the past 18-year period. An average of 50,000 new acres under cultivation each year for more than a decade. Today, one-third of all farmland in southern Idaho is pump-irrigated, reclaimed by the individual initiative of private investors. (These figures do not include government or R.E.A. total, which would add about 100,000 more acres under pump irrigation.)

## SPECTACULAR RECENT DEVELOPMENT

From a simple beginning with a few scattered wells sunk less than 20 years ago, deep-well pumping has grown spectacularly. Currently, new land is being placed under cultivation at a rate of 50,000 acres per year by individuals using private capital. This is the equivalent of a new "Columbia Basin" irrigation project in Idaho every 6 1/2 years without a penny of taxpayer obligation.

Scattered across the width of Idaho, this fantastic growth is largely unrecognized. It has been quietly developed by individuals and companies receiving little publicity. Today, there are in operation over 8,500 irrigation pumps with a combined power requirement of 454,000 horsepower.



## FUTURE POTENTIAL

Estimates indicate more than three million acres of undeveloped land suitable for irrigation and cultivation remain in southern Idaho.

Among the larger virgin desert areas are: an area south of Mountain Home between Orchard and King Hill, and another area south of the Snake River generally extending from Bliss to Murphy. Many other areas of significant acreage are available along the entire length of the Snake River Basin, extending the full width of the State of Idaho.

## SOUTH-EASTERN IDAHO

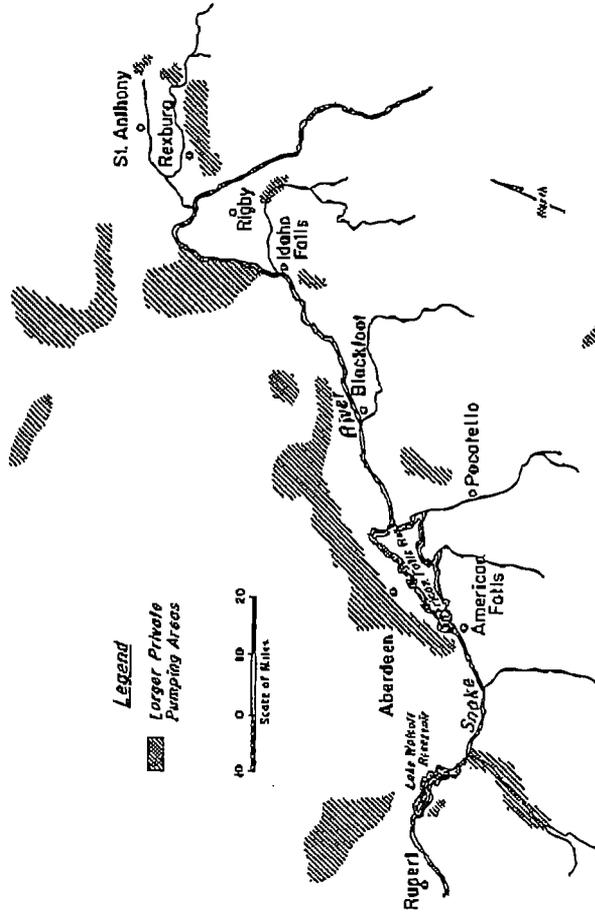
Pump irrigation in the upper valley, or Eastern Idaho, largely centers around Pocatello, American Falls, Aberdeen, Blackfoot, Idaho Falls, Rexburg, Montpelier and Preston. Scattered pumps operate in most irrigable sections of the area. Altogether about 425,000 acres are being supplied water by electric pumps, about half supplied with power by Utah Power and Light Company and most of the balance receiving their low-cost power from Idaho Power Company.

While lifts vary considerably, most pumping here is from 150 to 200 feet, generally with 70 to 100 HP pumps. Sprinkler systems dominate the application method.

At higher elevations growing seasons are necessarily short. Farmers concentrate on fast maturing crops such as potatoes, sugar beets, specific grains and feed crops.

### PRIVATE RECLAMATION

#### PUMP IRRIGATED LANDS IN UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY



This sketch shows generally where the larger sections of private enterprise development are located. Due to map size, smaller acreages (under 500 acres) are not shown, but there are a great many here.

## SOUTH-CENTRAL IDAHO

Irrigation pumping in this middle valley area depends largely on deep-well pumping and here are located some of the deepest wells and highest pump lifts served by Idaho Power Company. In this area: some 360,000 acres receiving water from wells with an average lift of about 350 feet. Pumps average about 250 HP, but 400 HP pumps are not uncommon and some lifts here exceed 450 feet.

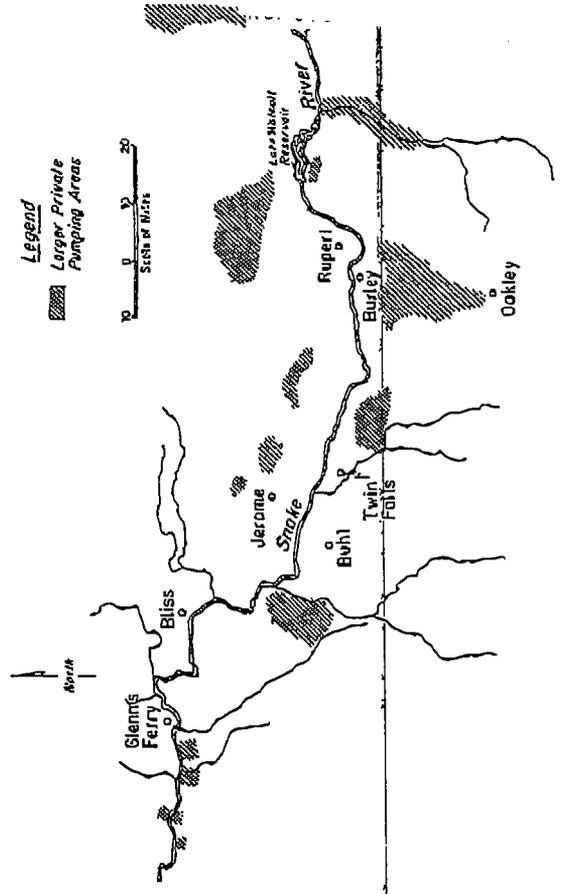
Longer growing seasons make possible a wider variety of high income seed crops in addition to heavier yields of beans, potato sugar beets and onions.

While there are some large area developments shown on the sketch below, this area is typified by smaller (160 to 500 acre) farms, too small to show on the scale map. Developers here find seed crops highly profitable and the area produces a high percentage of the nation's garden seeds. Clean, sprinkler-applied water contributes to quality crops by reducing weed contamination, and provides easy control of seed crop maturity.

### PRIVATE RECLAMATION

#### PUMP IRRIGATED LANDS IN MIDDLE SNAKE RIVER VALLEY AREA

(Acreages under 500 not shown)



## SOUTH-WESTERN IDAHO

The Lower Snake River Valley contains some of the first irrigation pumps to operate in this part of the country, some dating back to 1915. Most of these were low-lift operations, pumping from nearby canals and rivers.

With its lower elevations and longer growing seasons, this area is noted for high yield crops of potatoes, onions, sugar beets, corn and selected grains. Other significant crops are garden and field seeds, hops, fresh vegetables and fruits.

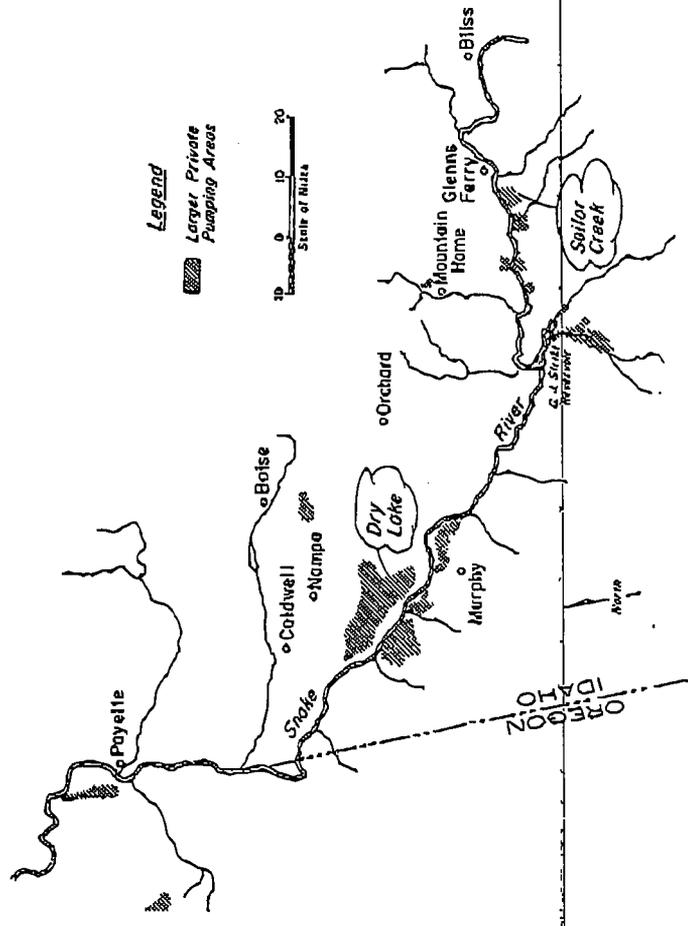
Some 225,000 acres in this area are now being irrigated with pump-supplied water. The sketch below shows some of the more significant, but there are hundreds of other farms too small to be illustrated on the map.

Here are located some of the most spectacular recent developments where the impressive installations have attracted national attention. Among them are the "Dry Lake" development and the "Sailor Creek" project where Snake River water is lifted for hundreds of feet.

## PRIVATE RECLAMATION

### PUMP IRRIGATED LANDS IN SOUTH-WESTERN IDAHO

(Acreages under 500 not shown)



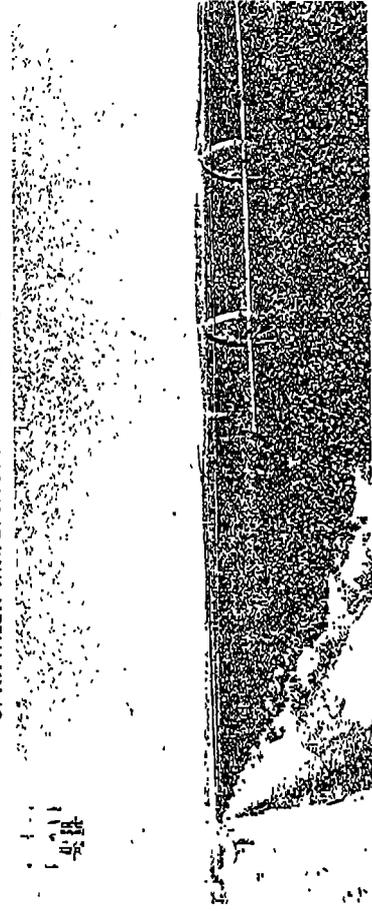
## DRY LAKE DEVELOPMENT

In 1962, five individuals pooled their efforts and installed seven 600 HP pumps on the Snake River to lift water about 500 feet to a plateau south of Nampa. That same year they had about 2,800 acres under cultivation and the following year expanded their farm land to 3,600 irrigated acres. Other people saw the opportunity and, in 1963, 20 individuals formed water companies, acquired desert land in the area, installed three more huge pumping plants on the river and by the end of that year 20,000 acres were under cultivation.

Most of the Dry Lake development utilizes sprinkler irrigation with water re-pumped from concrete-lined ditches.

Significantly, this entire project was developed from desert land long thought too expensive to reclaim. The initiative of individuals and the investment of private capital has made this project a reality, adding over 20,000 acres of new, highly productive land to Idaho's economy.

## SPRINKLER IRRIGATION CONSERVES WATER



## SAILOR CREEK PROJECT

South of Glenns Ferry, on a rolling plateau adjacent to Sailor Creek, another significant development occurred in 1964. Here a group of 12 individuals filed on Desert Entry land, installed this section's largest pumps, six 1,250 HP, to lift water over 600 feet into an unique closed sprinkler system. Battling against time, the land was cleared, the complete irrigation system installed and some 3,500 acres were in crops the same year.

This newly-developed land, long regarded as only suitable for marginal grazing of range cattle, was planted to potatoes and barley. Indicative of the productivity of this virgin soil was the 1964 yield of over 400 sacks of potatoes to the acre, yielding a cash income of about \$700 per acre.

An estimated 50,000 acres lies in the same general area, waiting for the magic of water application. The feasibility of economic development by high-lift pumping has already been established. Further new lands will be developed by private, tax paying enterprise unless forestalled by withdrawals or land closures by governmental administrative edicts.

## ECONOMICS OF HIGH LIFT PUMPING

### COSTS OF LAND RECLAMATION

Currently, desirable land under existing irrigation projects is valued at between \$700 and \$1,000 per acre. New U.S. Bureau of Reclamation projects, typified by the Columbia Basin Project, cost about \$1,000 per acre to bring under cultivation.

Private enterprise development of new lands in the Snake River Valley costs significantly less than this. It is not unusual for new lands to produce crop values the first year sufficient to defray the total cost of the reclamation.

A typical example of an area where high lifts are necessary is at Dry Lake, where the experience of some 20,000 acres can be analyzed.

Privately owned desert land cost the developers from \$50 to \$125 per acre. Dry Lake total developments, including clearing, necessary leveling, complete pumping installations, ditches and sprinkler systems total from \$225 to \$325 per acre. Thus this new land, formerly regarded as not economically feasible for reclamation, was placed under cultivation for an average of less than \$400, creating farm lands comparable to existing lands with a market value of \$700 or more per acre.

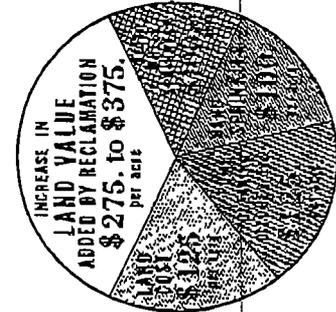
Many variable factors affect the total development costs of individual initiative irrigation pumping reclamation. The general pattern, however, shows this private enterprise opening of new lands to be a sound investment for developers whose initiative and ingenuity are making the best use of otherwise practically unused desert areas.

### INCREASED LAND VALUATION THROUGH RECLAMATION

This chart, showing costs of development and the increase in land value that is added by reclamation, is based on the actual experiences of developers in the Dry Lake area on some 20,000 acres of desert land.

Estimated market value of land after reclamation, \$700 or more per-acre.

Costs of projects may vary greatly. Desert Entry land, for example, may initially cost as little as \$2.00 per acre.



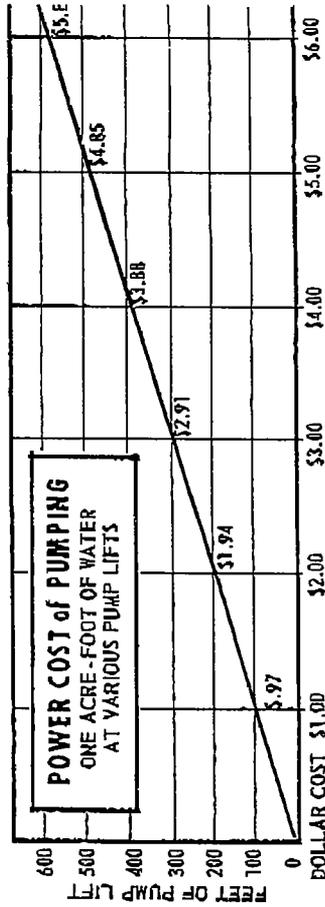
## ELECTRIC IRRIGATION PUMPING ECONOMICAL

The unique characteristics of electric power, combined with its ready availability from investor-owned suppliers at rates among the lowest in the nation, have been significant factors in the steady and continued growth of pump irrigation reclamation in the Snake River Valley.

Today, virtually all power for pumping on the over one million new southern Idaho acres is being supplied by compact, highly efficient electric motors, some of which have been in continuous operation since the 1930's.

Actual power costs may vary from \$4.00 to \$20.00 per acre, depending on type of soil, application method, crop needs, weather, growing seasons, height of pump lift and other factors.

The chart below shows engineering estimates of electric power costs at various lifts for pumping one acre foot of water. These estimates indicate that many acres formerly regarded as economically marginal can now be reclaimed and placed in profitable production.



### SPRINKLING COSTS

The growing use of sprinkler irrigation points the way to other avenues of operating economy. Sprinkling cuts water requirements up to 20%. It reduces weeding and cultivation costs. It reduces leveling costs, permitting greater use of the land and the development of thin soil areas unsuitable for ditch or flood irrigation. Electric power for sprinkling costs about \$1.25 per acre-foot.

NOTE: In the above estimates, no attempt has been made to include interest and amortization of investment since wide cost variations make generalization and averaging impossible.

## HIGH YIELD - HIGH INCOME CROPS

This development is occurring in virtually every area of the Snake River Valley where rich lava-ash soils are adaptable to successful cultivation of almost any farm crop. Yields are heavy . . . but, significantly, these bumper crops do not contribute to the national crop surplus. A ready market generally exists for leading area crops such as potatoes, sugar beets, fruits, onions, corn, beans, a wide variety of seed crops, alfalfa, livestock and feeder cattle.

The availability of an almost unlimited variety of top quality farm produce has enabled the opening of 21 new food processing plants in the past 12 years, with a peak 1963 employment of over 7,000 people. These plants provide national distribution of canned, frozen and dehydrated Idaho produce.

While supplying fresh fruits and vegetables to these processing plants is high in economic importance, the area climate with controlled irrigation is especially adapted to raising of seed crops. Bean, carrot, onion and many other farm, garden and flower seeds are shipped all over the world. About 4/5 of the nation's requirements of hybrid seed corn is produced on valley farms. Comparatively new, bulb crops have been highly successful. For example, there appears to be an almost instant market for tiny cocktail onions, formerly grown and imported from Holland.

Crop values run consistently high. Typical of the 5-year average for two of the many basic area crops is shown in the following report of the Soil Conservation Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture:

IDAHO STATE AVERAGE - CROP COSTS AND RETURNS PER ACRE				
CROP	PRODUCTION COSTS	YIELDS	GROSS RETURN	NET RETURN BEFORE TAXES
POTATOES	\$206.61	204 cwt.	\$324.40	\$119.79
SUGAR BEETS	156.94	20.2 ton	262.26	105.32

These are all-Idaho figures. They average the best with the poorest farm productions. Typical farms on pump-irrigated lands often exceed these averages, as in the case of Sailor Creek, where the first year potato crops ran 400 cwt per acre and Dry Lake, where the 1964 crop produced over 300 cwt per acre of potatoes and better than 25 tons per acre of sugar beets.

## BROAD AREA BENEFITS

Spreading new wealth into every southern Idaho community, new farm lands have vastly enriched the economy of the state. Even using a low value of \$200 per acre increase in value added by reclamation, these new acres have added over \$200,000,000 to Idaho agriculture wealth.

New lands require machinery, equipment, housing and labor. New businesses have been launched. Existing communities have been strengthened and stabilized. New processing plants have opened, and fertilizer industries have been expanded with more millions of dollars invested.

It is estimated that three new jobs are created from each 100 acres of new land, one on the farm and two in supporting or related industry. On that basis, thousands of new jobs have been created from this new land development.

The tax base of all southern Idaho has been broadened with increased values on land and improvements, crop incomes, worker wages, processing facilities and taxes on the increased facilities installed by investor-owned utilities that serve these vast new developments with low-cost power.

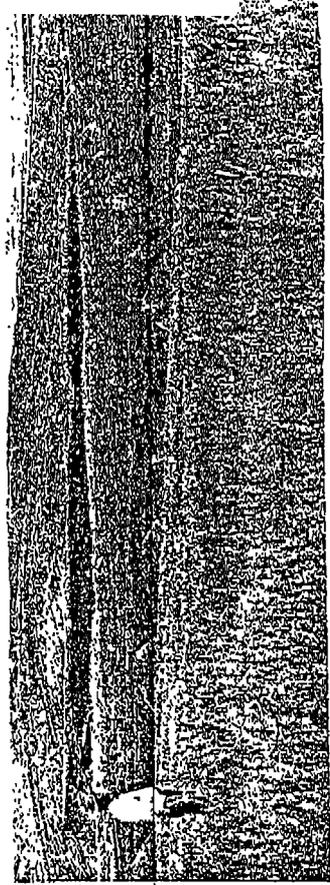
These are just a few of the area economic benefits that automatically accrue as new land is developed . . . and they remain as powerful benefits, providing added wealth and opportunity for generations to come.

Irrigation pumping has enjoyed a healthy and orderly development, taking place just as fast as economic factors justify the expansion onto new areas. Land can be placed under cultivation fast—in most instances crops can be harvested the first year.

Private initiative development requires no tax dollars or subsidies. Modern agricultural pioneers are ready and willing to take the risks and invest in new land opening. Idaho needs the use of all her available water for present and future developments.

Idaho's future may well depend on how well she encourages these men of initiative, imagination and faith in the future to continue the reclamation of new lands and strengthen the economy of this great, comparatively virgin western country.

CROP PRODUCTION FIRST YEAR



# MEN OF VISION

Idaho's pump-irrigation development was pioneered by imaginative men who invested their own time and money to prove the feasibility of tapping underground and surface water to cultivate the desert. Their vision and determination has added untold new agricultural wealth to Idaho's economy . . . a vast new resource that will continue to expand for generations to come.

Observations by investors, developers, irrigators and men in allied industries provide a challenge to Idaho people to provide the political and economic climate that will encourage the continued efforts of these modern day pioneers.



## Lower Cost

### — New Land Faster

"We of the Travelers Insurance Company have considered it a privilege to take part in the dynamic development of the Dry Lake Area through irrigation pumping from the Snake River. The Travelers has invested substantial amounts of money through mortgage loans to private farmers who have brought into production thousands of acres of rich farm land from the desert.

"These desert acres cost as little as 50¢ per acre on up to \$250 per acre. The cost to irrigate these desert acres has run from \$200 to \$250 per acre. The total investment has run from \$250 to \$400 per acre. This land development represents about one-third the cost the federal government had estimated would be necessary, and it has been done approximately in one-third of the time the federal government indicated it would have taken to accomplish the same task.

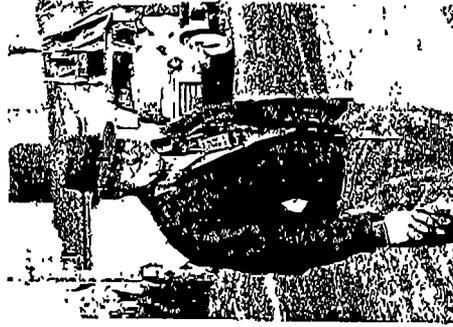
"In the Dry Lake Area alone, the land so developed, is now valued at approximately ten million dollars. In addition to the development costs, these farmers have purchased approximately two million dollars worth of machinery to farm that ground. This is economic development for Idaho in the finest sense, and Travelers Insurance Company is proud to have been a part in this development."

DONALD S. REED, Mortgage Loan Representative,  
The Travelers Insurance Company

## Pioneer Spirit

"Irrigation Service, Inc., is proud to have been a part of the private irrigation development in the Dry Lake area, south of Nampa, as well as other individual projects throughout Southwestern Idaho. We believe that the pioneer spirit and the obvious pride of development of the individuals involved should be commended. Their foresight has indeed provided a real contribution to the future of our community, state and nation."

EUGENE R. JOCHENS, Nampa Manager,  
Irrigation Service, Inc.



## Gives Personal Control

"Having the source of water on my own farm and having personal control of the water has not only been very satisfying but has proven profitable. It isn't necessary to co-ordinate my watering with anyone else and I can have water as late in the fall or as early in the spring as needed for special crops or for especially dry springs or falls. My private pumping development has been profitable. I'm certain I have been able to control the development costs by developing the project as an individual. I'm certain that my efforts have added to the local economy."

WILBERT H. MOLLER, Farmer, Rupert, Idaho



## Great Potential

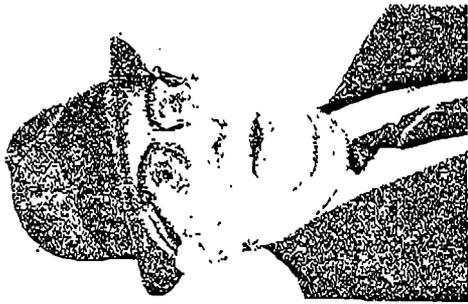
"It has been a privilege to serve the many needs of irrigators with pumps and sprinkler equipment from rivers and wells. We feel the future of our great potential is dependent on agricultural development of this type."

HARLYN J. WOOD, H. J. Wood Co., Boise, Idaho

## Community Support

"I started my deep well irrigation pumping operation on Michaud Flats west of Pocatello in 1953. As one of the pioneers of this area, I have proven my deep well pumping to be successful and others have followed my operation and found it has also been an answer to solving their problems. By bringing the desert land into cultivation, I feel that I have contributed greatly to the support of my community. Had it not been for this private development, there would be thousands of total acres lying idle instead of being in productive farms today."

J. W. PRIESTLY, Pocatello, Idaho



## Private Capital — Individual Initiative

"Over most of the past 72 years our Company has financed and helped establish thousands of acres of gravity and pump irrigation developments throughout Southern Idaho and surrounding states. These lands have been engineered and financed with private capital and completed by individual initiative. They are operated and managed by private individuals and private companies.

"Through this method, we believe the development has been sound, orderly, economical and guided by the individual judgment of thousands of experienced farmers and businessmen.

"As one of the largest mortgage lenders in the Intermountain West, we have the facilities and stand ready to continue helping in the future development of Idaho's land and water in a manner that will give the maximum permanent economic growth from these two important resources."

DAVID R. MEAD, Assistant Secretary and Manager, Twin Falls Office  
Utah Mortgage Loan Corporation



"I feel the electric pumping has been the best answer in developing 500 acres near Meridian, Idaho. We experience no weeds, saves leveling costs, and we have water whenever we need it with sprinkler pumping. All our neighbors have since installed pumping."

M. A. STICKLER, Boise, Idaho

## Continued Growth in Processing Plants

"The development of one million acres of new land by pump irrigation in southern Idaho has made possible a vast new food processing industry, which greatly benefits the agricultural economy and the business economy of the entire area. With another million or more acres of the same type of high quality land which should be developed in the relatively near future by irrigation pumping, we can look forward to a continuing dramatic increase in processing facilities here.

"These plants assure farmers of a ready market for their farm produce, even before the crops are planted. Area processing plants require tremendous investments, employ thousands of people in food handling, marketing and transportation, and benefit the farmers, the businessmen and the citizens of the area alike."

J. R. SIMPLOT, President  
J. R. Simplot Co., Boise, Idaho

## For the Good of All

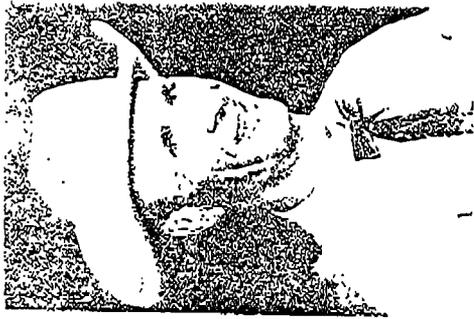
"The Basin Land Company was the first major land developer in the Dry Lake Area south of Nampa. At that time, to lift water 525 feet, and to lift it still further through sprinkler pressure, was considered by many people to be not economically feasible. Our Company invested substantial amounts of money in the land as well as the irrigation system to farm 4,200 acres, yet today our business judgment has proved fruitful because this is a sound, economic venture.

"We have added land, at appreciably increased value, on the tax rolls of the State and County, have produced taxable wealth, and have employed many people, and at the same time fostered a vigorous new company.

"As President of the Basin Land Company, I have been personally gratified not only with the success of this endeavor, but also to realize that private initiative and private capital can still accomplish outstanding benefits for the good of all."

R. L. RICE, President  
Basin Land Company, Inc., Nampa, Idaho

## Pumping Best Answer



### Future Welfare of Idaho

"For many years I had a vision of beautiful, productive farms in the Dry Lake area south of Nampa. Along with others I was quite active in encouraging the Bureau of Reclamation to proceed with their plans to irrigate this section.

"When the idea and feasibility of pumping from Snake River were presented, I was glad to cooperate with the other farmers in development of this fine land. I feel that the economic contribution of the area is equal to many large industries and is a tremendous investment for the future welfare of Idaho."

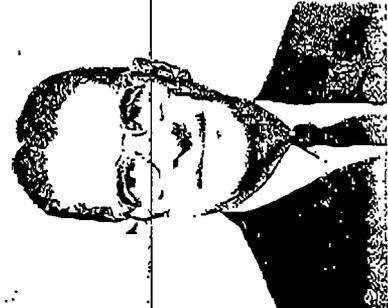
JOHN H. BRANDT, Brandt Agency,  
Nampa, Idaho

### New Job Opportunities

"My company is pleased to be a part of the development of water and land in Southern Idaho. We feel we have provided good service to many individual pump land farmers. The results of years of privately financed research and development of pump design are available to each individual pump owner.

"Southern Idaho's irrigation pumping development is an example of private enterprise in action. The Layne & Bowler Pump Company has invested appreciable sums of money to compete for a portion of this type of pumping business. It has created jobs and helped to substantially increase the economy of Southern Idaho."

THOMAS M. THOMPSON, Manager  
Layne & Bowler Pump Company, Twin Falls, Idaho



### Pumping Speeds Development

"New types of farm equipment have contributed in helping open up new tracts of land. Pumping water from rivers and wells has made it possible to develop new land with private capital in helping farm operators with their problems."

RAY HARRIS, Harris Truck & Implement Co.,  
Mountain Home, Idaho

### Power on Fast Call

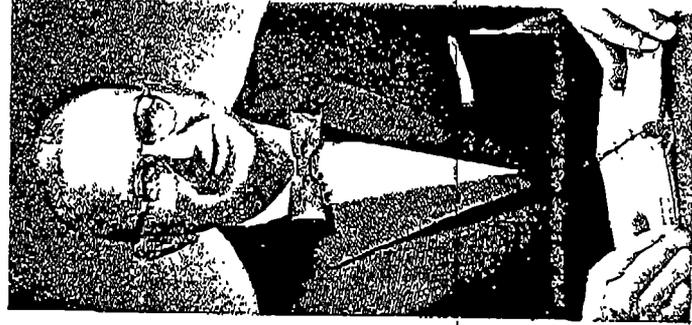
"Our food processing business is primarily geared to agricultural development. We use the products grown on some 25,000 acres of land annually. For a proper three-year crop rotation program, this involves about 75,000 acres of crop land at present time.

"Our business has been developed on a free enterprise basis and the agricultural development, community work force and investment, and power utilities have all cooperated towards our success.

"Land development has been particularly necessary in keeping pace with our raw product needs. Large tracts adjacent to the Snake River water supply in southern Idaho have been developed. Adequate power for these vast water pumping projects has been necessary on an economical basis.

"Another great private enterprise business, Idaho Power Company, has been most cooperative in supplying this need. On fast call, the power has been made available to all pumping areas and to the processing plants themselves."

F. NEPHI GRIGG, President  
Ore-Ida Foods, Ontario, Oregon



### Wonderful Experience

"We in the Hat Butte Mutual Canal Company are real proud of the development in the Dry Lake Area, and are happy to be a part of this. By bringing the desert land into cultivation I feel that we have contributed greatly to the support of our community in which we all live.

"Had it not been for this private development there would be thousands of total acre lying idle, instead of being in productive farms today. This has been a wonderful experience for both my son, Maurice Glen, and myself and we feel our pumping water on new land has been a good answer to our problems."

M. O. CLEMENTS, Nampa, Idaho

## Thankful for Opportunity

"Merrill and I have been pumping water from the underground supply on the North Side for fourteen seasons. During this time we have seen the desert change from sagebrush land to beautiful farms. We have been privileged to have had a share in the development of this beautiful farming area that has contributed so much to the economy of Minidoka County and the State of Idaho.

"Our operation has also developed with the growth of this area which would not have been possible without the underground water and the power to pump that water onto the land. Idaho Power Company has furnished us with the electrical energy to pump this water. We are indeed thankful for the opportunity; that the land, the water, and the electrical power have made these things possible."

ROGER E. DEAN, Rupert, Idaho

## Sound — Orderly — Economical

"The full economic development of Idaho as it affects the beneficial use of land and water resources requires the effective use of all interests, private and governmental. In my efforts I've leaned heavily on the cooperation and guidance of state and federal institutions and agencies but have found private sources of capital and many privately owned companies and individuals ready and eager to take on certain reclamation jobs.

"I have organized and helped establish many of these irrigation pumping projects throughout Southern Idaho — with private capital. I believe these developments have been sound, orderly, economical, and guided by individual judgment of trained people in and out of government agencies, by hundreds of experienced farmers, and businessmen.

"The future development of land and water should continue in this fashion on several hundreds of thousands of acres if Idaho is to receive the maximum permanent economical growth from these resources."

G. T. NEWCOMB, Twin Falls, Idaho

## Productive Enterprise

"My pump farm is the result of the combined efforts of myself and private contractors. I know that development of water and land by private individuals like myself results in a well-planned productive enterprise. I have taken personal financial risks, but this is the secret of success of this country. The risks proved to be good ones and I feel that the opportunity for future private development of water and land in Southern Idaho should continue. Communities will develop by substantial, healthy growth when private individuals do the job through their own initiative."

J. W. "JIM" HENRY, Hazelton-Rupert, Idaho

## Idle Land Put to Work

"The development and use of underground water by individual farmers has been very successful in our area. Non-productive, idle land has been put to beneficial use through this method of irrigation. My particular farm would not be producing today if it were not for this type of development. I feel that I have contributed to the stability of the economy of the community through this project and can say that it has been a good investment for myself as well as others using this form of irrigation."

WILSON NOWELS, Aberdeen, Idaho

## Development Will Continue

"Most of our pump sales in Southern Idaho have been to private individuals or private companies. This Company believes that our business here is sound and has invested large sums of money in service facilities and equipment to continue to serve our customers. We feel that we have made a real contribution to the economy. Our business is geared to serve individual pump customers. We plan to compete for a share of the future pumping business in Idaho and hope the development will continue as it has during the past 10 to 15 years."

J. S. DUFFEL, Manager  
Layne Pumps, Inc., Twin Falls, Idaho

## Processing Plants Made Possible

"Enterprising individuals from various walks of life and with varied skills and abilities have combined efforts to develop hundreds of thousands of acres of new land in Southern Idaho with irrigation pumps supplying the water.

"Our processing plants were made possible by the volume of produce now available from these new lands, added to the existing production of established crop land. The new land has created, directly and indirectly, thousands of new jobs for Southern Idaho.

"Processing the crops grown in Idaho is a logical step towards further industrialization of this area. Much growth thus far can be attributed to private enterprise. Many farms and processing plants are being privately financed and privately operated.

"I plan to continue to help and encourage present and future water development. Every individual and business in Southern Idaho has an opportunity to benefit from this type of development of land and water."

VANESS ANDERSON, Burley, Idaho

## Increased Land Value

"Agricultural Services, Inc., Blackfoot, Idaho, an independent corporation, has promoted Idaho land development since 1952 through sales and service of deep well pumps, sprinkler irrigation systems, fertilizer and chemicals. A new office building and bulk fertilizer plant were built in 1964. The fertilizer bulk plant has 6,000 ton capacity per season.

"Complete financial aid has been made available to our Idaho Farmers for land development and land production. Agricultural Services, Inc., has assisted with increasing Idaho land valuation to an average of over \$1,200,000.00 per year. This has been made possible through the development by private pumping."

THOMAS B. SLAYTON,  
Agricultural Services, Inc., Blackfoot, Idaho

## Sound and Reliable

"Our bank has had the privilege of serving many new customers and has added services for existing customers as a result of the pump land development in this area. We look upon this growth as sound and reliable. Substantial additions to our service personnel and facilities were made possible by this new business.

"Developments such as this by private, individual farm businessmen have brought solid growth to the economy of the area we serve. We believe in private enterprise and are looking forward to the future development of Idaho's land, water, and business."

R. D. MCKINNEY, Mgr.,  
Twin Falls Bank and Trust Co., Kimberly Branch



## \$15 Million Annual New Wealth

"The development of pump irrigated lands in Idaho by individuals, without government help, is the largest on record. The farmers of Bingham County have cleared the sagebrush, leveled the land, drilled 985 wells, made the ditches and put under irrigation 185,000 acres of land in the last 15 years. This has helped make our county the largest potato producing county in the nation. Fifteen million dollars of new wealth is produced annually on these new lands which has made possible many new businesses to be established in this area, and has helped every segment of our county economy."

C. L. WILLIAMS, Blackfoot, Idaho

## Individual Development

"Development by the individual has been very successful in Southern Idaho. Had it not been for this type of development, my farm would still be non-productive or unprofitable . . . It has proved to be a good economic investment for myself and many other individuals in Southern Idaho."

C. W. "Chet" McCLAIN, Castletford, Idaho



## Tax Roll Benefits

"As the developer of the first piece of ground upon which water was lifted from the Snake River in the Dry Lake Area, it is a pleasure to state that this has been a splendid economic development for me. Since that time, I have participated in ventures to bring under cultivation thousands of acres at the Sailor Creek Project. This too has been very successful. Because of this, we are planning more developments up and down the Snake River.

"Through the combined efforts of private individuals, like myself, who have invested their private capital, it has been possible to bring about a large amount of economic gain to many people and to the tax rolls of the counties and the State of Idaho.

"Development costs have been about \$850.00 per acre on federal ground and \$450.00 per acre on private ground. These are very favorable economic bases from which to build more developments, as we have in the past.

"I, personally, am very pleased to be a part of this new concept and gain for the citizens and the State of Idaho."

ALLEN NOBLE, Nampa, Idaho

## A GREAT FUTURE FOR IDAHO RECLAMATION





## IDAHO POWER COMPANY

BOX 70 BOISE, IDAHO 83721

February 7, 1975

South Elmore Irrigation Co  
Mountain Home, Idaho

Gentlemen:

Idaho Power Company and Stockholders of South Elmore Irrigation Company, along with purchasers of stock, have been discussing the possibility of providing electric service to 14,825 horsepower of pump motors for the 1975 irrigation season for lands formerly referred to as "Flying H Project."

It is our understanding that Stockholders desire water pumped from electric pumps in 1975 to irrigate existing lands formerly irrigated by water pumped from natural gas engines, which have since been removed.

Idaho Power Company's estimated investment in 1975 to serve the full requirements of South Elmore Irrigation Company is \$298,642, of which \$94,500 is the nonsalvage cost of installing and removing the extension and facilities to serve this project.

The Company has not been able to offer line extension and up and down agreements to Stockholders and purchasers of stock because of incomplete and inadequate data supplied to the Company.

It is Company's understanding that all Stockholders and purchasers of stock of South Elmore Irrigation Company may not participate in the 1975 development, and that Stockholders having committed themselves to the 1975 operation by electric pump motors have requested the Company start construction of the substation and terminal facilities prior to execution of all of the agreements with all of the Stockholders and purchasers of stock, and have further requested that the Stockholders be permitted to deposit \$126,000 with the Company, which is the estimated amount of the nonsalvage cost plus the Company's annual costs of facilities that may not be used and useful to serve such Stockholders who are committed to the electric operation during the 1975 season.

The \$126,000 deposit is comprised of \$94,500 up and down (nonsalvage costs of installing and removing facilities) of which \$9,500 is not subject to refund by virtue of being the difference between overhead and underground facilities for a portion of the line extension requested by the Stockholders. The remaining \$31,500 is the estimated annual costs to the Company of the facilities which will be installed and may not be used or useful to the Stockholders for a one year period, but would be required if all Stockholders and purchasers of stock of South Elmore Irrigation Company execute agreements acceptable to the Company for the 1975 season's operation.

South Elmore Irrigation Co

February 7, 1975

The Company agrees to accept the \$126,000 deposit and commence construction of the substation and line terminal facilities, with the understanding that if all Stockholders and purchasers of stock of South Elmore Irrigation Company execute agreements acceptable to the Company for the 1975 season, the Company will refund said deposit, less the \$9,500 overhead/underground difference.

In the event all Stockholders and purchasers of stock of South Elmore Irrigation Company do not execute all agreements acceptable to the Company, that portion of said deposit not covered by agreements executed for the 1975 season's operation will be determined and retained by Company and the balance, if any, of said deposit provided for under executed agreements will be refunded to South Elmore Irrigation Company.

If this letter agreement meets with your approval, please have the proper official indicate your acceptance in the space provided below and return one copy of this letter for our files.

Very truly yours,

*R. J. O'Connor*  
R J O'Connor  
Senior Vice President

JWC:hb

The above letter agreement  
read and agreed to this  
7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1975.

SOUTH ELMORE IRRIGATION CO

By *[Signature]*  
Its *[Signature]*

By *[Signature]*  
Its *[Signature]*

ELECTRIC SERVICE OPERATING AGREEMENT

IDAHO POWER COMPANY  
SOUTH ELMORE IRRIGATION CO.  
1975 Development

0.1 THIS AGREEMENT, Made on this 15 day of April, 1975, by and between IDAHO POWER COMPANY, hereinafter referred to as "Company," and SOUTH ELMORE IRRIGATION CO., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Idaho, and having its principal place of business in Boise, Idaho, hereinafter referred to as "Customer";

W I T N E S S E T H:

0.2 WHEREAS, the Customer has entered into Operating Agreements with certain Stockholders for the operation, maintenance and management of an irrigation system constructed by the South Elmore Irrigation Co under that certain Tenancy in Common Agreement, dated 15 April, 1975, for the purpose of delivery of water from the Snake River to the lands of the Stockholders; and

0.3 Whereas, the Stockholders in said South Elmore Irrigation Co. are also customers under certain agreements entitled "Irrigation Facilities and Power Supply, South Elmore Irrigation Co. Area," with the Company, dated the 15 day of April, 1975 and other dates;

0.4 WHEREAS, it is the desire of the parties that the Customer shall perform all the obligations necessary with respect to providing electric lines and facilities and the supply

of power and energy for operation of the irrigation facilities and to allocate and proportion the cost of such electric lines, facilities, power and energy to the Stockholders of Customer pursuant to agreement between the Stockholders and Idaho Power Company.

NOW, THEREOFRE, in consideration of the premises and the mutual benefits from the covenants hereinafter set forth, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Attached hereto and made a part hereof are Exhibits A and B. Exhibit A, entitled "Tenancy in Common Agreement," is an agreement executed and signed by all of the Stockholders describing the combined objective of the South Elmore Irrigation Co Stockholders and the individual proportionate obligation of each individual Stockholder. Exhibit B, entitled "Articles of Incorporation" of South Elmore Irrigation Co, provides for the operation of the irrigation system constructed by the South Elmore Irrigation Co for the Stockholders, with each Stockholder agreeing to comply with all rules and regulations of the corporation relating to the delivery of water and assessment and payment of charges for operating and maintaining the system.
2. Attached hereto and made a part hereof is Exhibit C, entitled "Agreement for Irrigation Facilities and Power Supply, South Elmore Irrigation Co. Area." A copy of this Agreement has been executed by each of the Stockholders and provides that each

Stockholder will pay his proportionate part of the electric lines, facilities, power and energy required for the operation of the electric motor driven pumps for irrigation of the South Elmore Irrigation Co land.

3. Customer agrees to purchase, receive and pay for, and Company agrees to supply electric service required by Customer for Customer's irrigation operations at or near Mountain Home in Elmore County, State of Idaho, up to the amount of horsepower herein set forth, or as may be substantially agreed to between the parties by letter agreement which shall comprise an exhibit to this agreement, in the form of three-phase, alternating current at approximately 60 cycles per second and 480 and 2,300 volts, in accordance with and subject to the Company's standard Rates, Rules and Regulations as now or hereafter in effect and on file with the Public Utilities Commission of Idaho, and at the rates hereinafter provided for. All payments for service shall be made at the Company's office at Mountain Home, Idaho.

4. (a) All electric power and energy, up to 14,515 horsepower, shall be supplied and billed in accordance with the Company's Irrigation and Soil Drainage Pumping Service Schedule No 24, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

(b) Points of delivery under this Agreement to be metered and billed separately are as follows:

<u>Horsepower</u>	<u>Voltage</u>	<u>Location - B M</u>			
		<u>1/4 Sec</u>	<u>Sec</u>	<u>Twp</u>	<u>Rge</u>
8,000	2300	SW	28	5S	7E
2,400	2300	NE	17	5S	7E
550	480	NE	13	5S	6E
600	480	NW	13	5S	6E
425	480	NE	14	5S	6E
750	480	NE	15	5S	6E
600	480	NW	15	5S	6E
40	480	NW	10	5S	6E
60	480	SE	3	5S	6E
400	480	NW	11	5S	6E
100	480	SW	14	5S	6E
40	480	NE	1	5S	6E
100	480	NENE	20	5S	7E
150	480	SWNE	17	5S	7E
300	480	NWSE	17	5S	7E

14,515 Horsepower - Total

In the event Customer desires, subsequent to commencement of service at the above-mentioned points of delivery, to move the location or change the size of a pump installation, Customer shall pay any costs incurred by Company for such change.

(c) The minimum monthly charge shall be the Demand Charge for the current month's maximum demand, but not less than \$9.60 for each delivery point for any month that service is connected.

(d) The Customer's minimum annual charge shall be the higher of the following:

(i) An amount sufficient to make the total charges for service under this Agreement for the twelve-month period ending February 28 of each year, equal to \$15.00 times the horsepower shown in paragraph 4(b).

(ii) An amount sufficient to make the charge for service under this Agreement for the twelve-month period, ending February 28 of each year, equal to \$10.00 per horsepower at any one point of delivery shown in paragraph 4(b).

The minimum charges set forth above shall apply during the term of this Agreement, and any renewals or extensions thereof, and shall be payable by the Customer's successors or assigns.

5. It is understood and agreed between the parties that:

(a) Customer shall pay in advance, unless otherwise

mutually agreed in writing, the estimated season billing which will be subject to adjustment at the end of the season based on the actual season's billing. Power and energy required will be measured and billed by meters at each point of use and such use and billing will be for the operation of all facilities to supply water for Customer.

(b) Customer shall pay the season's estimated use or annual minimum, whichever is the larger, in advance each season, and Company will not be required to energize facilities for operation of pumps until the total estimated season's billings have been received from Customer. Failure to pay this advance payment each season shall be considered as termination or abandonment of the Agreement.

6. It is further mutually understood and agreed, in consideration of factors related to the construction of this extension and facilities and the use of electric service therefrom, that the Customer will advance in cash to the Company the sum of \$94,500, which amount represents the net cost (nonsalvable part of the total cost) of installing and removing the lines and facilities required hereunder. After five (5) consecutive full years of service under the Agreement, Company shall refund to Customer twenty percent (20%) of the said cash advance each full year thereafter until all of the cash advance is refunded.

Said sum, or the reduced amount, shall be retained by the Company in the event of termination of service by Customer or abandonment of operations. In lieu of the cash advance specified above, Customer may provide a guarantee acceptable to the Company from the individual Stockholders, in the form as shown on the document attached hereto as Exhibit D, which guarantees in total will provide for the payment of the total cash advance of \$94,500 in the event of termination of pumping operations.

7. During the term of this Agreement and any renewals and extensions thereof, the Customer agrees to and will purchase from the Company all electric power and energy required for its operations at the above location, such power and energy, up to the amount hereinabove set forth, to be supplied and paid for at the rate set forth in paragraph 4(a) above, it being understood and agreed that when the Customer's demand exceeds such amount, it is the intention of the parties that new and superseding rates will be agreed upon, applicable to the Customer's load and service as then required. It is understood that the electric service supplied under this Agreement, and the rates set forth or provided herein, are subject to the regulatory authority, jurisdiction, and control of the Public Utilities Commission of Idaho.

8. It is understood and agreed that the initial date of delivery of power and energy under this Agreement is subject to

the Company's ability to obtain required labor, materials, equip-  
ment, satisfactory rights of way and comply with government  
regulations.

9. The term of this Agreement shall extend from March 1,  
1975 and for ten (10) years subsequent to February 28, 1975,  
and such term shall be automatically renewed and extended for  
an additional period of five (5) years, and from year to year  
thereafter, unless and until either party shall notify the other  
party in writing not less than twelve (12) months prior to any  
such expiration date of its intention to terminate this Agreement.  
This Agreement terminates and supersedes Irrigation Electric  
Service Agreements between Billy Rio Farms, dated November 13,  
1973, Billy Rio Farms, dated July 3, 1974, and Gem Mountain  
Farms, Inc, dated May 28, 1970.

Executed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1975.

SOUTH ELMORE IRRIGATION CO.

BY M. G. Clement  
Its (Pres)

Attest)  
Witness) Mark E. Deenan (Sec.)

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

BY R. J. O'Connor  
Its Vice President

Attest)  
Witness) Paul L. Haverigan

✓ Gen. Ack  
sent 5/3/04✓ To Comm  
; H**Jean Jewell**

---

**From:** Tonya Clark  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2004 7:45 AM  
**To:** Jean Jewell  
**Subject:** FW: idaho power rate hike

-----Original Message-----

**From:** LHigley97@aol.com [mailto:LHigley97@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2004 9:23 PM  
**To:** Lou Ann Westerfield  
**Cc:** Lynn Anderson; Tonya Clark; Gene Fadness  
**Subject:** idaho power rate hike

It seems like every other year Idaho Power complains about how much they are not getting for their power. I looked back on 3 different years billings and noted that in one year they had a customer charge per line of \$4.43. Another year, they increased the price over a certain number of kWh's. Now the surcharge per line is at \$2.51. I remember in the not too distant past that Idaho Power had the cheapest rate on power in the Nation due to hydro electric power generating. Now, I guess they have built gas fired plants and with natural gas at a high, they are probably feeling a pinch.

I would like to be able to tell my social security people that I can not make it on what I am getting and would they please give me a 20% increase. I think you would hear the laughter all the way from Washington to Boise. I think that what Idaho Power needs most is a change of management with those at the top looking for ways to cut power costs not increase them whenever possible. I'm sure all the executives with Idaho Power stock don't want to come in short on the earnings and have that stock lose a lot of its base.

Anyway, I hope that the commission had the forethought and wisdom to realize that if this huge increase is granted, it will never be reversed in the future but will need an additional increase in a few more years.

I have electric heat and in the winter my bill is close to 200 per month unless I turn off all the bedrooms and leave the rest of the thermostats at 60 degrees. 20% on that is \$40. That's quite a budget breaker if you are on a fixed budget and have little money you don't have several places to put it.

I'm hoping that the people who are coming up with the wind power units that can be purchased for individual homes get it right soon and put it on the market.

Anyway, I'd just like to say that when you make your decision, think about all the people on fixed incomes or out of work with no incomes who have a hard time paying the bill as it now stands and give Idaho Power a chance to see how much "pork" they can find to cut out of their operation.

I do also find it interesting when they say they have been making these huge improvements for years and years and now need to get more money to help finance them. What kind of improvements are they able to make without the money to make them in the first place and now that they have them, why do they have to recoup the money they paid for them? (Which I am assuming came from past and present customers.)

Thanks for your time and thought in this matter.

Lucille Higley  
 Inkom., Idaho 83245

5/3/2004

*✓ Jean Arch sent 5/3/04*

*✓ To Commms 5/14*

**Jean Jewell**

---

**From:** secretary  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2004 9:31 PM  
**To:** Barb Barrows; Ed Howell; Janet Bahora; Jean Jewell  
**Subject:** FW: Idaho Power's proposed rate increase

>-----  
>From: bob wagenknecht[SMTP:ALFERDEPACKER@HOTMAIL.COM]  
>Sent: Friday, April 30, 2004 9:30:23 PM  
>To: secretary  
>Subject: Idaho Power's proposed rate increase  
>Auto forwarded by a Rule  
>

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
Post Office Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

Commission:

Please accept the following comments regarding Idaho Power Company's proposed rate increase.

I don't have the insert from my Idaho Power bill of several months ago in front of me, so I can't recall the exact amounts of the proposed rate increases or their percentages, but they seemed to me to be quite excessive. To say the least.

I'm puzzled by one of the main rationalizations they used in that flyer for their rate increase proposal. As I recall, IPC claims that they "need" a rate increase because energy use and demand have increased, and they've had to spend a lot on added infrastructure to serve all their new customers! I don't think very many businesses would cry such crocodile tears if they were in that position.

Question: Why should I have to help foot the bill for their capital improvement projects? I won't reap any of the benefits. I'm not a IPC stockholder. And according to conventional economic theory, aren't unit costs supposed to DECREASE as volume increases? Or is the much ballyhooed "economies of scale" a myth? Or is this just an attempt to grab a quick and easy windfall?

I'm sure I'm not the first or only one to suggest that rather than lower the per KWH rate the more electricity one uses, that they reverse the rate schedule so one is rewarded for conservation, rather than over-consumption.

In my own case, I've averaged using less than 20 KWH/day, year 'round, no matter what the season (it's actually more like 17 or 18). Among other things, I turn lights off when they aren't being used, and I've changed to compact fluorescent bulbs. I heat my house with wood, and I have baseboard electric backup, which is turned off at the panel, and has never, ever once been turned on in the 14 winters I've lived in that house. If I'm away from home for more than about 24 hours, I throw the breaker for my hot water heater. I know I could save more if I got a newer, more energy efficient hot water heater and other appliances, but frankly, I can't afford to. so I guess I'm damned if I do, and damned if I don't. Rewarding energy inefficiency and excess consumption, and conversely penalizing efficiency and conservation, is both unfair and irrational.

I seem to recall that Idaho Power is asking for an almost four-fold increase, from \$2.51/month to \$10.00, just to come by once an month and read

my meter. That's outrageous. It's obscene. Hell, I'll read the damn thing for them for free, if they'll pay for a postcard to mail the reading in to them. Or better yet, let me e-mail it in for free. And they'd be more than welcome anytime to come on my property to check and make sure I'm not trying to rip them off (which they seem to be trying to do to me and the rest of their customers). As I said above, this proposal is absurd. Spell that "G-R-E-E-D-Y". (Which seems to be an affliction acquired by all too many American industries and corporations in the past couple dozen years.)

I spent the year of 1958 in La Paz, Bolivia. Bolivia is a third-world county. It was, and probably still is, one of the poorest countries in the western hemisphere. The rainy season in La Paz is characterized by severe, extremely intense rainstorms, which trigger many large landslides. In spite of that, my recollection, after all these years, is that the power supply in La Paz almost fifty years ago wasn't significantly less reliable than Idaho Power's service to the Lemhi valley is today.

Idaho Power's rate increase proposal seems to me to be the antithesis of our capitalistic system, where one rewards the provider for good service. Instead it appears to be something out of a third-world country, where one must pay a bribe in the often futile hope of getting decent service.

I urge you to deny IPC's requested rate increases. They're outrageous, unreasonable and undeserved.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Wagenknecht  
Post Office Box 104  
Leadore, Idaho 83464  
(208)768-2337

---

Watch LIVE baseball games on your computer with MLB.TV, included with MSN Premium!  
<http://join.msn.com/?page=features/mlb&pgmarket=en-us/go/onm00200439ave/direct/01/>

*✓ Ken Ack sent 5/3/04*

**Jean Jewell**

---

*✓ To Commus  
i H*

**From:** secretary  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2004 4:46 PM  
**To:** Barb Barrows; Ed Howell; Janet Bahora; Jean Jewell  
**Subject:** FW: Case Number: IPC-E-03-13

>-----  
>From: Beth Kienitz[SMTP:BETHYK1@YAHOO.COM]  
>Sent: Friday, April 30, 2004 4:45:24 PM  
>To: secretary  
>Subject: Case Number: IPC-E-03-13  
>Auto forwarded by a Rule  
>

Beth Kienitz  
314 W Cherry Ln #46  
Meridian, ID 83642

April 30, 2004

Public Utilities Commissioners  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to deny the rate increase proposed for Idaho Power irrigation customers.

It is unfair to single out irrigation customers for significant increases, while other customer classes receive more favorable treatment. Any rate increases should be the same across the board, and at the lowest possible rate.

Farmers cannot pass on increased operating costs as many other businesses can. If irrigation rates are not kept to the absolute minimum, many who are already suffering from prolonged low commodity prices will be forced out of business. This will cause a tremendous negative ripple effect throughout the rural communities of the state.

The increases proposed by Idaho Power are unrealistic. As a regulated entity, they have been covering expenses and making a profit every year. As a sound business practice, Idaho Power should have been planning ahead and including upgrades to infrastructure and replacement costs for equipment and other necessary items. I find it hard to believe that they have not done this.

Then to pay for dues to the Arid Club, why should I pay for that?? If they want to be a memeber there PAY YOUR OWN WAY OUT OF YOUR OWN SALARY!! I belong to several organizations and I pay my own dues etc for that.

I strongly oppose the proposed increase in the customer charge from \$2.51 to \$10.00. With new innovations such as remote meter reading and electronic billing, the customer charge should be decreasing, not increasing.

Many of the expenses Idaho Power is asking ratepayers to cover should be disallowed. Only items that directly relate to the generation and delivery of electricity should be allowed in the base rate.

Please do not approve Idaho Power's request. The PUC staff proposal is much more realistic, although it too is unfair to irrigators. Farming is an important part of the economy in Idaho. An increase in rates of this size will be a significant blow to the continued viability of agriculture in the state.

I urge you to keep power rates for irrigation as low as possible. Do not allow irrigation rates to increase by a higher percentage than other rates.

Sincerely,

Beth Kienitz

✓ Gen. Aick  
sent 5/3/04

✓ To Commus  
; H

**Jean Jewell**

---

**From:** Front  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2004 4:29 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell  
**Subject:** FW: Complaint acknowledgement

-----Original Message-----

From: Ed Howell  
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2004 5:28 PM  
To: Front; Beverly Barker; Ed Howell; Tonya Clark  
Subject: Complaint acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Friday, April 30, 2004  
4:27:29 PM

Name: JUDY ERDMAN  
Street Address: P.O. BOX 602  
City: GOODING  
State: ID  
ZIP: 83330  
Home Telephone:  
Work Telephone: 208-934-5609  
E-Mail: grins@rmci.net  
Home Business: Business  
Business Name: L.M. DAVENPORT INC.  
Business Street Address: 1737 E 1800 S  
Business Phone: 208-934-5609  
Complaint Company: IDAHO POWER

Local Provider:

Contacted utility: No

Complaint description: Idaho Power's proposed agriculture rate increase on irrigation wells will adversely affect our business by lowering our profit margins. Agriculture at best is only marginal as far as profits are concerned. Not only will our business be affected but so will the suppliers of production inputs such as fertilizer, chemicals and equipment. We strongly oppose a disproportionate increase to agriculture compared to home owners and industry.

Transaction ID: 4301627.29

Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/cons>

User Address: 216.190.108.131

User Hostname: 216.190.108.131

✓ Gen. Ack.  
sent 5/3/04

✓ To Commis  
s H

**Jean Jewell**

---

**From:** Front  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2004 4:26 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell  
**Subject:** FW: Complaint acknowledgement

-----Original Message-----

From: Ed Howell  
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2004 5:26 PM  
To: Front; Beverly Barker; Ed Howell; Tonya Clark  
Subject: Complaint acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Friday, April 30, 2004  
4:26:02 PM

Name: RICH CURTIS  
Street\_Address: 2193 S 1700 E  
City: GOODING  
State: ID  
ZIP: 83330  
Home\_Telephone:  
Work\_Telephone: 208-934-5609  
E-Mail: lmdbeans@northrim.net  
Home\_Business: Business  
Business\_Name: L.M. DAVENPORT INC.  
Business\_Street\_Address: 1737 E 1800 S  
Business\_Phone: 208-934-5609  
Complaint\_Company: IDAHO POWER  
Local\_Provider:  
Contacted\_utility: No

Complaint\_description: Idaho Power's proposed agriculture rate increase on irrigation wells will adversely affect our business by lowering our profit margins. Agriculture at best is only marginal as far as profits are concerned. Not only will our business be affected but so will the suppliers of production inputs such as fertilizer, chemicals and equipment. We strongly oppose a disproportionate increase to agriculture compared to home owners and industry.

Transaction ID: 4301626.2  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/cons>  
User Address: 216.190.108.131  
User Hostname: 216.190.108.131

*✓ Gen Ack sent 5/3/04*      *✓ To Commes § H*  
**Jean Jewell**

---

**From:** Front  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2004 4:25 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell  
**Subject:** FW: Complaint acknowledgement

-----Original Message-----

From: Ed Howell  
Sent: Friday, April 30, 2004 5:22 PM  
To: Front; Beverly Barker; Ed Howell; Tonya Clark  
Subject: Complaint acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Friday, April 30, 2004  
4:22:12 PM

Name: L.M. DAVENPORT  
Street Address: 1737 E 1800 S  
City: GOODING  
State: ID  
ZIP: 83330  
Home Telephone:  
Work Telephone: 208-934-5609  
E-Mail: lmdbeans@northrim.net  
Home Business: Business  
Business Name: DAVENPORT FARMS INC.  
Business Street Address: 1737 E 1800 S  
Business Phone: 208-934-5609  
Complaint Company: IDAHO POWER

Local Provider:

Contacted utility: No

Complaint description: Idaho Power's proposed agriculture rate increase on irrigation wells will adversely affect our business by lowering our profit margins. Agriculture at best is only marginal as far as profits are concerned. Not only will our business be affected but so will the suppliers of production inputs such as fertilizer, chemicals and equipment. We strongly oppose a disproportionate increase to agriculture compared to home owners and industry.

Transaction ID: 4301622.12

Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/cons>

User Address: 216.190.108.131

User Hostname: 216.190.108.131

✓ Ken Ack  
sent 5/3/04

✓ To Comm  
; H

**Jean Jewell**

---

**From:** secretary  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2004 4:16 PM  
**To:** Barb Barrows; Ed Howell; Janet Bahora; Jean Jewell  
**Subject:** FW: Case Number: IPC-E-03-13

>-----  
>From: Garth Steed[SMTP:EGSTEED@YAHOO.COM]  
>Sent: Friday, April 30, 2004 4:15:24 PM  
>To: secretary  
>Subject: Case Number: IPC-E-03-13  
>Auto forwarded by a Rule  
>

Garth Steed  
PO Box 195  
Almo, Idaho 83312

April 30, 2004

Public Utilities Commissioners  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to deny the rate increase proposed for Idaho Power irrigation customers.

It is unfair to single out irrigation customers for significant increases, while other customer classes receive more favorable treatment. Any rate increases should be the same across the board, and at the lowest possible rate.

Farmers cannot pass on increased operating / costs as many other businesses can. If irrigation rates are not kept to the absolute minimum, many who are already suffering from prolonged low commodity prices will be forced out of business. This will cause a tremendous negative ripple effect throughout the rural communities of the state.

The increases proposed by Idaho Power are unrealistic. As a regulated entity, they have been covering expenses and making a profit every year. As a sound business practice, Idaho Power should have been planning ahead and including upgrades to infrastructure and replacement costs for equipment and other necessary items. I find it hard to believe that they have not done this.

I strongly oppose the proposed increase in the customer charge from \$2.51 to \$10.00. With new innovations such as remote meter reading and electronic billing, the customer charge should be decreasing, not increasing.

Many of the expenses Idaho Power is asking ratepayers to cover should be disallowed. Only items that directly relate to the generation and delivery of electricity should be allowed in the base rate.

Please do not approve Idaho Power's request. The PUC staff proposal is much more realistic, although it too is unfair to irrigators. Farming is an important part of the economy in Idaho. An increase in rates of this size will be a significant blow to the continued viability of agriculture

in the state.

I urge you to keep power rates for irrigation as low as possible. Do not allow irrigation rates to increase by a higher percentage than other rates.

Sincerely,

Garth Steed

✓ Gen. Ack  
sent 5/3/04

✓ To Comm  
5/3/04

## Jean Jewell

---

**From:** Tonya Clark  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2004 1:45 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell  
**Subject:** FW: Rate Hike

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Dean Moreno [mailto:libertycare@onewest.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2004 12:22 PM  
**To:** Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Rate Hike

Dear Sirs/Madams:

I recognize that all aspects of the world are experiencing an increase in costs; however, my paycheck has not received commensurate increases. I will soon run out of 'excess' monies with which to pay all the extra hikes because of increased costs.....then where will these agencies get their monies? I could support the 2.5 % raise that has been suggested....grudgingly. Any more than that will be considered as highway robbery....not because I am unreasonable, but because I cannot increase my take home and must pay my bills and taxes so as to contribute to the welfare of all. Please recognize that the alleged economy turn around has not hit the majority of us and that when it does.....there will remain many of us that do not profit from it. Also, please consider those that are on fixed income such as the elderly, those mentally ill and disabled, and those chronically ill and please recognize they will never really see an economy turn around...it is from this population that I derive my income, thus my income is as static as theirs. If everyone would stop trying to make high profits and instead consider conservation, alternative sources, and constraint, we would all be better off...it is time that this economy stop spending as if there will always be thousands of millions of dollars available for the taking and recognize that we all should be grateful if we have money with which to meet our bills and basic needs.....which I will not have if there is a 14 to 20 percent raise in prices. Thank you for taking the time to read this email....I generally do not take the time to 'complain', but my checkbook is as stretched as it can be. Again, thank you. Sincerely, Frances J. Wright Libertycare@onewest.net

5/3/2004

✓ Gen Birk  
sent 5/5/04

✓ To Comm  
3/14

RECEIVED  
FILED



2004 APR 30 PM 3:53

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

4-28-04

Commerce Secretary  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

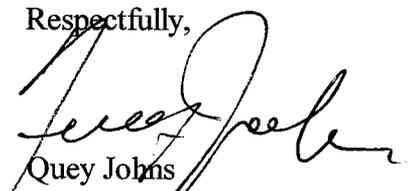
To Whom it may concern:

I am opposed to the proposed rate increase Idaho Power is requesting. Here are a couple of reasons why I am opposed to it. My farm is located directly North of the Bruneau Sand Dunes State Park. The park and my place are the only two places serviced by the same Idaho Power service line that runs across CJ Strike wildlife management area for approximately 3/4 of a mile. It is an old copper line that sags and probably does need to be replaced. Idaho Power's solution to the problem is to move the entire line onto Hwy. 78 for 1 3/4 miles at a cost of \$100,000.00. The irony is that 3/4 of the old line is going to be left to serve a residence. The reason given for moving the line is to get it off of BLM land so rent is not paid to BLM. In actuality, the line is on Idaho Power land managed by CJ Strike. No one from their company has gotten with me since I pointed out this minor detail. My take of the deal is that Idaho Power has an awful lot of money to throw around when leaving the line and poles where they are is what they have to do anyway to service the residence.

Another example of Idaho Power's poor judgment in spending was apparent to me in the Spring of 2003 when an Idaho Power employee came to visit me. He was driving a vehicle supplied by Idaho Power, a new V-10 super heavy-duty pickup. He said he had asked his boss for something with a sunroof in it and that a small pickup would do since he had an ATV to get over the tough places. He said he didn't need all the super power of the V-10 and all he does now is stop at every gas station as it uses so much gas.

These two examples, plus the idea that farmers should pay for the increased need for new service to the residences of Ada and Canyon counties strikes me as a rip-off, 1st class. I suggest Idaho Power look at some cheaper alternatives in all their spending. I also suggest that the new service lines being put in be paid for by those who want to use them.

Respectfully,



Quey Johns  
48803 Highway 78  
Mountain Home, Idaho 83647  
208-366-7734