

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Case No. IPC-E-04-29, Order No. 29673

January 4, 2005

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Website: www.puc.state.id.us

Idaho Power seeks increase in efficiency rider

Boise – Feb. 16 is the deadline for Idaho Power customers to comment on the company's proposal to increase an energy efficiency rider on customer bills from the current 30 cents a month for the average residential customer to 85 cents. The increased rider would become effective June 1. Idaho Power's proposal further requests an increase to \$1.36 per month for an average residential customer beginning in June 2007.

If approved, the energy efficiency rider would help fund six major conservation programs designed to offset the growth in demand for new power plants and to prevent the company from acquiring power from more expensive sources to meet growing customer demand. Successful conservation programs can delay the construction of new power plants and reduce the company's generation costs during times of peak use, thus slowing the increase in customer rates.

The conservation programs include one designed to reduce irrigation load and another to reduce air conditioner use, both during peak times when electricity is at most demand and is most expensive. The others include construction efficiency programs for residential and commercial buildings.

The current rider, based on one-half of 1 percent of the company's base revenue, generates \$2.6 million annually. Costs for implementing the six programs from this year through 2009 increase from \$5.5 million to \$10.8 million, the company claims. The rider, if approved, would be 1.5 percent of base revenues effective June 1, 2005, and then increased to 2.4 percent of base revenue effective June 1, 2007.

The company also plans to work with its industrial customers who choose to devise their own energy efficiency programs with the rider fees they pay.

Persons interested in participating in this case must notify the commission no later than Jan. 12.

Comments are accepted via e-mail by accessing the commission's homepage at www.puc.state.id.us and clicking on "Comments & Questions." Fill in the case number (IPC-E-04-29) and enter your comments by no later than Feb. 16. Comments can also be mailed to P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074 or faxed to (208) 334-3762. To comment to the company, e-mail bkline@idahopower.com or write to Barton Kline, Idaho Power, PO Box 70, Boise, ID, 83703.