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Idaho Public Utilities Commission

(208) 334-0300

Comment/Inquiry Form

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 IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Submit electronically below or print and return to:
 Idaho Public Utilities Commission
 P O Box 83720
 Boise, Idaho 83720-0074
 FAX: (208) 334-3762

We want to hear your opinion regarding utility issues! To comment, please fill out the form below.

To file a complaint about your utility service, please go to the Complaint Form.

You can subscribe to various email notification lists [here](#).

If you prefer to receive paper copies of any future notices or the final order for this case only please indicate that in the form below.

If your comments relate to a specific case and you know the case number please include it.

Use the tab key not the enter key to navigate the form.

Comment/Inquiry Form	
Case No.	IPC-E-05-22
Your name	Knight C Duerig
Address	4199 N Meridian, Box 403
City	King Hill
State	Idaho
ZIP	83633
Home Telephone	208-366-2519
Email Address	kcduerig@nonconsumersdigest.com
Name of Utility Company	Idaho Power Co.
Add to mailing list for this case	Yes No

Below, please describe your question or comment briefly.

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Case No. IPC-E-05-22

I am writing to you on behalf of the Idaho Rural Council; a grassroots organization of family farmers and rural residents. We would like to go on record as opposing Idaho Power's request for suspension of the PURPA contracts.

Our concern is two-fold: the first being that these small-scale wind projects are a boon to the many family farms that are facing financial problems associated with high energy costs and low water supplies. Many of these family farms will be able to keep their farms because of their ability to harness the wind and get paid a fair market price for their investments.

The second concern has to do with Idaho Power's position that wind power is un-reliable. We feel that wind power is a natural marriage to hydropower. As long as the wind farms are generating power, there is no need to be spilling water through the turbines. This water can be held in reserve for an indefinite period of time, as long as there is room in the reservoirs. As the power declines from the wind farms, the hydro plant's output can be increased, just the amount needed to meet the current demand.

One of the major drawbacks to electricity as a power source is the inability to store large amounts of power when there is excess being generated. By reducing the load on the hydro system, and thereby saving the water, there is a definite 'storage' of electricity...available upon demand.

We urge you, the PUC, to deny Idaho Power's request at this time.

As further food for thought, I am including a press release from Sea Breeze Power Corp on the integration of wind and hydro power.

Respectfully,
Knight C Duerig 
President
Idaho Rural Council

6/21/2005

Vancouver Island "Wind-Hydro" Integration Offers Reliable Power Solution

Sea Breeze Power Corp. is pleased to announce that installation of utility-scale wind energy on northern Vancouver Island, combined with the Island's existing hydroelectric storage capacity, could deliver solid reliability to the Island by 2007.

In many regions of the world, notably in northern Europe, and more recently in Quebec and Manitoba, the integration of wind power with the storage capability of large hydroelectric reservoirs has been recognized as a highly efficient use of both resources, enhancing security of the local power supply and enabling reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel plants.

Denmark, for example, presently draws approximately 29% of its electricity requirements from the wind, by integrating its wind resources with the hydroelectric dams of Norway and Sweden. Quebec and Manitoba, each in the process of introducing approximately 1000 MW of wind power to their respective provincial grids, also have large hydroelectric storage capabilities comparable to British Columbia.

The flexibility of hydro reservoirs to respond quickly to fluctuations in the hourly demand for electricity makes them an ideal complement to wind power, which, while very predictable on an annual basis, is intermittent on a short term basis.

Industry practice is to utilize the wind generated electricity when it is available, during which time the hydroelectric dams' generators may be curtailed. This permits water reserves to build up within the reservoirs until needed, improving regional security of supply. When the wind stops blowing, the gates of the dams can be opened more widely, and power production through the dams' generators increased by releasing more water.

On Vancouver Island alone, there are 458 megawatts of hydro capacity, which could be easily integrated with on-Island wind facilities. By "marrying" wind power to hydro dams, wind is easily and inexpensively upgraded into

a "dispatchable" product, ensuring the availability of electricity "on demand".

In September 2004, Sea Breeze Power Corp.'s proposed Knob Hill Wind Farm was issued provincial environmental approvals for up to 450 megawatts - capable of generating enough electricity to power approximately 135,000 homes. The Knob Hill Wind Farm is believed to be the largest single onshore wind farm development in the world to receive planning approval. (emphasis added)

On another business front, also with positive implications for Vancouver Island, Sea Breeze Pacific Juan de Fuca Cable, LP ("Sea Breeze Pacific" - a 49.75 % owned subsidiary of Sea Breeze Power Corp.), is moving into the Vancouver Island public consultation phase for its Juan de Fuca Transmission Cable.

The cable, a submarine 40 kilometre, 540-megawatt "High Voltage Direct Current" ("HVDC Light") line between Victoria, British Columbia and Port Angeles, Washington State, is designed to deliver power from "south to north" as well as "north to south", providing critical reliability for Vancouver Island and strengthening the grids on both sides of the border.

Technical studies for the Juan de Fuca Cable, being conducted by utilities on both sides of the border, are expected to be completed Fall, 2005. The line is scheduled to be operational by Fall, 2007.

For more information about Sea Breeze Power Corp., please visit us at <http://www.SeaBreezePower.com>.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

"Paul B. Manson"

PAUL B. MANSON, President

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