

✓ Gen Ack  
sent 12/13/05

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Comm  
3/11

Casey M. Mitchell  
13333 W. Fig Street  
Boise Idaho 83713  
(208)938-4116

RECEIVED  
FILED  
2005 DEC 12 PM 3:51  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

December 9, 2005

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
472 W. Washington Street  
Boise Idaho 83702

First, I just received notice of a utilities increase and am opposed to the amounts proposed. According to the letter by Mr. Ric Gale included- the average residential bill for those using 1200 KHz per month would increase \$5.00 or more. This could be an average of 6.19 up to over 11% depending on the PCA component.

Second, the way Mr. Gale disseminates the utilities rates means they are disproportionate and an unfair distribution. His distribution saddles two groups with the bulk of this increase while giving huge breaks to the corporate base and industry users. This distribution reads like the Bush Tax Policy in making the rich richer at the expense of the poor and moderate income groups whom incomes here in Idaho are well below the national average according to the news.

Three, the two hardest hit groups are residential and small business. The residential group is basically your home owners-now having property tax increases-which have led to a 12 percent decrease in home ownership. The other group is the small businesses which struggle to survive-this group should see a decrease after all they are the future HP's and Micron's of tomorrow. Mr. Gale has both these groups at nearly double the rates of corporations and industry. We need to encourage small business and home ownership, not discourage it with disproportionate tax and rate increase policies. Our future here in Idaho depends on these two large groups for consistent tax revenue and the decisions you make will be important in expanding this base or depleting it. The two high rate groups are probably responsible for 45-70 percent of all taxes while the Corporate and industry are probably only at 5-10 percent-I don't have the exact figures, but that is a common revenue rate. To cause a depletion of the residential and small business groups could be devastating and long lasting.

I just ask you to consider what the ramifications of these disproportionate increases and the effects they will have on the future of Idaho now 43<sup>rd</sup> out of 50 as the best places to live, while Wyoming is in the top group. I appreciate your time.

Sincerely,

Casey Mitchell



## Notice of Application To Increase Rates

Dear Idaho Power Customer:

On Oct. 28, Idaho Power filed a request with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (IPUC) for a 7.8 percent increase in the base rates we charge all of our Idaho customers. There are many reasons for this request and this letter is my opportunity to share some of them with you.

The proposed increase would apply to Idaho customers' base rates, the portion that pays for Idaho Power's actual cost of conducting business such as maintenance and operating expenses and capital investments. The new rate could become effective June 1, 2006 should the IPUC take the maximum amount of time to process the request.

Many of the issues within this case were closely reviewed by the IPUC as part of the company's last general rate request filing two years ago. This filing represents adjustments to the company's operating requirements since that time.

There were several issues that delayed our 2003 general rate filing including an energy crisis here in the Northwest. Not filing for such a prolonged period resulted in our company having to seek a double-digit rate increase. In the wake of our last case, Idaho Power decided that it was in the best interest of its customers to file more frequent but smaller cases, such as the one we filed last month.

With IPUC approval, the proposed price change would result in an annual revenue increase of \$44 million to help offset the company's yearly operating costs of approximately \$606 million to provide electrical service to its customers in Idaho.

The proposed rate changes vary for each customer group, although the same overall increase of 7.8 percent has been requested for each customer group. The chart below shows the average of all rate components for our major customer groups. However, the current and proposed "average base rate" does not include the annual Power Cost Adjustment component, which can increase or decrease the overall rate depending on the company's energy costs through April 2006.

| Customer Group   | Current Average Base Rate | Proposed Average Base Rate |
|------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Residential      | 5.74 cents                | 6.19 cents                 |
| Small Commercial | 7.16 cents                | 7.72 cents                 |
| Large Commercial | 3.91 cents                | 4.22 cents                 |
| Industrial       | 2.99 cents                | 3.23 cents                 |
| Irrigation       | 4.42 cents                | 4.76cents                  |

If this request is fully authorized by the IPUC, the additional amount we are seeking would mean an increase of approximately \$5 a month on the power bill of an average Idaho Power residential customer who uses 1,200 kilowatt-hours per month.

It is important to understand that Idaho Power's application is a proposal subject to public review and a Public Utilities Commission decision. Copies of the filing are available on the IPUC website ([www.puc.state.id.us](http://www.puc.state.id.us)), Idaho Power's website ([www.idahopower.com](http://www.idahopower.com)) or at the commission office, 472 W. Washington St. Copies also are available at Idaho Power's corporate headquarters, 1221 W. Idaho St., Boise or at Idaho Power offices in Boise, Nampa, Emmett, Payette, McCall, Mountain Home, Gooding, Hailey, Twin Falls, Heyburn, American Falls, Pocatello, Blackfoot or Salmon.

Best wishes,

Ric Gale  
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs

✓ Men Ack  
sent 12/13/05

✓ To Commas  
s H

**Jean Jewell**

---

**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2005 9:31 AM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Tuesday, December 13, 2005  
9:31:01 AM

**Case:**

**Name:** John Weber  
**Street Address:** 9535 W Cory Ln  
**City:** Boise  
**State:** Idaho  
**ZIP:** 83704  
**Home Telephone:** 208-321-4998  
**E-Mail:** js\_weber@hotmail.com  
**Company:**

**Comment\_description:** Just a quick comment. I believe a measured price increase in electric rates starting as soon as possible will be a good thing to get our rates closer to the national average. Measured rate increases will give people the opportunity to increase their personal conservation in a measured way. Spike increases are harder for people to deal with. Due to the depletion of natural gas in the United States, there will be price spikes in the coming years. Those increases will have to be passed on to the end users, including electric users because of the amount of electricity that is produced by natural gas.

**Transaction ID:** 1213931.1  
**Referred by:** <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
**User Address:** 209.151.53.57  
**User Hostname:** 209.151.53.57