

✓ Ben. Ack  
sent 7/18/08

✓ To AV.

✓ To Commis  
§ H

IPC-E-08-10

RECEIVED

2008 JUL 17 PM 2:40

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

July 15, 2008

Public Utilities Commission  
Power Rates  
472 West Washington Street  
Boise, ID 83702

Re: Power Rates

After receiving my last several power bills, I believe you have gone far enough in approving rate increases for Idaho Power. I can't tell exactly due to a change in billing cycles, but my monthly bills are up about 15%. These incremental increases coupled with ever increasing fuel and grocery costs are killing us. They need to tighten their belts along with the rest of us.

It doesn't sound like much when they apply for small increases, but all of the small increases add up and compound the previous rate increases. Enough is enough.

Sincerely,



L D Hampton  
3708 N 2535 E  
Twin Falls, ID 83301

✓ Gen Ask  
sent 7/18/08

✓ To Adv.

✓ To Comm.  
; H

IPC-E-08-10

In Care of the Commissioners

I am an Elderly lady of 70 years old  
who is on a fixed income of \$664. per mo.

and now the Idaho Electric Company  
wants to raise my Electric for \$99.

level pay to \$133. I can not afford  
to pay that much and am on

oxygen at night and if the air  
quality is in yellow or red or  
little I have to leave my oxygen

do I have any hope of not getting  
my Electric shut off if I can't

pay more than \$99. a month

I have COPD, heart problems

corony artery third Edema heart

problems I'm diabetic Osteo arthritis

and have Rheumoid arthritis I

really need some kind of relief

from this please is there

any help I'm also on Medicaid

& Medicare so it isn't really

easy for me keep up all

already here to I live

4900 Lake Ave #26 in Caldwell

Idaho 83607 phone 208 455 0477

may God Bless you hope

you can help me in some way

Sincerely Helen Lake

RECEIVED

2008 JUL 17 AM 8:00

UTILITIES COMMISSION

✓ Ben Ask  
sent 7/13/08

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Comm. 5/14

RECEIVED

IPC-E-08-10

2008 JUL 15 AM 8:07

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

July 13, 2008  
3932 Leland Way  
Boise, Idaho 83709

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

Sirs;

So Idaho Power wants still ANOTHER 10% raise to recover costs. What particular costs do they want to cover? All those new additions that all you corporations and politicians want in the name of economic growth? If all that growth is supposed to be so great how come everything increases in cost while service-which is nonexistent-decreases or ceases altogether? Why aren't the schools able to provide the basic supplies for classes if this growth is so great? I came from a small farm area in Pa. and our taxes weren't that outrageous yet our supplies were there on the first day of school. Here we have thousands of taxpayers not maybe a hundred or two and yet there isn't enough money. Why is that?

Growth that isn't needed should be paying for itself. In other words if you want to add more houses, those houses pay for themselves just as a rural house that may be several miles out must pay a high price to bring in an electric line. It is not those who have lived here for 20-30-50 years who are adding to the cost of electricity and using it indiscriminately. And it is not those of us on fixed starvation incomes that are using it by burning lights day and night inside and out, using air conditioners when it is 70 degrees outside, running TVs, computers 24 hours a day when no one is using them. Some of us useless old folks who did your dirty work for you corporations-those you all so haughtily looked down your noses at but complained like hell if a spot of dust was missed-can't afford to go anywhere or keep paying for everything the wealthy want for free. For many of us our TV is our only entertainment, our car the only way to get the few groceries we can afford or get to the yearly doctor appointment. Yet we are expected to pay every grocery store, every pharmacy, every home improvement store, every utility company for their gas and electricity costs. Who in the hell is giving us gas money? NOBODY, but we are expected to pay 5-10-15 others from our \$500.00 to maybe \$900.00 fixed incomes that we can not increase because we can no longer work.

Now Idaho Power wants more money to recover costs that are a part of doing business. I suspect it is to pay those shareholders and the already overpaid executives. Also it is wanted, no doubt, to pay for that expensive remodel job they are so proudly touting in this last Customer Connection. Copy enclosed. Of course this is to claim that they are saving energy. You want to remodel then pay for it out of your profits, not on customer's backs.

*error It is 4.01*  
~~They also increased my customer charge from \$4.00 to \$5.64 + \$2.88 = \$8.52 this month.~~ Many of us find it ridiculous to be paying a utility company to be a customer. This especially since we have little choice these days but to have electricity and gas to heat and light our home since we can't very well all burn coal or wood stoves as we did

in the country when I was growing up. Nor can we have an outhouse to use for a toilet in the cities. We all suspect this charge is just so they can pay the shareholders and executives their outrageous salaries.

My suggestion for Idaho Power is first-get rid of the phony paper IDACORP Company, which is one and the same as Idaho Power. There is ONLY ONE power company here. Most of us were satisfied with them until they started raising rates every year for no real reason other than greed.

Second, maybe the highest paid executives need to tighten THEIR belts as they wish us to do. I've tightened mine pretty tight already. I go nowhere except to the store and doctor appointments. I burn one light at night, not all lights everywhere and certainly not in the daytime and outside. Outside light comes on only if there is motion at the driveway and shuts off in 1 minute. Since there is seldom anyone here that rarely lights up. I do run an 1 1/2-horse irrigation pump in the irrigation season to water my 1/2 acre in the summer rather than using city water. That water waters fruit trees, berries and a vegetable garden to help me survive on those products when preserved for the winter months. I can no longer afford my medication for high blood pressure caused by diseased kidneys-these were inherited and there is NOTHING one can do for this disease except eat low sodium. I need my shoulder and knee joints repaired but that will not happen, as I have no health insurance. Many people have them repaired so they can play golf; all I'd like is to be able to care for my property! I get a haircut-no style-maybe 3-4 times a year. I bake my own bread and cook my own meals and at times I do not even cook but have a cold meal instead. My entertainment is the TV or read books that I bought years ago.

So my extravagant life needs to be reduced even more according to you, who are supposed to be looking out for us, the consumer. Rather than paying corporations high profits to pay for phony companies and high priced execs and shareholder who are already wealthy, how about looking out for the working man and those of us who can no longer work after doing your dirty work until our bodies fell apart? Seems to me that we make those profits possible while we can't save a penny no matter how hard we try.

As to how to "Manage Your Summer Energy Bills" in the enclosed Customer Connection I'd like to reply point by point.

Use ceiling & box fans-In this house you would use a ceiling fan at the risk of lopping off your head. The house stays cool most days if the doors and windows are opened in the early morning.

Close blinds doing day-sunlight is the best light source there is in this house. I have trees on the east and west side that shade the house from the sun. In the evening the blinds may be partially closed to reduce the sun but I do NOT burn electric light in the daylight hours like my neighbors do who never open their windows or their drapes and blinds. My blinds are closed at night for privacy and to reduce heat or cold as the case may be.

Have always cleaned our filters and coils. I never needed anyone to tell me that! Weather striping is done at time of construction. A few cracks that appear later is allowed to stay. Why? As my Dad said to let the air circulate a bit on its own. Airtight houses are not healthy especially in the winter. We always opened the window once in the while in the winter to circulate the air since we burned coal. We were seldom down with colds by doing this. Reminder we were too poor to see doctors and used home remedies and old ways to keep ourselves healthy.

Throw out perfectly functioning equipment and buy new garbage that will break down in a year. Right! We all have thousands of dollars to buy new furnaces every couple of years. If the Energy Star furnaces work like the Energy Star light bulbs they will last all of a week! We bought some and took them back as they ceased to function in a week. We bought another kind.

And the last two suggestions are so stupid as to be funny. First let Idaho Power control my air conditioner. Since they have no idea if I may be ill, may be baking bread or canning or freezing my garden produce, I sure as hell am not going to allow someone else to run the air conditioner for me. I run it only if the house is hot and many a time if I leave it on automatic I have to go turn it off. In other words I may need the temperature to be a 76 degrees rather than 70 degrees. At other times I may need the temperature to be a bit lower such as when I come in pouring sweat from mowing the lawn. Nobody but me knows what I am doing at any particular time and I sure as hell am not having somebody deciding when I am too hot or too cold!

And the last one takes the cake. Don't use your air conditioner when it is hot. What in the hell do you dodos think we bought the unit for? To have it sitting there looking pretty while we swelter in the heat? You don't need it on in the morning nor most nights so when are we supposed to be allowed to use it if not when it is hot? Get real and plan as we who have been in the low pay bracket all our lives have to do. When we use something it is judiciously. We use things until they can't be used anymore for anything. Maybe you corporations ought to get that old fashioned principle into your head instead of throwing out things that function just because somebody came out with a pretty shiny new model.

An old neighbor of ours still uses her refrigerator that is at least 50 years old. It functions very well thank you. The same with many of her appliances. She bought the best that was available when they built and she takes care of what she has. She lives just fine with what she has. We also use what we have and would do very well too if you'd all stop the greed and stop trying to dictate what is really not good for us or anything else. You holler "green" when in fact you waste resources like crazy while we who have always had to watch every penny have lived what you call "green" all along. It is called being poor and conserving and using up what you have. I.e. a dress when new is for "Sunday best" then it is everyday clothing then when it is too worn it is used as a rag until it can't be used anymore. Only then is that dress thrown away and that may be 15 to 20 years later. That, folks, is "green"!

So myself and my neighbors say NO more increases in power rates. We DO NOT MAKE California or New York wages here therefore we CANNOT PAY those same high prices.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Sandra Hickstein*  
Mrs. Sandra Hickstein

# Customer Connection



Customer Connection is published monthly by the Corporate Communication Department. Comments or questions are welcome; please email: [iwebster@idahopower.com](mailto:iwebster@idahopower.com) or write to:

June/July 2008  
[www.idahopower.com](http://www.idahopower.com)

Corporate Communication  
P.O. Box 70  
Boise, ID 83707

## How Does Idaho Power Save Energy?

Helping our customers be energy efficient is one way we help reduce electricity demand, keep rates low and care for the environment. We work together with the communities we serve to create new, innovative programs and services encouraging you to do your part.

Idaho Power also takes action to reduce our company's energy use and support our commitment to the environment.

Did you know up to half of your home's energy costs go directly to heating and cooling? As a business, we face a similar challenge. In 2005 at our corporate

in March, Idaho Power celebrated its first company-wide Energy Efficiency Month for employees, encouraging their participation in our energy efficiency and demand reduction programs. Pictured from left to right are: Senior Vice President Dan Minor, Senior Vice President Jim Miller, Vice President Warren Kline, President & Chief Executive Officer LaMont Keen, Vice President Ric Gale and Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer Darrel Anderson.

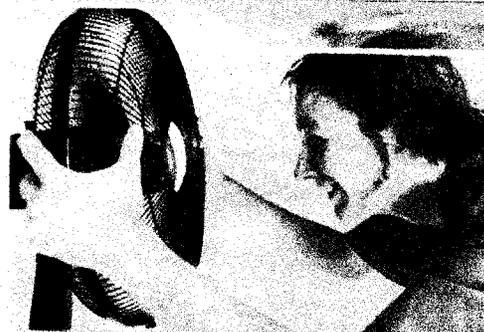
headquarters in Boise, we replaced the heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. We also installed a new energy management system with digital controls to more efficiently manage the building's environment and reduce costs.

Last year, we replaced boilers to improve efficiency and enhance the use of geothermal energy. In addition, a new lighting management system reduces the use of electric lighting.

As necessary remodeling occurs, the company replaces carpeting with recycled carpet squares adhered to the floor by low volatile organic compound (VOC) water-based adhesive. Walls receive a fresh coat of VOC paint. "Green" ceiling tiles and Steelcase furniture replace older technologies.

Newly installed window coverings at the company's corporate headquarters reduce the amount of heat load on the building, yet allow in natural light. Glass

See more "Idaho Power Saves Energy" on back



## Managing Your Summer Electricity Bills

During the summer months electricity is normally in short supply and more costly. Idaho Power offers energy efficiency tips and programs to help you save energy and money on your electricity bills.

Conserving energy also helps reduce the impact of the higher summer rates customers in Idaho pay for electricity. Summer rates apply to usage greater than 300 kilowatt-hours (kWh) during June, July and August.

Here are some ways to keep your home cool and reduce air conditioning costs.

- Use ceiling and box fans to circulate air in occupied rooms.
- Close the blinds during the day before the sun gets a chance to heat up the house.
- Replace furnace filters and clean the outside coil on your air conditioner.
- Weatherstrip and caulk your doors and windows if you can see light or feel air coming through them.
- Upgrade your heating and cooling system to an ENERGY STAR® efficient model properly installed by a participating company. You may

See more "Summer Electricity" on back



## Idaho Power Saves Energy (continued)

panels on work station walls enhance natural light from exterior windows. Lighting fixture replacements use the most energy efficient T-5 fluorescent bulbs, casting wider, indirect light.

Construction is under way on the company's first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) building in the community of Lake Park, located south of McCall. Once completed, LEED certification will provide independent, third-party verification that the Idaho Power Lake Valley Operations Center meets the highest green building and performance measures.

Recycling containers at company facilities throughout the service area now accept a wide range of recyclable materials including plastics, aluminum, tin and magazines. According to last year's paper recycling certificates, our efforts saved 2,062 trees, 557,500 gallons of water and 368 cubic yards of landfill space.

In 2007, more than 1,000 wooden reels used to hold wire conductor and cable were recycled, saving 1,076 cubic yards of landfill space.

If all of us work together, we help slow the increasing need for power. That means fewer new generation facilities, conservation of our resources and a reliable, responsible energy future for generations to come.

## Summer Electricity (continued)

receive a rebate check from Idaho Power's Heating and Cooling program.

- Sign up for the A/C Cool Credit program and earn up to \$21 in bill credits for participating during the summer months. At this time, the program is available in Ada, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Payette and Washington counties.
- Eliminate or reduce air conditioning use between the hours of 4 to 7 p.m. on weekdays. This may not reduce your energy bill, but will lessen the demand for power during this peak period when wholesale electricity costs are highest.

For more information on Idaho Power's energy efficiency programs and energy-saving tips, visit [www.idahopower.com/energycenter](http://www.idahopower.com/energycenter).

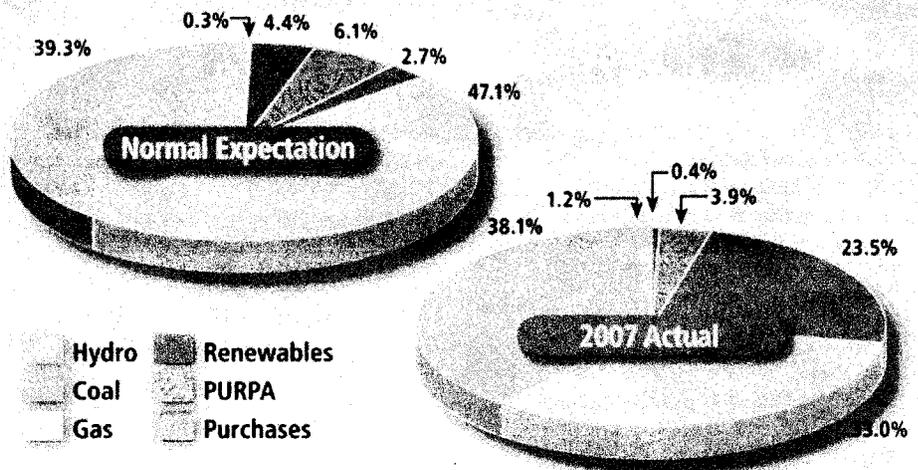
## Bill Insert Correction

Pie charts on an electricity bill insert mailed recently to Idaho Power's Idaho customers outlining the company's annual Power Cost Adjustment and where your electricity comes from contains an error.

The legend explaining the company's normal compared to 2007 resource mix does not show "Renewable Resources" although the charts illustrate the amount.

The pie chart should reflect Idaho Power normally expects to receive 4.4 percent of its electricity from renewables, including wind and geothermal generation. However, in 2007, the company actually received only four-tenths of a percent from renewable sources.

A correct version of the bill insert is on the company's Web site, [www.idahopower.com](http://www.idahopower.com). Click on "Customer Service," then "Bill Inserts."



### From The Electric Kitchen

#### Stovetop Baked Beans

- 2 slices bacon, cut into 1/2 inch pieces
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 3 cans (15 ounce) pinto beans, rinsed and drained
- 1/4 cup ketchup
- 1/4 cup dark molasses
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 3 tablespoon prepared mustard

Yield: 8 servings, each 1/2 cup.

Place bacon in a large, deep skillet. Cook over medium high heat until evenly brown. Drain and discard excess grease. Add the onion and sauté until tender. Stir in the beans, ketchup, molasses, brown sugar and mustard. Reduce heat to medium-low, and cook uncovered, stirring occasionally, for 20 minutes or until sauce thickens.

Recipes are selected for nutritional value and low energy use in preparation. They are approved by Joanne Graff, certified health educator from the Central District Health Department in Boise, Idaho.

#### Side Dish

##### Dietary information per serving:

Calories: 239  
 Protein: 12g  
 Carbohydrates: 41g  
 Fat: 3g  
 Cholesterol: 5mg  
 Sodium: 330mg  
 Fiber: 10g



✓ Gen Ack  
sent 7/18/08

✓ To Comms  
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**Jean Jewell**

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**Sent:** Wednesday, July 16, 2008 10:34 AM  
**To:** Tonya Clark; Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell  
**Subject:** PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Eric Bauerle follows:

-----  
Case Number: Idaho Power rate increase -*IPC-E-08-10*  
Name: Eric Bauerle  
Address: 1911 E. Wilson Lane Apt. C  
City: Meridian  
State: Idaho  
Zip: 83642  
Daytime Telephone:  
Contact E-Mail:  
Name of Utility Company: idaho Power  
Add to Mailing List:

Please describe your comment briefly:  
Please say NO to the rate increase.

With manic regularity, Idaho Power tells me the customer to conserve energy. When I do, this means Idaho Power sells less product (power), and their revenues go down. Then they turn around and tell you, the commission, that they aren't making enough money to continue to provide adequate product. Their revenue shortfalls are their own fault.

They say growth means a needed rate increase. This is asinine, and defies Economics 101. By definition, more customers mean more product sold, which means more profit, which means higher revenue, which can be invested in infrastructure to make more product.

The more power rates are raised, the more people and businesses will look for ways to save money by using less energy. This is especially true right now with the high prices of gas, food, goods and such. A rate increase will lead to LESS product sold, and less revenue.

What Idaho power needs to do is shut up about all this conservation nonsense, stop whining about needed rate increases, and go find ways to make more energy and make people want to buy it. They will have more funding for infrastructure than they know what to do with.

For my part, if the rate increase of 6.3% for residential is approved, I will make sure that I decrease my power usage by at least 6.3%. Perhaps 10%, just for good measure.

Thank you, and God bless!

Eric, an Idaho Power customer

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>  
IP address is 72.24.243.100

✓ Gen Ask  
sent 7/18/08

✓ To Commis  
: H

**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** rickyphar@hotmail.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 17, 2008 10:21 AM  
**To:** Tonya Clark; Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell  
**Subject:** PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Richard Harris follows:

-----  
Case Number:  
Name: Richard Harris  
Address: 4905 Stamm Lane  
City: Nampa  
State: ID  
Zip: 83687  
Daytime Telephone: 208-442-8654  
Contact E-Mail: [rickyphar@hotmail.com](mailto:rickyphar@hotmail.com)  
Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power  
Add to Mailing List:

Please describe your comment briefly:

How can Idaho Power continue to use the flimsy logic that they need rate increases because of more customers? Don't they actually make money off from each customer, so in reality they should be lowering rates since they have more customers. Yes they do have to add infrastructure but so does any business that has more customers. A grocery chain will add more stores as they get more customers because they know that with increased. business and more customers that they will make more money. I think the citizens of Idaho and the commission are being deceived when this logic is used for rate increases. The rate increases will never stop, they will never get enough. Rate increases should be directly tied to the average wages of the Idaho citizen. You cannot expect the citizens of Idaho to continue to pay more when they are not making more, where do you expect them to get the funds to pay these increases?

Thanks for listening  
Rick Harris

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>  
IP address is 65.102.68.37

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*✓ No Name n Address, so no response*  
**Jean Jewell**

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**Sent:** Friday, July 11, 2008 4:00 AM  
**To:** Tonya Clark; Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell  
**Subject:** PUC Comment Form

A Comment from follows:

-----  
Case Number:  
Name:  
Address:  
City:  
State:  
Zip:  
Daytime Telephone:  
Contact E-Mail:  
Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power  
Add to Mailing List:

Please describe your comment briefly:  
I'm just curious, Idaho Power has a building downtown that has its lights on all night long. Is that really necessary? If we customers are trying reduce our use of power, shouldn't they? Plus, I don't like hearing about rate increases knowing it could be to pay for the company's electric bill.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>  
IP address is 66.193.42.62

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