



BRUNOBUILT
HOMES

December 24, 2009

Idaho Public Utilities Commission
Attn: Ms. Jean Jewell, Commission Secretary
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED

2009 DEC 28 AM 8:16

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Re: Case No. IPC-E-09-27

Dear Ms. Jewell:

On December 23rd, 2009 I received an email containing Idaho Power's response to Case No. IPC-E-09-27 dated December 11th, 2009. I would like to respond as follows:

1. We notified Lisa Nordstrom that the complaint was from an Idaho corporation not an individual with a dba and we are concerned that someone individually would be held accountable which should not be the case. The complaint should be from BrunoBuilt, Inc. not Robert Bruno dba BrunoBuilt Homes. That entity essentially does not exist.
2. In their response to our complaint, Idaho Power alleges that we were in receipt of brochures or pamphlets from Idaho Power Company which explain their current standards of construction. They have no evidence that we have received any such documentation. In addition, our excavator had not received any notification either.
3. Their response to our complaint alleges that our conduit was not sufficiently vertical to the side of the house. We would like to point out that our complaint is very simple: Our conduit was in fact sufficiently vertical to the side of the house and that Idaho Power interprets "sufficiently vertical" differently from time to time, depending on what crew members happen to be on the job that particular day. In our view, their inconsistencies make it impossible for any builder or subcontractor to know what the Power Company really wants. Additionally, our excavator informed me that in a conversation with Idaho Power he is in an agreement with us that our conduit was sufficiently vertical based upon past practices installing conduit for Idaho Power.
4. Idaho Power claims that BrunoBuilt, Inc. asserts that the conduit was not installed according to their standards as specified in the reduced cost option brochure that we allegedly received. We cannot concede an error if we know not what the standards are.
5. Idaho Power alleges that it is our opinion that we are being singled out over other contractors in their assessment of a return trip fee. It is our opinion that on this particular occasion we were singled out over a difference of opinion with regard to what Idaho Power's standards and specifications are.
6. On page 4 of their response, in section 3, Idaho Power alleges that BrunoBuilt, Inc. knew the conduit didn't comply with their standard. This is not the case. As a matter of fact, BrunoBuilt, Inc. and Paradise Excavation, Inc. argued that it did in fact comply with their standards.
7. We supplied a photograph depicting a temporary power pole that was installed at the same job location with a height not over 4 feet tall. The photo showed that Idaho Power Company had in fact attached a meter to that temporary service pole. Idaho Power Company's standards require that meters be no lower than 5 feet above grade. However, they installed the meter anyway.

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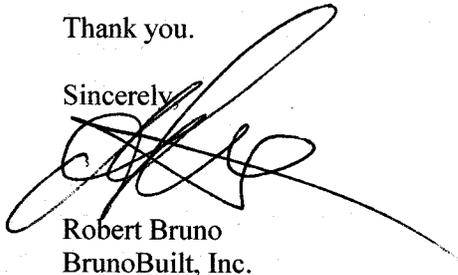
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Another example of Idaho Power's arbitrary and capricious manner in which they enforce their so called standards.

8. On the same page, The Power Company alleges that a piece of conduit not installed perfectly parallel or perfectly vertical to the house poses a safety or health hazard. That is like saying a power pole or utility pole installed by Idaho Power poses a health or safety hazard to the general public. We all know there are thousands of not perfectly vertical poles that never hurt a sole.
9. Idaho Power alleges on page 5 that we are the only company singled out for a back charge. That is not the case. Our complaint is that Idaho Power does this to everyone in the industry, one day they approve someone's conduit installation and another day they don't. One day they tell us have to use a 36" sweep, the next day we can use couplings and shorter sections. Our complaint is that they are inconsistent in the enforcement of their alleged standards and specifications not only with our company but with many companies in our industry including our excavator and including our electricians.
10. Our company has not received any notifications of any standards and specifications from Idaho Power Company that we can remember within the last five years.
11. Once again, if Idaho Power Company would be consistent in their requests, implementation, notifications of, and enforcements of their standards and specifications we would never have these problems. Idaho Power Company should not be allowed to arbitrarily assess return trip charges on any given job.
12. We have been in the home building business in Idaho Power Company's service area for the past 25 years. While we appreciate the Power Company's service to our industry, we have been subject to the wavering standards and specifications this entire time. This is certainly an ongoing problem.
13. Idaho Power does not accurately and consistently enforce their standards and specifications which causes confusion, inaccuracies, improperly installed services etc. on the job sites. This is not the fault of the contractor or the builder. Responsibility lies solely on the shoulders of Idaho Power to consistently enforce their standards and specifications in the field and they simply do not do that.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Robert Bruno
BrunoBuilt, Inc.

cc. Barton L. Kline, Lisa D. Nordstrom, Greg Said, Scott Sparks