

## Jean Jewell

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Friday, June 13, 2003 6:58 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Friday, June 13, 2003  
5:57:43 PM

Case: INT-G-03-01  
Name: PikeTeinert  
Street\_Address: 834 Harcourt Road  
City: Boise  
State: ID  
ZIP: 83702  
Home\_Telephone: 429-0808  
E-Mail: pteinert@cableone.net  
Company: Intermountain Gas Company  
mailing\_list\_yes\_no: yes

Comment\_description: Intermountain Gas Company's PGA filing in INT-G-03-01 illustrates the continued extreme volatility in energy prices that Idaho has experienced during the last three years and may continue to experience. Clearly Intermountain Gas, the Idaho PUC and Idaho energy consumers do not want this trend to continue. Intermountain's last IRP filing in February, 2002, pg. 43 under "Supply and Storage Summary" states that "Intermountain utilizes an efficient mix of the above supply resources to provide reliable, secure, and economic firm service to its customers." Either the PGA methodology or Intermountain's "efficient mix" must be seriously flawed. A 70% whipsaw in retail gas prices in 2 years certainly does not meet the test of efficiency and the PGA methodology may be inadequate in today's more unpredictable energy markets. Natural gas and electricity prices in Idaho have been anything but stable recently and it is time to analyze the root causes and solutions carefully. Possibly more peak and/or shoulder storage capacity or more perhaps greater delivery capability will help. An in-depth review of the PGA methodology is in order.

Additionally, demand response programs including real time price and response capability help create an energy partnership between the provider and the consumer. Average prices have swung violently in recent years. But peak and critical peak prices fluctuate significantly more, in multiples of base rates. The customer receives no real time information of these radical price swings and is normally not aware of their impact until after the fact when the next PGA is filed. It is time to bring demand response programs using leading technology to Idaho and encourage energy providers like Intermountain Gas to partner with their customers to help manage the impacts of market volatility. If the last few years are any indication, Intermountain and the IPUC alone cannot accomplish retail price stability in Idaho. Possibly, the third leg of the stool is the consumer.

Transaction ID: 6131757.43  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 24.117.22.54  
User Hostname: 24.117.22.54

## Jean Jewell

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**From:** Wm. Randolph Bynum [wrbynum@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 13, 2003 3:13 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell  
**Subject:** Rate Increase for Natural Gas

Responding to the projected rate increase:

While I do understand the reasons for wanting a rate increase, I feel that in the economic situation that we find ourselves in at the present time, that other alternatives should be sought. Each rate increase is equivalent to a salary decrease for each of the customers. My employer cannot raise my salary to offset your rate increase. Have the industry employees taken a large salary cut anytime recently?

During these economically difficult times, many businesses are lowering prices, offering special deals, etc., to attract business. Quite the contrary, natural gas companies are asking for a huge rate increase. The negative message that they are sending seems to me to be the following, and it is one that will actually hurt their business in the long run:

To new home builders: Do not install gas heating and appliances

To present customers: Cut your family budget in other areas to make up for a gas rate increase, and consider other alternatives when buying new appliances

I hope you will consider lowering or eliminating the request for a rate increase.

Thank you,

Randy Bynum  
Nampa

## Jean Jewell

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Friday, June 13, 2003 2:12 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Friday, June 13, 2003  
1:12:20 PM

Case: INT-G-03-1  
Name: Paul Menth  
Street Address: 306 Shadetree Trail  
City: Twin Falls  
State: ID  
ZIP: 83301

Home Telephone: 208-737-2519  
E-Mail: bjmenth@hotmail.com  
Company: Intermountain Gas

mailing\_list\_yes\_no: no

Comment\_description: For years we have used a wood-burning stove complimented with electric heat & our heat bills were usually low. However, we became new homeowners in Twin Falls with a house which has gas heat, cooking stove, & water heater. We WERE quite happy about this because from friends in the Idaho Falls area, we were told that using natural gas was SO Economical. We had mild temperatures in January thru April 2003, & our gas bills were already in the \$89 area. I am quite concerned about what our gas bills will be this coming winter if we have a NORMAL cold winter. Will it cost \$150 a month to heat our new home?? This definitely was not figured into the budget. If our bills are quite high, we will have to switch back to electric water heater, stove, & supplement our house with in-the-wall heater/blower systems. At least Idaho Power's rates have been brought to within reasonable rates.

Paul Menth

Transaction ID: 6131312.20  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 24.117.170.36  
User Hostname: 24.117.170.36

## Jean Jewell

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Friday, June 13, 2003 2:00 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Friday, June 13, 2003  
1:00:20 PM

Case: INT-G-03-01  
Name: Mike Purcell  
Street\_Address: 3924 Mtn View Dr  
City: Boise  
State: ID  
ZIP: 83704  
Home\_Telephone:  
E-Mail:

Company: Intermountain Gas  
mailing\_list\_yes\_no: no

Comment\_description: Yet again, Intermountain Gas is asking for a drastic price increase with next to no conservation or efficiency measures included in the plan. I understand the difference between demand for electricity and the supply of natural gas, but the PUC has required extremely little of Intermountain Gas to avoid price increases. Increasing prices and supply is not the only way, and frequently not the cheapest way, of balancing the market.

I strongly urge the PUC to require Intermountain Gas to embark on some substantial efficiency and conservation efforts to prevent the drastic effects price increases like this will have on Intermountain Gas customers in the future. While the market will always vary and their prices will as well, conservation and efficiency programs will help lessen this effect on their customers. Failure to do this is shortsighted and hurtful to the people of Idaho. This should be a requirement of the regulated monopolies in Idaho. Put the "public" back in the PUC.

Transaction ID: 6131300.20  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 164.165.17.22  
User Hostname: 164.165.17.22