



# ICAN Call to Action: Low-Income Idahoans are Frozen Out by Our Utility Companies!

*Please take a few minutes to write and submit a comment to the Idaho Public Utilities Commission and urge the Commission to extend Idaho's Winter Moratorium (which currently runs only Dec 1-Feb 28 and ties Idaho and West Virginia for the dubious distinction of shortest date-based moratorium in the country) to cover November and March as well – a real Idaho winter!*

**The end of the Winter Moratorium means shutoffs for Idaho families.** Last year, four gas and electric companies regulated by the PUC shut off the power on 2,998 families during the three months after the Moratorium ended (March, April, May).

**The Winter Moratorium protects vulnerable families.** Each of these households had members who were children, seniors, or people whose health was endangered by losing the power.

**Families don't have enough money to pay their utility bills.** One third of the families that were shut off were receiving low income heating assistance. Those households were living at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty level, or \$28,275 a year for a family of four.

How many households did your utility company shut off?	
Avista	614
Idaho Power	1,563
Intermountain Gas	728
Utah Power	93

**The end of the Moratorium doesn't mean the end of winter in Idaho.** In March, the average low temperature is 34° in Boise, 27° in Pocatello, and 21° in McCall. In March 2003, 1,258 moratorium-eligible families had their power shut off.

To help fight unfair shutoffs, contact the Idaho Community Action Network  
(208) 385-9146 • 3450 Hill Road, Boise, ID 83703

(over for comment)

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
 P O Box 83720  
 Boise, Idaho 83720-0074  
 FAX: (208) 334-3762

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IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**Comment/Inquiry Form**

Case No.	31-2101-0402
Your name	C Connie Schroeder
Address	906 N 17
City	Boise
State	IT
ZIP	83702
Home telephone	336 5783
Email Address	ckschroeder@yahoo.com
Name of Utility Company	Idaho Power
Add to mailing list for this case	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Below, please describe your question or comment briefly.

I urge the PUC to increase the winter moratorium to include March and November.

Connie Schroeder  
 Kathryn Earhart  
 Peggy McClendon  
 Candace Diabinski  
 Peggy Bohl  
 Ingrid A. Brudenell

Today is November 20th and the predicted high temperature is 39 degrees. What would I do if I had no heat? Would my coat and bed blankets be enough to ward off the penetrating chill I would feel inside my house. What about the young children and the older adults? We know that November is just the start of the cold weather season. It is time for the Idaho utilities to be concerned about the needs of their community. Profits can be shared with those who need assistance. We urge the Public Utilities Commission to protect ALL of the public by extending Idaho's Winter Moratorium to include November through March.

Connie Schroeder  
 Kathryn Earhart  
 Peggy McClendon  
 Candace Diabinski  
 Peggy Bohl  
 Ingrid Brudenell  
 Patricia Bliss