John turck p.o. box 431 RECEIVED

Idaho City'ID 2011 JUN -7 AM 8: 25

Public Utilities Comm Boise.ID

UTILITIES COMMISSION

I understand that Idaho Power is about to ask for another raise, of course this comes as no surprise to Me and many other People that I know

I happen to be a WW11 Vet 88 years old on a very limited income of less that \$1000 a month, out of this I must pay My rent, utilite bills and try to eat. 40 years ago this would be a fair income, not today, it's nothing. the cost of living goes up and up,no raise on SS,and i'm not just talking for Myself,I'm also talking for thos other poor Souls that are in the same boat as Myself. We have to tighten our belts,let I>P> do the same for a change,let the CEO try to live on My income and others like Me

John Trench

Jean Jewell

From:

soldbytj@prsidaho.com

Sent:

Friday, June 10, 2011 7:41 AM

To:

Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness

Subject:

PUC Comment Form

A Comment from TJ Merzlock follows:

Case Number: IPC-E-11-08

Name: TJ Merzlock

Address: 12260 North Hiline Rd.

City: Pocatello State: Idaho Zip: 83202

Daytime Telephone: 208-380-1003

Contact E-Mail: <u>soldbytj@prsidaho.com</u>
Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power Co.

Acknowledge: acknowledge

Please describe your comment briefly:

I understand that Idaho Power Company has requested a rate hike in the customers monthly usage base to the tune of 8-9% on residential use, More on commercial and irrigation users.

I am vehemently opposed to awarding these folks a rate hike right now while things in the country are in such disarray.

I also understand that this rate hike is for the purpose of aiding the 'retirement programs' for the folks who are now working at Idaho Power and for the cost of living adjustments for those who are already retired. This is the same thing the unions were trying to force the ligislature to comply with in the state of Wisconsin not too long ago. the unions were fighting the state for more benefits and pay for the Wisconsin teachers. The unions were defeated badly in Wisconsin simply because the state did not have the money coming in to pay the extra money out. They are also in debt to the tune of 8 billion dollars. This is exactly what Idaho Power, and Mr, Said are trying to do to their valuable customers who already provide these folks a very nice wage and living.

My opinion is that the IPUC needs to take a careful look at all utilities and make them suffer a little just like all their customers are doing now and have done for years and years. many, many, of our folks out there are hurting very badly and cannot handle any more increases.

In my case, i have several rental properties and I cannot make them cash flow any longer due to the increases in utility rates, property taxes, and insurance rates. I am bottomlining the same net on these rental units that I was 15 years ago. The only benefactors of a rent increase over the years have been the above entities. It is not fair and it is not right to randomly give rate hikes to those who just don't need them. Its very convenient for Mr. Said to sit in his office each day and have these 'think-tank' sessions on how he can derive more money for his people. Maybe if he becomes popular enough within his company he may raise to the position of Chairman of the Board, or some other eloquent position that would not only give hime the glorous bahama-type retirement that he's looking for, but also give him a great pay raise in his new position.

The people of Idaho cannot afford to pay more for anything. Its time the utilities and their folks share in the tightening of the belt and the rolling-up of the sleeves.

We all have great faith in th IPUC and expect you folks to protect us from the unions and the utilities from taking more from us than they deserve. Very Truly Yours, TJ Merzlock, Pocatello, Idaho, Realtor Cell 208-380-1003.