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IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Public Utilities Commissioners
Public Utilities Commission
472 West Washington Street
Boise ID 83720

Dear Commissioners

This is my case:

Retirement, which was forced and
early due to the recent economic state
of the Union, has relegated me to
a situation I have never faced... that
of being on a decreasing income. The
statement "decreasing income" is made
because it was necessary to use
funds in my private retirement funds
to pay for cancer treatment so it is now
my fate to live on the government
pension.

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Margo M. Gaetz
7/5/2011

Until recently this was called a "fixed income" as cost of living increases have been eliminated, and Medicare premiums, which are automatically deducted have increased; this creates a "decreasing net income" for all seniors in the nation. Add to that the growing inflation rate, across the board, and it quickly becomes evident that a lot of people will not have enough money to live, ie, pay all their bills, in a short period of time ... it's already started.

It is not in my power, or that of my electric provider, Idaho Power, to fix this; it may not be in your realm of responsibility or influence either but, you are two levels up from me and perhaps you can reach up a level or two, as I am doing to try to begin to solve the problem.

3.
Margo M. Gratz
7/5/2011

An 8+% increase in my electric bill is one of all of my utilities and services who have/are increasing their rates. Groceries and medical care for which there are no more reserves have also escalated in the past year, not to mention gasoline and other transportation related services. And, the government is talking of cutting the pension payments.

My grandfather use to say, "you can't get blood from a turnip." There are a lot of turnips out here that an 8%+ rate increase would destroy; they are living that close to the edge. Hard to believe but a fact.

Thank you for considering this in preparation for your decision regarding the Idaho Power increase.

Margo M. Gratz