

Jean Jewell

From: ckaltenecker@cableone.net
Sent: Saturday, November 19, 2011 7:08 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Chris Kaltenecker follows:

Case Number: IPC-E-11-08
Name: Chris Kaltenecker
Address: 6622 Saxton Ave.
City: Boise
State: Idaho
Zip: 83714
Daytime Telephone: 2088539257
Contact E-Mail: ckaltenecker@cableone.net Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power
Acknowledge: acknowledge

Please describe your comment briefly:

I'm against any rate increase for power usage at this time. I've read many of the comments from users on your webpage and agree with most of the reasons stated against any rate increase.

The current economic environment doesn't warrant any additional living cost to Idaho families. Now is the time for austerity measures, belt-tightening and innovative ideas to reduce costs, not to increase revenues on the backs of a captive customer for any public utility company.

I'm not aware of the type of pension plan involved, but most companies are going to a defined contribution approach and asking employees to share in the investment similar to a 401k plan. I was never in favor of sweetening the pot as an incentive to keep employees. Especially at this time, I would imagine the prospective worker pool is substantial. Besides, isn't it an insult to those customers who have lost their pension or experienced a significant decrease in their savings value, to be asked to foot the bill for someone else's pension? There are other ways to maintain a worker-friendly environment at a lower cost than increasing pensions. I hope the consumer is not being asked to reimburse the utility for poor pension fund management.

An 8.83% rate increase is outrageous! Is the economy increasing at that rate? I think not. Is it their practice to inflate their rate request hoping to get something less approved? Those kinds of games should be penalized.

I understand utility companies are unique entities, but I also assume they operate their businesses similarly to those in private enterprise. These businesses are very much aware of the need to constantly improve their quality of service, quality of product and reliability of equipment. These are part of the cost of doing business and are included in any plan to survive. I don't buy the argument stating look what I'm doing for you, so now I have to raise your rates.

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>
IP address is 24.116.75.139