

November 23, 2019

841 Rim View Lane E

Twin Falls, ID 83301

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2019 NOV 27 AM 9:55

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Case Number IPC-E-18-15

Proposed Idaho Power Changes

Dear Public Utilities Commission,

I applaud Idaho Power's decision to have 100% clean energy by 2045. For this reason, it seems that the proposed change to the net-metering program, reducing the value small solar producers receive for excess energy produced, is counterproductive. If Idaho Power wants to reach its goal of 100% clean energy, customer-generated electricity should be valued and credited at the same rate all customers pay Idaho Power for electricity. Solar customers have made significant investments toward producing local clean energy and should not be penalized by lowering the rate of compensation to one half its retail value.

Customer-generated solar systems produce more excess energy when Idaho Power needs it the most during the summer months for air conditioning and irrigation pumping. This excess energy can be efficiently used right in the neighborhood without incurring transmission energy loss and expense, a win-win situation for customers and Idaho Power.

The PUC should uphold the original program that was agreed upon by Idaho Power and solar customers. This program was created as an incentive to purchase renewable energy and to encourage investment for long-term savings. The PUC has said they can "assure Idaho Power's customers that discriminatory rates will not follow from the outcome of this case." I urge the PUC to protect families and small businesses that invested in solar and to keep their promise that discriminatory changes will not take place.

Sincerely,



Judy Ruprecht

(208)731-1870

Diane Holt

From: rowemicha@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 12:18 PM
To: Diane Holt
Subject: Case Comment Form: Michael Rowe

Name: Michael Rowe
Case Number: IPC-E-18-15
Email: rowemicha@gmail.com
Telephone: 2082206611
Address:
Pocatello ID, 83201

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power
Comment: Dear IPUC,

It is disappointing to hear that Idaho Power wants to reduce the value of the electricity produced by residential solar systems (Case Number IPC-E-18-15). We just spent a significant amount of money on our new residential solar system based on the current value of electricity. To have this value reduced would be a substantial economic hit to our household.

Further, decreasing credit for electricity produced by homeowners would discourage folks from investing in rooftop solar. This would not help Idaho Power achieve their goal of 100% renewable energy by 2050. Since most of the infrastructure is paid for by the homeowner, as opposed to Idaho Power building a new wind farm or dam, encouraging rooftop solar seems like a no-brainer.

We are against this action to reduce the value of electricity from rooftop solar.

Mike Rowe and Cindy Hill
Pocatello

Unique Identifier: 164.165.206.42

Diane Holt

From: hilding@hildinglaw.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 1:08 PM
To: Diane Holt
Subject: Case Comment Form: Paul Hilding

Name: Paul Hilding
Case Number: IPC-E-18-15
Email: hilding@hildinglaw.com
Telephone: 6193796006
Address: 4960 e boise river lane
Boise ID, 83716

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Comment: We oppose any effort to change net metering rates for existing solar customers. We purchased our solar power system about the time when we retired. There were three reasons: First, in a world already affected by climate change, it was a small thing we felt we could do to help. Second, it seemed like a good way to control future power bills incurred after we no longer had employment income. Third, we believed that, over time, the system would pay for itself.

We feel very strongly that Idaho Power should live by the agreement we made when we bought the system, and that we should be "grandfathered." That would be the right and fair thing to do.

However, if that is not possible, at a minimum we would request the PUC delay any ruling on this issue until it receives the report on cost savings and benefits of solar that it requested of the various parties. Making a decision on rates without such information would seem to be arbitrary and capricious.

Thank you.

Unique Identifier: 164.165.206.42

Diane Holt

From: duanedyer1947@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 8:53 AM
To: Diane Holt
Subject: Case Comment Form: Duane and Elizabeth Dyer

Name: Duane and Elizabeth Dyer
Case Number: IPC-E-18-15
Email: duanedyer1947@gmail.com
Telephone: 573-210-7599
Address: 1005 Homerun Street
Chubbuck ID, 83202

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power
Comment: 27 Nov 19

Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Reference Case Number IPC-E-18-15

My wife and I signed up for installing solar panels on our house because it is the right thing to do in this day and age. Non fossil fuels are the energy source of the future.

When we were investigating solar we knew that it would cost us a large initial outlay but we would be getting something back and eventually the system would be paid for. Part of this decision was knowing that Idaho Power would pay us for our share of producing solar energy. Now Idaho Power wants to reduce the amount they pay us by 50%.

Offering something at a set price and then unilaterally changing the terms of the agreement is called bait and switch and is illegal. I would bet that Idaho Power will not reduce the amount they charge consumers even though they want to pay us less to produce.

Reducing the amount they will pay us is not acceptable and we hope you deny Idaho Power's request.

Unique Identifier: 164.165.206.42

Diane Holt

From: ahikai99@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 7:55 AM
To: Diane Holt
Subject: Case Comment Form: Kai Friedrichs

Name: Kai Friedrichs
Case Number: IPC-E-18-15
Email: ahikai99@gmail.com
Telephone:
Address:
 McCall ID, 83638

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Comment: Investment in solar energy production by homeowners ought to be promoted rather than discouraged. That our utility company is attempting to implement additional restriction of incentives for small-scale home solar projects is greatly disappointing. The proposed reduction in homeowner compensation for energy production should be rejected. At the very least, homeowners with existing investment in home energy production ought to be allowed to remain on the compensatory schedule which has been available at the time of their investment.

Unique Identifier: 164.165.206.42

Diane Holt

From: ckriloff@hotmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 11:03 PM
To: Diane Holt
Subject: Case Comment Form: Cathy Kriloff

Name: Cathy Kriloff
Case Number: IPC-E-18-15
Email: ckriloff@hotmail.com
Telephone:
Address: 209 S. 8th Ave.
Pocatello ID, 83301

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Comment: As a long-time Green Power participant and now solar customer, I appreciate and applaud Idaho Power's commitment to provide 100% renewable energy to all customers by 2045. Solar customers can play an important role in helping achieve that commitment.

For this reason I strongly oppose the proposal that the value of credit that solar customers receive on their bill for the excess electricity their systems generate be decreased to a rate roughly 50% lower than currently received.

More than 4,000 Idaho families have already invested in rooftop solar; this will negatively impact their financial situation, costing them thousands on their electricity bills. It's not fair to have the rules changed after they've made a substantial investment in solar power.

Thousands more Idahoans would like to be solar powered and this will make that transition more difficult. We ask that the IPUC incentivize others to add solar power and keep our economy strong by bringing solar jobs and regulating Idaho Power to move in the direction of their 100% renewable commitment. Please reject the proposal to lower the rates provided for solar power generated by those who have made their own such commitment.

Thank you.

Unique Identifier: 164.165.206.42