

Diane Holt

From: wfthode@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, December 7, 2019 2:04 PM
To: Diane Holt
Subject: Case Comment Form: Walter Thode

Name: Walter Thode
Case Number: IPC-E-18-15
Email: wfthode@gmail.com
Telephone: 2083639169
Address: 4315 N Johns Landing Way
Boise ID, 83703

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power Co.

Comment: I invested in a solar power installation eleven months ago, with the expectation that the ongoing costs and benefits would carry on through the life of my system. The Commission should uphold the original program that was agreed upon by Idaho Power and solar customers. Idahoans have invested in local clean energy expecting a fair deal. Idaho Power should not be allowed to make a profit on the backs of unfairly treated solar customers. Idaho families and small businesses should not have the rules changed on them after they have already made their investment and otherwise relied on Idaho Power's imposed requirements and standards.

Any request for a change to the net-metering program must be preceded by a cost/benefit study performed by a neutral third-party to inform the Commission of the true costs and benefits of solar interconnection and to promote the growth of on-site power generation.

The new proposal could cost existing solar customers thousands of dollars on their electricity bills.

At the very least, allowing existing solar customers to stay on the existing net metering program and applying the new program only to new customers is a commonsense compromise that allows all parties to keep agreements made in good faith. When changing net metering, utilities and commissions around the nation allow existing customers to keep the original terms. Maintaining existing utility rates and terms for existing customers is a very common practice for other utilities in the region making similar changes – it's reasonable to expect the same for Idahoans.

The Commission promised that discriminatory rates would not be the outcome. If changes are implemented that negatively impact customers' solar investments, it would be discriminatory. They need to hold true to their word.

Idaho families and businesses should not be penalized for investing their own money into a program that was created to incentivize purchasing renewable generation. Approving a net metering policy that encouraged investment for long term savings, only to have it invalidated in this manner, is unethical. We should expect more from our appointed officials on the Commission and our public utility. If they had no intention of honoring the service agreement, they set out initially, they shouldn't have even made it an option. But they did, and it should be honored.

The Idaho Power plan decreases access, availability, and affordability of residential solar.

Should the Commission adopt the Proposal as-written and decide not to grandfather-in existing net-metering customers, thousands of residential solar energy producers will lose their investment, the expansion of residential solar in Idaho will end, thousands of jobs will be lost, and our beautiful land will suffer.

Unique Identifier: 164.165.206.42

Diane Holt

From: dudleypward@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, December 8, 2019 11:06 AM
To: Diane Holt
Subject: Case Comment Form: Dudley Ward

Name: Dudley Ward
Case Number: IPC-E-18-15
Email: dudleypward@gmail.com
Telephone:
Address: 1908 S. Streampointe Lane
Eagle Idaho, 83616

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Comment: It seems like only last year that Idaho Power made national news by setting a goal of being 100% "green power" in the future. Confident of Idaho Power's long-term commitment, I installed solar generation at my cabin in Donnelly. Now we see Idaho Power's true colors by pursuing a rate that will effectively stop consumers from installing solar generation.....even though it is very complementary to Idaho Power's generation/usage profile. My brother Conley Ward, former head of the Idaho PUC Commission, must be turning over in his grave to see how Idaho Power dictates rates now.

Unique Identifier: 164.165.206.42

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2 December, 2019

Idaho Public Utilities Commission
PO Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

fax: 208-334-3762

Re: **Case Number IPC-E-18-15**

Dear Members of the IPUC,

I am submitting comments on the proposed changes on how Idaho Power Corp. will compensate residential solar power production. I will present my arguments **against** the adoption of these proposed changes.

My wife and I invested this year in rooftop solar panels, at an approximate cost of \$22,000. Our installation was designed to cover 90% of our average annual kW-hr energy consumption. We made this investment based on the net-metering protocol in use presently, before we were surprised (more accurately, blind-sided) by the new proposed net metering scheme. Under the existing protocol, our system would pay for itself in approximately 15 yrs. And, being environmentally aware citizens and power consumers, we felt this was the correct decision. Under the proposed changes, it is unlikely our system will break-even over the expected operational lifetime of the system. The proposed changes will punish those residential solar producers, and is akin to changing the rules in the middle of a game. Not that Idaho Power is "losing", rather they want to boost their profits at the expense of residential solar producers. **At the very least, if the proposed changes are adopted, existing residential solar producers should be "grandfathered in" under the rules in place when they made their investment.**

The proposed hourly net-metering scheme would not be so **onerous** if the rate paid by Idaho Power for surplus kW-hrs being pumped into their grid were the same as (**or at least close to**) the rate they charge for delivered kW-hrs. However, the scheme will gradually drop the value of these surplus kW-hrs to roughly half the rate we pay them for energy! This is pure and simple greed.

Here's a scenario: suppose my household uses during the summer 24 kWh per day. Also, suppose this usage is fairly constant through the day (1 kWh used per hour). This assumption of constant usage is not unrealistic, as during the summer months we are usually not at home, and only the maintenance electric usage is occurring. Also, suppose my system produces 48 kWh during the day with most of this during the 6 hours of highest intensity sunlight (10 AM – 4 PM). So, assume this production is 8 kWh each of these 6 hours. Under the current structure, I bank 24 kWh for offsetting my usage in the winter months, when I don't expect my system to produce even a quarter of that produced on a sunny summer day. Under the proposed scheme of hourly net-metering, my daytime production of 48 kWh, taking away the 6 kWh of constant usage during this 6 hour period, gives me a surplus of 42 kWh. However, because the compensation will be only at ½ the rate I pay when I'm drawing energy from the system, it's like 21 kWh. Now there are still 18 hours in the day left to cover, leaving now only a net surplus of 3 kWh. Hence, I hardly even break even during the sunniest time of the year, and Idaho Power is essentially getting 21 kWh for free !!!!!

The fact that most surplus solar energy will be produced during the summer months is actually a **boon** to Idaho Power. These summer months, especially the daytime hours, are often **peak load periods**. Residential solar producers are putting excess energy into Idaho Power's grid **precisely** when they (Idaho Power) need it the most, and when out-of-state purchased energy is most expensive! We are helping Idaho Power, and their proposed scheme is to screw us.

In closing, I urge the IPUC **NOT to ADOPT** the proposed net-metering changes. Residential solar production is a boon to the economy and the environment, and both will suffer if these changes are adopted. We need the

IPUC to push this state towards a more sustainable and cleaner energy future, not to stifle such a move. Please don't put the shareholders of IDACORP (**of which I am one!**) ahead of the future of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ken W. Bosworth". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Ken W. Bosworth

95 Drake Ave.
Pocatello, ID 83201-3439

email: boswkenn@gmail.com