

Please submit my comments to the Commissioners regarding the above referenced IPUC case.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Charles Gains

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1721 E. Canova Dr.
Boise, Idaho 83706
208.830.3787

As a home owner and supporter of clean, safe, renewable, solar energy generation I want to comment on the solar energy case before the PUC. This includes the totality of the energy needs within the IPCO service area. This geographic area is unique in that the major power source of energy has been hydro-generated power, a natural resource of this region. IPCO has had a monopoly of this natural resource. IPCO has enjoyed exclusively charging for dam licensing, power harvesting, power generating, power wheeling, and distribution to its customers within its geographic service area. In return for its firm delivery of power IPCO has enjoyed guaranteed returns on its investments and profits. Enter the advent of solar generated power.

The IPUC, not the IPCO, seeing the potential and the need for alternative, renewable, clean energy promoted the concepts of solar energy through its net-metering program. At that same time solar was seen as an answer to reduction of “peak demands” at the time in the annual hydro power generating cycle (in late summer when irrigation power was in high demand and generating capabilities was waning).

Today, we are again engaged in an argument of who controls, is entitled to, and “owns” the power generating resource – The SUN.

The same complicated arguments about costs and ROI that IPCO has made in the past are now being made by the individuals investing in their own solar exploits. IPCO has devised policy and made lopsided arguments that it is entitled to returns on solar generation investments that individuals spend. The only way to settle this dispute is to make study (Solar Study) of the facts, operations, costs, etc. involving the same power elements IPCO has enjoyed in development of its hydro-power i.e., licensing, power harvesting, power generating, power wheeling, and distribution.

Charles Gains

Boise,

SOLAR POWER STUDY AND SURVEY QUESTIONS:

- What are the existing Solar Power policies and practices of IPCO, the IPUC, and private Solar Generators been to date?
 - What are the elements (permitting, contracting, roles and responsibilities, operating conditions and responsibilities, uses and distribution of solar power, etc.)?

- What happens to existing solar installation agreements (e.g. net metering) if the solar system is repaired with system upgrades or new technologies before any contract rights expire? E.g. would putting in or replacing a new technology inverter in an existing system void the net-metering grandfathered agreement?
 - What are the costs, benefits, demand, needs, relevant uses/consumption/delivery/regulatory compliance/laws, and impacts e.g., climate, IPCO, etc?
 - What are other PUCs, States, Power Companies, Public entities, and general population programs doing about solar power design, generation, distribution, policy, around the nation/world?
 - What are the existing laws regarding solar power rights and regulation in this region and others?
- Who owns and has the rights to solar power i.e. who is entitled to the design, generation, limits, operation of, use of, distribution of, and future of solar generated power?
 - What are the differences between large-scale, single-point-power generation and distribution of existing plant systems vs. solar generation?
 - What are the needs of the end-users (customers)?
 - What are the projected chronological generating abilities and demands of customers in this and other service regions, e.g., MWH generating and demands vs. timed operating system cycles?
- What is an equitable rate balance when IPCO wants to charge customers for generation vs. when solar generators create storable generation capacity for IPCO?
 - If IPCO saves \$1 in avoided cost due to solar generation, should it return that \$1 to the customer?
 - If a solar generator supplants the need for IPCO to generate power at high reservoir capacity time of year and IPCO can save that capacity until August (a low reservoir capacity time of year) should IPCO rebate that actual cost of generation to the solar generator?
 - If solar generators negate need for long-distance wheeling costs, step up and step down and line-loss transmission costs, should IPCO rebate those actual avoided costs to the solar generator?
 - If solar generators produce excess power during high-demand periods and IPCO sells that power to nearby customers should IPCO rebate the higher KWH sales rate to the solar customer?
 - Should solar generators be entitled to ROI when returning power to the IPCO grid?
- Should solar generators be entitled to operate their own systems regardless of whether IPCO is delivering power?
 - Technology now exists for solar generators to use solar power when the power grid is inactive, but current switching does not allow this to happen unless the solar system is not an IPCO customer. Is this equitable?
 - Under what conditions should the solar generator be allowed to operate independent from the IPCO grid?
 - Should there be a limit to the size of system solar generators can operate?
 - Should there be a limit to the size of storage a solar generator is allowed to install?
- What is the value to supplanting IPCO coal-fired generation with solar generation?

- Should reducing CO₂ emissions be embedded in the IPCO rate as an avoided cost?
 - Should imputed coal-fired generation cleanup costs be included as an avoided cost due to solar generation?
- Should governmental agencies enjoy the same net-metering benefits as small solar generators?
 - Cities, counties, school districts, State agencies, Parks, Universities, etc. could reduce taxes if they could lower their power bills. Should IPCO give the same rebates to these agencies as other small-scale solar generators?
 - Should cities, counties, school districts, State agencies, Parks, Universities, etc. have the right to choose whether it wants to use IPCO power or its own solar power generation?
- Should businesses enjoy the same net-metering benefits as small solar generators?
 - Ditto the above supplementary questions.
- Would promotion of a solar generation industry bring new jobs, technology, businesses to the Idaho economy?

DEC 06 2021

Boise, Idaho

December 1, 2021


IPC-E-21-21

Idaho Public Utility Commission Staff:

Yesterday, I tried fax my letter to the IPUC, but unfortunately their fax machine was not working. Please see the Winco's fax machine report, which is also enclosed with my letter. Because I had to put everything into the US mail (sent via US Post Office), regretfully I was unable to get it to you any sooner.

Therefore, I respectfully ask that my letter be stamped received on 11/30/21, so it meets the above mentioned case deadline (11/30/21) for the commissioners review prior to IPC's beginning it's study. Thank you in advance for your patience, understanding and cooperation in getting my letter to the commissioners.

Sincerely,



E. Vanderpool

November 30, 2021

Idaho Public Utility Commission
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720

Sent via fax: 208-334-3762

Re: IPC-E-21-21

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for reviewing all of the public comments, then taking them into consideration as to how the study framework should proceed. I am an Idaho Power customer as well as a person, who has solar panels. I truly value all of Idaho's natural resources, which is one of the main reasons for my solar panels. My solar panels were installed to help me offset my huge wintertime electric bill; as well as to preserve Idaho's natural resources of clean air, clear waterways, sustain pristine mountain lakes and springs, protect wildlife, and conserve timber. I remain hopeful that Idaho Power does reach its goal of clean energy, thus the electrical grid becomes more flexible and resilient, only by means of green power.

In my opinion, there needs to be a neutral 3rd party expert who verifies the details accuracy contained within the study; and represents the net-metering folks throughout this entire process. Transparency is critical component in this study; it needs to be comprehensible, explicably clear for everyone. I believe that a terminology glossary should be created, that is worded in such a manner that non-expert can understand, and it should be located on the IPUC website, so it can be easily referenced by everyone. Our current situation with the nation's supply chain crises, the shortage of professionals, while we struggle with another round of some type of new Covid viruses, concerns me. The fact that during the course of this study, IPC can and probably will step across their smart meters into our inverters to "adjust" them whenever major clouds pass by or when it's stormy accompanied by lightening, that's when our inverters will be seriously damaged, which really concerns me. I am also frightened they will damage my inverter by shutting down or cutting off my system multiple times in rapid succession, or to any other net-metering folks, which could force us out of our homes for months. With the current economic situation, I know that I could not afford any of the damages to my inverters or to my home. There needs to be moratorium on especially during extreme weather situations such as winter or excessive summer heat, they can only turn off the inverters and not the power into our homes. Climate change is now drastically transforming our earth. I am positive that all net-metering customers want their facilities to be safe at all times and not pose any potential danger to IPC's linemen. With the cooperation of both the interveners and IPC, I propose a list be compiled of those Idaho professionals (as to who and where they can be reached) which would be most helpful to the net-metering folks to resolve problems or damages to their system. There should be no penalty if those repairs are delayed due to the above-mentioned mitigating circumstances.

Sincerely,



E. Vanderpool
6177 Somerset Ln.
Star, ID 83669

Idaho Public Utilities Commission
Office of the Secretary
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DEC 06 2021

Boise, Idaho



Protocol Monitor

Idaho Public Utilities Commission
Office of the Secretary
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Date/Time: 11/30/2021 04:17 PM

Fax Number : 2088889877
Company Name : WinCo Foods Store 48

DEC 06 2021

Boise, Idaho

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