

Public Utilities Commission,

I am reporting unjust and unreasonable behavior against Karen Erickson by Idaho Power that I witnessed on 2/25/22 at 311 Almond, Caldwell, ID.

I am aware that Karen has requested and been denied ADA provisions for many years. The ADA is a Federal Law and I witnessed an Idaho Power Representative ignore her ADA request, her request for an ADA coordinator as well as her request for access to communication with Idaho Power as literally every way they HAVE communicated with her is NOT ACCESSIBLE to her.

As the Public Utilities Commission I expect and you should be concerned about public safety and access including and especially disability discrimination by Idaho Utilities, Violations of State Law by Public Utilities and Violations of Federal Law by Public Utilities.

Withholding essential public services, like public utilities, from disabled adults is dangerous, illegal, unfair and unjust. Please investigate this situation with Karen Ericsson and Idaho Power. This is NO HUMANE WAY for a disabled elder to live.

I am writing in support of Karen Erickson obtaining an emergency injunction. I have witnessed repeated disruptions of utility services stretching back over a number of years. I have been involved in supporting her obtaining ADA Provisions from Idaho Power, Nampa City and the PUC and have witnessed her being excluded from all these title 2 entities because of her disability.

I want to verify that Karen has experienced significant harm resulting from loss of access to public utilities which are beyond her control because the Public Utilities exclude her from equal access or effective communication.

I want to verify that Karen has been without Public Utilities for approximately 2 months, that she is currently living in a situation without access to water, sanitation services, or the necessary therapeutic practices that allow her to decrease seizure activity.

I want to verify that Karen has lost her entire perishable food supply when her power was disrupted. I both observed and documented this by photos.

I want to verify that no emergency or protective services are available to her because of widespread ADA violations by Idaho Public Entities. I want to verify that no medical care is accessible to her. And I want to verify that no disability services are accessible to her. So disrupting her ability to function independently by refusing to implement effective communication or permit equal access represents a serious life threatening risk to her.

Subjecting a vulnerable and disabled adult to these circumstances is unsafe and unethical. It's a clear violation of Federal Regulations. And all the provisions that should be available to address these issues are not because all public entities in Idaho are similarly non compliant with the ADA.

Thank you for your attention and investigation to these reoccurring violations.

Cheryl Mendiola

Boise Idaho

