

07/19/2022

Case Number: IPC-E-22-22

Utility Company: Idaho Power

RECEIVED

2022 JUL 21 AM 9:47

Dear IPUC,

I am writing to express my concern with Idaho Power's proposed changes to the compensation structure for on-site generation customers. I have a rooftop solar power system and participate in the on-site generation program with Idaho Power.

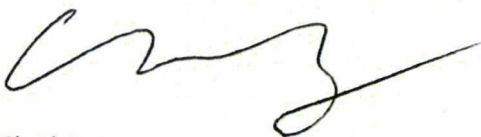
The proposed changes from Idaho Power dramatically reduce the cost benefits of customer power generation which has undesirable side effects:

1. It discourages new installation of customer generation due to less efficient economics at a time when our country and world desperately need more zero carbon power generation. Demand for electricity will continue to accelerate in the coming years with greater adoption of electric appliances (HVAC, hot water) and electric vehicles. With ballooning costs of fossil fuels and unpredictable snowpack impacting hydro production, we need all of the low-cost, renewable energy we can get. Now is not the time to discourage consumers from installing rooftop solar or other on-site generation systems. Further, decreasing demand for solar will eliminate jobs for installers and electricians.
2. It penalizes consumers who already invested in solar generation with expectations of a certain return over time and a decreased electric bill. Existing customers should be protected from any compensation structure changes. Anyone installing solar up until a published date for a compensation structure change should qualify.
3. Low-cost electricity encourages conversion to low-carbon, high-efficiency systems: heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, electric induction cooktops, and electric mobility (cars, bikes, etc.). Supporting customers with economical on-site generation gives them more resources to invest in efficiency upgrades that benefit all of us. The current plan from Idaho Power has a complicated compensation structure which will make it more difficult for potential solar installers to calculate the return on their solar investment and will cool the market for new installations. It is also unclear how future power price increases will translate to on-site generators. Will the price paid to generators track with what ratepayers are charged?

The proposed plan appears to be tilted to the benefit of Idaho Power at the expense of on-site generators and I am uncomfortable with its structure for compensation today and its ambiguity on future price increases.

I welcome more future-looking, mutually beneficial relationships between Idaho Power and on-site generators such as Virtual Power Plant technology that encourages on-site storage to help Idaho Power deal with expensive peak demand and leverage its customers as a partner to help build a more resilient, cost-efficient, and lower carbon electricity infrastructure. The currently proposed plan moves us in the opposite direction.

Thank you for your consideration.



Chad Gray

graycw@comcast.net

**From:** [PUCWeb Notification](#)  
**To:** [Jan Noriyuki](#)  
**Subject:** Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb  
**Date:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 3:00:07 PM

---

The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Evan Gill  
Submission Time: Jul 21 2022 2:47PM  
Email: [evanmgill@gmail.com](mailto:evanmgill@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 970-260-8645  
Address: 4882 S. Caden Creek Way  
Boise, ID 83709

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-22-22

Comment: "Idaho power is considering changes to the way solar generation customers (including schedule 6, which includes me) are credited for the power they generate, vs. the current 1:1 credit for each kWh generated. Their reasoning, according to the notice, is that they have to pay to build and maintain the grid infrastructure and customer support network. This is illogical, and perhaps a bit dishonest. Each Idaho Power invoice already includes 'service fees' which cover these things. If the service fees are inadequate to cover these things, then that's the piece that should be adjusted, not the generation credit rate. Power is power, infrastructure is infrastructure, and customer support is customer support, and it makes no sense to change the cost of one to fund the others. Allow them to raise fees if you must, but the generation credit should stay where it is. Thank you for your consideration."

-----  

---

**From:** [PUCWeb Notification](#)  
**To:** [Jan Noriyuki](#)  
**Subject:** Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb  
**Date:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 7:00:08 AM

---

The following comments were submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Courtney Linker  
Submission Time: Jul 20 2022 9:47PM  
Email: [clinker0714@gmail.com](mailto:clinker0714@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-965-9100  
Address: 514 Fair Ln  
Nampa, ID 83686

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-22-22

Comment: "Members of the Idaho Public Utility Commission, I am writing to ask that you instruct Idaho Power to maintain their current rate structure for on-site solar power customers. The current rate structure is fair, and it incentivizes customers to invest in clean energy. Idaho Power states that they have a goal to provide 100% clean energy by 2045. I admire and respect that goal. It is a goal that is necessary to the sustainability of our future. It appears that over 12,300 Idaho Power customers currently contribute clean power to the Idaho Power grid. How amazing is that! My family would like to become a part of this movement by purchasing solar panels and connecting to Idaho Power's grid. We would like to do our part to produce clean energy. And whatever clean energy we produce but do not use, we would like for Idaho Power to be able to use it as needed, especially during peak hours. As I understand it, Idaho Power is able to sell extra energy to other power companies who may be in need. From my perspective, that means if my home produces energy that we do not use, Idaho Power will be able to benefit financially from that added production. It is a financial burden to invest in solar, whether one finances or pays cash up front. Residents and small businesses will not see the financial benefits for years to come. I suspect that we choose to make this decision for the greater good and for the benefit of future generations. But if Idaho Power is able to adjust the rate structure from monthly to hourly or real-time, the incentive for going solar will be eliminated and it will take customers far longer to reap the financial rewards of going solar. We should all do what is right as long as we have the means to do so. I would like to see Idaho Power find a different solution to their problem, if one exists, one that will not negatively impact those who share in their mission to produce 100% clean energy."

-----

Name: Carl Fetterman  
Submission Time: Jul 20 2022 7:47PM  
Email: [fetterm60@gmail.com](mailto:fetterm60@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-850-2758  
Address: 7421 E Grey Lag Dr.  
Nampa, ID 83687

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-22-22

Comment: "To the Idaho PUC REF. Residential solar systems I recently received a letter from Idaho Power Corp. concerning changes in the billing practices relative to renewable energy. I read the study they provided and understood most of it. I understand that solar power is not necessarily going to work out to be advantageous to Idaho Power in all cases. However, as proposed, the new billing regime would make most renewable energy uneconomic. I believe that was the intent. I recently contracted with a solar installer to have a system installed on my home. I can not back out without financial loss. I believed when I signed the contract that a residential solar system was both a financially sound investment and would, at least to some extent, be environmentally sound as well. I urge the commission to grandfather any existing or under contract renewable energy systems out of fairness if for no other reason. Car Fetterman"

-----

---