

Case: IPC-E-23-11

Dear Idaho Public Utilities Commission,

The proposed rate increase of 12.25%, added to a \$10 increase in the monthly service fee, plus the proposed tiered rate system adjustments, creates a further hardship on every subscriber within Idaho Power service area. Electricity is barely affordable now, and will be even less affordable with the increases. The tiered rate structure is already set up to profit Idaho Power. How many homes can actually stay within the 800 kWh limit of the first tier, especially during peak periods? This is not even taking into account the automatic seasonal increase that occurs every summer. I do not want to face an electric bill next summer that will be \$100 more expensive than what I sacrificed to pay this past summer. If Idaho Power has increased costs because of more demand for increased electrical infrastructure, one must wonder why these costs have not been covered by the developers and the ever increasing development.

Residents already in the unwilling position of having to tighten their belts because of the ever increasing cost of living, will have to further cinch it in if Idaho Power is granted what they wish. Some residents will be put into the position of not being able to afford to run their air conditioners in the summer or their space heaters in the winter. It may seem a simple thing for Idaho Power to go back to their subscribers wanting more money, however, subscribers have their own budgets that they would have to reallocate to cover what Idaho Power wants. It is not Idaho Power who will have to make that tough decision to cut back on other necessities so they can keep the lights on.

I respectfully request the Idaho Public Utilities Commission does not approve Idaho Power's request for a 12.25% rate increase, an 85% monthly service fee increase, and/or tiered rate adjustments that seek to maximize profit.

Thank you,

Suzanne Knorr

My name is Don Kemper, I am an Idaho Power customer at 1821 Edgecliff in Boise.

I'm here to share my thanks for the work of the PUC staff and for the role that you play in governing our public utilities.

First, I'd like to thank Adam Rush for his August 15, workshop describing Idaho Power's Application for a rate increase.

His slides highlighted two things for me:

First, the monthly service fee would go up 600% over 3 years.

2nd, the conservation discount on the first 800 kwh would go away

Taken together, those two proposed changes would have placed a hugely unfair share of the increase on those families using the least amount of power.

A low-income or energy conserving family using only 800 kwh per month would have seen an increase of over 40%. While a high-use family using five times as much power would have seen their bills decrease.

What was Idaho Power thinking? It seemed to me like Robin Hood in reverse. Take from the poor to give to the rich.

But then, stepped in the PUC staff (and the interveners) to bring reason and fairness to the application.

In the proposed settlement, as I understand it, the conservation discount will remain.

The service fee will still triple over two years, but the rate increase will now be shared more equitably among all users. For that I am thankful.

Public utilities have a right to reasonable profits. At times, that means rate increases. It seems to me, the settlement provides for a very generous increase of over \$54 million per year.

So now I have to wonder. Did the Company intentionally skew the burden of the initially proposed increase to the poor as a clever smokescreen—to take the focus away from the size of the rate increase?

If so, perhaps they did it to ensure they would have enough to fund a speeded-up transition away from coal and natural gas for the benefit of our Idaho climate.

Oh, how I wish that might be true. Either way, they should not need another rate increase for a long, long time.

Thank you.

339 words



208 870 0776
dkemper398@gmail.com

11-20-2023

To P.U.C.

RECEIVED

2023 NOV 24 AM 11:20

You shouldn't ready allow this service
fee to be added to our electric Billing!

I've always NOT LIKED the 5^{00} monthly
service fee that is in place currently.

But to add another 5^{00} & then 10^{00}
in the coming years is JUST plain GREED!

I am a USMC Veteran, on a FIXED
income, Relying only on annual COLA,
which does NOT keep up with INFLATION,

IN 2022, VERIZON did this, and
over 5 months + 2 service fee increases
my bill went from 75^{00} a month to 112^{00} a month.

I Ran. I had several other choices, & I
Found one, so I switched providers for my

11-20-2023

cell phone service.

with you & Idaho Power, they being the monopoly, I don't have an option.

I am then a prisoner of Idaho Power Billing services.

Sort of destroys your image as a regulator.

Idaho Power is making us, the retired community, victims & NOT customers.

I don't have an option to change providers.

You'd be wise to not allow this to happen. Have Idaho Power adjust stock payouts lower, & use that to build their infrastructure. We should be responsible
- NOT -

11-20-2023

for paying the fees for new Residents
coming to Idaho. That should fall onto
their start-up - poor up fees. Not my
Wallet.

Do your job & rethink the impact.

I haven't studied the legal
options on this, But that may be a route.

I am remaining anonymous on this,
because, if Idaho power gets internet
hacked because of all of this attention,
my name, e-mail address, won't be in the hands
of another criminal.

D1978 ID :
code
* and that would also take my
COLA payment away

BOISE ID 837

21 NOV 2023 PM 1 L



P.U.C.

Commission Secretary

IDAHO PUC

P.O. Box 83720

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The following comments were submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Emilia Anders
Submission Time: Nov 28 2023 6:08PM
Email: emiliajanders@gmail.com
Telephone: 208-867-7801
Address: 3398 W Forsythia Drive
Boise, ID 83703

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-11

Comment: "My name is Emilia Anders and I am a senior at Boise High. Your job is to keep utility bills fair for everyone, and this fixed rate increase will disproportionately affect low-energy users and solar customers. High-energy users should pay more for the system costs rather than having a flat fee. It's well-known that utility companies exaggerate how much of their costs are fixed vs variable so they can make more profit. It is important that you keep utility bills fair for everyone, and this will disproportionately affect low-income residents, highly energy-efficient homes, and solar users. I am asking you not to rubber stamp Idaho Power's plans to increase fixed charges on our power bills—now or in the future. Keep utility bills fair for all residents."

Name: Nicholas Thomas
Submission Time: Nov 28 2023 6:57PM
Email: nicholastwin@hotmail.com
Telephone: 208-872-6725
Address: 2103 North 34th Street
Boise, ID 83702

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-11

Comment: "I think that it is important that we ask ourselves, why is Idaho Power proposing this change? Who stands to benefit and at whose expense? I think that it is pretty obvious that the only person, or group of people, who will benefit from this change is Idaho Power themselves. But who is going to suffer? Low income and low energy using households will. All of us pay the fixed service charge fee no matter how much energy we use, which is why it would hurt these people the most. I don't think that it is right for us to give more money to a multi-million dollar company at the expense of those in our community who financially struggle the most.

Now, Idaho Power might say that they need to make these changes because of an increasing energy demand or because climate change makes it harder to produce electricity, but this is really just so Idaho Power can make more profits. Don't just take my word for it - Idaho Power literally proves it themselves. Let's take a step back to see this. Last summer, Idaho Power submitted a proposal to decrease the solar compensation rates. One of the reasons behind this move was that solar increases energy bills for those who don't have solar.. Now, Idaho Power is trying to increase the amount of money all of us pay, regardless of energy use or income level. It just doesn't make sense, does it? Idaho Power's

own logic undermines their proposal. They cannot decrease solar compensation rates AND increase fixed service charge fees at the same time. At least, not if they are telling the truth about being “sensitive to the impacts rate increases have on their customers” ,and I mean clearly they aren’t. They’re just trying to rip us off and make as much money as possible..

Your job is to prevent these companies from ripping us off like this. When you come to a decision on this proposal, it’s important that you think about the precedent that it will set. I mentioned this in my testimony last month, and I’ll mention it again. This case is about the PUC. Do they really fight for Idahoans rights, or do they let big companies like Idaho Power run all over us? "

Name: Nikita Thomas
Submission Time: Nov 28 2023 9:11PM
Email: nikitatwin@hotmail.com
Telephone: 986-895-7985
Address: 2103 N 34th St
Boise, ID 83703

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-11

Comment: "My name is Nikita Thomas and I am a student at Boise High School. I have been a member of the Climate Justice League for almost two and a half years.

Our country has a history of creating policies that exasperate racial inequality, from segregation to redlining. Despite changes in these policies, racial inequality still lurks within our country. African Americans face higher incarceration rates. Minority groups earn less than whites in the same careers. And Idaho Power is planning to contribute to this trend of racial inequality.

Idaho Power’s plan to triple the fixed service charge fees within the next two years, will hurt low-income families the most. Many low-income families are people that come from these same minority groups. According to the Population Reference Bureau, minority families make up 58% of the low-income families in the U.S., despite being included as 40% of working families in the U.S. This directly shows that minority communities will be disproportionately affected by the plan to increase fixed service charge fees

As the Public Utilities Commission you have the power to determine whether Idaho Power will exacerbate racial inequality in our community. For this reason I urge you to reject Idaho Power’s proposal."

The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: David Jones
Submission Time: Nov 29 2023 7:53AM
Email: djidaho55@gmail.com
Telephone: 208-995-5519
Address: 5 Keller Place
Boise, ID 83716

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-11

Comment: "The proposal to increase the residential service charge is just another way to get the original rate increase amount of \$111 million. . An additional \$5 service charge on 620,000 customers is \$31 million then add the next year increase and you get \$62 million dollars.

Idaho power has an estimated 620,000 customers of which 2%(2100) are solar. Why not have all the new arrivals pay for the extra costs since they are the ones putting the increased demand on Idaho Power. Solar generators are helping the grind keep up with power and should not have a service charge at all. We have invested in power generation and are generating power that Idaho power is selling back to its customers. This increase is only going to hurt the people that can least afford it. Keep the current service charge and charge customers for the power they use. "
