

The following comments were submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Virgil Stucker  
Submission Time: Oct 11 2023 6:30PM  
Email: [virgilstucker@msn.com](mailto:virgilstucker@msn.com)  
Telephone: 208-794-0999  
Address: 8815 S Ten Mile Rd  
Meridian, ID 83642

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "If everyone's goal is to be using renewable energy, including Idaho Power wanting it by 2045 why would anyone want to penalize those of us who have invested in trying to make that happen and discourage others from doing the same thing. Greed and control would be the only reason I can think of for doing so.

The current process is encouraging the production of renewable energy and is in fact saving Idaho Power from having to build more infrastructure. For those of us producing solar renewable energy our peak production is when Idaho Power needs it most to keep them from having to implement rolling blackouts as some power companies around the nation have had to do.

I am asking you our PUC board to not approve the change to the Net Metering which is now being fairly used, as it would have a negative effect on needed renewable solar energy production and penalize those of us who have invested a lot of money into doing our part to accomplish what seems to be the goal of everyone.

Virgil Stucker"

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The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Jon Minkoff  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 10:11AM  
Email: [mink@speedyquick.net](mailto:mink@speedyquick.net)  
Telephone: 208-459-4740  
Address: 11648 Eva Lane  
Caldwell, ID 83607

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "Please take a fresh and comprehensive look at residential solar production in Idaho and across the country. We do not exist in a vacuum, and a lot can be learned from the experience of others. As I understand it, forty-one states currently have a state or utility governed net metering program. In states where the compensation rate has been cut the pace of new solar installations has naturally and significantly declined. The mission of the IPUC includes: "Regulate the public utilities to secure and promote the general safety, health and public welfare." As the climate warms, fires rage and weather-related disasters multiply, we need much more carbon-free electricity generation, not less.

Concern about a cost shift to non-generators is greatly overstated. Only about 3% of Idaho Power's customers are solar generators, and we made substantial financial investments with very long payoff periods. Any added cost for non-generators is relatively minor and can be seen as a small contribution toward a healthy, renewable future.

California allowed 120 days AFTER its recent rate change for existing systems to be grandfathered in. Idaho should do the same if it happens here, especially since the dissemination of information about a potential change has been uneven and lacking, particularly for secondary buyers.

I urge you to keep the current, easy-to-calculate net metering program. The proposed micro-managed, shifting rate structure will be difficult to implement and will draw costly, time-consuming challenges."

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Name: Rick Davis  
Submission Time: Oct 11 2023 10:30PM  
Email: [pokytgbem@gmail.com](mailto:pokytgbem@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-427-5301  
Address: 415 Randolph  
Pocatello, ID 83201

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "Please take a critical view of the VODER findings provided by Idaho Power Co. The five requests detailed in the report collectively propose a diminished value for onsite power generation at a time when its benefits are increasing. The study places too high a value on company profits and neglects to consider how its implementation will discourage further onsite power generation. "

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The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Rosemary Smith  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 1:34PM  
Email: [rosemarysmith8@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarysmith8@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-339-2589  
Address: 1734 North Elk Road  
POCATELLO, ID 83204

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "Dear Idaho Public Utilities Commission,

I urge you to reject IPC-E-23-14 the proposed rate structure changes (export credit rates) for solar-rooftop generation customers. There is a basic flaw in the premise of the proposal as no quantification of the “subsidies” to other customers by solar-rooftop generators is provided, no indication of how the rate changes will alter the unsubstantiated subsidies, and several examples where the models use data that directly conflict with other information provided by Idaho Power.

First, in the meeting on September 7, 2023 I asked for information on the size of the problem- that being the “subsidy” that solar power customers receive from all other customers. The response was that this information was NOT AVAILABLE! And yet, this is the premise of the entire rate restructuring proposal. Until the supposed “problem” of subsidies can be quantified and clearly communicated to customers and the IPUC then there is no mechanism to determine whether this rate restructuring will actually accomplish its stated goals.

Secondly, the model itself had specific inconsistencies that specifically reduce the value of export credits. First, the definition of “peak times” was subtly shifted from 1-9 pm to 3-11 pm; which of course eliminates two of the hours of the day when solar is most productive. This is WRONG and should be addressed. The peak times should be 1-9 PM.

Thirdly, in a broader context, this proposed rate structure change is will likely require more time and effort than it gains. Many other states and PUC’s have conducted studies and found that net-metering is cost-effective and efficient. No fancy modeling or micro-management of real-time usage, estimated annual rate changes, billing and transfer of credits are required. New solar customers can finance their investments with known rates of return (if electric rates increase, so will their credits), and the utility has a predictable energy stream produced by infrastructure that their customers paid for with their own money!

In the spirit of meeting your mission of regulating utilities to secure and promote the general safety, health, and public welfare of Idaho Power customers, I urge you to reject the proposal.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Smith  
Idaho Power customer"

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The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Joshua Hill  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 2:00PM  
Email: [solarownersnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:solarownersnetwork@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-604-4404  
Address: 1350 S. Five Mile Rd. #190744  
Boise, ID 83709

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: " IPC-E-23-14  
Joshua S. Hill  
President  
Idaho Solar Owners Network  
9/18/2023

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074  
RE: CASE NO. IPC-E-23-14 - Proposed Changes to Net Metering Program

Idaho Power is proposing changes which do not make sense to the average Idahoan. Even experts who were hired by our members to review the proposed changes were left wondering how to make sense of all the proposed changes should they go into effect.

The primary reasons to deny changes to net metering in this case according to the Board of Directors to the Idaho Solar Owners Network are the following:

- 1) The mechanisms, explanations and understanding of the changing net metering policy, the billing interval and the export credit rate in case IPC-E-23-14 is confusing to the average customer. Such important changes should not happen all at once and to only one small class of customer.
- 2) Amending the billing interval for only one class of customers is discriminatory.
- 3) There is not a proposed solution to the Export Credit Rate and billing interval which is easily explained to customers AND allows them to project savings by investing in on-site generation systems - including storage. Uncertainty in rates and savings created with on-site generation and storage will destroy an emerging market and create a monopoly.
- 4) The average customer affected by this new rate will only change \$12 per bill, according to Idaho Power - yet members of the Solar Owners Network with large Winter use will see a bill increase of \$200 or more per month under the new 4.9 cent rate for power they over-produce in Spring and Fall.

The proposed change is discriminatory even within the thousands of Idaho Power customers who have chosen to go solar, and signed a net metering agreement knowing the terms were subject to change. None of them expected a new net metering policy to increase their bill so much that they would potentially be unable to pay their higher bills, and might lose heat because their home is powered only by electricity.

Moving to all electric homes is supposed to be something both the Federal and State governments are incentivizing citizens to do, not punishing them.

Our organization exists to serve all customers who have made an investment in the grid, which has been proven to benefit the grid with reduced demand, especially during peak hours. Idaho Power customers did not expect such a policy as this cases changes to even be proposed - none of our members think that the current changes are clear and fair.

We urge the commission to order Idaho Power to find a simpler policy, like those that exist in other states, such as a time of use rate schedule for all customers.

Warm regards,  
Joshua S. Hill"

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The following comments were submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Teri Ottens  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 3:05PM  
Email: [tottens@amsidaho.com](mailto:tottens@amsidaho.com)  
Telephone: 208-869-6832  
Address: 17949 Goodson  
Caldwell, ID 83607

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the net metering program in Case No. IPC-E-23-14. I have been following this case from the beginning and attended all meetings in person and online, read the study and STILL cannot understand what this means to solar owners. What mechanism will be used to do "instantaneous metering"? How will the export credit rate be figured out and adjusted each year? If there is a maintenance cost solar owners are not paying what is the \$5.19 fee each month? And if that is not enough, what aren't all customers paying more? Too many questions, not enough clear answers.

The proposed changes are confusing, discriminatory, and unfair.

I urge the commission to deny the proposed changes and order Idaho Power to find a simpler and fairer policy for all customers."

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Name: Tyler Grange  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 3:05PM  
Email: [Tyler@idahomesolar.com](mailto:Tyler@idahomesolar.com)  
Telephone: 208-810-8459  
Address: 866 N World Cup Lane  
Eagle , ID 83616

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "RE: CASE NO. IPC-E-23-14 - Proposed Changes to Net Metering Program

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concerns and strong opposition to the proposed changes to the Net Metering program in Case No. IPC-E-23-14, currently under consideration by the Idaho Public Utilities Commission. As the owner of a solar installation company with over five years of experience in the field of alternative energy in Boise, Idaho, I have witnessed firsthand the

benefits that solar energy brings to our community, both in terms of environmental sustainability and economic growth. However, the proposed changes to the Net Metering program are deeply troubling and potentially harmful to our clients, the industry, and our local economy.

To provide a comprehensive assessment of the issues at hand, I would like to highlight several key points:

**Incalculable Future Savings:** The proposed changes make it virtually impossible to calculate the future savings for our clients. The data presented by Idaho Power is overly complex and lacks transparency. Even with our best efforts to understand it, we found it to be highly convoluted and impractical for our clients to navigate. Moreover, we have engaged the services of a third-party consultant from California, a recognized expert in the field of net metering, who was also unable to decipher how to calculate potential savings for our customers. This only underscores the deeply flawed and convoluted nature of the proposed changes.

**Unfair and Discriminatory:** The proposed changes are inherently unfair and discriminatory to our clients. They undermine the very essence of the net metering program, which was designed to encourage the adoption of solar energy and promote clean energy practices. The proposed revisions effectively undermine the incentive to invest in solar energy by diminishing the value of excess solar credits, thus discouraging potential solar customers from participating in the program.

**Economic Implications:** These changes have far-reaching economic implications. Passing such changes would lead to the loss of numerous jobs in the solar industry, both in terms of installation and maintenance. Furthermore, it would negatively impact many local families who depend on this industry for their livelihoods. These changes come at a time when our economy is already under strain due to various challenges, and we simply cannot afford any additional job losses. If this gets passed, people will lose jobs!

In conclusion, I implore the Idaho Public Utilities Commission to reconsider the proposed changes to the Net Metering program. The current proposal is deeply problematic, discriminatory, and ultimately detrimental to our clients, the renewable energy industry, and the local economy.

I kindly request a public hearing to discuss these concerns and provide a platform for open dialogue on this critical matter. It is essential that we work together to find a solution that encourages the growth of solar energy, ensures fair compensation for excess energy generation, and preserves jobs in our community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am confident that, by working collaboratively, we can find a solution that benefits our community, our economy, and our environment.

Sincerely,

Tyler Grange  
Owner  
Idahome Solar"

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Name: Steve Purcell  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 3:24PM

Email: [stevelpp@yahoo.com](mailto:stevelpp@yahoo.com)  
Telephone: 208-412-1155  
Address: 1650 N Interlachen Way  
Meridian, ID 83646

Name of Utility Company: Our Home

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "In 2020 we thought we made a good financial investment by purchasing \$25,000 in solar panels. We had six reasons we made the investment. One, we can contribute extra energy to the power grid during peak hours to help our neighbors. Two, receive back the energy during less than peak hours when the sun goes down. Three, to reduce our "carbon footprint" which helps our environment. Four, we would be saving money by producing our own "green energy." Five, we installed larger Solar panels than necessary to produce more power so that we could recharge the electric and hybrid vehicles we would be purchasing and save more money. And six, we calculated our investment would be paid off in 10-12 years.

We know of five different families who have invested in Solar Panels. Every one of us pays Idaho Power a minimum of \$5.21 a month. All of us have not received a penny back from Idaho Power at the end of the year because we have not produced more energy than we have used. According to my Solar edge app, our Solar Panels have produced 9 megawatt hours (Mwh) in 2020, 15 Mwh in 2021, 14 Mwh in 2022, and almost 13 Mwh this year and yet we have not received a penny from Idaho Power. All five families installed enough Solar Panels to be producing more power than what we should be using. Each of us is paying Idaho Power more than \$62.50 a year. This means Idaho Power is making a profit on our investments, equipment, and "green energy" production.

With the proposed "net billing" everyone who invested in Solar Panels would have their rate of compensation lowered from 6-7 cents to around 5 cents per kilowatt hour (Kwh). This would kill our power savings and our investments. Currently our 10–12-year investment would finally pay for itself by the time our solar panels would reach the end of their life. For anyone to invest in Solar Panels there must be an economical benefit and perhaps an environmental one. Who in their right mind would invest in solar panels with the proposed "net billing?"

We installed Solar Panels without help from Idaho Power. Idaho Power didn't have to increase its infrastructure, modify the power grid, invest in more energy production, hire more employees, and build new power or relay stations. The only thing Idaho Power did was to pay for a new "Power Meter." Because of individuals like us who invested in Solar Panels Idaho Power is the main beneficiary of our investment. We provide more peak power into the grid which reduces Idaho Power's costs to develop new power production and Idaho Power gets paid for our peak power production. No matter what power we produce we continue to pay Idaho Power at least \$5.21 a month. Idaho Power is receiving all the benefits of everyone's private Solar Panel investments and yet they want more profits.

It looks to me that the "net billing" proposal will slash the credits we receive from producing more power than we use.

Idaho Power continues to promote private Solar production while also wanting to destroy everyone's personal investment in Solar. From what I can tell Idaho Power seems to think individual personal Solar Panel investors are competitors and are a burden to the power grid and are not partners with Idaho

Power. Are we not in this together? If so, the entire system needs to be fair to everyone. We strongly suggest that the move to "net billing" be abandoned and keep the current metering program in place or create an entirely new system to be fair for everyone."

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Name: Marshall Childers  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 3:47PM  
Email: [childersmarshall@gmail.com](mailto:childersmarshall@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-869-1502  
Address: 728 E Whiskey Flats St  
Meridian, ID 83642

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "I think this rate change is biased from a monopoly, a publicly traded but public utility company, serving their share holder interests before the public.

I don't think it should be approved. Solar isn't the issue, Idaho power's greed is. "

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Name: Mark Smith  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 3:53PM  
Email: [mark@earthdr.com](mailto:mark@earthdr.com)  
Telephone: 208-954-1687  
Address: 1908 N 29th St  
Boise, ID 83703

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "Dear Idaho Public Utilities Commission,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the net metering program in Case No. IPC-E-23-14.

The proposed changes are confusing, to say the least. I have studied the proposal and the supporting document and cannot decipher whether or not they are discriminatory or unfair. Nowhere in the executive summaries is there a clear comparison of IP's own generation rate, in order to compare it to their proposed customer export rate. Nowhere in the 300+ page VODER study is there a clear summary that justifies the proposed rate. It is filled with technical jargon that, while important perhaps to understand the underlying methodology and assumptions, only serves to obfuscate the conclusions.

I urge the commission to deny the proposed changes and order Idaho Power to find a simpler and more transparent policy that will be fair for all customers as well to the utility.



Thank you for your time and consideration."

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Name: Bethany Mikitish  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 3:54PM  
Email: [bethany.mikitish@gmail.com](mailto:bethany.mikitish@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-957-1795  
Address: Los Flores Dr.  
Meridian, ID 83646

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "Hey Idaho Public Utilities Commission,

I wanted to chat about the recent changes suggested for the net metering program in Case No. IPC-E-23-14. Honestly, they feel a bit complicated and not really fair to everyone. Why tweak the billing interval just for this? If we're considering changes, shouldn't it be consistent across all rates? I really think it would be best for everyone if these proposals were rethought. Maybe there's a more straightforward and even-handed approach? It seems like Idaho Power should have the responsibility to find a better solution. Thanks for listening and taking the time. I appreciate it!"

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Name: Philip Beaudreau  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 3:58PM  
Email: [philipbeaudreau@gmail.com](mailto:philipbeaudreau@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-965-1810  
Address: 28760 Farmway RD  
Caldwell, ID 83607

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "Dear Idaho Public Utilities Commission, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the net metering program in Case No. IPC-E-23-14. The proposed changes are confusing, discriminatory, and unfair. Changing the billing interval is not needed in this case, and should be done for all rate schedules if it is to be altered at all. I urge the commission to deny the proposed changes and order Idaho Power to find a simpler and fairer policy for all customers. Thank you for your time and consideration."

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The following comments were submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Marcia Brinton

Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 4:43PM

Email: [marcia@brintonales.com](mailto:marcia@brintonales.com)

Telephone: 208-602-1804

Address: 7294 S. Shadow Moss Ave

Boise, ID 83709

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "Dear Idaho Public Utilities Commission, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the net metering program in Case No. IPC-E-23-14.

The proposed changes are confusing, discriminatory, and unfair. Changing the billing interval is unnecessary in this case, and should be done for all rate schedules if it is to be altered. Solar is expensive and prohibitive for most people and while I think Idaho Power is doing an excellent job using solar for their overall system, I feel bullied by this utility when they ask for these petty individual changes instead of fighting for everyone to be able to afford and have access to solar power. It is unavoidable and necessary that we all move to renewable energy and this type of change makes it impossible for the average customer.

I urge the commission to deny the proposed changes and order Idaho Power to find a simpler and fairer policy for all customers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Marcia Brinton"

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Name: Pat Feuerborn

Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 4:56PM

Email: [patfeuerborn@gmail.com](mailto:patfeuerborn@gmail.com)

Telephone: 208-760-7200

Address: 415 Randolph

Pocatello, ID 83201

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "The IPUC and Idaho Power should be encouraging more home owners and businesses in Idaho to install solar energy panels rather than discouraging them with proposed increases in cost. All of us will only benefit from increased use of renewable energy in the future. For the sake of our children, our state and our nation please don't put Idaho Power in charge of determining the cost for all of us. As a business they want to increase profits, no matter the actual, long-term cost to all of us. Your job is to protect the future for all of us. Thank you for doing it."

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Name: Lou Evans

Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 4:58PM

Email: [thelousual@yahoo.com](mailto:thelousual@yahoo.com)

Telephone: 408-421-9029

Address: 6043 South Rising Sun Way  
Boise, ID 83709

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "Dear Idaho Public Utilities Commission, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the net metering program in Case No. IPC-E-23-14. The proposed changes are confusing, discriminatory, and unfair. Changing the billing interval is not needed in this case, and should be done for all rate schedules if it is to be altered at all. I urge the commission to deny the proposed changes and order Idaho Power to find a simpler and fairer policy for all customers. Thank you for your time and consideration."

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The following comments were submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Larry Sundberg  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 5:01PM  
Email: [larrywsund@protonmail.com](mailto:larrywsund@protonmail.com)  
Telephone: 503-930-2068  
Address: 10150 Vistair PL  
Payette, ID 83661

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "Idaho Public Utilities Commission, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the net metering program in IPC-E-23-14. The proposed changes are confusing and don't make my grid tied panels worth wile to maintain. I think that the existing customers should be grandfathered in. I plan to change my panels for my own use and go off grid tie if this goes thru. Thank you "

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Name: Phillip Pickman  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 5:06PM  
Email: [PPickman@ix.netcom.com](mailto:PPickman@ix.netcom.com)  
Telephone: 208-576-6968  
Address: 5542 W Durning Drive  
Eagle, ID 83616

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "Homeowners invested in solar systems in good faith, Cost and pay back for power put into the grid were important considerations. The proposal to cut back reimbursement is unfair to all of us who have an existing investment in solar systems.

If the payback has to be changed, then make it for all future home solar systems so that homeowners can consider a reduced rate of credit for future investments. Don't penalize existing solar system owners."

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Name: Zachary Trussell  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 5:35PM  
Email: [zach.trussell1993@gmail.com](mailto:zach.trussell1993@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-350-9705  
Address: 6342 N Park Meadow Way  
Boise, ID 83713

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the net metering program in Case No. IPC-E-23-14.

The proposed changes are confusing, discriminatory, and unfair. Changing the billing interval is not needed in this case, and should be done for all rate schedules if it is to be altered at all. The Duck Curve has been an example used in other areas of the country for a justification for net metering rate changes, but that curve here in Idaho has not gotten to an unreasonable level. There is very minimal amount of onsite generation customers in relation to the standard schedule 1 customers with Idaho Power. With that being said, these rate changes seem to be backed not by third party studies, and purely backed by the self interest of Idaho Power/ IdaCorp Stock holders. Idaho Power has its own renewable energy goals, yet these rate changes seem to only allow for renewable energy programs that are owned by them.

At the very least if changes do need to be made to the net metering program, and rate structure, there should be a grandfathering for anyone that was granted PTO of their onsite generation system pre-change, instead of having hundreds if not thousands of homeowners from 2019 to the present being changed to any new rate structure.

I urge the commission to deny the proposed changes and order Idaho Power to find a simpler and fairer policy for all customers.

Thank you for your time and consideration."

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Name: Skyler Newby  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 7:38PM  
Email: [skynewb@gmail.com](mailto:skynewb@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-440-8010  
Address: 3200 n Mountain View dr

Boise, ID 83704

Name of Utility Company: Idaho power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "We want to go Solar !! Net metering should be a real thing in Idaho like it is and almost every state one for one that metering should be allowed. Those who take the ability to be free to own, are tyrants.. "

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Name: Christian Blaser  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 7:56PM  
Email: [christian@poweredalliance.com](mailto:christian@poweredalliance.com)  
Telephone: 208-954-9590  
Address: 3350 W Americana Terr  
Boise, ID 83706

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "Dear Idaho Public Utilities Commission,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the net metering program in Case No. IPC-E-23-14.

The proposed changes are confusing, discriminatory, and unfair. Changing the billing interval is not needed in this case, and should be done for all rate schedules if it is to be altered at all.

I urge the commission to deny the proposed changes and order Idaho Power to find a simpler and fairer policy for all customers.

Thank you for your time and consideration."

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Name: John Bilderback  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 10:46PM  
Email: [jpbilderback@yahoo.com](mailto:jpbilderback@yahoo.com)  
Telephone: 208-559-4730  
Address: 7174 S Colwood Pl  
Boise, ID 83709

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "Dear PUC Commissioners,

I have been waiting to respond, so I could read all the comments submitted to date, further evaluate this complicated topic, and propose a few things for the PUC to consider. (I just read Luis Jordao's comment letter that was submitted yesterday, October 11th, and we have some similar comments, but he makes a lot of other good points too; well done.)

- Please consider the impact this decision will have for those that did not receive disclosure from their solar salesperson that Idaho Power can change their rate structure at any time (with PUC approval) or, for that matter, from the Idaho Power Company.

Solution: Extend a new, grandfathering period for these individuals and any new systems that come online before August 1, 2024. There are many people that have invested in engineering plans and are prepared to move forward, but are on pause until this decision is made. They too have made an investment (not as much), but are awaiting this decision.

Idaho Power receives every application to connect to the grid. Idaho Power can easily be very involved to help ensure that homeowners understand that the compensation structure can change in the future. Idaho Power could have returned this information in Plain English (or Plain Spanish), to each application submitted, so the homeowner would be aware of the possibility of a future change in the compensation structure. To date, Idaho Power has simply used their website, but they could have taken a much more proactive approach to engage with the homeowners that submitted applications to add solar to their homes. Idaho Power could have easily sent a notification upon plan approval that said, "Did you know, this might be a TERRIBLE investment, because we are going to request the PUC to change the compensation structure" and "[your investment] may not pay back over the life of the system."

In my humble opinion, Idaho Power could have been more vocal and forthright with homeowners about this potential change to the compensation structure.

It is likely that if the PUC accepts Idaho Power's compensation plan change, many homeowners will only know about this once their rates change. At that point, it will be too late for them to comment on this case. That will result in many more not so happy Idahoans. I do find it hard to believe that there are so few comments for 13,000 solar installations in Idaho Power's jurisdiction. I would most definitely submit a response to this case, if I knew my system that was going to go from a "simple payback period of 13-17 years" to, a "may not pay back over the life of the system". This is a complicated proposal, and as several have commented, this is not a proposal that is easily understood (nor is the VODER study for that matter). I hope that Idaho Power has sent an individual analysis to each Idahoan that this decision affects personally so they can evaluate their specific situation. If this has not been done, I would encourage the PUC to ensure that before a decision is made, Idaho Power is required to send an individual analysis comparing the current compensation plan to the proposed plan and allow time for these Idahoans to respond.

Per Idaho Power, with this new compensation structure, "it [a photovoltaic solar system] may not pay back over the life of the system regardless of whether it is financed or paid for in cash." (Link provided below from Idaho Power's website.)

- If the rate system is changed, it will hurt Idahoans. Idahoans will miss out on receiving Federal tax credits that other residents of other states will get. Idahoans won't get these Federal tax credits if the rates change, because there will be very few people that move forward with residential solar if their systems "may never pay back over the life of the system". These tax credits have been used to promote solar throughout the country and have had bipartisan support. It's the Federal Tax Credit coupled with the net billing system that incentivizes the homeowner to go solar (note: Idaho Tax Credits are insignificant; let's leave this discussion for another day; it will be mute anyway if the PUC accepts this proposal).

- With this proposal, Idahoans who work in Idaho's solar industry as installers, electricians, business owners, and solar suppliers will be negatively impacted.

- This proposal will hurt the environment we live in. Solar panels are not the perfect, silver bullet to solve all environmental problems, but solar is a much more renewable resource than using fossil fuels. Solar also helps reduce the United States' dependence on foreign fuel sources. What else can we do? Idaho Power could provide incentives for homeowners to still go solar, such as adding an incentive to add a battery backup as well to help better regulate Idaho Power's concern with "over production" during the peak summer hours.

continued..."

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Name: John Bilderback  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 10:47PM  
Email: [jpbilderback@yahoo.com](mailto:jpbilderback@yahoo.com)  
Telephone: 208-559-4730  
Address: 7174 S Colwood Pl  
Boise, ID 83709

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "CONTINUED ...

I am sure there are many options available to the PUC to consider beyond these; let's not just settle on what Idaho Power wants. As a society, we need to change our energy sources to more renewable solutions. The world thrives and needs energy, let's find a way to make this work for Idaho so that everyone, can win with solar. Idaho Power seems to be quite excited about mega solar farms, but sour on residential applications. Why so? Let the homeowners have an opportunity to invest, while also making a reasonable return on their investment to them personally and to our society. There must be a way for us all to move towards a renewable energy future without sacrificing residential solar, and that won't happen if the PUC allows Idaho Power to change its rate structure as proposed in this case: IPC-E-23-14.

Sincerely,

John P. Bilderback"

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Name: John Bilderback  
Submission Time: Oct 12 2023 10:49PM  
Email: [jpbilderback@yahoo.com](mailto:jpbilderback@yahoo.com)  
Telephone: 208-559-4730  
Address: 7174 S Colwood Pl  
Boise, ID 83709

Name of Utility Company: Idaho Power

Case ID: IPC-E-23-14

Comment: "i forgot to add the link to the Idaho Power website referenced:

<https://www.idahopower.com/energy-environment/green-choices/solar-power-options-customer-generation/investing-solar/>

Investing in Solar - Idaho Power

Curious to know what an investment in solar looks like? Customers invest in solar for a variety of reasons, but ...

The example below shows a customer who uses an average amount of energy per year and installs a standard system with a life of 30 years. This customer would see a simple payback period of 13-17 years under the current compensation structure if they pay cash for the system. However, that payback period increases to 19-24 years for that same customer with net billing and a lower excess energy credit rate. If the system is financed, the simple payback period extends further. If the investment is evaluated using a discounted payback method, which is more accurate for evaluating the financial value of a project, it may not pay back over the life of the system regardless of whether it is financed or paid for in cash."

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The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Hunter Floyd  
Submission Time: Oct 13 2023 10:24AM  
Email: [huntersfloyd@gmail.com](mailto:huntersfloyd@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-713-1530  
Address: 4260 W Franklin Rd  
Meridian, ID 83642

Name of Utility Company: Idaho power

Case ID: IPC-E-22-22

Comment: "Dear Idaho Public Utilities Commission, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the net metering program in Case No. IPC-E-23-14. The proposed changes are confusing, discriminatory, and unfair. Changing the billing interval is not needed in this case, and should be done for all rate schedules if it is to be altered at all. I urge the commission to deny the proposed changes and order Idaho Power to find a simpler and fairer policy for all customers. Thank you for your time and consideration"

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