

**From:** PUCWeb Notification <[Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov](mailto:Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2023 12:00 PM

**To:** Jan Noriyuki <[jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov](mailto:jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov)>

**Subject:** Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb

The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Kevin Kelley

Submission Time: Mar 21 2023 11:54AM

Email: [kelleyk@byui.edu](mailto:kelleyk@byui.edu)

Telephone: 208-403-1891

Address: 311 SEAGULL DRIVE

REXBURG, ID 83440

Name of Utility Company: Rocky Mountain Power

Case ID: ~~PAC-E-22-01~~ PAC-E-22-15

Comment: "Please note that Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate changes will penalize customers who attempt to reduce their energy use, while subsidizing those who use more. Consider the following two scenarios: Customer A, who is doing their part to conserve energy, uses 400 kWh of electricity each month. Customer B, who is not taking steps to reduce electricity use, uses 1000 kWh each month. For the purposes of this example, I'll use the summer season rates. Under the present pricing structure, Customer A would pay the \$8.00 monthly fee plus \$44.79 in energy charges (all energy use is in tier 1), for a total of \$52.79. Customer B would pay the \$8.00 monthly fee plus \$78.38 for the 700 kWh in tier 1, plus \$39.30 for 300 kWh in tier 2, for a total of \$125.68. In year five of the proposed pricing structure, Customer A would now pay a \$29.25 monthly charge, plus \$34.63 for the 400 kWh used, for a total of \$63.88: an increase of \$11.09 per month, or a 21% increase on their bill. On the other hand, Customer B now pays a \$29.25 monthly charge, plus \$86.57 for the electricity (tiers have been done away with) for a total of \$115.82: a decrease of \$9.86, or a 7.8% decrease. Consequently, the conscientious customer who is doing their part to reduce electricity consumption is penalized with a 21% increase on their energy bill, while the customer using excessive amounts of electricity sees a reduction of 7.8% in their costs. This is shifting the cost burden from those who are less responsible in their energy use to those who are doing their part. This proposed rate structure will remove incentives for energy conservation, contrary to the general goals of society. For these reasons, I recommend that this proposal be denied. "

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**From:** [PUCWeb Notification](#)  
**To:** [Jan Noriyuki](#)  
**Subject:** Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 4:00:08 PM

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The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: John Sherrie Kerschner  
Submission Time: Mar 23 2023 3:37PM  
Email: [sherrie3351@gmail.com](mailto:sherrie3351@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 298-555-4444  
Address: 3351 Sandy Sr  
Idaho Falls, ID 83401

Name of Utility Company: Rocky Mountain Power

Case ID: PAC-E-22-15

Comment: "PAC-E-22-15 We received an email notice of this yesterday. We would have attended the workshop on 3-14 had we been notified. Raising the home owners rates to increase Rocky Mountain Powers revenue does not lower our annual rates. Large corporations, big box stores, fast food chains, the airport, hotels etc. Use more energy than we do, when are their rates going to increase? By raising their rates to increase the utility companies revenue instead of senior citizens, and families, it will protect the middle class already burdened with the higher cost of living. In our home our outside doors are sealed to keep heat in. All our light fixtures use energy efficient led bulbs. Our heat is gas using only a small amount of electricity for the thermostat. We are senior citizens on a fixed income. Medical Insurance, gas, medications, food all continue to increase three times faster than the ave income. Please stand together and vote NO on PAC-E-22-15 to protect the home owners, middle class, and senior citizens. Thank you for your time and help in this matter! Sincerely John & Sherrie Kerschner"

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**From:** [PUCWeb Notification](#)  
**To:** [Jan Noriyuki](#)  
**Subject:** Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 5:00:07 PM

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The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Hadley Westover  
Submission Time: Mar 23 2023 4:55PM  
Email: [hadley.westover@gmail.com](mailto:hadley.westover@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-852-6224  
Address: 5109 W Highway 36  
Weston, ID 83286

Name of Utility Company: Rocky Mountain Power

Case ID: PAC-E-22-15

Comment: "I am writing to voice my opposition to Case No. PAC-E-22-15 the Rocky Mountain Power Residential Price Modernization. I oppose this change because it gives significant price increases to those who are conservative in their electrical usage or have their own electrical generation such as solar panels, while decreasing the cost for high usage customers. For example, I have solar panels and this last month with net metering the usage on my bill came to 4 kwh. With the \$8 standard charge and winter electricity rate, my bill totaled \$8.37. After the 5 year transition of this proposal my bill total would instead be \$29.53 for the same usage. With solar panels during the summer months I do produce more power than I use. The extra power is used to cover the standard charge and to build credits over the winter months. This large increase in the standard charge and decrease in electricity rates would prevent my solar system from building up enough credits to get me through the winter months and significantly increase my bill. This increase in my monthly cost adversely affects the payoff time for the solar panel investment. This change would also be a hindrance to others planning to get solar panels and would lower the possibility of solar panels being a cost effective solution. If the proposal was enacted, the only way someone could bring their bill all the way to \$0.00 would be to size the solar system to produce around 250 more kwh per month in extra electricity to send to the grid to cover the standard charge. Before I got solar panels I used between 300-600 kwh per month. This usage comes from installing energy efficient appliances and following energy conservation best practices. With the same usage under the proposal my bill would increase between \$6-14 dollars a month. This proposal change benefits those who use more than 700 kwh in the summer or 1,000 kwh in the winter. These people would actually see a drop in the bill. In other words it saves high-usage customers money at the expense of everyone else. This proposal should be rejected and replaced with one that encourages people to be conservative with electrical usage and invest in renewable electrical generation, not penalize them while reward those who don't."

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**From:** [PUCWeb Notification](#)  
**To:** [Jan Noriyuki](#)  
**Subject:** Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 7:01:11 AM

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The following comments were submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Boyd Cook  
Submission Time: Mar 23 2023 7:30PM  
Email: cook7home@yahoo.com  
Telephone: 208-403-2986  
Address: 3061 Pinnacle Drive  
Idaho Falls, ID 83401

Name of Utility Company: Rocky Mountain Power

Case ID: PAC-E-22-15

Comment: "I attended the public meeting the other evening. Before the meeting I had looked at the suggest service increase proposed by Rocky Mountain Power and discussed it with neighbors and it was my neighbor that brought it to my attention. There were 4 consumers that attended the meeting, 1 from Rexburg and 3 from Bonneville County and those three traveled there together of which included me because of that I feel it gave the appearance everyone is ok with it. As I have talked with others they just go online and pay their bill and don't look around which is what I do. We may be so determined to get a \$0.50 deduction on our bill we don't look at anything else. The proposed service fee increases as I see it is going hurt some people such as myself and others in the rural community and the suburbs surrounding Idaho Falls. Those on a fixed income and a lot of young families that populate many of the subdivisions in starter homes and older residents in older homes in the area. Many of those I listed were barely getting before all the other rate increases such are fossil fuel and there are still a few uses heating oil, but most homes use natural gas. Food increase, tax increases and other necessities that sustain life have all gone up and unfortunately when the cost of living goes up, wages and social security recipient's income never follows. The proposed service fee increases the way it was written looks again as if the customers are being penalized for using less energy. One of the things discussed at the meeting was the need for another bracket for power users like myself and many others. For me high usage months I may use around 700 kwh but most months I stay around 500 kwh. So really there is the appearance that there are no benefits for the lower usage customers because as shown for 10 years we will pay a hire service fee percentage than high usage customers. Yes we will not pay as much kwh but the service fee for me will almost double my bill. In March last year I used 598 kwh and 2023 March billing period I used 582 and it was colder last year. I have run a business and totally understand that price increases must happen, not just to the consumer but to businesses which includes utility companies. We need to come up with an increase base that is fare for everyone. Being a consumer that pays the utility company for a product which is kwh and yes there is a service involved with that, such as customer service, billing, utility workers etc. In the business I ran we had to either raise the price of the product or show and additional fee. We tried to bill customers once for a fuel surcharge, you would have thought we had burned their business down they were so upset. Then we charged the customer a bit more for the product they understood that and if they did say I paid less than that last year it was easy to say are you paying the same price for gas or other items, no and they understood it. We just need

to come up with an increase base that is fare for everyone, if I had all the answers I would be asking for your help with proposed service fee increase. I do appreciate the Idaho Public Utilities Commission doing all they can to stand up for the people of Idaho. Thank you, Boyd Cook 3061 Pinnacle Drive Idaho Falls Idaho, 83401 Phone (208) 403-2986 "

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Name: Steven Prescott  
Submission Time: Mar 23 2023 8:44PM  
Email: steve.prescott@gmail.com  
Telephone: 208-557-3244  
Address: 3448 E 200 N  
Rigby, ID 83442

Name of Utility Company: Rocky Mountain Power

Case ID: PAC-E-22-15

Comment: "I personally put in a lot of work and money to make my home as efficient as possible to both save me money in the long term and reduce my impact on the environment. The changes proposed negate much of my effort and savings and give a bonus to those who don't care. This change would go against incentivizing people to reduce energy usage and the countries goal of reducing carbon footprint. Please reject this proposal. "

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**From:** PUCWeb Notification <[Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov](mailto:Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Jan Noriyuki <[jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov](mailto:jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov)>  
**Subject:** Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb

The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Robert Boston  
Submission Time: Mar 26 2023 9:10AM  
Email: [Robert.Boston640@outlook.com](mailto:Robert.Boston640@outlook.com)  
Telephone: 208-569-0128  
Address: 1282 N 590 E  
Shelley, ID 83274

Name of Utility Company: Rocky Mountain Power

Case ID: PAC-E-22-15

Comment: "Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) intends to change the customer service charge, over a period of five years from \$8/month to \$29.25/mo. The reasons given for this change is to "collect all distribution and customer service costs in a fixed monthly service charge" and "Collect other costs (generation, transmission, energy) through energy charges". Renewable energy places an undue burden on the consumer. Renewable energy producers should be the ones to pay for increased distribution and generation costs. Furthermore, consumers that wish to obtain 100% carbon free energy from new renewable energy sources (wind and solar) should pay a surcharge for this energy source. Another option is for high power users to pay a premium for this power unless wind and solar energy is available. Since there is no low cost solution for energy storage for wind and solar power, traditional baseload sources being forced to supply the consumer during periods of no wind and solar power, as was the case in eastern Idaho in December 2022 and January 2023. I do not support the increase in the customer service charge. Consumers that want to purchase new renewable energy and wind and solar power producers should be the ones to pay for these distribution and generation costs. "

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**From:** PUCWeb Notification <[Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov](mailto:Do.Not.Reply@puc.idaho.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 2:01 PM  
**To:** Jan Noriyuki <[jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov](mailto:jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov)>  
**Subject:** Notice: A comment was submitted to PUCWeb

The following comment was submitted via PUCWeb:

Name: Kara Welch  
Submission Time: Mar 27 2023 1:42PM  
Email: [farmbabe4ever@gmail.com](mailto:farmbabe4ever@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 208-709-8049

Address: 581 N 2700 E  
Roberts, ID 83444

Name of Utility Company: Rocky Mountain Power

Case ID: PAC-E-22-15

Comment: "I am concerned with the proposed "modernized" rate structure recently communicated by RMP. These changes seem to be targeting customers who have their own solar production. This is being marketed as a change that won't really impact the total bill for customers, as rates for energy decrease but flat customer service charges increase, but Solar customers pay the service charge and then only pay for the net power they consume from the grid. If they produce and send to the grid more than consumed, a credit for future billings is created. This change will increase the utility bill from \$8 to nearly \$30 per month over the course of 5 years, potentially raising utility costs hundreds of dollars a year for customers who have made a personal investment in our power grid. Why "modernize" the rates at all if not to attempt to recapture funds lost when these customers made a significant investment to be more energy conscious and to provide power to the grid? It seems that RMP is targeting customers who have chosen to use greener alternatives. Additionally, RMP sent out the notice for the public workshop with the Idaho Commission on March 21st, one full week after that meeting had already taken place on March 14, meaning that most customers did not hear of proposed change until after the meeting for public comment had already passed. It is my hope that comments here will still be considered, even though the meeting has passed. Thank you."

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