

May 9, 2024

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2024 MAY 14 AM 10:35

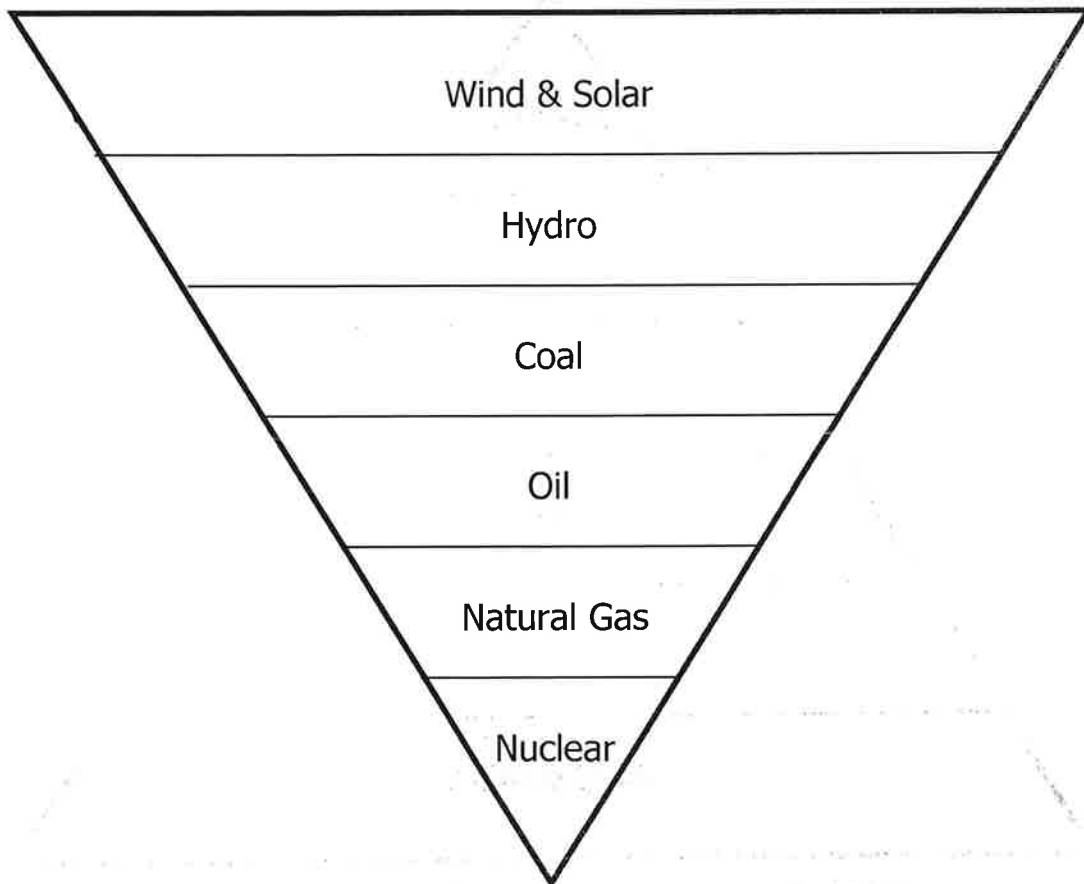
OFFICE OF PUBLIC  
UTILITY COMMISSION

Commissioner John Hammond Junior:

I just received my monthly electrical bill from Rocky Mountain Power. Included with the bill was a notice of an "Annual Energy Cost Adjustment" proposal that has been submitted to the IPUC. I am writing to vehemently oppose Rocky Mountain Power's rate adjustment petition.

When the state of Idaho granted an exclusive franchise to a utility to provide services in the state it would seem that such a grant would in the obligation to provide & maintain dedicated services at reliable & cost effective basis. Consumers that utilize the services provided by the utility have little or no say as to how the utility provides such services. That, in part, is the direct responsibility of the IPUC. Consumers, such as myself, have relied on the IPUC to protect us against "rate gouging" proposals that reflect the utility management decisions as to how they choose to produce and deliver such services. In the case of Rocky Mountain Power, the utility has continued to pursue investments in solar & wind, which are the least efficient way to produce electricity. It is not rocket science to understand energy density & the direct correlation of the cost of electricity based on the fuel or source of the energy.

Energy Density (Least to Most Concentrated)



[https://energyeducation.ca/encyclopedia/Energy\\_density](https://energyeducation.ca/encyclopedia/Energy_density)


The proposed rate adjustments sought by Rocky Mountain Power management are proportionately related to their decision to embrace wind & solar farms to the exclusion of natural gas, coal & nuclear. Such managerial decisions have resulted in dramatically higher electrical power generation costs which have been passed directly to the consumers & are the basis for the never-ending petitions for rate adjustments. In the real world of competition, businesses are not always able to increase prices. In fact, they most often require operational adjustments, which include reducing overhead costs & implementing measures to improve overall productivity.

Solar & wind power generation is the biggest scam to the American consumers. Both of these power generations alternatives adversely impact the environmental and do not have the capital longevity compared to other more dense forms of power generations including nuclear, natural gas, coal, & even hydro. The reality is that the consumers in Idaho will eventually be priced out of using electricity owing to the inflationary rise in other living expenses, i.e. food, water, sewer, food, property taxes, insurance, just to mention a few.

Rocky Mountain Power is a privately held by Berkshire-Hathaway holdings. Their sole motive is ever increasing profit & growth in equity holdings. Unfortunately, utilities have lost there purpose & reason for which they were established & granted exclusive territorial franchises.

I will repeat again, that such territorial franchises granted to utilities exclude competition. Residents have little alternative to the ever-increasing cost of electricity other than to reduce their standard of living or go off the grid. That is a sad state of affairs for residents of Idaho, state that was once a place where utility costs were some of the lowest in the nation. I am frankly disappointed that the IPUC appears to be in the clutches of the utilities & their lobbyists rather than looking out for the interest of the residents of Idaho that the Commission is appointed to represent..

Sincerely,



David R. Anderson  
11269 Augusta Drive  
Idaho Falls, Id 83404  
Mobile: 208.520.0126

# Annual energy cost adjustment

## Proposed net price increase

Rocky Mountain Power requests recovery of power costs

On April 1, 2024, Rocky Mountain Power asked the Idaho Public Utilities Commission to approve the incremental energy related costs for 2023 of \$64.9 million, a net increase of \$32.6 million from the revenues currently collected through the energy cost adjustment mechanism. The energy cost adjustment mechanism is designed to track the difference between the company's actual expenses for fuel and electricity purchased from the wholesale market, against the amount being collected from customers through current rates.

Pending commission approval, the increase would take effect June 1, 2024. All customer classes will see a net increase to their rates due to the increased costs for fuel and wholesale electricity. Extreme weather conditions in 2023 increased the costs of fuel and purchased power on the wholesale market — two of the main components of the company's annual power cost adjustment. Additionally, coal supply restrictions that began in late 2022 continued into 2023 — due to several factors, including a fire at a major coal mine and higher exports of U.S. coal to Europe — while natural gas prices soared. These factors caused significant price increases for the resources Rocky Mountain Power must purchase for power generation to meet demand and balance its system.

Increases in wholesale power prices account for nearly half of the total cost adjustment requested. The proposed adjustment will allow Rocky Mountain Power to continue to deliver safe, reliable, low-cost power now and for years to come while navigating a time of volatile energy markets.

A typical residential customer using 783 kilowatt-hours per month would see an increase of approximately \$7.39 a month on their electricity bill. The following is a summary of the percentage impacts by customer class:

- **Residential Schedule 1** – 7.6% increase
- **Residential Schedule 36** – 8.7% increase
- **General Service Schedule 6** – 10.7% increase
- **General Service Schedule 9** – 13.1% increase
- **Irrigation Service Schedule 10** – 9.5% increase
- **General Service Schedule 23** – 9.0% increase
- **General Service Schedule 35** – 10.3% increase
- **Public Street Lighting** – 5.2% increase
- **Tariff Contract 400** – 13.5% increase

We understand the impact that price increases have on our customers and that a price increase is never welcome news. We will work to mitigate that impact as much as possible. Customers can visit [RockyMountainPower.net/Wattsmart](https://RockyMountainPower.net/Wattsmart) for energy and money-saving tips and information.

The public will have an opportunity to comment on the proposal during the coming months as the commission studies the company's request. The commission must approve the proposed changes before they can take effect.

A copy of the company's application is available for public review on the commission's website at [www.puc.idaho.gov](https://www.puc.idaho.gov) under **Case No. PAC-E-24-05**.

Customers may file written comments regarding the application with the commission or subscribe to the commission's RSS feed to receive periodic updates via email about the case. Copies of the proposal are also available for review at the company's offices in Rexburg, Preston, Shelley, and Montpelier, although the company encourages customers to visit our website at [RockyMountainPower.net/Rates](https://RockyMountainPower.net/Rates).

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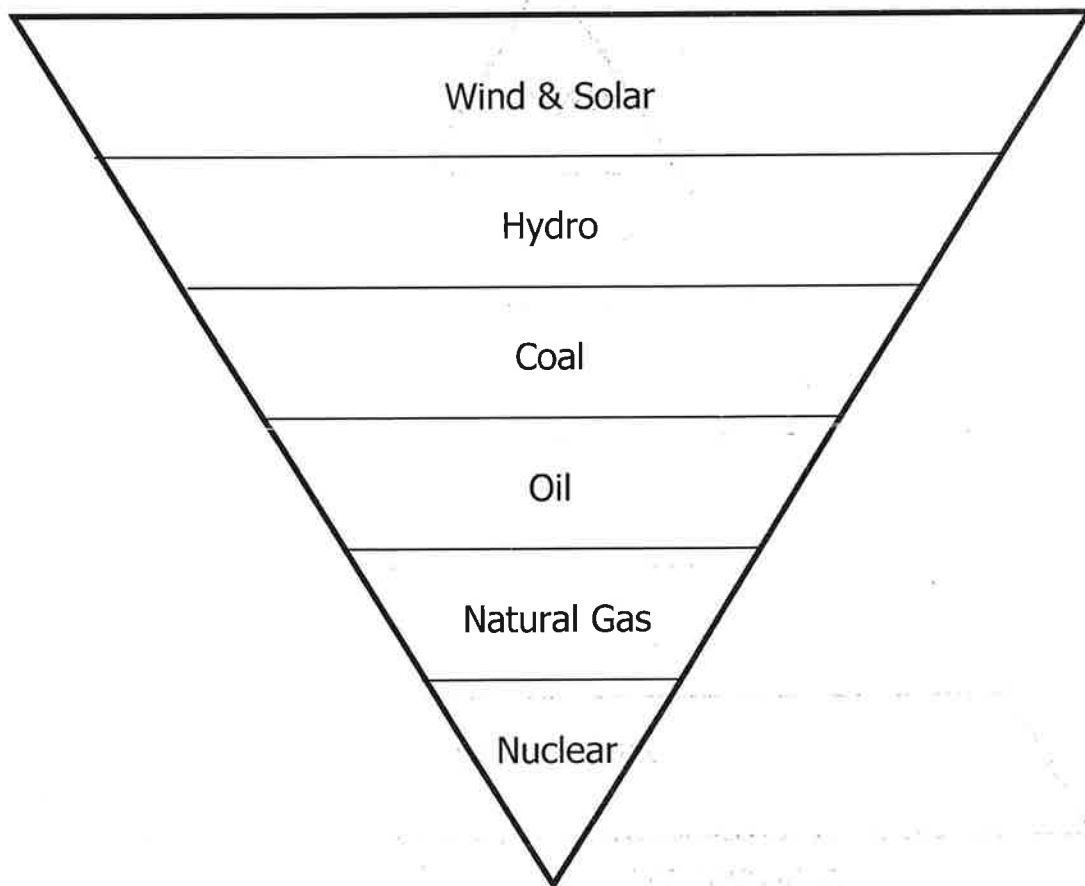
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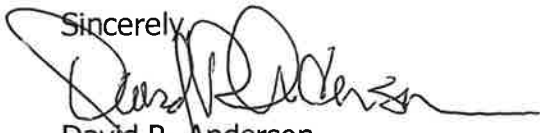
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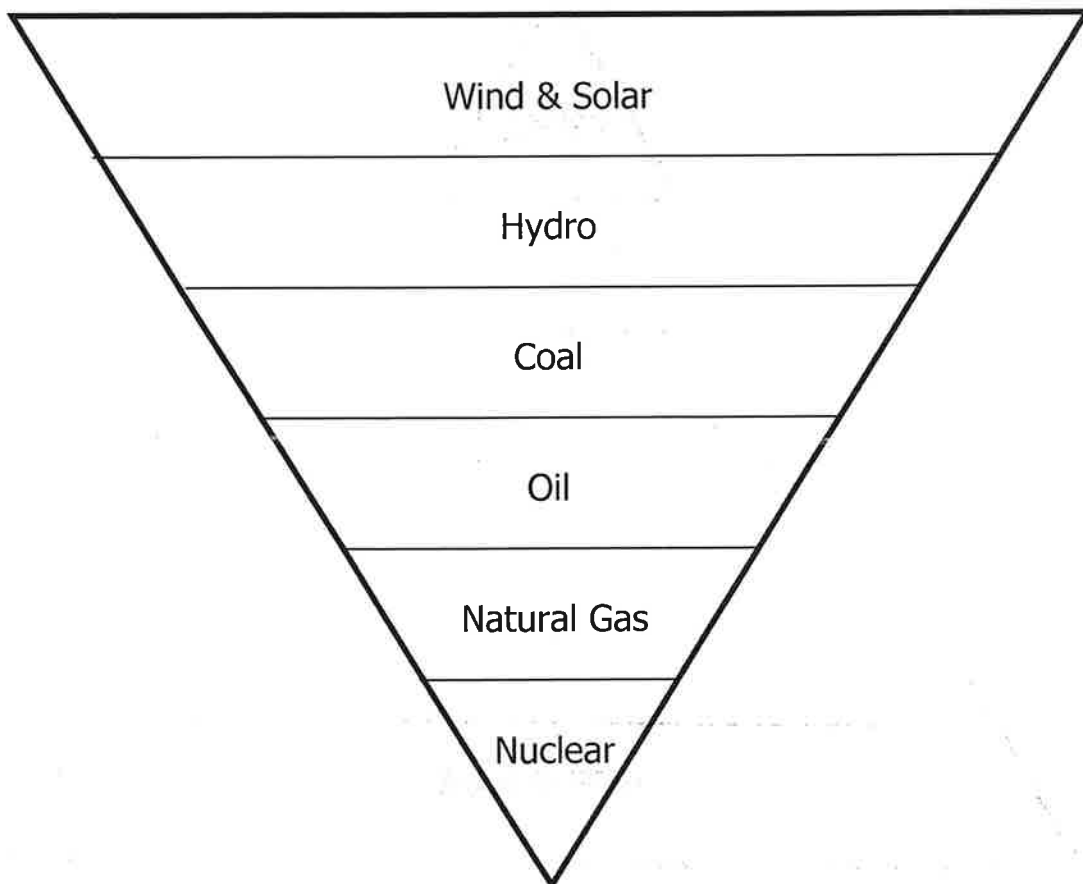
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