

Jean Jewell

From: Ed Howell
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2003 2:41 PM
To: Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark
Subject: Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Friday, September 19, 2003
1:41:13 PM

Case: AVU-G-03-1
Name: Richard F. Hutter
Street_Address: P.O. Box 1056
City: Ponderay
State: ID
ZIP: 83852
Home_Telephone: 208 263 6013
E-Mail: rhutter@imbris.com
Company: Avista
mailing_list_yes_no: yes
Comment_description: Dear Commission Members.

My wife and I strongly disagree with the Commission staff recommendation to deny the Avista gas rate hike.

First: Several small increases which occur close to the time when the utilities cost of gas goes up are easier on most budgets than holding off and giving us a big increase later on.

Second: If we pay more when costs are going up, it makes sense to consumers. The last increase from Avista was delayed so long that rates across the country were typically going down while ours were going up. Consumers were very unhappy, Avista was unhappy and the IPUC looked incompetent.

Third: Nothing promotes conservation as well as higher prices.

Fourth: Let the people who are consuming gas at that time period (or as close to that time as possible) pay for the increase. It seems very unfair to make people, a year or two later, get a big price increase to make up for a shortfall when they may not have been consumers or even residents at the time the first increase in prices was requested.

Let the market work. Keep social engineering out of the adjustment process.

Respectfully,

Richard and Donna Hutter

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