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## PUC accepting comments on proposal to merge two water companies in north Idaho

**BOISE (Jan. 24, 2018)** – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission is accepting comments on a proposal to consolidate two small water companies that serve residents of Hayden Lake.

Rickel Water Company and Bitterroot Water System Inc. serve approximately 38 and 116 customers, respectively.

The two companies operate under the same rate structure, are interconnected and share common ownership.

The owner, Ken Rickel, asked for Commission approval to consolidate into one company, to be known as Rickel Water Company.

The move would allow the new company to "reduce currently duplicated costs in the areas of tax preparation, licensing, taxes, PO Box rental and insurance," according to the application filed with the Commission.

No changes to rates or rules would be made as a result of the consolidation, and no physical changes would be required.

The Commission is accepting comments in support of or opposition to the proposal through Feb. 8.

Written comments can be submitted via e-mail <a href="here">here</a>. Or you can access the comment form through the Commission's web site, www.puc.idaho.gov. To do so, click on "Case Comment Form" under the "Water" heading. Fill in the case number (RIC-W-17-01) and enter your comments. Comments can also be mailed to P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074 or faxed to (208) 334-3762.

The application and other documents related to this case are available at the Commission's web site, <a href="www.puc.idaho.gov">www.puc.idaho.gov</a>. Click on "Open Cases" under the "Water" heading and scroll down to case number RIC-W-17-01. Or go <a href="here">here</a>.