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DEAR IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONERS;

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IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN REGARDS TO RECENT POWER OUTAGES IN ATLANTA, IDAHO, IT IS MY OPINION THAT SOME OF THE COMPLAINTS THAT HAVE BEEN DIRECTED TO YOUR STAFF DO NOT REFLECT THE SENTIMENT OF THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY.

AS YOU ARE NO DOUBT AWARE, THIS IS A SMALL COMMUNITY AND LOCAL POLITICS CAN BE QUITE INTENSE. PERSONAL BRUGES (AND VINDETTAS) DIVIDE BOTH THE YEAR ROUND AND SEASONAL POPULATION. IT HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION THAT A PETITION IS BEING DISTRIBUTED AROUND TOWN IN A VERY DISCRIMINATE MANNER. AS THERE ARE ONLY APPROXIMATELY 25 PEOPLE IN TOWN, IT WOULD SEEM THAT EVERYONE WOULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THIS PETITION AND MAKE A CHOICE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT TO ADD ONE'S SIGNATURE. THIS IS NOT THE CASE!

THE ATLANTA POWER COMPANY HAS NO CONTROL OVER TEMPERATURES DROPPING INTO THE TEENS, 1 DIGIT NUMBERS OR SUB-ZERO DEGREES WITH THE RESULT OF THE RIVER AND POWER DAM FREEZING. DESPITE EFFORTS OF ATLANTA POWER EMPLOYERS, THERE HAVE BEEN SOME OUTAGES. ASIDE FROM 1-24 HOUR PERIOD, THE SITUATION HAS BEEN SOLVED IN A TIMELY MANNER MUCH TO ATLANTA POWER'S CREDIT.

AS A RESIDENT AND POWER USER SINCE 1975 - I HAVE WRITTEN MANY LETTERS, SIGNED COMPLAINTS AND ATTENDED PUBLIC HEARINGS. I AM THE FIRST TO ADMIT THAT OUR RATES ARE SKY-HIGH AND THAT POWER OUTAGES, NO MATTER HOW BRIEF, CAN BE IRRITATING AND INCONVENIENT. BUT THIS ISN'T OUR "FIRST RODEO" AND LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE, OR

SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR SOME INCONVENIENCE OF SERVICE. AS LONG AS THE POWER DILEMMA IS RESOLVED IN A TIMELY MANNER, CONSTITUENTS COULD DEMONSTRATE SOME PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING. ALTHOUGH A LOT OF US DON'T HAVE BACK-UP GENERATORS, WE HAVE CANDLES AND KEROSENE LAMPS, ETC. REFRIGERATORS AND FREEZERS DID NOT THAW AND NOT A SOUL UP HERE IS DEPENDENT UPON ELECTRIC HEAT. MOST OF US ARE INDEPENDENT AND INTELLIGENT ENOUGH TO PREPARE FOR SMALL AND INCIDENTAL EMERGENCIES.

AGAIN AS I WAS NOT GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE SAID PETITION, I CAN ONLY SURMISE ITS CONTENTS. ALTHOUGH IT WOULD BE GREAT TO HAVE A BACK UP GENERATOR WHEN THERE IS A FAILURE AT THE KIBBY DAM - FEW FOLKS ARE WILLING OR ABLE TO PAY A HIGHER UTILITY RATE THAT WOULD SUPPORT THE BACK-UP GENERATOR!

SOME OF US REMEMBER THE OLD DAYS WHEN NEIGHBORS HELPED EACH OTHER OUT - FIXING POWER POLES, REMOVING DEBRIS FROM SPRING RUN OFFS, AND WHATEVER ELSE IT TOOK. THIS WAS A MUCH MORE POSITIVE ATTITUDE AND SENTIMENT OF A COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER INSTEAD OF ONE CONSTANTLY FEUDING AND SOLICITATING POOR REPORE WITH THE POWER COMPANY OR PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION.

POWER CONSTITUENTS SHOULDN'T "CALL WOLF" IN JANUARY EVEN THOUGH IT GETS DARK EARLY AND DAYLIGHT COMES LATE. THINGS COULD BE WORSE - IT COULD BE AUGUST AND OUR GROCERIES ARE ROTTING.

JUST TRYING TO PUT FORWARD SOME POSITIVE INPUT & KEEP THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE.

Sincerely,
Sandy Nye