

August 13, 2007

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To:  
Idaho P. Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

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IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to you to voice my objection to the Idaho Power Co. request of case #AVU-E-07-02 + Case # JPC-E-07-04 + Case # JPC-E-07-03 + also Pacific Corp Co. request, <sup>case</sup> no. PAC-E-07-07 + case no. JPC-E-07-03 each requesting a change in the Company's Purpa obligations + also the Avista Corp. petition to intervene (case # JPC-E-07-03 + no. PAC E-07-07.

I feel that the Purpa's goal + ruling should be adhered to. I feel that it is unfair for these companies to try to change the rules to their benefit. If accomplished it will curtail + inhibit private citizens from developing Wind Power facilities because of unfair practices.

We look to you, the Idaho Public Utilities Commission to protect us, the citizens of this great State in this matter.

Thank you -

Sincerely

E. Wade Quigley

20010 Hwy 30

Buhl, Ida 83316

P.S. Enclosed is a letter to the Times News, Twin Falls, Ida in the "Readers Comment" by Steve Kohntopp for your consideration, as it involves you also. I heartily concur and support his comment.

Sincerely,  
Wade Quigley

# Sending a message to Idaho Power

**M**ore than a year ago, I wrote to the Idaho Public Utilities Commission about Idaho Power's attempts to deny signing power contracts with several wind-power entrepreneurs who were investing millions of dollars to develop alternate energy resources in Idaho. Wisely, the IPUC required Idaho Power to complete contract power agreements with wind-power producers whose projects were substantially completed. Unfortunately, several other potential wind-power investors are still subject to a moratorium pending IPUC responses to Idaho's utility suppliers who have requested additional rules and restrictions be applied to future wind providers. Sadly, this delay may have already created one bankruptcy among these investors.

Historically, Idaho Power has allowed hydropower projects to hook up to a power grid. Now, when power costs have finally increased enough to attract a more than anticipated number of independent entrepreneurs, coupled with state and federal incentives, Idaho Power appears to now look at these new entrepreneurs as competition to its monopoly. It would appear that Idaho Power wants to have its cake and eat it too, while still harboring desires of establishing its own wind-

## READER COMMENT

**Steve Kohntopp**

power systems and coal plants.

It has become apparent that the IPUC needs to begin to take responsibility for the long-term environment it will pass on to Idaho's descendants. There will most likely be no future hydro projects but, hopefully, there will be many more wind, geothermal and solar projects. Even though these wind-power projects may increase the cost of the infrastructure to Idaho Power, Idaho Power should not solely think about its financial bottom line and the effect a reduction in net income may have on its shareholders. The IPUC should send Idaho Power a message that inhibiting the proliferation of pollution-free energy sources by trying to pass through its exorbitant hook-up costs will reduce the financial incentive of wind and solar providers to develop pollution-free projects.

Idaho Power is requesting that the wind-power companies pay and provide wind-power studies through its selected wind-forecasting service. Any legitimate investor will already have a solid business plan with

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favorable wind studies completed that should be acceptable. Idaho Power is worried about the reliability of wind power and wants the provider to guarantee any shortfalls. Even hydro facilities are affected by Mother Nature. If she does not cooperate, the wind providers will suffer in the future more than Idaho Power, which will purchase outside power or come back to the IPUC with a rate increase request. If the IPUC grants Idaho Power these and other restrictive requests, I am fearful that the profit incentive for green energy will evaporate and Idaho will suffer greatly in the long term. In spite of what Idaho Power says, it is not a green company. As a state-approved monopoly, its strategic plan concerning wind power is flawed.

We, the consuming public, should be protected by the IPUC from unfair practices of

monopolistic power providers and, in return, receive reliable, safe and low cost power.

The Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 law, intended that the energy rates offered to private providers by utility companies be favorable to the producer, and it was intended to encourage more production of environmentally friendly commercial energy production as a means of reducing emissions and dependence on other unfavorable sources of energy.

Even though the IPUC's ruling may be difficult, I hope that it will be based substantially on PURPA's goal. If we in Idaho have to pay more for this type of green energy, I am willing to shoulder my share of that burden as long as Idaho Power shoulders its share.

*Steve Kohntopp is a resident of Filer.*