



Media Release

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PUC APPROVES AGREEMENT TO INCREASE RATES FOR IDAHO POWER CUSTOMERS STARTING OCTOBER 15

Impact of rate increase mitigated by lower power costs and bill discount program

SALEM, Ore. – The Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) recently approved the first increase in general rates for Idaho Power customers in 13 years. The PUC approved all-party stipulations between PUC Staff, consumer groups, and Idaho Power agreeing to a general rate increase at a significantly lower level than Idaho Power originally requested.

The amount general rates will increase on October 15, 2024, differs based on customer type and energy usage. As an overall average, across all customer classes, general rates will increase under the approved stipulation by approximately 12 percent, lower than the 19 percent Idaho Power had originally requested. Mitigating the impact of the general rate increase, however, is the decrease the PUC approved in the annual cost for fuel and power, effective June 1, 2024. The combined effect of the general rate increase and the power cost decrease means that a residential customer’s average bill is expected to be about 5 percent higher compared to the previous years’ bills.

Also mitigating the impact of the rate increase is the PUC’s approval of a bill discount program for residential customers experiencing lower incomes and high energy costs. Customers with the lowest incomes may be able to access discounts up to 70 percent. The program is expected to be available on October 15, 2024, at the same time as the change in general rates.

Drivers for the general rate increase include recovery of increased expenses due to continued customer growth and demand for electricity in Oregon, replacement of aging infrastructure, increased wildfire mitigation measures, and inflation and rising interest rates.

“PUC Staff, consumer advocates, and other parties reviewing Idaho Power’s rate adjustment request were able to reach a compromise rate increase and bill discount program that the Commission found reasonable,” said Megan Decker, PUC Chair. “We appreciate that entities working closely with impacted customers were part of the agreement, helping ensure that the bill discount program is tailored to Idaho Power’s unique Oregon service territory.”

“Including views from all impacted customers is an important ingredient to designing a bill discount program that is effective and sustainable,” said Commissioner Letha Tawney. “There were several innovative approaches used in this case to include a range of perspectives and this created a stronger final program design.”

Resources for Customers

To increase energy efficiency and save more on future bills, learn about [low-cost and no-cost tips](#) to reduce energy consumption. For information about bill payment assistance options, contact Idaho Power at 800-488-6151 or [view information online](#). Customers may also contact their local Community Action agency to request information on what assistance programs they may be eligible for and how to enroll.

Idaho Power serves just over 20,000 customers in Oregon.

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The Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) regulates customer rates and services of the state's investor-owned electric and natural gas utilities, including Portland General Electric, Idaho Power, Pacific Power, Avista, Cascade Natural, and NW Natural. The PUC also regulates landline telephone providers and select water companies. The PUC's mission is to ensure Oregonians have access to safe, reliable, and fairly priced utility services that advance state policy and promote the public interest. We use an inclusive process to evaluate differing viewpoints and visions of the public interest and arrive at balanced, well-reasoned, independent decisions supported by fact and law. For more information about the PUC, visit oregon.gov/puc.