

To the Legislators of the Idaho Interim Committee on Energy, Environment, and Technology:

Thank you for your service to the state of Idaho and for the time that you have dedicated to shaping the energy framework in this state. I know that the current review of the Energy Plan is no simple task, and I appreciate your efforts.

I am writing because I'd like to see an Energy Plan that provides the proper guidelines to actually move Idaho in the right direction when it comes to our energy future. I want to see a Plan that lays out policy objectives that direct that the Legislature, the Public Utilities Commission, and our utilities to act on the Plan's recommendations and make positive change in the Idaho energy realm. I want a Plan with strength and clear direction, and one that aggressively pursues a clean, safe, affordable, innovative system to meet our energy needs. Setting explicit standards and targets for utility energy efficiency programs, adopting appliance energy efficiency standards across the state, and requiring that the PUC continue to enforce achieving ALL cost-effective energy efficiency by electric utilities are just a few examples of what should be included in the Idaho Energy Plan. Additionally, the development of incentives for energy efficiency and renewable energy needs to be retained from the Energy Plan that was overwhelmingly approved by the Legislature in 2007. These incentives are key to helping Idahoans reduce their energy use, keep energy costs low, and spur economic development in this state.

As an Idaho citizen and energy consumer, I'm urging you to include standards and incentives in the 2012 Idaho Energy Plan, and ensure that the final Plan contains clear and direct mechanisms for implementation.

I want to thank you for extending the comment period to November 4 at your meeting on October 20 so I could have the opportunity to share my input.

Specifically, the stranglehold centralized power generation has on our use of electricity has to be broken. Innovation and decentralization must be encouraged by giving towns, businesses, and individual citizens incentives to generate their own electricity. A simple example would be my ability to install a windmill on my property, generate electricity with it and be paid for my input into the grid.

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to reading your reply.

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