Keeping Idaho Falls Power ahead of the game

These are unprecedented times. Inflation and interest rates are up, housing prices have surged, and the prices for food, goods, and services have risen dramatically. Everything seems to cost more! Unfortunately, the electric utility industry is being drastically affected by these same inflationary pressures.

Operating an electric utility requires millions of dollars to purchase wire, transformers, and other high voltage components. These common utility components use a tremendous amount of steel, aluminum, and copper. Two years ago, we anticipated potential supply chain issues, shortages, and inflation that could impact operations. We aggressively purchased materials, which has helped us stay ahead of the game and procure items at more normal price levels. We were hopeful that prices would come back down by the time our inventory levels needed replenished, but they continue to stay at historically high prices.

Transformer prices have gone up between 80 percent to 250 percent depending on configuration and type. Fuel prices more than doubled compared to 2020. Not only have costs increased dramatically, but the lead time to receive these materials has gone from four to six weeks to one year or more!

Despite rising costs and rates occurring worldwide, Idaho Falls Power (IFP) has not raised energy rates in five years and in fact were able to absorb inflation to maintain flat rates through efficiency and other cost saving measures. We are proud to consistently deliver reliable, affordable, and sustainable electricity to our community. Unfortunately, it is not feasible to go another year with no rate increase.

Electric rates across all customer classes and types will increase effective October 1. This rate increase is well below the rate of inflation, even more so when you consider we have maintained no rate increase the prior five years. We are confident a rate increase from 6.25¢ per kilowatt-hour (kWh) to 6.75¢ per
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kWh, will allow us to continue to responsibly maintain our infrastructure and maintain financial stability of the utility. This change is about a $6.00 monthly increase for the average family.

Idaho Falls Power has worked hard to keep energy rates among the lowest in Idaho and the nation. IFP has maintained 6.25¢ per kilowatt-hour for the last five years. Nationwide the average energy rate sits at about 14¢ per kilowatt-hour.

Idaho Falls Power is a not-for-profit municipal utility, meaning we are community owned and do not have Wall Street shareholders or profits. Idaho Falls Power and Fiber operate 100% on utility service revenues, not property taxes. Our Board of Directors is the Idaho Falls City Council. We take pride in working hard to deliver affordable and reliable utility services. IFP is in the top 10% of utilities in the nation for reliability and quality of service. We continue to work to maintain the lowest rates in the nation for electricity and fiber optic broadband services.

For information on Idaho Falls Power energy efficiency programs, visit www.ifpower.org or call 208-612-8430.

Frequently Called Numbers

New connects, disconnects, or questions about my bill: 208-612-8280
Payment extensions or assistance: 208-612-8285
Power outages, energy efficiency programs and rebates: 208-612-8430
Fiber network availability: 208-612-8725

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Regional Cost Comparison

Customer Profile Pricing

*Based on 1200 KWH Usage

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