

Energy Efficiency Advisory Group (EEAG)
Notes dated May 6th, 2020
Webinar

Present:

Steve Hubble-City of Boise	Don Strickler-Simplot
Wil Gehl-Community Action Partnership Assoc of Idaho	Ben Otto-Idaho Conservation League
Pete Pengilly*-Idaho Power	Katie Pegan-Office of Energy & Mineral Resources
Diego Rivas-Northwest Energy Coalition	Anna Kim-Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Connie Aschenbrenner-Idaho Power	Tina Jayaweera-Northwest Power & Conservation Council

Not Present:

Stacey Donohue-Idaho Public Utilities Commission
Haley Falconer-City of Boise
Jim Hall-WAFD
Sid Erwin-Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association
Selena O'Neal-Ada County

Guests and Presenters*:

Quentin Nesbitt*-Idaho Power	Paul Goralski-Idaho Power
Tracey Burtch*-Idaho Power	Theresa Drake-Idaho Power
Andrea Simmons*-Idaho Power	Annie Meyer-Idaho Power
Chad Severson-Idaho Power	Brad Iverson-Long-Idaho Public Utilities Commission
Donn English-Idaho Public Utilities Commission	Brittany Nixon-Idaho Power

Note Takers:

Shawn Lovewell (Idaho Power) with Kathy Yi (Idaho Power)

Meeting Facilitator: Rosemary Curtin

Meeting Convened at 9:00am

Rosemary convened the meeting with introductions. There were no comments or concerns regarding the February 13th notes. Quentin stated that Idaho Power is planning on holding a workshop to discuss options for incorporating energy efficiency into the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). This workshop will be comprised of interested members from the EEAG, Integrated Resource Planning Advisory Committee (IRPAC), and the company's Load Forecasting department. The appropriate venue for questions and comments regarding energy efficiency in the 2021 IRP will be during that workshop.

9:10 am-First Quarter Savings & Financial Results—Pete Pengilly

Pete provided portfolio energy savings and expenses, savings amounts by sector, and the Oregon and Idaho Rider balances through March 31st, 2020. There was a comment regarding the current balances of the rider. Connie stated that as of right now, the company has not addressed the percentage currently collected in the rider. At the time the percentage was decreased to 2.75% there was evidence that it was an appropriate reduction. As we all know, forecasting can be difficult, and the company paid out a couple of large commercial/industrial incentives which lowered the rider balance. The company is mindful of the impact of increasing rates during the current economic environment. The group further discussed and some EEAG member's comments are that the company needs to address the rider balance and the preference would be to do it sooner rather than later. The longer the company waits the more it will potentially have to increase the percentage to cover the shortfall. Connie stated that at the next EEAG meeting we will plan to discuss further. One member stated that on the commercial/industrial side, businesses are in dire financial situations so there could be a reduction in funding for capital projects.

Pete reviewed the information that Theresa Drake had sent out in an email showing how COVID-19 has impacted the company's programs. The decisions that have been made align with the Governor's stay-at-home order and Rebound Idaho.

9:30 am Commercial/Industrial/ Irrigation Programs—Quentin Nesbitt

Quentin provided updates and year-to-date savings for the commercial, industrial, and irrigation programs. He also provided program performance data for Commercial Energy-saving Kits, Small Business Direct Install, and the Cohort projects. He provided an update on enrollments for Flex Peak and Irrigation Peak, the company's demand response programs.

9:50 am- Residential Programs—Andrea Simmons

Andrea provided preliminary year-to-date energy savings by program and customer participation. She provided an update on the night lights that were discussed at the February EEAG meeting. As a reminder, the night lights are a great way for the company to engage and start conversations with customers about energy efficiency. During our last meeting a suggestion was made to make it clear on the night light, that it is an LED. Andrea stated that all new lights that are ordered will have that information on them and she showed a picture of how that will look. Because there are still some night lights in stock that won't have that message, an educational card will be included with the light in a reusable bag.

Andrea provided an update on all the residential programs. The program specialist for the Weatherization programs is working with Project Share to update guidelines and help coordinate additional federal funding that will help customers avoid potential disconnections due to current economic conditions. The company is working on a special project to reach out to customers via telephone to obtain email address and/or numbers for texting. During that call energy efficiency questions can be addressed, programs introduced, and energy savings tips can be provided.

EEAG thanked Andrea for the updates. It was mentioned it is understandable that there is a reduction in projects and participation. There was a comment about advocating at the federal level to make sure there is enough money to support energy savings and how we need to work together to find a way to recoup energy savings in the future. Theresa thanked the member for the suggestions and stated that she could take these comments offline and will follow up.

10:12 am- Marketing Overview—Tracey Burtch

Tracey provided an update on the types of energy efficiency marketing the company is doing during COVID-19. Alerts have been posted to the company's webpage indicating that programs could be impacted and social media posts shared tips for residential and business customers. The Eney@Work newsletter was delivered to customers and provided energy tips for business's dealing with potential shutdowns. The commercial/industrial trainings were postponed but the company is looking into an online format.

10:18 am-Wrap/Up Discussion.

Thank you, I think this went very well. You all navigated the online experience well.

Thank you for providing this meeting online, it went well and thanks for condensing. Thanks to everyone for making the adjustments.

There is going to be a large increase in federal financial assistance. We are hoping to receive those funds in May.

I think this format went well. I do like the marketing focus on tips especially for businesses as they are seeing financial impacts. I like the suggestion of looking for federal funding assistance. My position was funded by a grant from the DOE 10yrs ago.

Thank you for putting this together. I like the webinars being shorter/more numerous. I found today's material to be very informative.

I am excited for the opportunity in June to participate in potential study and IRP workshop. Congrats to Pete on his upcoming retirement.

I appreciate the shorter webinars and congrats to Pete. I'll miss having you around.

Thanks to the Idaho Power team for being flexible and showing us how COVID-19 has impacted you.

Congrats to Pete on your retirement.

Pete thanked everyone for their time and comments regarding his retirement. The next meeting is scheduled for August 5th, 2020.

10:30am Meeting Adjourned