

Energy Efficiency Advisory Group (EEAG)
Notes dated May 5th, 2021
Webinar

Present:

Sid Erwin–Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association
Wil Gehl– City of Boise
Quentin Nesbitt*-Idaho Power
Connie Aschenbrenner–Idaho Power
Diego Rivas–Northwest Energy Coalition

Don Strickler–Simplot
Ben Otto-Idaho Conservation League
John Chatburn–Office of Energy & Mineral Resources
Anna Kim–Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Tina Jayaweera-Northwest Power & Conservation Council

Not Present:

Jim Hall-WAFD

Guests and Presenters*:

Chellie Jensen*-Idaho Power
Shawna Potter*-Idaho Power
Chad Ihrig: Business development Franklin Energy
Lynn Tominaga–Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association
Katie Pegan–Office of Energy & Mineral Resources
Emily Her- Office of Energy & Mineral Resources
Taylor Thomas-IPUC
Nick Sayen: Oregon PUC staff
Bob Turner Idaho Groundwater

Paul Goralski–Idaho Power
Theresa Drake–Idaho Power
Chris Pollow – Idaho Power
Annie Meyer*-Idaho Power

Note Takers:

Chad Severson (Idaho Power) & Kathy Yi (Idaho Power)

Meeting Facilitator: Rosemary Curtin

Meeting Convened at 9:30am

Rosemary convened the meeting with introductions. There were no comments or concerns regarding the February 10th notes. Theresa announced that Billie McWinn will be coming back from her temporary duty assignment to

lead the Residential team and that this will be Shawna Potters last EEAG meeting. Quentin announced that the DSM Annual Report was completed in March and the company submitted its DSM Prudence filing with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (IPUC) and Public Utility Commission of Oregon (OPUC). He asked members to email him if they wanted a hard copy of the DSM report mailed to them.

9:45 am-First Quarter Savings & Financial Results—Quentin Nesbitt

Quentin provided portfolio energy savings and expenses, savings amounts by sector, and the Oregon and Idaho Rider balances through March 31st, 2020. He discussed that the company recognizes the rider percentage needs to increase and the company is waiting for Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) process to get farther along to complete a forecast and to determine timing. The company will engage with EEAG prior to making any final recommendation on percentage increase or timing. One member pointed out that balance doesn't dictate energy efficiency activity, and that the company direction is to pursue all cost-effective energy efficiency. One member commented that it is good to see Idaho Power continue to pursue all cost-effective EE and would like the company to come up with a funding strategy that takes a longer-term view of matching rider expenses with collection.

Quentin also reviewed the program evaluation plan for 2021 and 2022.

9:55 am Commercial/Industrial/ Irrigation Programs—Chellie Jensen

Chellie provided updates and year-to-date savings for the commercial, industrial, and irrigation programs. She also provided an update on the status of prescriptive measure changes for the Commercial & Industrial program, performance data for Commercial Energy-Saving Kits, Small Business Direct Install, Energy Management Audit tool, compressed air audits, and the Cohort projects. She also discussed a new cohort for 50,001 certifications that Idaho Power is partnering with Department of Energy on. The company asked EEAG for input on ideas to reach more commercial customers with the Energy-Saving Kits. One member suggested that Idaho Power field reps go door to door with the kits and to hand out at trade shows. Chellie asked for ideas on promoting 50,001 Ready Cohort. One member commented that since it applies to larger customers, the Idaho Power Energy Advisors could provide outreach and advise customers. Chellie also presented a Day in the Life of a Custom Project highlighting the Simplot Cold Storage project. Don Strickler also discussed the project from Simplot's point of view. He commented that Simplot was able to streamline transportation and logistics and consolidate storage site. There have been other benefits to the company and sustainability efforts. Chellie asked for any comments or questions:

There was a recommendation to get the data points from the first M&V. One member thanked Don and Simplot for highlighting the extra benefits of their project. They also brought up something that John Gardner brought up before, the great french fry battery. Super cool. DR. It was stated that Simplot does participate in demand response at the site. This is the first year and they were a little nervous. They had to reduce their nomination but after this year, they will look at it and will raise it in the future.

Chellie also provided an update on enrollments for Flex Peak and Irrigation Peak, the company's demand response programs.

10:45 am- Residential Programs—Shawna Potter

Shawna provided preliminary year-to-date energy savings by program and customer participation. She also provided an update on COVID 19 impacts. She highlighted changes that have been made to the Shade Tree program, followed up with EEAG on future investigation on ways to improve the Weatherization programs, some new residential measure exploration, and a market transformation effort that the company is working on with Avista for Ductless Heat Pumps. There were questions and comments around the recent stimulus bills that will provide funds for weatherization and what Idaho Power's plan is for using that money. Shawna responded that

there is money from the CARE's Act and Idaho Power will work with the CAP Agencies to promote them. The company has increased efforts via social media, there is a pop up on My Account, and postcards have been mailed to customers. The company has promoted Energy Assistance and Project Share. Idaho Power has also worked with CAP Agencies in Oregon on ways to engage with the Health and Welfare Department to identify key contacts and other agencies that the company can partner with to promote the availability of this funding source. Theresa added that the company has been in contact with agencies on a regular basis, not just for weatherization but also Energy Assistance. One member asked if the company knows what is driving lower participation but higher savings in the Residential New Construction program. The company responded that there is a custom calculation for each home, so it could be any number of reasons. It could be a mix of single-family vs. multi-family homes, a percentage above code, or even a mix of different measures for each home.

One member asked about the costs of Shade Tree. The company will follow up with those numbers later. One member thanked the company for providing a Weatherization 101 and keeping EEAG updated. The company should streamline its process to reduce admin costs and increase impact. Another member suggested the company look at the potential study to explore the economic potential of measures. One member asked how the company plans on addressing how savings will be calculated in the Brio DHP pilot. The Regional Technical Forum has done a lot of research on savings based on if these are an add on to a home instead of a replacement. Shawna stated that the company will work with Brio

11:30 am- Marketing Overview—Annie Meyer

Annie provided an update on the types of energy efficiency marketing the company has done and is doing during COVID-19. She discussed social media posts for residential and business customers, EE awareness campaign, Summer EE Guide, Summer EE contest, Renters Guide, Energy@Work newsletter, Lighting campaign and a NEEA heat pump water heater campaign. There were no comments from EEAG members.

11:45 am- Demand Response as a Resource—Quentin Nesbitt

Quentin presented 2021 IRP analysis of DR programs and how the analysis has changed the premise of Idaho Power's demand response programs from supplying peak needs to supplying net peak needs which moves the need to be later in the evenings. Quentin discussed plans to go about modifying the programs with a goal to do so in time for the 2022 demand response season. There were questions and comments about the company's decision to move so quickly on changes to the program and that the timeline seems so rushed. Quentin commented that in order to make changes for next summer, a regulatory filing would need to happen this fall. This gives the company time to promote program changes this winter. The company has heard comments from IPUC Staff that they would like to see changes to the program happen by 2022. These comments have come out of the IPR process and are urging the company to look at ways to make demand response programs more useful. Another member stated that if there are obvious changes that need to be made for 2022 then it makes sense. But it does feel like the company is rushing especially since the analysis of the 2021 IRP process will not be complete until September. One other member echoed these comments and stated that a demand response potential study could be beneficial. They also mentioned that when Jackpot Solar comes online, it won't be the end of new solar projects. The impact and effect will be broader and stronger. A tweak in programs might make sense, but the company should continue to look at things holistically.

One member asked when will Idaho Power expect to see peak load shift. Quentin answered that the shift is already there, however it gets worse when Jackpot solar is added and then next resource after that.

One member stated they will be interested how much will be realized when the time is shifted later. Quentin said it is also a concern from Idaho Power's perspective and that it will be harder to get

irrigation participation that late. Similar for commercial. It is a labor issue and controlling things is not as conducive/easy on industrial side. Also, a concern on commercial side because loads that are targeted are already off after earlier.

One member stated that they have 4 sites that participate. A couple of them run 24/7 and a couple of them don't, but in past, they were able to shut down early one day and pick up the next day. Going into September, some participants might not have significant load going into September. Right now, they nominate on a weekly basis. If they participate in June/July but not August, they can reduce their nomination, but not sure about flexibility in 5-10 pm time frame. They would be able to participate in the first part of an event.

One member stated that it is important for the company to do the analysis based on changing resources and they appreciate it.

Connie stated it is Idaho Power's intent to continue to analyze in tandem with the 2021 IRP. Idaho Power recognized that at the early stages of the IRP that changes that would be beneficial in 2022, that's what is driving the September filing. Specific changes will be brought back to EEAG as we work through 2021 IRP.

12:25 pm-Wrap/Up Discussion.

Rosemary announced that the next meeting is August 12th, and that it has not been determined if it will be in person or virtual. Rosemary asked for comments from members on the meeting overall.

- Thanks for a good meeting.
- I appreciate everyone's feedback and please reach out to Idaho Power if you have other thoughts or comments.
- Thank you, I enjoyed the meeting. Thanks to Chellie for highlighting one of the Simplot projects that we're proud of.
- I. would rather go to an in-person meeting. My hearing is getting questionable and it is difficult to hear everything. I appreciated the demand response presentation. I have been in some discussion with different people on this over the past several months. I think the power company will need to adjust quicker than what a new look would allow. I endorse Idaho Power's thought to making corrections in current program as we look at making changes in the future.
- Thanks, it was a good meeting If there's more info at the next meeting on how the company will manage backlog especially with Weatherization Solutions and Easy Savings. Those customers have been impacted so I am interested to see how we'll reach out to them.

12:35 pm Meeting Adjourned