

Irrigationnews

Keeping Our Agricultural and Irrigation Customers Informed

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Planning for safety



No matter the time of year, safety—especially when electricity is involved—is something that should always be top of mind. Now that irrigation season is over, it is a great time to look ahead and see what safety improvements can be made for you and your employees. Below are some frequently asked questions to make the 2018 irrigation season your safest yet.

What electrical safety training and equipment will my employees or I need?

As electrical equipment is added and irrigation systems are automated, electrical safety is even more critical. Idaho Power provides electrical safety awareness training at irrigation workshops in your area. Your Idaho Power agricultural representative (ag rep) can provide information about other safety resources available.

When should I maintain my electrical equipment and center pivot panels?

Electrical equipment (especially at the scale of pumping loads) heats and cools throughout the season. These temperature fluctuations can loosen connections due to the expansion and contraction of the conductors and connections. Idaho Power recommends checking with your qualified electrician for recommended service intervals. Idaho Power will disconnect your irrigation service and reconnect it for \$40 per service point.

How close can my irrigation equipment or hay stacks be around power lines?

The Overhead Lines Safety Act specifies minimum clearances from equipment, hay stacks, buildings, etc., to the lowest conductor of a power line. Minimum clearances vary from 15 feet to over 50 feet. Contact your Idaho Power ag rep to verify these distances.

Why should I stack my handlines away from the power lines?

Aluminum handlines and powerlines are a dangerous combination. Moving handlines from the pile to the field is difficult work and may require raising the handline into the

air. This is unsafe when close to an overhead power line. Remember to be aware of overhead power lines when stacking handlines, and keep them a safe distance from the lines.

How do I find out where other utilities are?

Call the Digline at 811 or 800-342-1585 at least two days before digging to identify utility conflicts free of charge. Some instances may require planning an outage to deenergize or otherwise protect the construction personnel and the power line if clearances are too low. Contact your Idaho Power ag rep for further information.



Meet your Agriculture Representatives

Idaho Power's ag reps work one-on-one with irrigation customers to plan irrigation systems and serve as an energy advisor to focus on your needs. This highly skilled team of six is spread across the service area and works to ensure customers are safe and informed. Learn more about the team below and contact your local ag rep to schedule a visit.



Dennis Elison
Blackfoot and
American Falls Area
208-236-7744

- Grew up near Blackfoot
- Agronomy — Idaho State University
- 18 years Soil Conservation Service
- 25 years as your ag rep



Tim Fenwick
Mountain Home
and Boise Area
208-388-6366

- Grew up near Caldwell
- Animal Science and Ag Business — University of Idaho
- 12 years Idaho Power transformer shop
- 12 years as your ag rep



Dennis Merrick
Nampa and
Caldwell Area
208-465-8642

- Grew up near Grand View
- Agronomy and Plant Science — Utah State University
- 10 years as your Idaho Power program specialist
- 1.5 years as your ag rep



Daniel Moore
Mini Cassia Area
208-736-3215

- Grew up near Paul
- Worked in various farming and construction operations
- Ag Business Economics — University of Idaho
- 9 years as your ag rep



Troy Winward, PE
Twin Falls Area
208-736-3430

- Grew up in Preston
- Biological and Irrigation Engineering — Utah State University
- 10 years Idaho Water Resources and Ag. Research Service
- 5 years as your ag rep



Duane Pearson
Payette, McCall,
Emmett & Oregon Area
208-642-6546

- Grew up in Indian Valley
- Agriculture Education — University of Idaho
- 15 years Malheur Soil Water Conservation District and Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Almost a year as your ag rep

Irrigation Efficiency Rewards Program

Do you have worn out sprinkler parts? Are you looking to reduce your electricity bill? Idaho Power pays cash incentives to repair or upgrade irrigation equipment. It's easy. Simply purchase the replacement parts and apply with invoices within one year of the purchase date.

Here's a list of the eligible parts and the cash incentive for each (see table right).

We also pay incentives for new systems or retrofits on existing systems that use less energy. Upgrades include reducing operating pressures, creating pressure zones, using high-efficiency pumps and motors and reducing horsepower requirements. Contact your Idaho Power ag rep or visit us online at idahopower.com/irrigation.

Menu Option Measures	Cash Incentive per Item
Flow control nozzles	\$1.50
New nozzle	\$0.25
New or rebuilt sprinkler heads	\$2.75
New or rebuilt wheel-line levelers	\$0.75
New pivot sprinkler package (head, nozzle and regulator)	\$8.00
New drains for wheel lines and pivots	\$3.00
Gaskets for wheel line, hand lines and portable main lines	\$1.00
Wheel line hubs for Thunderbird® wheel lines	\$12.00
Pivot goosenecks with drop tubes	\$1.00
Cut and press and weld pipe repair (per joint)	\$8.00
Center pivot-base boot gasket	\$125.00

For more information about the Irrigation Efficiency Rewards program, including applications, visit our website: idahopower.com/irrigation.