



*Zeppole Baking Company owners Charles and Alison Alpers have worked with Idaho Power Energy Advisor John Neddo to save energy and money at their Boise-based small business.*

## Idaho Power s Powering Small Businesses

Charles and Alison Alpers have owned the popular Zeppole Baking Company since 2006. The Alpers and their 35 employees run two cafes and a large bakery to supply local restaurants, coffee houses and more with their daily bread and pastry offerings.

"We supply all the local Human Bean and Black Rock Coffee Bars with pastries, and we bake bread for our two cafes and local restaurants like Bardenay, Barbacoa and Luciano's," said Charles, as he gave Idaho Power a tour of their Boise bakery. Zeppole also partners with Sysco Foods to distribute their products around the region to places like Sun Valley, McCall and Ontario.

Running a large bakery and two cafes has been a challenge in the pandemic, but Zeppole has seen demand for their wholesale products increase 43% over the past couple of years. "Our sourdough has gone viral!" said Charles. "Early in the pandemic when there was a toilet paper shortage, we were having a sourdough shortage!"

All that baking requires reliable, affordable energy.

"As a small business owner, we have to find ways to save money, and saving energy can help," said Charles.

That's where Idaho Power Energy Advisor John Neddo came in. He visited the Alpers at their facilities and recommended a few energy-saving changes and Idaho Power incentives that could help ease the stress of managing buildings so they could focus more on managing baked goods and growing their business.

Idaho Power's energy advisors take pride in helping their customers save energy and money while getting to know their individual energy needs. For John, the motivation is personal. "My mom was a small business owner in Kuna for a long time, so it's important to me that I help take care of our customers and their businesses," John said.

In May 2020, John and the Idaho Power Retrofits program helped Zeppole replace outdated lighting fixtures at their bakery and one of their two cafes. The incentive covered 68% and 50% of the project

costs, respectively. By adding occupancy sensors and upgrading lighting to energy-saving LEDs, Zeppole will save more than 35,000 kilowatt-hours of energy each year.

"Without the incentive, the lighting project would have been cost prohibitive," said Charles. "It was incredible to see how much the incentive helped, but for me, the savings is also in not having to worry about light bulbs anymore."

Since making energy-saving changes at work, the Alpers have noticed they're more aware of how they use energy at home, as well. After noticing an increase in their energy use, Charles ordered two smart thermostats online (one for each floor of their home) and has already seen a decrease in their power bill.

To find out how you can save energy and money at your business or home, visit [idahopower.com/ways-to-save](https://idahopower.com/ways-to-save).





## Energy-saving Resources for Small Businesses

Idaho Power offers several programs and resources to help small businesses save energy and money. Whether you have your own small business, work for one, or frequent one, we all win by supporting energy efficiency in our local economy.

### Energy Efficiency Programs

Small businesses don't just save energy by switching to more efficient equipment — they also earn cash incentives. For existing buildings, incentives are available for upgrading lighting, HVAC and controls, food service equipment, building shell and more. New construction incentives are available for energy-efficient lighting, HVAC, building shell, controls, appliances and equipment, refrigeration, and compressed air equipment not already required by code. Idaho Power also has custom incentives for projects not covered through retrofits or new construction.

### Energy Assessments

Idaho Power has several options for business customers to quantify the savings of potential energy efficiency improvements. Customers can complete a self-assessment using our online tool to document equip-

ment and identify energy-saving opportunities. We also offer free scoping assessments and detailed assessments at discounted rates. For Oregon customers, we offer an Oregon Commercial Audit program to identify energy-saving opportunities.

### Trainings

Keeping up with the latest in commercial and industrial energy efficiency measures and processes is important. We host and support a variety of training opportunities throughout the year. Visit [idahopower.com/training](http://idahopower.com/training) to check out upcoming training opportunities.

### Tips and Resources

Idaho Power has industry-specific tips available for breweries and wineries, convenience stores, dairies, grocery stores, health care facilities, hotels, office buildings, restaurants, retail stores and schools. We also have detailed information about common incentives, including payback estimates and qualifications.

To learn more, visit [idahopower.com/business](http://idahopower.com/business).



## Small Businesses Make a Big Impact at Idaho Power

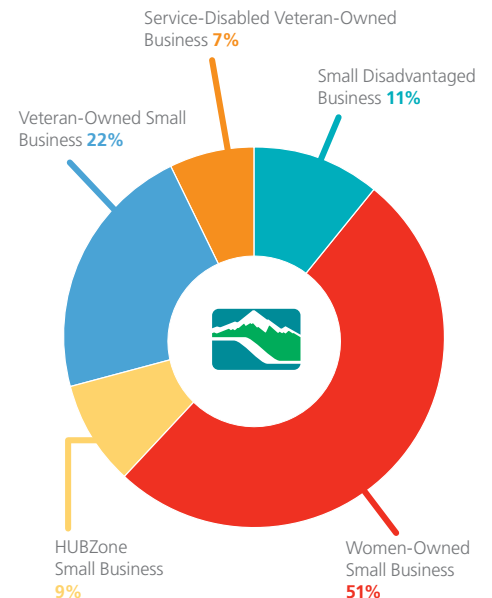
Idaho Power is committed to supporting small businesses across our 24,000-square-mile service area. We regularly contract with small, local companies for everything from large and small construction to pest control, seasonal landscaping and more.

In 2020 alone, 62.5% of the \$138.2 million in goods and services Idaho Power purchased from Idaho businesses went to small businesses.

Our Small and Diverse Business Program helps veteran-owned, women-owned and small, disadvantaged businesses compete in our supply chain and procurement process.

Are you a small business owner looking for opportunities to work with Idaho Power? Learn more about typical goods and services we look for and register to be a vendor with us at [idahopower.com/supplierregistration](http://idahopower.com/supplierregistration).

## 2020 Supplier Diversity Program Participation



### From the Energy Efficient Kitchen

Feb. 2022  
Dessert

### Strawberry Yogurt Parfaits

- 1 quart fresh strawberries
- 8 oz strawberry yogurt
- 8 oz vanilla flavored granola
- Whipped cream



Wash and cut strawberries into halves or quarters. Layer yogurt, strawberries and granola in a tall parfait glass, ending with yogurt on top. Cover and chill until ready to serve. Top with whipped cream. Makes four servings of fun, Valentine's Day dessert!

Recipe selected from Idaho Power's Centennial Celebration Cookbook.