Connections





Public Takes Part in Long-range Energy Planning

Idaho Power works hard to provide reliable power to our customers every day. Ensuring our energy remains reliable and affordable into the future requires planning. We have to anticipate how much our energy needs will grow, determine the best way to meet those needs, and ensure we have time to build or acquire the necessary resources.

And we do all this while continuing to pursue our Clean Today, Cleaner Tomorrow® goal of providing 100% clean energy by 2045.

That's why our 20-year planning document, called the *Integrated Resource Plan* (IRP), is more important than ever. We develop that plan every two years with input from the public through our IRP Advisory Council (IRPAC). The IRPAC includes public utility commission representatives, major industrial customers, members of the environmental community, irrigation representatives, state and local elected officials and other interested parties. We host a series of virtual public IRPAC meetings to help guide our planning process.

Idaho Power's planning team and the IRPAC have already begun work on the 2023 IRP by examining the company's projected need for

additional electricity to serve homes, businesses, farms and factories over the next two decades. A wide range of factors are considered: How quickly will the economy and the population grow? How can we serve large projects like the Meta data center or the Micron computer chip factory? How will we adapt if longer, hotter summers become the norm? How many electric vehicles will be on the road in the years to come?

The 120-megawatt Jackpot Solar Project—being built south of Twin Falls will sell its generation to Idaho Power — just one way we are working to serve our customers' growing energy needs.



Our Resource Planning team uses advanced computer modeling to help determine which resources will best meet that growing need while balancing reliability, cost, environmental responsibility, efficiency and risk. We expect to submit the 2023 IRP to the public utility commissions in Idaho and Oregon by the end of June 2023.

We are already working to build our energy infrastructure based on what we learned from previous planning efforts. This includes the Boardman to Hemingway transmission line that will connect us to additional resources in the Pacific Northwest, battery storage projects, and requests for proposals from developers who can bring new energy resources online in the coming years.

In addition to hosting virtual public IRPAC meetings, we provide information on our website to help members of the council and the public understand the fundamentals of the electricity industry.

Learn more at idahopower.com/irp.

Customers See Benefits from Reliability Investments

At Idaho Power, we're proud to keep the lights on 99.9% of the time. And our track record of reliability doesn't happen by accident.

Weather, time and use gradually wear on power poles, insulators, transformers and other equipment. If left unchecked, this equipment could fail over time, resulting in outages.

That's why Idaho Power follows industry standards and best practices when designing and constructing the energy grid, and works hard to maintain it. In 2010, to make our service even more reliable, the company began a new program to prioritize improvements that have the greatest impact on reliability.

"We put a lot of emphasis on making sure our customers have power when they need it," Senior Engineering and Construction Project Manager Tom Keyt said. "This program puts data to work to find places where our maintenance and upgrades will have the greatest effect."

Through the program, our workers apply a 30-item checklist for lines that deliver power directly to customers. Among other things, they determine if they need to:

- Replace switches
- Install guards to protect the lines from birds or other animals
- Add fuses
- Replace crossarms that hold up wires
- Change out poles

Idaho Power upgraded miles of overhead powerlines in both rural and urban areas between 2010 and 2021. And we've seen a 38% reduction in outages on lines that have been improved through the equipment-maintenance program.

"We like to say, 'Take care of your equipment, and it'll take care of you,'" Keyt said. "In this case, when we take care of our equipment, we also take care of our customers."

Idaho Power Plans State's First Large-scale **Battery Storage Project** Idaho Power has announced plans to install

120 megawatts (MW) of battery storage to come online in 2023, which will help maintain reliable service during periods of high use. The batteries would be Idaho's first utility-scale storage systems and align with our goal of providing 100% clean energy by 2045.

"This is an exciting step for Idaho Power. Not only are we adding capacity to serve our customers, but we are taking advantage of advancements in technology that will be key to our future," said Adam Richins, Idaho Power Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

The 120 MW will be divided between a 40-MW installation near the Black Mesa solar project being built in Elmore County, and 80 MW at Idaho Power's Hemingway substation in Owyhee County.



Although batteries don't generate electricity, they can store power generated during periods of lower use and deliver it when customers need it. A 40-MW battery array can power more than 13,000 average homes for four hours during periods of peak use, and more when energy demand is lower. The batteries can be completely recharged in about four hours, depending on their energy source.

Idaho Power's request is under consideration by the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, which will determine whether the proposal is in the public interest.

From the Energy Efficient Kitchen

Sparky Spuds

2 cans cream of chicken soup

24 oz frozen, shredded hash brown potatoes

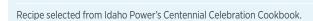
2 cups sour cream

1 cube melted butter

1/3 cup grated onion ½ cup shredded cheese Salt and black pepper (to taste)

Use melted butter to grease a casserole dish. Layer Makes eight servings (and a great Thanksgiving side dish!)

ingredients in dish and bake at 350° for 30 minutes.





Side Dish