Connections





Meeting Demand and Strengthening the Grid

Southern Idaho has seen immense growth in the past few years, and it seems likely to continue. As more people move to the area and more businesses open or expand, demand for energy is growing.

Idaho Power is investing in projects to ensure our customers have as much energy as they need, when they need it. At the same time, we know affordability is crucial, whether you run a farm, business or simply pay a power bill for your home.

That's why, with every project we undertake, we strive to keep your bills as low as possible while delivering power to everyone. We evaluate resources and plan new projects to ensure all our customers have safe, reliable, affordable energy both now and into the future.

Here's a look at two key investments Idaho Power is working on for our shared energy future.

Boardman to Hemingway

This 290-mile, 500-kilovolt (kV) transmission line will deliver up to 500 megawatts (MW) to irrigation systems, air conditioners and other crucial equipment when extra power is most

important to our customers — the hot summer months, when energy use peaks in southern Idaho and eastern Oregon.

Boardman to Hemingway (B2H) has been the subject of repeated analysis over the last 17 years. Every study has reached the same conclusion: B2H is the lowestcost, lowest-risk project capable of meeting this growing peak need.

In recent years, local, state and federal agencies have authorized permits for B2H. We plan to break ground this year and finish B2H in 2026. For more information, visit idahopower.com/b2h.

Gateway West

Gateway West is another transmission line project. It will help us meet customers' needs reliably and affordably by bringing on new, local generation resources and moving energy from where it's generated to the customers who need it. This project also improves our ability to deliver energy to customers in southern Idaho from outside the region.

All federal permitting for Gateway West is complete. PacifiCorp, the project's majority owner, has begun construction

in Wyoming. Pre-construction, which includes siting, permitting and engineering studies, has begun in Idaho.

We expect the portions of the line that we partly own to come online in 2028 or later. For more information, visit **idahopower.com/gww**.

In addition to helping meet Idaho Power customers' needs, B2H and Gateway West will improve grid connections across the western United States, establishing new and more efficient paths to move energy from the places it's produced to the customers who use it.





Solar and Batteries: Boosting Reliability for Customers

Many of the projects Idaho Power is investing in or buying energy from help customers water their crops and keep their houses and businesses cool during times of peak demand — usually when summer heat waves strike. Solar power helps us cover those needs.

Jackpot Solar is a good example. It's a 120 MW solar array near the Nevada border south of Twin Falls. We signed a contract in 2019 to buy energy from Jackpot at about 2.2 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh), among the lowest prices in the nation for solar energy.

The project started generating electricity late last year — enough to power more than 36,000 homes during our customers' peak summer demand.

Now, another solar project is under development just across Highway 93 from Jackpot. Franklin Solar will add 100 MW of affordable power to our system. We expect it to begin generating power in 2024, pending approval by the Idaho Public Utilities Commission.

Of course, solar energy only works when the sun's up. When the sun starts to go down in the summer, demand is still high for a couple hours as we all wrap up our evenings and try to stay cool.

That's one reason we're investing in utility-scale batteries. We can charge these batteries with energy from hydro, solar or other sources while demand is low — typically at night or late in the morning. Then, when demand peaks, we can use those batteries to deliver low-cost energy to our customers, even after the sun goes down.

One of our battery banks, with 60 MW of capacity, will be located next to the Franklin Solar site. Our first batteries came online earlier this summer. The largest system can deliver up to 80 MW for four hours. And we're planning for several hundred megawatts of additional solar and battery capacity in the coming years as demand for electricity continues to grow.

From the Energy-efficient Kitchen

September 2023 **Dessert**

Back-to-school Brownies

3/4 cup granulated sugar

½ cup all-purpose flour

½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder

 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup unsweetened applesauce

1 large egg

2 egg whites

2 Tbsp vegetable oil

1½ tsp vanilla

1/4 tsp cinnamon

1/4 tsp salt

Preheat oven to 350° and spray a 9x9x2-inch baking pan with cooking spray. In a medium bowl, combine flour, cocoa, salt and cinnamon. Stir to mix. In another bowl, whisk egg, egg whites, sugar, applesauce, oil and vanilla. Add flour mixture to applesauce mixture and stir until just blended. Bake for 25 minutes. Makes 16 brownies.



Recipe selected from Idaho Power's Centennial Celebration Cookbook.



Powering the Next Generation

The Idaho Power engineering internship program offers exciting opportunities for the future workforce of our industry to gain experience solving real-world challenges.

Our summer 2023 engineering interns recently returned to their respective universities, newly equipped with hands-on mechanical, electrical and civil engineering experience to complement the concepts they learn in class. Through summer projects, mentorship, cross-training, opportunities to job shadow and field trips (below), they learned about the complex systems that deliver energy to customers in today's high-tech electrical grid.



In addition to our summer engineering internship program, we occasionally offer other varying internship opportunities — in departments like Information Technology, Human Resources, and Environmental — to help prepare our state's future workforce for the exciting and challenging work ahead.

An internship can be the beginning of a long and rewarding career at Idaho Power. Learn more about Idaho Power internships, apprenticeships and professional career tracks at **idahopower.com/careers**.

