



As Demand Grows, Transmission Lines Are Key to Reliable, Affordable Energy

Idaho Power has never seen energy use grow as fast as it is now, and we expect that to continue for the next several years. To continue providing safe, reliable, affordable energy, we're investing in a wide range of new and tested technologies, including new generation plants, energy efficiency measures, and energy storage.

Some of our most important projects are high-voltage transmission lines, the interstate highways of the electrical grid.

"Meeting the growing demand for electricity will really take an all-of-the-above approach," said Adam Richins, Idaho Power's Chief Operating Officer. "Transmission lines are especially valuable because they give us access to energy that is available — and affordable — in neighboring regions at just the moment we need it."

Here's a look at three of the major transmission line projects Idaho Power is working on and how they'll benefit our customers:

Boardman to Hemingway (B2H)

This 290-mile, 500-kilovolt (kV) line is crucial to Idaho Power's

ability to continue safely meeting our customers' growing needs with reliable, affordable energy.

B2H will connect two regions — the Pacific Northwest and Mountain West — that produce a lot of energy but whose peak production and peak customer needs are mismatched. Idaho Power's customer use peaks in early summer when irrigation pumps and air conditioners are working overtime. The Pacific Northwest's energy use peaks during the winter heating season.

B2H will address this imbalance, delivering affordable power from the Pacific Northwest to Idaho Power customers during the hot summer months. B2H will deliver our customers enough power to serve more than 150,000 homes at peak summer demand.

B2H is projected to be complete in late 2027. For more information, visit idahopower.com/b2h.

Gateway West

Gateway West is a multi-segment 1,000-mile, 230- and 500-kV transmission

project stretching through Wyoming and southern Idaho. This project will help Idaho Power move energy efficiently between the Treasure Valley and Magic Valley and import it from outside our service area to meet customer needs.

PacifiCorp, Gateway West's majority owner, has completed construction on some of the project's eastern segments. We expect the western portion of the line that Idaho Power partly owns to start coming online as soon as 2028.

Visit idahopower.com/gww for more information.

Southwest Intertie Project-North (SWIP-North)

Idaho Power will use SWIP-North as an import-only line to bring in low-cost energy for our customers' use. This proposed 285-mile, 500-kV transmission line will run from eastern Nevada to Idaho Power's Midpoint Substation near Twin Falls. SWIP-North will enable Idaho Power to tap into abundant energy in the Southwest, especially during winter months.

Visit idahopower.com/swip-north for more information.



Cutting-edge Technology Helps Idaho Power Meet Customers' Needs

Idaho Power is teaming up with Boise-based Pitch Aeronautics to maximize the amount of safe, reliable, and affordable power available to our customers, especially during periods of high use.

Pitch's innovation is a system of sensors that more precisely determines transmission lines' rating, or how much power they can safely carry. Electricity heats up powerlines as it runs through them, causing them to sag. Hot temperatures make lines sag more — especially problematic for Idaho Power, because our customers' energy use peaks in the summer.

Historically, line ratings depended on standard weather reports, which aren't precise enough to tell the grid's operators exactly how the weather is affecting lines in specific locations. Pitch's sensors relay real-time, granular weather data like temperature, humidity, and wind speed to pinpoint conditions along powerlines. Using localized data allows operators to use the full capacity of transmission lines without overloading them.

"Using our existing transmission infrastructure more efficiently supports our longstanding commitment to provide energy safely and reliably in the most cost-effective way," said Mitch Colburn, Idaho Power's Vice President of Planning, Engineering, and Construction. "As a company based in our backyard, Pitch Aeronautics understands the unique ways our terrain and weather affect our grid."

Pitch's technology grew out of the U.S. Department of Energy's dynamic line rating project, which invests in innovations that enhance the grid. Pitch's first sensors were successfully installed in March on Idaho Power lines in the Hagerman Valley. Dozens more will be installed over the next two-and-a-half years.



Batteries Help Us Get the Most Out of Existing Resources



With the need for electricity growing, Idaho Power is using more solar energy to meet our customers' needs, especially in the summer. Solar is a low-cost resource, but it doesn't generate energy after the sun goes down. Meanwhile, summer temperatures and energy demand stay high after sunset.

Batteries are helping us solve this problem. We charge them while the sun is up and energy demand is relatively low — typically during the morning and early afternoons. We draw energy from them when demand spikes in the late afternoon. And when clouds block the sun, batteries can "smooth" the drop in energy production.

Using the energy in batteries also reduces the amount of water we need to release through hydropower plants to meet our customers' needs.

Idaho Power's first batteries came online in 2024. By 2027, we plan to install and operate 800 megawatts of battery capacity — enough for more than 240,000 homes — during our summer peak.

From the Electric Kitchen Apple Slaw

- 1 small head of cabbage
- 1 medium onion
- 1 tsp celery seeds
- 1 Tbsp apple cider vinegar
- 2-3 carrots
- 1 Golden Delicious apple
- 2 Tbsp sugar
- 1/3 cup mayonnaise
- Salt and pepper to taste

Chop cabbage, carrots, onion, and apple in food processor and transfer to large mixing bowl. Add celery seed, sugar, vinegar, and mayonnaise to bowl. Add salt and pepper to taste. Stir until blended. Refrigerate until chilled and ready to serve. Makes 10 servings, 1/2 cup each.

Recipe selected from Idaho Power's Centennial Celebration Cookbook.



September 2025 Side-Dish



Did You Know?

Idaho Power imports more energy into our service area than we export, which means transmission is key to helping us keep the lights on 99.9% of the time.

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