



**LYNN FINDLEY**  
**SENATE DISTRICT 30**

**MARK OWENS**  
**HOUSE DISTRICT 60**

Oregon Public Utility Commission  
201 High Street SE, Suite 100  
Salem, OR 97301-3398

November 15, 2023

RE: ADV 1539

Commissioners Decker and Tawney,

We write with concerns regarding Idaho Power's proposal to cut net metering rates for their Oregon customers. If adopted, the proposal would be unfair to our constituents. We urge you to take adequate time to review the proposal and either decline their proposal or make significant improvements.

Solar and storage provide energy independence and resilience and should be encouraged. With the cost-of-living skyrocketing for working Oregonians, rooftop solar and batteries should be more affordable for everyday people, not less.

Unfortunately, Idaho Power's proposal goes in the opposite direction. We understand they are proposing a severe cut in the export credit rate, which would extend the return on investment for working families. In addition, tripling the fixed service fee will impact low-and moderate-income customers disproportionately. Our constituents have incomes below the state median income and should not face extra financial barriers to produce their own clean energy.

We understand these changes would be retroactive on new solar users, reversing the deal the state made with households that purchased solar after 2019. Changes should apply only to future contracts. A deal was made, and going back on the agreement is not appropriate. Constituents signed a contract, and it should be honored. Oregonians that made a personal investment based on their original contract should not be penalized. We urge you to ensure that these commitments to customers are upheld, and in line with state energy goals.

Lastly, Oregon should have a longer process to consider such a large change to an existing program. Three months is not adequate time for Oregonians to weigh in on the future of such an important program.

Idaho Power's proposal will make rooftop solar and batteries more expensive for everyday people in our districts. It will also undermine the public trust in the state's energy programs going forward.

Thank you for your consideration of these important issues. We urge you to modify or decline Idaho Power's proposal.

Sincerely,

Senator Lynn Findley  
Oregon Senate District 30

Representative Mark Owens  
Oregon House District 60