

To The Honorable Representative George Eskridge:

A web-based comment was submitted by:

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Concerning: revised 2007 Idaho Energy Plan

With the following comments:

Energy, Environment, and Technology Committee Comments on the revised 2007 Idaho Energy Plan

Emphasis on cost effective conservation is appropriate, especially in regard to new construction. Examples of inefficiencies I notice include 1) shower heads lacking independent control of flow rate and temperature, so that maximum flow is needed to get a comfortable water temperature. 2) window air conditioners that are not provided with direct introduction of outside air when this is cooler than room temperature.

The frequently used expression "cost effective" should be emphasized, for renewable as well as for other sources. In particular, tax credits for new commercial (as opposed to demonstration) wind facilities should be eliminated. Utilities should be allowed to choose the most cost effective renewable sources available. In that regard, the costs of short term load balancing should be considered in comparing the cost of wind power with base load power.

Nuclear power deserves more emphasis in the revised plan, because it is a base load source. The plan should not just inform generators of the risks involved, as these are already well known. Encouragement should be given to credible proposals for nuclear generation facilities, and financial incentives given comparable to those given to other generation methods.