

Hello Mr. Nugent,

Returning, from travel, to our Sagle, ID home we read the article regarding review of Idaho's Energy Plan (Spokesman Review November 2, 2011). We realize our thoughts may be too late. We thought we would send several comments in the event that comments are still being considered.

1. Specific, research, planning and incentives for the recovery and use of woody biomass. As we send this note, there are huge piles of biomass, the result of harvest and forest thinning, being burned all over Bonner County.

2. We hope the Energy Alliance Board is considering current research. For example, researchers are looking at bacteria in Koala bear guts to find out how they convert cellulose into retrievable energy.

3. Energy efficiency should not lose its "highest priority" status. Energy conservation is one of the most important actions individuals and institutions can take to save energy, reduce carbon emissions, save money, lower energy rates for everyone and save non-renewable resources (coal, gas, oil). Locally, we received a box of fluorescent light bulbs from Avista. This is a GREAT educational strategy and programs like this should be encouraged all over the state.

4. Pay attention to maintenance of our power grid.

5. Consumer advocacy is a priority for us, as well.

Thank you for putting your time and energy into this review process. We are grateful for the detailed coverage and information available on line and the newspaper article.

Sincerely,

Mary and Doug Toland
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