

# About The Langley Gulch Power Plant

[www.idahopower.com](http://www.idahopower.com)

Idaho Power is proud of its nearly 93-year history working with communities to supply a valuable resource—electricity—which in turn, helps ensure that customers have the electricity they need to secure the same comfortable lifestyles for future generations.

Our company is committed to providing reliable, responsible energy services now and in the future. Demonstrating this commitment, Idaho Power proposed constructing Langley Gulch Power Plant in Payette County, Idaho.

If approved by the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, construction crews will begin building the 300-megawatt (MW) power plant in August 2010. Electricity generated by the plant to serve Idaho Power customers may begin as soon as December 2012.

The addition of this generation facility will help many communities in our service area, and across the region, prosper.

Some of the power plant's benefits to the local area include:

- A labor force of up to 120 workers for as long as two years to build the power plant
- An additional 18 jobs will be needed to operate and maintain the facility
- Using local services, materials and equipment suppliers
- Adding a significant tax base for Payette County.

We first identified the need for a new dispatchable, intermediate resource in our 2004 and 2006 Integrated Resource Plans (IRP). At the time, an effort to alleviate pressure on future customer rates pointed us toward a coal resource.

However in 2007, when regulatory, price and environmental issues related to coal technology intensified, we turned our focus to a natural gas-fired resource to address the resource deficit.

The advantage of the Langley Gulch Power Plant is that it incorporates the dependable low-cost features of a continuously running baseload power plant, but

also has the flexibility of a peaker power plant—one that can operate when demand for electricity “peaks” and adjust its generation output to help integrate intermittent resources such as wind. In other words, the Langley Gulch Power Plant will be utilized as an intermediate and dispatchable resource to enable us to better provide energy on-demand. This natural gas-fired power plant will emit less than half the carbon dioxide of a traditional coal plant and will reduce the amount of power we purchase during summer peak periods, providing a cost-savings over the long term.

In addition, the location of the power plant within Idaho Power's service area improves reliability and reduces the impacts of constrained transmission capacity.

To minimize impact to air quality, the company is using the latest air emissions control technologies and best practices to ensure this power plant is clean, safe and efficient and meets all federal, state and local requirements.

## Why This Power Plant Is Needed

There are several important reasons the Langley Gulch Power Plant is needed in both the near-term and long-term:

- Idaho Power is committed to ensuring its customers have the electricity they need today on-demand. This plant is necessary to ensure reliability is not jeopardized. Our system capacity is still catching up with the significant growth experienced in Idaho Power's service area over the past 10 years. Currently constrained transmission capacity and the delay of the Boardman to Hemingway transmission project increases the need for and urgency of a resource with proximity to load. We need to move energy the shortest distance possible because current transmission constraints limit the ability to bring power into and across our

service area.

- The need for this power plant has been identified in the company's long-range Integrated Resource Plan since 2004. Our customer base remains stable and census household data and independent forecasts of future household growth do not indicate a dramatic downward change in new residential customers—which are by far the majority of Idaho Power customers—in near the term.

- Langley Gulch will help integrate intermittent alternative resources, such as wind and solar, on Idaho Power's system. Because this plant can increase or decrease output quickly, it can adjust to changes in wind and solar output.

## OPEN HOUSE

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 1, 2009

New Plymouth High School

207 S. Plymouth Ave.

New Plymouth, Idaho

Join us for an open house to provide input on the two transmission lines needed to connect the Langley Gulch Power Plant to Idaho Power's transmission system and to receive an update on the project.

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# What Happens Next?

Hearings before the Idaho Public Utilities Commission begin July 14 on the application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.

Payette County requires all project and related transmission routes be submitted as a package—conceptual plan, rezone, development agreement and three detailed conditional-use applications. This package will be submitted for technical review later this summer. Depending on time needed for technical review, public hearings likely will be scheduled to occur this fall.

The selected site recently went through a land use designation change—from residential and commercial to industrial—under Payette County’s Comprehensive Plan.

Idaho Power is diligently working on the air permit application for submission in June to the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality seeking a permit to construct.

Idaho Power engineers and consultants will be working on the building site and neighboring Bureau of Land Management

public land this summer. Some of this work is ongoing, including environmental surveys for species of concern such as the slick spot peppergrass and long-billed curlew bird.

Other work includes drilling test wells to evaluate subsurface water characteristics. The results determine whether injection wells could be used to return cooling tower water to the aquifer.

Idaho Power also is evaluating transmission interconnection routes to the existing Ontario–Caldwell and Caldwell–Willis lines.

Idaho Power is hosting an open house from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 1 at New Plymouth High School to discuss construction of two new transmission lines connecting the power plant to the existing lines. Watch for more details in your local newspapers and on our Web site at [www.idahopower.com/langleygulch](http://www.idahopower.com/langleygulch).

# How Will The Plant Work?

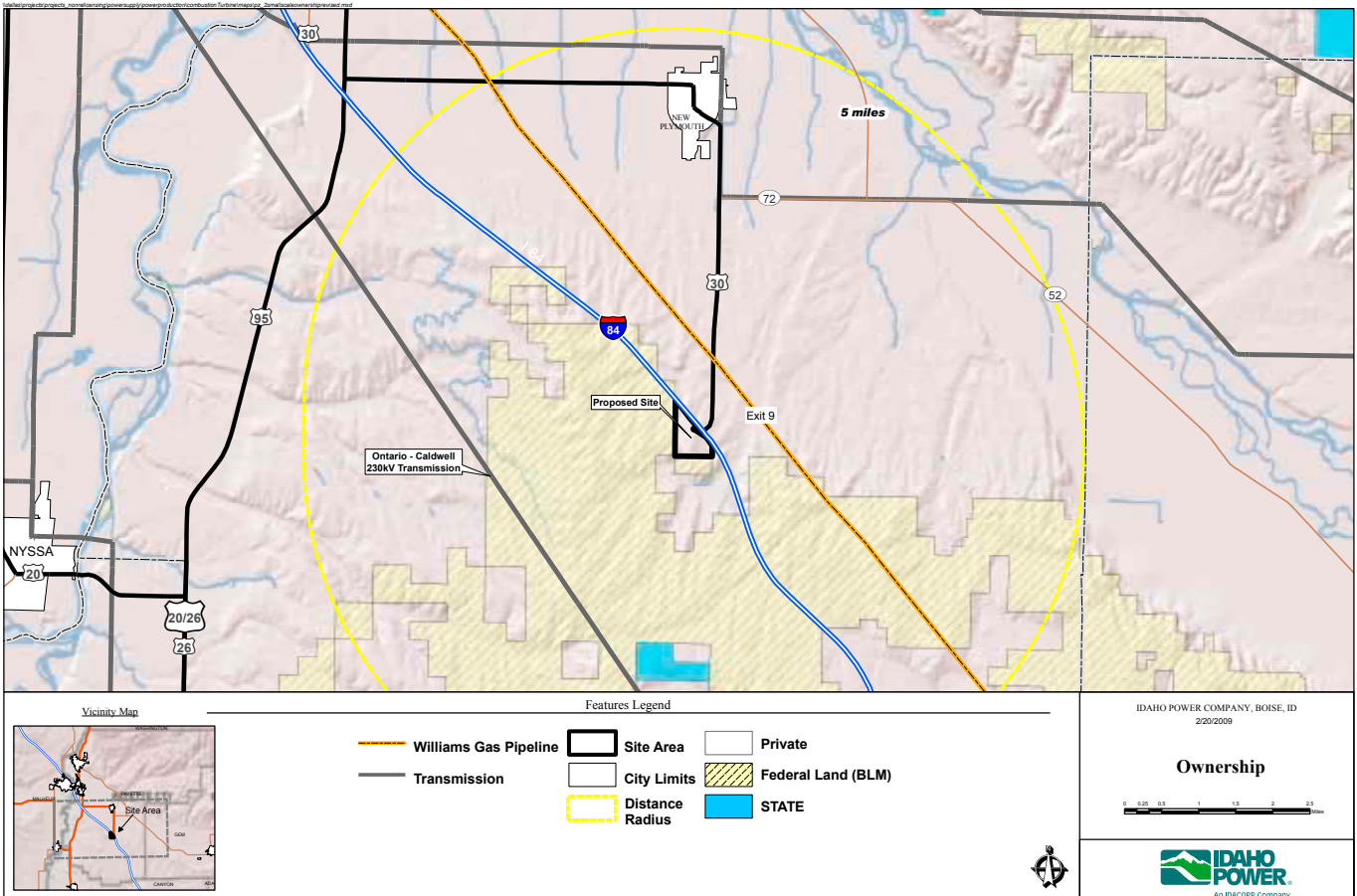
The clean, highly-efficient Langley Gulch Power Plant will have two turbines to generate electricity—one natural gas and the other steam.

Exhaust heat from the natural gas turbine is used to make steam and drive the steam turbine. Minimal water from the Snake River will be used for cooling purposes. Enclosures around the turbines will reduce noise.

Upon completion, Langley Gulch will be one of the most efficient new power plants in the West.

For this project, Idaho Power is drawing on its recent experience building generation facilities in Elmore County.

## Langley Gulch Power Plant Proposed Site Map



## Frequently Asked Questions

[www.idahopower.com](http://www.idahopower.com)

### 1. How will this plant affect the New Plymouth area?

Idaho Power believes the facility will have a positive effect and the construction project offers several benefits to the community. More than 100 construction workers will be needed to build this plant with an additional 18 permanent jobs created to operate and maintain the facility. Additional benefits include the use of local services, materials and equipment suppliers as well as a significant tax base for Payette County.

Responsible economic development and prudent growth requires availability of adequate electric resources. The addition of this generation facility will help many communities in our service area, and across the region, prosper.

### 2. What is the estimated cost of construction?

The Langley Gulch Power Plant will be built for approximately \$427 million, including expected transmission costs to connect the facility to the grid.

### 3. Will this plant impact my rates?

Idaho Power filed a petition with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN). Included in this filing is a request asking the commission for either:

1. A ratemaking order permitting all or a portion of the construction work in progress (CWIP) the company incurs as it constructs the project be included in current rates on an annual basis, or

2. To assertively state in the CPCN Order how the commission intends to treat Idaho Power's investment in Langley Gulch for ratemaking purposes when the facility goes into service.

We believe the first alternative provides Idaho Power the ability to recover project investments annually versus carrying the expenses incurred until the completion of

the project. This benefits the company and customers reducing the cost of financing the project. Additionally, this spreads the costs to customers out over several years. The approach proposed maintains the commission's ability to audit and ensure prudence of expenditures.

The ratemaking order from the commission will determine how and when the expenses associated with this project will impact customer rates.

### 4. Is this power plant part of the Boardman to Hemingway (B2H) transmission project?

No, the Langley Gulch Power Plant is independent of the 500 kilovolt (kV) B2H project. Once the plant is built, two new lines will be built to connect the plant with existing transmission lines:

- A 2.5-mile, 230 kV line on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) property that will connect with the existing 230 kV Ontario-Caldwell line
- An 18-mile, 138 kV line that may cross BLM, private and existing rights-of-way and will connect to the existing 138 kV Caldwell-Willis line

Construction of the new lines may include single-pole and H-frame structures—final selection is based on engineering and routes.

### 5. How visually prominent is the project?

The site is remote although it will be visible from a couple locations on Interstate 84 near Exit 9. The construction and placement of the plant will leverage the natural contour of the property to position the facility with minimal impacts to the surrounding area, including the view.

### 6. What security measures will be used?

During construction security personnel will be on-site. Upon completion, Idaho Power will secure this facility similar to our other

power plants with camera and badge access equipment. This power plant will be staffed for 24-hour operations.

### 7. Who will provide fire service?

The power plant is located in the New Plymouth Fire District. We have discussed fire service coverage with both New Plymouth and Parma fire district personnel. In addition, the facility will be outfitted with industry-standard fire suppression equipment.

### 8. Will public access on the 137-acre site be limited?

For the security of the facility as well as safety of our employees and the general public, public access to the facility will be limited and comparable to other Idaho Power-owned facilities.

### 9. What makes this power plant different from Idaho Power's existing plants near Mountain Home?

The plants near Mountain Home—Bennett Mountain and Danskin—are considered simple-cycle power plants, having just a natural gas turbine. They are typically used as a peaking resource to help with short-term load spikes in summer and winter.

The similarities between the Langley Gulch combined-cycle and Mountain Home area simple-cycle power plants include the air intake structure and gas turbine. The main difference is that a combined-cycle power plant has a heat recovery steam generator (HRSG). The HRSG captures the hot gas turbine exhaust and then uses the exhaust heat to convert water to steam, driving a steam turbine. Additionally, Langley Gulch is an intermediate and dispatchable resource with regular operation to meet demand.

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### 10. What is the height of the exhaust stack?

The height of the exhaust stack is 160 feet. For comparison, most cellular towers are 150 to 300 feet.

### 11. Will the power plant be noisy?

No. Noise enclosures will be installed around the turbines to minimize and control loud sound. Similar to our Mountain Home natural gas facility, the noise would not prevent a normal conversation outside next to the power plant. Noise associated with Interstate 84 will be louder than the operations of the new facility.

### 12. What will be the impact to the Treasure Valley air quality?

This plant will be built to have a minimal impact on air quality as required by the National Ambient Air Quality Standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The plant will have the Best Available Control Technology (BACT) for emission controls.

As a comparison, the emissions from the plant are the same type of emissions that come from a typical home or business gas furnace. Using this same comparison, on a per unit basis, this plant will be cleaner with the following equipment installations: low nitrogen oxide burners, selective catalytic reduction system and a catalyst to reduce carbon monoxide.

### 13. Why do we need the Langley Gulch Project to integrate wind generation into the transmission network, instead of relying on existing hydro generation?

Idaho Power is adding significant amounts of wind. Presently, 194 MW of wind is on-line, while an additional 158 MW is under contract, but not yet constructed. Additionally, a proposal request for 150 MW of wind was recently issued, while another 102 MW is currently under contract discussions. This totals more than 600 MW of current and future wind generation projects.

While Idaho Power currently utilizes its hydro generation system to integrate existing wind generation projects, there are limits to the amount of variable wind generation

we can integrate and stay compliant with transmission network operational requirements. The operational flexibility associated with our hydro facilities has been limited due to endangered species concerns and FERC relicensing issues. Combining this limited capability of our hydro system with the expected addition of significant wind generation projects, Idaho Power must add other types of resources that can be called upon on short notice to fill in the gaps when the wind is not blowing. This makes the need for a flexible generating resource such as Langley Gulch a necessity.

## Why This Power Plant Is Needed *Continued from page 1*

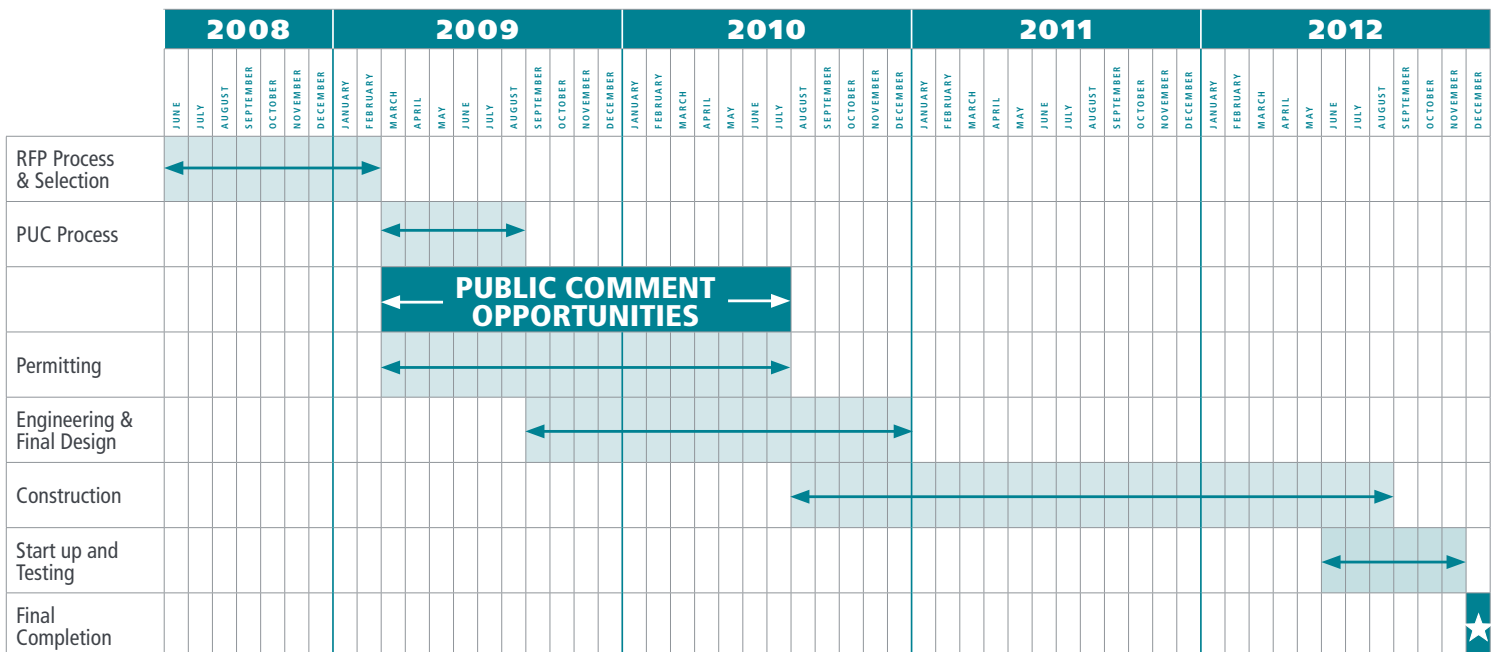
- Idaho Power is guided by responsible planning. Langley Gulch helps us prepare for anticipated federal greenhouse gas emissions legislation because it allows the company to integrate important renewable resources.

- Our energy efficiency programs are designed to reduce electricity consumption. We will continue to pursue and promote energy efficiency and conservation programs in conjunction with alternative energy sources. We also recognize these programs alone cannot sufficiently meet rising customer demand and additional generation is required.

- In addition to meeting demand, this new generation facility will help support the economic prosperity of our communities by adding new jobs, using local services, materials and equipment suppliers and adding a significant tax base for Payette County.

The construction of the Langley Gulch Power Plant demonstrates our ongoing commitment to provide our customers reliable, responsible electricity while balancing costs to customers and environmental stewardship. The timely completion of this project is critical to meeting Idaho Power customers' current and future energy needs in the most responsible way possible.

## Project Timeline



# Transmission Lines

This plant along with the associated transmission interconnections will enhance electrical reliability.

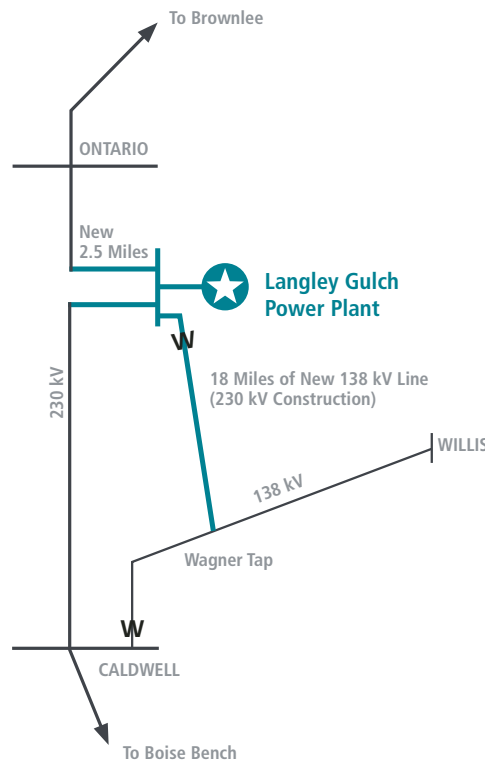
This new project is independent of Idaho Power's proposed 500 kilovolt (kV) transmission line projects.

Two new lines will be built to connect the plant with existing transmission lines. The proposed new lines are:

- A 2.5-mile, 230 kV line on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) property that will connect with the existing 230 kV Ontario-Caldwell line
- An 18-mile, 138 kV line that may cross BLM, private and existing rights-of-way will connect to the existing 138 kV Caldwell-Willis line.

Construction of the new lines may include single-pole and H-frame structures—final selection is based on engineering and routes.

Exact line routes will be determined with the assistance of public input gathered during this open house and others planned this summer, as well as from comments sent to [ourenergyfuture@idahopower.com](mailto:ourenergyfuture@idahopower.com).



# How Was The Site Selected?

To select the location, a comprehensive process evaluated sites from Ontario, Ore. to Hammett, Idaho.

Siting attributes considered included:

- Remote location
- Zoning
- Community benefits
- Air quality
- Water availability
- Transmission and gas line access
- Rail and site access
- Environmental considerations
- Geotechnical and land characteristics
- Turbine performance

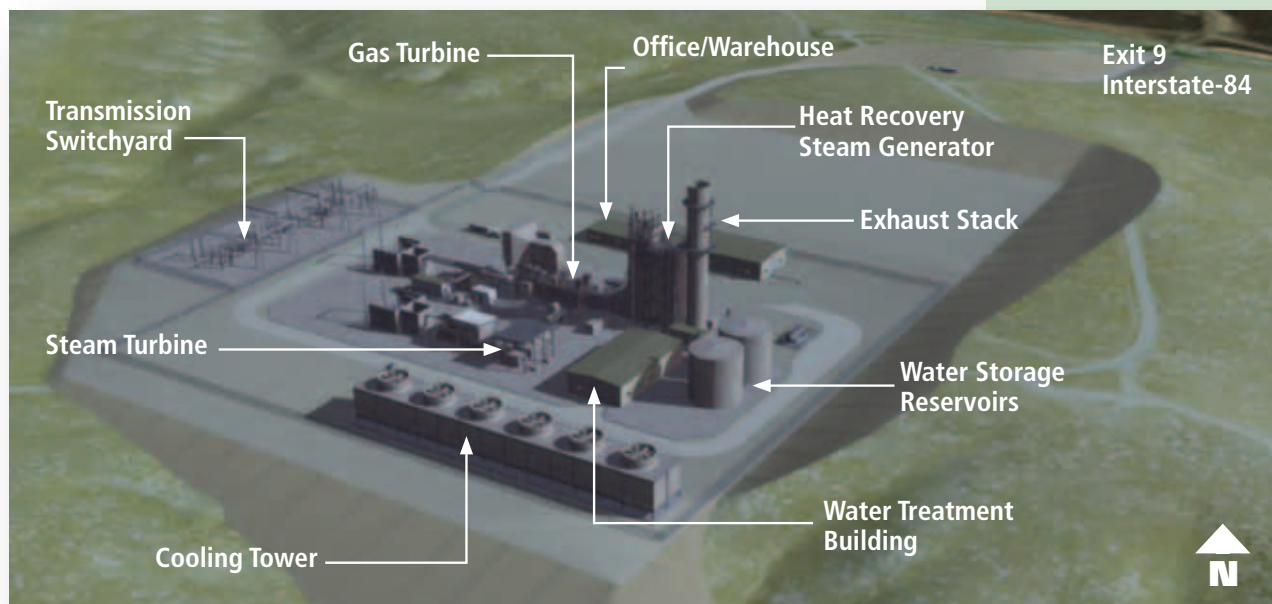
# Project Permitting and Participation

Idaho Power invites public involvement and participation throughout the permitting processes. In addition, this project requires planning, zoning, construction and environmental permits from state and federal agencies including, but not limited to:

- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ)
- Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR)
- Payette and Canyon Counties
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Southwest District Health Department
- State Fire Plan Review
- State Electrical, Mechanical and Plumbing Permits

# About The Site

- The Langley Gulch site provides the best combination of performance, reliability, constructability and economic factors.
- Located within Payette County, the site is a 137-acre, undeveloped privately-owned parcel south of Interstate 84 at exit 9.
- The actual footprint of the power plant is 10 acres.
- It is isolated from residential and farm areas.





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BOISE ID 83707-0700



## Find Information About The Langley Gulch Power Plant Inside:

- OPEN HOUSE, July 1
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## Neighborhood News

June 2009

*Neighborhood News* is produced and distributed by Idaho Power to keep neighbors and those interested in the project up-to-date.

## Learn More, Stay Updated

To learn more about the Langley Gulch Power Plant, go online to:  
[www.idahopower.com/langleygulch](http://www.idahopower.com/langleygulch).

Watch for future Neighborhood News newsletters. Help us reduce costs, please send your e-mail address to:  
[smeckelson@idahopower.com](mailto:smeckelson@idahopower.com) and we'll e-mail future newsletters to you.

### Idaho Power Company

P.O. Box 70  
Boise, ID 83707

## Contact Information

Idaho Power appreciates your interest in and support of this project. We look forward to sharing more information with you about the Langley Gulch Power Plant. Please contact us with your comments, concerns or feedback.

### Ryan Adelman

Engineering Project Leader  
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[radelman@idahopower.com](mailto:radelman@idahopower.com)

Learn more about Idaho Power's ongoing efforts to ensure reliable, fair-priced electricity for future generations at:  
[www.idahopower.com/ourfuture](http://www.idahopower.com/ourfuture), or e-mail:  
[OurEnergyFuture@idahopower.com](mailto:OurEnergyFuture@idahopower.com).