

Magic Valley Electrical Plan

Idaho Power is adding about 1,000 new customers a month. That number is a good representative of growth in the company's system overall, and in the Magic Valley specifically.

Planning engineers anticipate an annual average growth rate of 2 to 3 percent throughout the company's service area.

They look at higher-growth areas like the Magic Valley and target the most effective location for new facility additions to meet those growth requirements.

Planning engineers monitor growth and project when and where electric load growth will occur. Based on those projections, Idaho Power, together with local jurisdictions and customers, devises a construction strategy that stays ahead of the growth curve.

The company invests millions of dollars annually in distribution, transmission and substation projects. In the past five years, Idaho Power has invested more than \$445 million – nearly a half billion – in new facilities and projects related to growth and customer need.

Magic Valley Needs Power!

- By 2030, the Magic Valley population is expected to be greater than 205,000.
- By 2014...only seven years away... Idaho Power will need to add new electrical facilities specifically to meet Magic Valley growth. Options and ideas for addressing this growth could include new high voltage transmission lines and substations, upgrading existing facilities and managing or reducing the demand for electricity.
- These transmission lines likely will be rated at 138,000 volts and 230,000 volts, which require considerable right-of-way corridors.
- As regional infrastructure improvements are planned, Idaho Power would like to be involved early in order to plan necessary capacity additions like power lines and/or power plants. It takes years to plan and implement changes to electrical utility systems.
- For comprehensive planning purposes, Idaho Power's transmission and distribution lines should be considered essential transportation components. We don't transport people but we do transport energy, and they often follow the same route. As transportation corridors are defined and developed, Idaho Power would like to be involved in the process and establish the complementary use of these corridors for energy transportation.

The Magic Valley electric load—or demand on the system—increases by about 10 megawatts annually. That's equal to adding a city the size of Gooding each year.

In the near future, this growth will begin to strain our system. If no energy supply additions are made, it can result in power outages when we have relatively minor emergencies on the Idaho Power system.

- Idaho Power wishes to engage stakeholders in planning the future energy supply to the Magic Valley. We are forming an advisory committee made up of:
 - Regional transportation and growth planners
 - Various city and county planners
 - Representatives from city councils and county commissions
 - Advocacy and special interest groups
 - Magic Valley business leaders
 - Residents
- To participate in the advisory committee, submit comments or receive more information, contact one of the Idaho Power representatives on the back.



New Facilities

2,500 new houses =
a new distribution feeder

10,000 new houses =
a new substation, a transmission
line and four new feeders

25,000 new houses =
a new transmission line, two new
substations, and 10 new feeders

Reliability

"We are taking a proactive approach to ensuring an adequate power supply for the Magic Valley's future, and a key part of being successful in that endeavor is involving our stakeholders. The Community Advisory Committee will help Idaho Power provide reliable electric service for the long term by bringing together plans and ideas from the community."

Kevin Whittier,
Southern Region Manager, Twin Falls



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