

► *“I believe people must have a vision of what’s coming down the road, not just what’s here today.”*



Jim Johnston's Story

Through our planning processes, community members have input in what the future looks like.



Jim Johnston

By Jim Johnston
Pocatello, ID, Realtor

I believe all citizens have a responsibility to see that proper planning for electric service and infrastructure takes place in our communities. Without this proper planning, our future would be dark.

I am concerned. Many people are not looking toward the future. We need to plan for it in a very positive way. This drives my participation as a member of Idaho Power's Eastern Idaho Electrical Plan community advisory committee. Our committee works with the company to create plans responsibly addressing long-term electricity demand.

It was invigorating to be part of the committee because I got to work with a diverse group of people who care about southeast Idaho as much as I do. It's good to rub shoulders with people who are invested in where we live. Serving on the committee made me feel Idaho Power cared about its customers and the footprint it makes in southeast Idaho. The company wanted to know where we thought substations and power poles should go. I felt listened to and acknowledged. I felt appreciated.

My parents were very giving people and set a great example for being involved. I strive

to do the same thing for my eight children and 16 grandchildren. I give back because I've been blessed, and I want others to benefit.

I believe good planning makes it possible for our resources to go further. Long-range planning makes us think about where new power lines should go and the needs of our communities as we expand and prepare for the future. If we can lower everyone's power bill because we've planned ahead, or if I can do something to make the future brighter or better, that's awesome to me. Getting involved stimulates my creative juices and inspires me to stay involved and make a difference.



Jim Johnston (left) working with Idaho Power Community Relations Representative Mark Lupo