

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Power Rate Adjustment: Mission Valley Power Utility, Montana

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Rate Increase.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs is proposing to increase the cost of electric power (energy) to customers of Mission Valley Power (MVP), the entity operating the power facility of the Flathead Indian Irrigation Project of the Flathead Reservation. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has been informed that the Montana Power Company (MPC), which sells electric power to MVP, has raised its wholesale power rates by approximately 2.0 percent. The MPC increase went into effect on September 5, 1995, and is based on adjustments in the Consumer Price index pursuant to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license for MPC's Kerr Dam Hydroelectric Facility.

Accordingly, the BIA is proposing to adjust the local retail power rates charged by MVP to reflect the increased cost of purchased power.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before October 18, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on rate changes should be sent to: Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Attn: Branch of Irrigation and Power, MS#4559—MIB, 1849 "C" Street NW., Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Portland Area Office, 911 N.E. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4169, telephone (503) 231-6702; or, General Manager, Mission Valley Power, P.O. Box 890, Polson, Montana 59860-0890. Telephone (406) 883-5361 or 1-800-823-3758 (in-State Watts).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authority to issue this document is vested in the Secretary of the Interior by 5 U.S.C. 301; the Act of August 7, 1946, c. 802, Section 3 (60 Stat. 895; 25 U.S.C. 385c); the Act of May 25, 1948 (62 Stat.

269); and the Act of December 23, 1981, section 112 (95 Stat. 1404). The Secretary has delegated this authority to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs pursuant to part 209 Departmental Manual, Chapter 8. 1A and Memorandum dated January 25, 1994, from Chief of Staff, Department of the Interior, to Assistant Secretaries, and Heads of Bureaus and Offices. The approximate 2.0 percent MPC increase causes the BIA to raise its retail rates to recover \$28,000 which is the approximate annual financial impact of that increase. This proposed adjustment is the result of an increase in the electric power rates charged by MPC, one of three sources of electric power marketed by MVP. The MPC increase, which went into effect on September 5, 1995, is based on adjustments in the Consumer Price index pursuant to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license for MPC's Kerr Dam Hydroelectric Facility. The following table illustrates the financial impact of the new retail rates on each rate class:

Rate class	Present rate	New rate
Residential:		
Basic Charge	\$11.00/mo. (includes 125kwh)	No Change
Energy Charge	0.04817/kwh (over 122 kwh)	\$0.04828
#2 General:		
Basic Charge	11.00/mo. (includes 107 kwh)	No Change
Energy Charge	0.05604/kwh (over 107 kwh)	0.05615
Irrigation:		
Horsepower Charge	11.25/HP	11.30/HP
Energy Charge	0.03638/kwh	0.03642
Minimum Seasonal Charge	132.00 or \$6.00/HP, whichever is greater	No Change
Small and Large Commercial:		
Basic Charge	None	No Change
Monthly Minimum	38.00	No Change
Demand Rate	4.50/KW of billing demand	4.51/KW
Energy Rate	0.04305/kwh—First 18,000 kwh	0.04345
	0.03588/kwh—Over 18,000 kwh	0.03592
Area Lights:		
Area light installed on existing pole or structure:		
7,000 lumen unit, M.V.*	7.00	7.00
20,000 lumen unit, M.V.*	10.00	10.00
9,000 lumen unit, H.P.S.	6.50	6.50
22,000 lumen unit, H.P.S.	8.75	8.75
Area light installed with new pole:		
7,000 lumen unit, M.V.*	8.75	8.75
20,000 lumen unit, M.V.*	11.50	11.50
9,000 lumen unit, M.V.*	8.25	8.25
22,000 lumen unit, H.P.S.*	10.50	10.50
Street Lighting (metered):		
Basic Charge	11.00/mo (includes 107kwh)	11.00
Energy Charge	0.0560/kwh (over 107 kwh)	0.05615
Street Lighting (Unmetered)	This rate class applies to municipalities or communities where there are ten or more lighting units billed in a group. This rate schedule is subject to a negotiated contract with MVP.	No Change

*Continuing service only.

Dated: September 12, 1995.

Ada E. Deer,

Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs.

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