



NEWS RELEASE

IDAHO GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES

Release 2022-08

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Boise, Idaho – 8/24/2022

**Contact: Richard Stover 332-1660
richard.stover@oer.idaho.gov
Office of Energy and Mineral Resources**

Governor Proclaims August 24th as Idaho Hydropower Day

Today, Governor Brad Little proclaims August 24th, 2022 as Idaho Hydropower Day.

Hydropower serves as the building block for Idaho's success. Idaho has over 140 generating hydropower plants with a combined capacity of 2,704 megawatts, which is the eighth largest in the nation. Hydropower supplies about 52% of Idaho's in-state electricity, makes up 2% of Idaho's GDP, and contributes to Idaho-based energy providers' ability to supply low-cost power to customers.

The full text of the Governor's proclamation may be read below:

WHEREAS, the United States of America recognizes August 24th as National Hydropower Day to acknowledge hydropower's undeniable contributions to clean energy infrastructure, electrical grid resiliency, reliability benefits, and environmental protections; and

WHEREAS, Idaho is the eighth largest producer of hydropower in the nation with over 140 hydroelectric plants that, in 2021, contributed to approximately half of Idaho's total in-state electricity generation; and

WHEREAS, hydropower is a low-cost energy resource enabling Idaho to have, in 2021, the third lowest average residential electricity rate in the United States; and

WHEREAS, hydropower can be adjusted in real time to complement Idaho's diverse energy portfolio by providing the flexibility needed to maintain reliability, enhance grid security, and meet the State's growing energy demand; and

WHEREAS, Idaho's robust natural resources allow kinetic energy from the flow of rivers to be converted to electricity without emission of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases, and therefore hydropower can be considered a valuable baseload energy resource that provides clean, affordable, and reliable energy to the state; and

WHEREAS, hydropower enhances Idaho's economic resilience by providing critical flood control and reliable irrigation for agriculture throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, hydropower supports Idaho's economy as a source of recreational opportunities by providing public access to reservoirs and activities such as boating, fishing, and swimming; and

WHEREAS, the hydropower industry requires a trained and technical workforce to deliver reliable energy services to Idaho communities, promoting economic growth and creating jobs for Idahoans; and

WHEREAS, hydropower supports Idaho's economy while emphasizing the importance of resource and wildlife conservation; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, BRAD LITTLE, Governor of the State of Idaho do hereby proclaim August 24th, 2022, to be Idaho Hydropower Day.

###