

Flowers tenders resignation from I.F. Power

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Flowers

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Jackie Flowers, general manager of Idaho Falls Power, has tendered her resignation to the city in preparation for a move to manage a public utility in Washington state.

"(Jackie's) tenure here at the city was one of great accomplishment and our city is a better place for her years of service," said Mayor Rebecca Casper in a city news release. "She will be missed by many throughout the community."

Flowers has managed Idaho Falls' municipal power company for 20 years. Her resignation will be effective July 20, and she will take the helm of Tacoma Public Utilities starting in August.

"I really have enjoyed Idaho Falls," Flowers said Monday. "It's a great community and it's been a great opportunity. It's been great working with everyone. I'll miss you guys."

During her term at Idaho Falls Power, Flowers oversaw key projects from the rebuilding of a hydropower plant to a massive dredging operation to improve the efficiency of another. She also worked to develop a more detailed and forward-looking comprehensive plan for the utility's maintenance and improvement needs in an effort to prevent quick changes in the price of electricity.

Flowers said among the most important events of her career was being able to retire the long-term bonds used on the hydropower plants. With Idaho Falls electricity prices among the lowest in the country, Flowers said it shows the potential of large public investments to pay dividends for the quality of life in the local community.

"It feels like we're sitting pretty good as far as the direction we're heading," she said. "We've planted some very fertile seeds in the fiber setting. We've made good progress on the need for transmission capacity expansion."

Flowers also serves as the chairwoman of the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems, where she played an important role attracting the NuScale small modular reactor project to the Idaho Falls area.

"There will be good synergy with the utility and UAMPS and INL as that project continues," Flowers said. "There's a very solid relationship of collaboration."

Flowers said among the biggest challenges her successor will face is the potential for worker shortages in an increasingly tight labor market.

Casper expects to nominate a replacement for Flowers at the next Idaho Falls City Council meeting, according to the release.

"I'm really thrilled to have had the opportunity to work with the talented people here," Flowers said. "These people know their stuff. It was a good opportunity to learn from the best."

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