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Re: Idaho Power's Proposed Transmission Line Project from Boardman Substation to Proposed Sand Hollow and Hemingway Substation

Dear Mr. Hackett,

Our community here in Malheur County just became aware of the proposals that Idaho Power has rather clandestinely attempted to establish this route for its huge transmission line through our exclusive farm use zones here in Malheur County.

Their proposal is unacceptable to us for many reasons but we understand that we must address the concerns that our public agencies have as standards for the acceptability of their proposals.

Other citizens may raise other issues but these are certainly primary issues to those of us across the valley.

1. Establishment of such lines is very inconsistent with the way the valley, the Owyhee River, Snake River and Malheur River Valleys are presently being used. We have many farming activities which will be rendered impractical if not impossible in the affected areas. We have a great deal of aerial application of insecticides and sometimes herbicides. These lines pose a danger to applicators.
2. The lines are also dangerous to any kind of local airplane traffic and they will certainly not be appropriate in areas around our airports which frequently are used for air travel and recreation.
3. The scenic values of our area and esthetics would be very negatively affected by this transmission line. The proposed routes go right across the view from the county's view stations on Trenkel Hill, and the lines are very near Malheur Butte which is a substantial scenic landmark.
4. The present plan seems to impact the Oregon Trail markings and observation points negatively as well.
5. The establishment of the lines has a very negative effect on the agricultural uses which are dominant in the area. The ongoing changes in irrigation methods are going to place a priority on sprinkler lines of various kinds and those lines will simply not be able to operate where the line towers are placed. Pivots and wheel lines are inconsistent with tower structures.
6. There is a noise with these lines which is offensive and just never quits. We do not want it near our livestock or our homes.
7. The present proposal would go very near the Country View Golf Course and is inconsistent with its recreational use.
8. The proposed line is simply not needed in that location. Other corridors have already been established for this kind of utility structure and should be used. Pacific Power & Light lines which BLM and rangelands do so without interfering with the uses in our agricultural valleys. The lines could have been brought across the Snake River near other Idaho Power facilities on the Snake River and taken down the Idaho side through the Midvale, Idaho, area.
9. I understand that other utility corridors will be suggested which do not cross our valley near our intentionally used farmland.

We are upset that Idaho Power has tried to affect this very substantial change in the resources of our valley with little public attention. The minimal information that has gone out has not attracted attention until this last week. Idaho Power needs to go back to the drawing board and play fair with the public in seeking corridors that are acceptable, if there is actually a need for this line.

**We wish to be added to all mailings regarding this matter.**

Respectfully,