



UNION COUNTY

B2H Advisory Committee

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B2H ADVISORY COMMITTEE DRAFT A G E N D A

REGULAR SESSION, June 30th, 2016 6:30 P.M., La Grande Oregon.

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Approval of Agenda**
- III. Approval of Minutes- May 12th 2016**
- IV. Staff Report**
- V. Committee Member Updates**
- VI. Public Comment Period**
- VII. Committee Administrative Business**
 - A. BLM EIS- Update
- VIII. Other Committee Business**
 - A.
- IX. Public Comment Period**
- X. Set Next Meeting Date**
- XI. Adjourn**

Darcy Johnson Carreiro

From: ott.irene@frontier.com
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2016 11:42 AM
To: Darcy Johnson Carreiro
Subject: Re: May 26th meeting
Attachments: att00001.dat

Hi Darcy:

The meeting involved the Department of Energy Director, Mike Kaplan; Energy Facility Siting Division Head, Todd Cornett, and the chairman of the Energy Facility Siting Committee, Barry Byler, making presentations that provided a glowing report on the agency activities. The individuals who gave public testimony were less than complimentary regarding the workings of the Energy Siting Department. In fact, the comments regarding the hearings processes were exceedingly critical, as were all but maybe one or two of the written comments. There was a very clear message to the legislative committee that the energy siting process is broken. People can hear the testimony and read the comments by going directly to the legislative site. "ols". Click on "committees", then click on "joint", finally, click on Department of Energy Committee. This will bring up the committee members, meetings, etc. If you click on the May 26 meeting you can listen to the recorded department and public testimony. You can also read the written submissions. Suffice to say that the committee got an earful! The Members of the committee are welcoming any suggestions that will help them address the problems. There were some specific comments regarding the impacts that the B2H line will have along with specific comments from people and groups regarding the fact that the process is broken. Comments were received from multiple locations all over the state and several groups like Umatilla County, and environmental groups who are not happy with the energy siting division. I was asked by a committee member to submit some comments on how to fix the problems. I will be doing that, and welcome any input the group might have if they have suggestions for fixes. One of my comments will relate to the fact that currently the Department of Energy controls every part of the process including siting, issuing subsidies, hearings, and monitoring. Unlike virtually every other state agency, they hire their own hearings officers who do not answer to the State Bar or the Department of Justice. In addition, the department is funded by payments received directly from the energy developers rather than through the state budget process. You can probably get a sense of the lack of any checks and balances regarding how the process is handled. I will be recommending that the different functions be separated into different agencies and that the funding stream not go directly from the developers to the Department making the decisions, but rather be handled like other agencies with the developers making payments to the state general fund or some other mechanism that separates the money from those making decisions.

There obviously is a lot of opportunity to recommend changes to improve the process, most of which will require legislative action. The problems have gotten to the point that multiple groups and individuals are extremely unhappy, and I am optimistic that there will be some positive recommendations coming from the bi-partisan legislative committee charged with identifying problems and recommending changes to address them.

To: Irene Gilbert <ott.irene@frontier.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 1, 2016 3:20 PM
Subject: May 26th meeting

Questions on Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line (B2H)
Sen. Wyden La Grande Town Hall Meeting

June 1, 2016

Idaho Power:

1. Are all the lines coming and going from the PNW to Idaho at capacity? What ones can be upgraded (increasing capacity)? At OPUC meeting IP rep (Mike Youngblood, Mgr of regulatory projects) said they had done this analysis. (time-stamp: 4147). We therefore request this analysis on upgrading all lines from the PNW to Idaho.
2. In IP's IRP it states that "The Idaho-Northwest path is capacity-limited during summer months due to transmission-wheeling obligations for the BPA eastern Oregon and southern Idaho load and due to energy imports from the Pacific Northwest to serve Idaho Power retail load." We would like to see the documentation and have a discussion on what this statement means. [p 64 IP's 2015 IRP]
3. What happens when the (regional) coal plants are shut down? Will this open up capacity on the lines for the renewables that cannot get to market; or, will they be quickly filled again by natural gas or other production capacities, to meet the "speculated future need"?
4. In the OPUC hearing on LC 63, Mitch Colburn, Leader of 500kv project group, stated that the BPA was not fully committed through construction per their load serving plans. (time-stamped, started @: 2218) Is BPA really considering pulling out of (or, reevaluating) the project. Who at the BPA said this as we want to talk with them too.
5. How does IP plan on including non-rate payers that will be impacted by the B2H in the next IRP? (OPUC mtg @ 2940 time-stamp; they say they will not.)
6. Can we get the detailed breakdown of the costs for each component (ie. SCCT, CCCT, ice TES, battery, recips, B2H _21,23,15 etc.) within each of the portfolios/selected portfolios.
7. How are you calculating increased irrigation costs when the farmers water rights are at capacity now?
8. How do you take the costs of a project and amortize it into a rate increase. How many millions of dollars equals a 1% rate increase over how many years for rate payers?
9. What are impacted landowners and surrounding landowners rights at the various stages of the siting and construction process. How are the economic impacts and compensation calculated for land in general, specifically Ag/Timber/Wetlands/ Historical sites/etc. and over what timeframe – are economic formulas be developed?
10. What progress has been made on the B2H Programmatic Agreement ?
11. Will IP argue against BLM's route selection? IP's preferred route is different than BLM's
12. What about decorative tower designs? How can they be brought into the mix? Who regulates and what are the regulations. Decorative tower designs in use ...
<http://www.choishine.com/Projects/giants.html>
<http://www.mymodernmet.com/profiles/blogs/design-depot-deer-shaped-electrical-towers>
13. What are the standards for road construction and types of traffic to expect? How do you consult and work with local Public Works/Road Dept's of cities and counties?
14. What is the regulatory distance needed between parallel lines?
15. Why/how can the line go parallel to a pipeline? We were told at the BLM open house that they couldn't be. Now, the preferred route goes parallel (Glass Hill Section.) What are regs for following existing pipelines?
16. What will happen to properties that are not legally registered with the county but are less than 1/4 mile from line?

Questions on Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line (B2H)
Sen. Wyden La Grande Town Hall Meeting
June 1, 2016

BLM:

1. How can BLM create a new Preliminary Agency Preferred Alternative, following the 230 line/Or Trail, without it being in the DEIS? No one will have an opportunity to comment on it until the final EIS comes out and then only have 30 days to comment. Seem to be a violation of NEPA? What are guidelines for requesting a supplemental EIS?
2. The route name in the 12-15 BLM map was Preliminary Environmentally Preferred Alternative route while on the 3/16 BLM map it is called Preliminary Agency Preferred Alternative. Why was Environmentally dropped? What significance does this have?
3. Was the new route following the 230 Kv ever considered before at any stages of this project?? If so, where could we find it; why was it dropped?
4. What is the specific type of construction/decommissioning bond that will be secured for the project? Could you direct us to pertinent sections of law or regs for this?
5. What are the President's super-siting powers with regard to these lines?
6. What is the utility corridor called, that was discussed in meetings, between the Union/Umatilla county boarder?
7. What specific regulations are guiding the No Action alternative development?

Questions on Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line (B2H)
Sen. Wyden La Grande Town Hall Meeting
June 1, 2016

Sen. Wyden-Jacob Egler:

1. How can BLM create a new Preliminary Agency Preferred Alternative, following the 230 line/Or Trail in Union county, without it being in the DEIS? No one will have an opportunity to comment on it until the final EIS comes out and then only have 30 days to comment. Seem to be a violation of NEPA? What are guidelines for requesting a supplemental EIS? When in the process does a decision to conduct a Supplemental get made?
2. What's the "political driver" for the B2H vs.: "Need"? Within the PUC context of the IRP they only acknowledge, acknowledge with recommendations, or not acknowledge sections of the IPR. It is not an acceptance of the "need" or assumptions behind it. At what level is the data of "need" verified and by whom?
3. Does Senator Wyden have a position on the line?
4. What are the President's super-siting powers with regard to these lines?
5. What is the specific type of construction/decommissioning bond that will be secured for the project? Could you direct us to pertinent sections of law or regs for this?

Follow up Letters from Sen Wyden's La Grande Town Hall June 1, 2016 to

Don Gonzalez, BLM; Jeff Maffuccio, Idaho Power; Sarah Bittleman and Jacob Egler, Sen Wyden staff

Don – thank you for taking the time to visit with Fuji and I last Wednesday, June 1st, at Senator Wyden's town hall in La Grande. Below are the questions we shared with you and briefly discussed. Below each question we've tried to summarize our conversation on the questions and ask that you clarify and follow up with the information we requested. An electronic file of the hard copy we gave you of our questions is attached.

One major question that we realized that we did not directly ask you and will do so now is, "Would you conduct a supplemental EIS due to the fact that a new route that was not considered in the Draft EIS is now the agency preferred alternative?"

Also in our discussion about Sage Grouse in light of the recent the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision on the Steens Mountain wind farm you indicated that the B2H was grandfathered in regarding the Sage grouse. Would you please share with us the documentation that grants this exception of the details of the exception.

BLM Questions:

1. How can BLM create a new Preliminary Agency Preferred Alternative, following the 230 line/Or Trail, without it being in the DEIS? No one will have an opportunity to comment on it until the final EIS comes out and then only have 30 days to comment. Seems to be a violation of NEPA? What are guidelines for requesting a supplemental EIS?

We did not discuss a "supplemental" directly. You mentioned the controversy among cooperating actors, in making the new route public; because usually, there is not new information released while the Final is still in-progress. Your desire to provide as much information as possible is greatly appreciated. However, we don't understand why the comment period wasn't re-opened and have concerns that the public has not had an opportunity to further comment before the final is released. To many of us, by the time the FEIS is released, it seems a little late for public consideration. Both you and Sen . Wyden have mentioned more time will/should be given for public comment when the FEIS is released. However, we would like to see a more sincere public vetting before the FEIS is complete. Can you share with us a response as to guidelines, rules, laws for requesting a supplemental EIS.

2. The route name in the 12-15 BLM map was Preliminary Environmentally Preferred Alternative route while on the 3/16 BLM map it is called Preliminary Agency Preferred Alternative. Why was Environmentally dropped? What significance does this have?

We discussed this and Jeff gave a rational answer that the agency's preferred might be based on other things such as community or cultural considerations, costs, etc., more so than environmental. But the answer became confusing when you described it, as the language seems to have a different meaning during the Draft EIS process vs. the Final EIS and Record of Decision. Could you clarify and share the pertinent rules, guidelines or laws that the agency needs to follow/or that the agency uses to define: "agency preferred vs environmentally preferred"?

3. Was the new route following the 230 Kv ever considered before at any stages of this project?? If so, where could we find it; why was it dropped?

We determined that this was discussed in IP's CAP process and removed from consideration. Jeff Maffuccio from IP indicated he would help us identify when this was discussed and would share the minutes of the discussions of the route in the CAP process. His recollection was that this route was removed prior to the DEIS because of its impact on the La Grande viewshed which was identified during the CAP and reinforced by the County's DEIS comment. Can you verify that reason?

4. What is the specific type of construction/decommissioning bond that will be secured for the project? Could you direct us to pertinent sections of law or regs for this?

You said you'd get that information to us.

5. What are the President's super-siting powers with regard to these lines?

You indicated that the President had none in this matter.

6. What is the utility corridor called, that was discussed in meetings, between the Union/Umatilla county boarder?

We learned from you that the Forest Service established a utility corridor on Forest Service land in their Forest plan that was developed several years ago. Is there a specific person that we can talk to in the Forest Service to get more detailed information on the Forest Plan that created this corridor and its purpose and uses?

In addition we discussed the study of West-Wide Energy Corridors established under Section 368(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and its possible implications on the B2H. We feel this study needs to occur in our region before the B2H is sited as a different route/corridor could be designated. And we are concerned that if this study is not done before the B2H is built the B2H route could become the defacto energy corridor. See <http://corridoreis.anl.gov/> for details. How do we request that this study be done before the final EIS is published?

7. What specific regulations are guiding the No Action alternative development?

We asked for the specific guidelines that the agency needs to follow as we have run across several definitions of the No Action alternative. Below is what we have been using. To us, the second definition applies to B2H.

No-Action Alternative. What does the "no action" alternative include? If an agency is under a court order or legislative command to act, must the EIS address the "no action" alternative?

A. Section 1502.14(d) requires the alternatives analysis in the EIS to "include the alternative of no action." There are two distinct interpretations of "no action" that must be considered, depending on the nature of the proposal being evaluated. The first situation might involve an action such as updating a land management plan where ongoing programs initiated under existing legislation and regulations will continue, even as new plans are developed. In these cases "no action" is "no change" from current management direction or level of management intensity. To construct an alternative that is based on no management at all would be a useless academic exercise. Therefore, the "no action" alternative may be thought of in terms of continuing with the present course of action until that action is changed. Consequently, projected impacts of alternative management schemes would be compared in the EIS to those impacts projected for the existing plan. In this case, alternatives would include management plans of both greater and lesser intensity, especially greater and lesser levels of resource development.

The second interpretation of "no action" is illustrated in instances involving federal decisions on proposals for projects. "No action" in such cases would mean the proposed activity would not take place, and the resulting environmental effects from taking no action would be compared with the effects of permitting the proposed activity or an alternative activity to go forward.

Where a choice of "no action" by the agency would result in predictable actions by others, this consequence of the "no action" alternative should be included in the analysis. For example, if denial of permission to build a railroad to a facility would lead to construction of a road and increased truck traffic, the EIS should analyze this consequence of the "no action" alternative.

In light of the above, it is difficult to think of a situation where it would not be appropriate to address a "no action" alternative. Accordingly, the regulations require the analysis of the no action alternative even if the agency is under a court order or legislative command to act. This analysis provides a benchmark, enabling decision makers to compare the magnitude of environmental effects of the action alternatives. It is also an example of a reasonable alternative outside the jurisdiction of the agency which must be analyzed. Section 1502.14(c). See Question 2 above. Inclusion of such an analysis in the EIS is necessary to inform the Congress, the public, and the President as intended by NEPA. Section 1500.1(a).

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Again Don, we want to thank you for visiting with us and being accessible and open to sharing information.

Fuji & Jim Kreider

Jeff – thank you for taking the time to visit with Don Gonzalez, Fuji and I last Wednesday, June 1st, at Senator Wyden’s town hall in La Grande. During our discussions we developed several other questions/requests and they are:

1. We asked for renderings of what the towers would look like from La Grande looking west where the line comes into town, running south behind the hospital on the bench, looping up towards glass hill, then following the pipeline south out of town. Thank you for being willing to do this as it will help to visualize what this route will look like from town.
2. We discussed the difficulty of determining the location of the route as we were able to only get 10 GPS points to create a map in google maps to share with impacted landowners (<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1EbgUOHVxR5qnAJcY8Jlm4eJe5ls&usp=sharing>). On this map please note the point called “undocumented dwelling” south of the intersection of Morgan Lake Road and Glass Hill road. If this map is accurate the line will run within several hundred feet of the dwelling. There are other homes on the bench behind the hospital that I think are in the same status. Having a more official and detailed map that will allow landowners to know where the line will be on or in proximity to their land would be very helpful.
3. As mentioned we know of 2 landowners that did not get the mailing from IP requesting permission to survey their land. I suspect there are more landowners that did not receive notification and that is why a detailed map would be helpful.
4. Here is the link I neglected to provide to the OPUC hearing that I reference below <http://www.puc.state.or.us/Pages/Live-Stream.aspx> . You’ll have to scroll down to the Archived Videos and look for “Special Public Meeting - LC 63”.

Below are the specific questions we shared with you and attached is the electronic version of the hard copy questions we shared with you, Don Gonzalez – BLM, and Senator Wyden.

We look forward to our dialogue on these questions.

Fuji & Jim Kreider

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Idaho Power Questions:

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Sarah and Jacob,

Thank you for taking the time to visit with us last Wednesday, June 1 2016, prior to Senator Wyden's town hall meeting in La Grande. We'd like to summarize our discussion with you and hopefully clarify and redefine some of our questions.

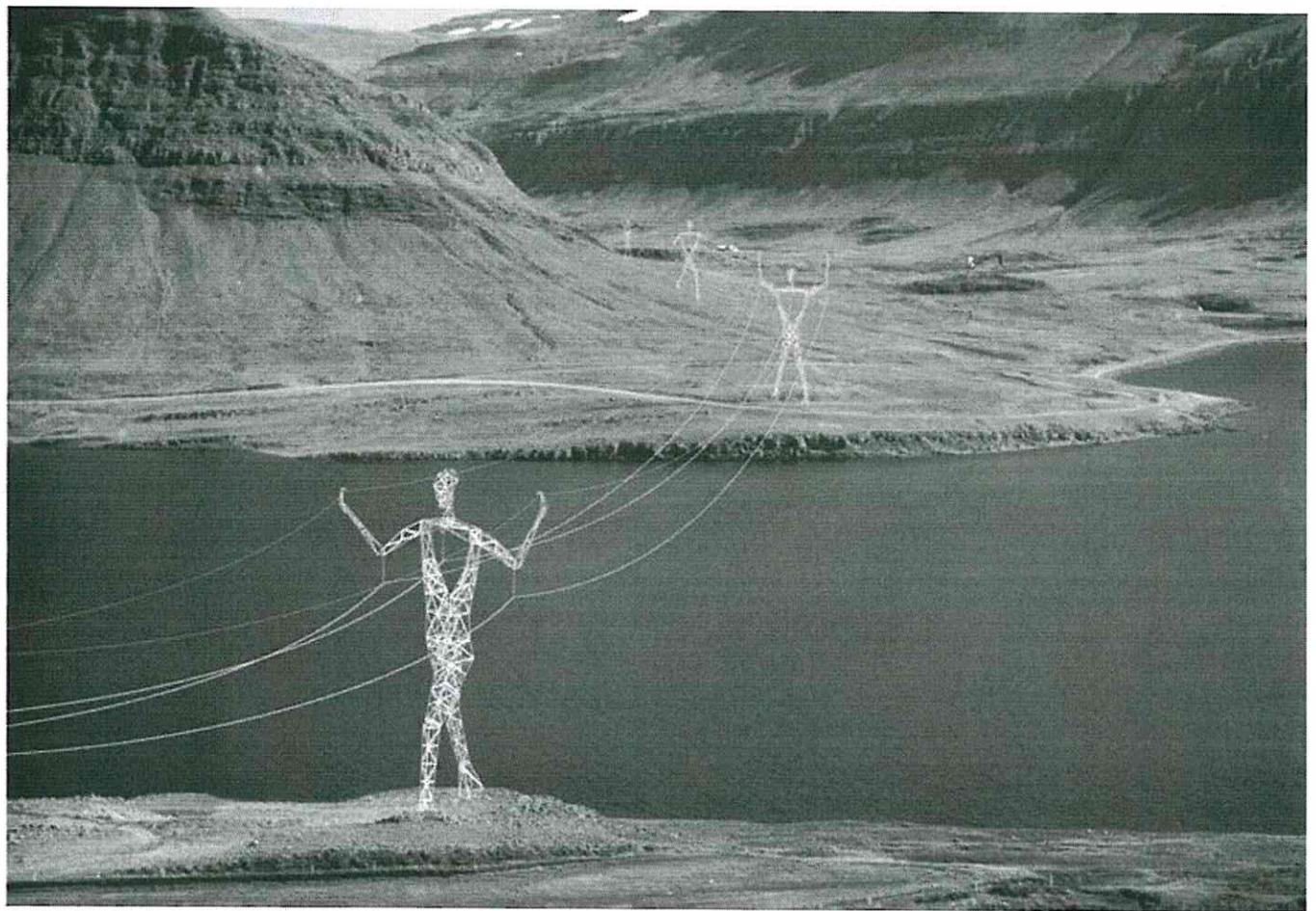
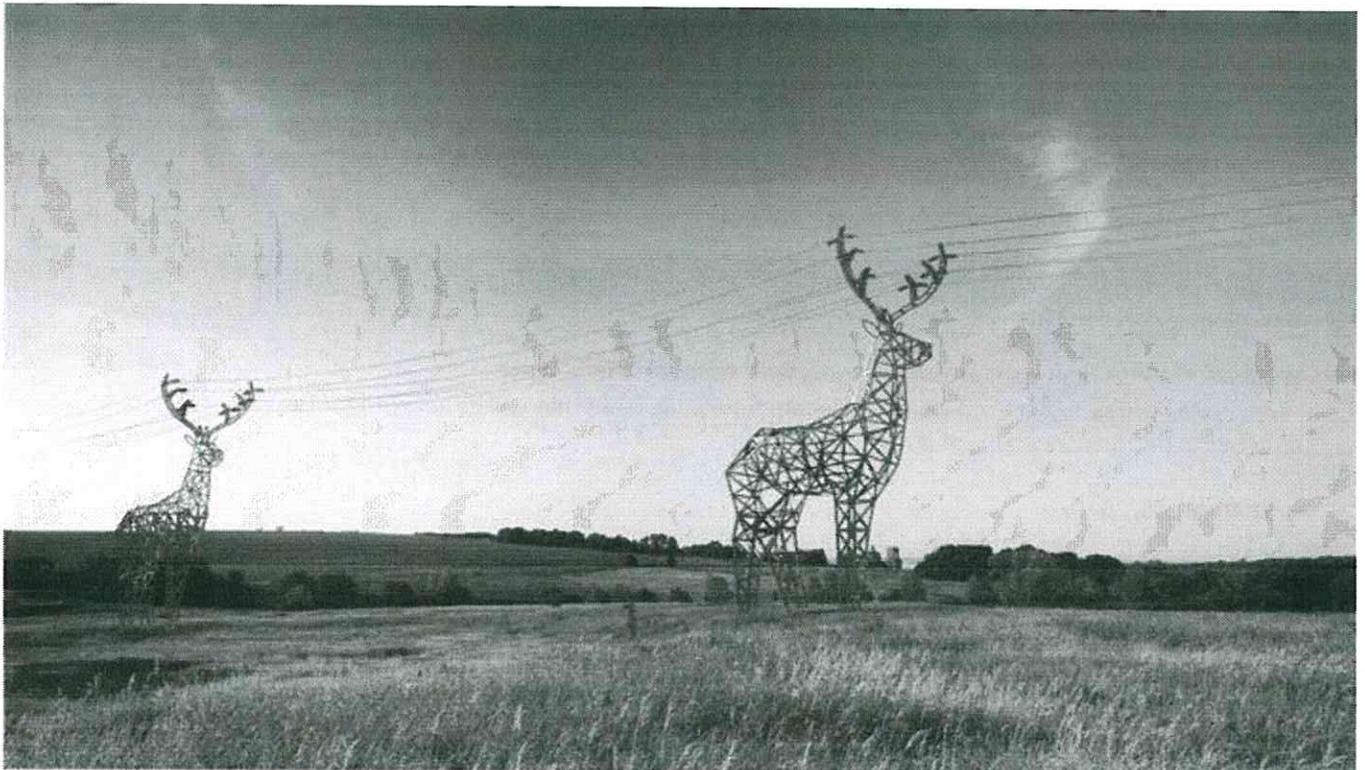
Also, we should mention that after Senator Wyden's town hall, we had a positive meeting with Don Gonzales, BLM and Jeff Muffacio of Idaho Power. A few more questions were answered and they are very open to finding answers for the questions that they couldn't answer right away. Of course in Jeff's case, he needed to bring the list back to Boise for other people to answer them—we gave him a big list! We look forward to his/IP's reply and will keep you informed.

1. In our request for a Supplemental EIS I don't think we got a clear answer. Both Sarah and the Senator said he would ask the BLM for more time; but, is that in a context of a Supplemental EIS or for an extended comment period when the Final EIS is released? We really feel that a supplemental is needed as the "new" agency preferred route was not in the draft EIS so no one has had a chance to study or comment on this route
2. We really didn't get a chance to explore the "need" question. Who researches and verifies the facts presented by the utility? As mentioned, the PUC's acknowledge the IRP's but do not approve them which makes us wonder if they fully vet them? Is there any independent entity that authorizes or approves the utilities' assertion of need? Can we discuss more?
3. Does the Senator have a position on the line?
4. We found that the President does not have super-citing authority in this case. Thanks for putting this rumor to rest.
5. Don was going to look into the construction/decommissioning bond question.
6. A new question that emerged as we just became aware of the West-Wide Energy Corridors per section 368(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and its possible implications on the B2H (see Press Release below). We feel this study needs to occur in our region before the B2H is sited as a different route/corridor could be designated. And we are concerned that if this study is not done before the B2H is built, the B2H route could become the defacto energy corridor. See <http://corridoreis.anl.gov/> for details. We are curious as to the Senator's thoughts on this study.

We look forward to a continued discussion on this topics in the coming weeks. Plz let us know when would be a good time to talk.

Fuji & Jim Kreider

PS: At the town hall, Fuji asked the Senator that if we had to tolerate a 305 mile scar across the Eastern Oregon landscape, if we could demand something artistic or decorative like other countries? Maybe something to align with our economic/tourism strategies in the region, like an Oregon Trail theme; or, the elk? We think he may have thought we were joking as he wasn't sure about wires on the antlers of a deer? Plz share these pictures with him ;-)



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Questions for discussion with Senator Wyden's staff:

1. How can BLM create a new Preliminary Agency Preferred Alternative, following the 230 line/Or Trail in Union county, without it being in the DEIS? No one will have an opportunity to comment on it until the final EIS comes out and then only have 30 days to comment. Seem to be a violation of NEPA? What are guidelines for requesting a supplemental EIS? When in the process does a decision to conduct a Supplemental get made?
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Release Date: 05/20/16

Agencies Release Study of 'West-Wide' Energy Corridors

WASHINGTON – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Department of Energy (DOE) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) today released a study that provides a foundation for upcoming regional reviews of energy corridors on western public lands to assess the need for revisions and provide greater public input regarding areas that may be well suited for transmission siting. The regional reviews will begin with priority corridors in southern California, southern Nevada and western Arizona, and provide more opportunities for collaboration with the public and Federal, Tribal, state and local governmental stakeholders.

The study examines whether the energy corridors established under Section 368(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 are achieving their purpose to promote environmentally responsible corridor-siting decisions and to reduce the proliferation of dispersed rights-of-way crossing Federal lands. With the aim of encouraging more efficient and effective use of the corridors, the study establishes baseline data and presents opportunities and challenges for further consideration during the periodic regional reviews that BLM and USFS will conduct.

The corridors address a national concern by fostering long-term, systematic planning for energy transport development in the West; providing industry with a coordinated and consistent interagency permitting process; and establishing practicable measures to avoid or minimize environmental harm from future development within the corridors. Section 368(a) directed several federal agencies to designate corridors on federal lands in the 11 contiguous western states to provide linear pathways for siting oil, gas and hydrogen pipelines and high voltage transmission and distribution facilities. The contiguous states are Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

The BLM, USFS, and DOE, among others, undertook an unprecedented landscape scale effort, including a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, starting in 2006 and completed in 2009, that designated nearly 6,000 miles of corridors, issuing two Records of Decisions and associated land use plan amendments

As required by a 2012 Settlement Agreement that resolved litigation about the corridors identified, the BLM, USFS and DOE established an interagency Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to explain how the agencies will review the Section 368 (a) corridors on a regional basis. The MOU, signed in June 2013, describes the interagency process for conducting the reviews, the types of information and data to be considered, and the process for incorporating resulting recommendations in BLM and USFS land use plans.

The full-text of the corridor study is available online at: <http://corridoreis.anl.gov>.

B2H Advisory Committee Public Comment Form

(Please download this form prior to filling out, then save and email to shartell@union-county.org)

Name:

Date:

Jim Kreider, 60366 Marvin Road LaGrande, OR 97850

5/12/2016

Comments:

Jim stated that we all need to remain aware that the Idaho Power route is still on the table. They have not agreed with the BLM preferred route. Idaho Power has disagreed with the Preferred Route. Idaho Power is a for profit corporation. He states this fight is not over.

B2H Advisory Committee Public Comment Form

(Please download this form prior to filling out, then save and email to shartell@union-county.org)

Name:

Date:

Fuji Kreider, 60366 Marvin Road LaGrande, OR 97850

5/12/2016

Comments:

Fuji thanked the Committee for their hard work and dedication, she likes the process and format of the meeting. She re-iterated that it is not over, there are many more steps. She & Jim are having a meeting at their house next week, May 25th, and invited all present. It is a community based meeting to look at documents, discuss options, etc. They will review the survey letters sent out by Idaho Power recently.

B2H Advisory Committee Public Comment Form

(Please download this form prior to filling out, then save and email to shartell@union-county.org)

Name:

Date:

Maxine Hines, 701 B Avenue LaGrande, OR 97850

5/12/2016

Comments:

Maxine feels that it is up to our Community to show up & speak up. She asked where the radio station and Observer were tonight. She thinks they could help spread the word. She thanked the Committee and hopes that they feel appreciated. She really wants to encourage public involvement. She also liked the changes regarding Public Comment that were made at the last meeting.

B2H Advisory Committee Public Comment Form

(Please download this form prior to filling out, then save and email to shartell@union-county.org)

Name:

Date:

Irwin Smutz, 59704 Foothill Rd LaGrande, OR 97850

5/12/2016

Comments:

Irwin stated that he feels like his property has already been affected by fiber optic lines, petroleum line, gas lines and the current 230 line. He is personally disappointed with the placement of the line right next to the other one. It will be right in plain sight of his property. He thinks that the line should go out through the wilderness where it originally was drafted to go. Irwin did not receive any notification from the BLM. The first he heard about it was when he received his notification from Idaho Power yesterday. He understands the concern with the deer and elk; he has them on his property almost daily. He appreciates this Committee very much. Irene asked Irwin if they received compensation for his property. He stated that the last one paid him \$1 per foot. Irwin says that all of this concern about the deer and elk is a bunch of bologna. He states that they are very adaptive. He feels that we on the east side are being controlled by the western side of the state.

B2H Advisory Committee Public Comment Form

(Please download this form prior to filling out, then save and email to shartell@union-county.org)

Name:

Date:

Susan Gerry, 402 Sunset Drive LaGrande, OR 97850.

5/12/2016

Comments:

Susan stated that after looking at the map and following Scott's tour it looks like it basically goes through residential areas. She thinks this is crazy.

B2H Advisory Committee Public Comment Form

(Please download this form prior to filling out, then save and email to shartell@union-county.org)

Name:

Date:

Nathan Smutz, 59074 Foothill Rd. LaGrande, OR 97850

5/12/2016

Comments:

Nathan wonders what the impact is long term on the deer and elk? Isn't cutting vegetation down for the line long term impact? Irene stated that BLM suggested there is no long term impact.

B2H Advisory Committee Public Comment Form

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Name:

Date:

Roger Farrell

5/12/2016

Comments:

Roger stated that he doesn't think that deer & elk should have greater status than humans for impact. He feels that deer and elk are mobile & plentiful and can adapt.

B2H Advisory Committee Public Comment Form

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Name:

Date:

Irene Gilbert

5/12/2016

Comments:

Irene Gilbert, added that she will be attending a meeting in Salem in Legislature, May 26th. She would like to share the outcome and any data with this Committee. Irene will send this to Ted or Darcy to distribute.

B2H Advisory Committee Public Comment Form

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Name:

Date:

Roger Farrell, 400 Alium LaGrande, OR 97850

5/12/2016

Comments:

He if the Agency Preferred Route will place the line 1/4 mile away from the line. Scott explained that the Commissioners submitted the request that all homes be 1/4 mile away from the line and the Commissioners also submitted what this Committee recommended (the 230 line) but, BLM preferred route will be closer to some homes that 1/4 mile. Ted explained that during the GIS Tour anyone can ask questions of Scott. Roger asked if Scott can tally how many homes are within the 1/4 mile radius. Roger asked if Scott can show access route, staging areas, etc. on a GIS report. Scott said he can but doesn't have the exact information at this point. Roger asked how the construction equipment and pieces would be using the neighborhood roads to access the line. Irene tried to explain that they have a lay down area where they assemble pieces, bring in parts and then transport it up to the site for construction. She said that they had requested the ground across from Walmart but there would be too many traffic impacts. Roger asked if the Committee or Scott could gather this data for him. So that his neighborhood knew how it would be impacted. He also asked about home ownership. Scott said that he could call the Planning Department to inquire about the home ownership. Ted said that Scott could provide some of this information in his staff report next month. Roger also shared that electrical line increase the likely hood for forest fire, meaning it elevates the risk that his house could burn up in a wildfire.

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Name:

Date:

Jim Kreider, 60366 Marvin Road LaGrande, OR 97850

5/12/2016

Comments:

Jim shared that there is a law firm from Bend that will be coming up to visit this area soon and meet with government and non-governmental agencies regarding B2H. He will be their four director while they are her. Jim asked if the Committee is interested in meeting with this group. The Committee would like to. The law firm would also like to meet with the Commissioners, Friends of the GR Valley, Hells Canyon Preservation, etc. Jim will give Darcy the information regarding this firm. Recently there was a letter sent out by Idaho Power asking for permission to survey property owners land on the proposed route right of way. There will be a meeting at his house Monday at 6:30 to discuss the pros & cons of letting them survey the land. Jim has been on contact with the Idaho Conservation League regarding the regulations of allowing access.

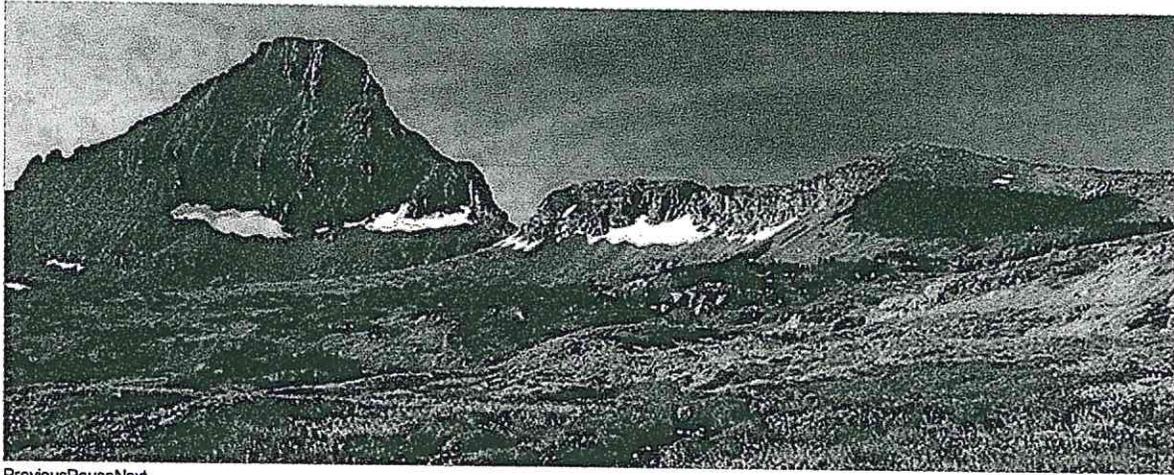
Jim & Fuji are going to have a meeting May 25th at their house to discuss the No Line Alternative. Jim also shared that there is a house along the route that he found out, is not a legal dwelling. This place would be 100 feet from the line, and have not received any notification.



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We combine our legal skills with sound conservation biology and environmental science to address major environmental issues in the West in the most strategic and effective manner. We work at the national, regional, state, and local levels; and in all three branches of government. WELC integrates national policies and regional perspective with the local knowledge of our 150+ partner groups to implement smart and appropriate place-based actions.

WELC has a highly experienced team of expert attorneys and Western policy experts. We work close to the ground, with offices in Oregon, Montana, and New Mexico. As a public interest law firm, WELC does not charge clients and partners for services, but relies instead on charitable gifts from individuals, families, and foundations to accomplish our mission.

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We use the power of the law to safeguard the wildlife, wildlands, and communities of the American West.



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