



UNION COUNTY

B2H Advisory Committee

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B2H ADVISORY COMMITTEE DRAFT A G E N D A

REGULAR SESSION, July 28th, 2016 6:30 P.M. Misener Conference Room 1001 Fourth Street, La Grande Oregon

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Approval of Agenda**
- III. **Approval of Minutes- June 30th 2016**
- IV. **Staff Report**
- V. **Committee Member Updates**
- VI. **Public Comment Period**
- VII. **Other Committee Business**
 - A. Consideration of process for review of Public Comments submitted to the Advisory Committee
 - B.
- VIII. **Public Comment Period (as time allows)**
- IX. **Set Next Meeting Date**
- X. **Adjourn**

Purpose of the Committee

1. Gather citizen concerns and comments regarding the B2H Transmission Line.
2. Develop an understanding of the evaluation criteria to be considered by BLM and ODOE.
3. Develop suggested comments based on citizen input and evaluation criteria.
4. Present suggested comments to the Board of Commissioners for potential submission to the BLM and ODOE.



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Union County B2H Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes- June 30th, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Ted Taylor-Chair, Brad Allen, Irene Gilbert, Joel Goldstein, Ray Randall, Scott Hartell & Darcy Carreiro

Members Absent: Norm Paullus, Terry Edvalson, George Mead, Anna Baum

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman, Ted Taylor opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The Agenda was approved as submitted by the Committee with the deletion of item number 7.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- May 12th meeting

Ray Randall made a motion to approve the minutes from May 12th 2016 as submitted. Irene Gilbert seconded the motion and the May Minutes were approved unanimously.

IV. STAFF REPORT/COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATE:

Scott shared his staff report with the Committee. Scott shared direction passed on by He reflected on comments and questions from previous meeting. He came up with a total of 8 dwellings affected by the ½ mile proposed buffer of the proposed route. He also found resources to locate the proposed access & construction routes. The City of LaGrande has jurisdiction of Model Air & Hawthorn Lane while it is within the city limits. Once these roads are outside the city limits, the roads become private.

Scott shared that Sue Oliver answered the question at the previous meeting of 4000 feet being the buffer of the transmission line/route when it is placed.

Scott shared that there is a potential release date of September 2016 for the BLM final EIS, but that date is not set. The BLM is still working through letters and comments.

Scott stated that he, under direction of the Board of Commissioners, proposes we postpone setting future meetings. If and when we receive comments, Scott will get a hold of Ted to review the comment with him. If it is a worthy comment to be reviewed by the Committee, we would schedule a meeting at that time. If the comment is determined that the Committee is not needed to meet to review it, then Scott and Ted will answer the comment. He explained the purpose of this Committee as determined by the Commissioners. Joel asked how many people are needed to provide information so that we can hold a meeting. Scott replied that one submitted comment/question would be enough. Joel stated that Jim & Fuji Kreider are providing us with a lot of information that he thinks we should meet to discuss. Scott pointed

out that all of the comments and questions that Jim & Fuji are providing as follow up to this Committee have already been answered by the entities that they have queried themselves (BLM, Idaho Power or Congressmen etc.) Therefore, there is no further evaluation that the Advisory Committee would need to give. He differentiated that their "citizen committee to stop Idaho Power" is not the purpose of the Advisory Committee. Joel thinks the information that they have is pertinent to the B2H line. Scott stated that this Committee was established to be a forum for the citizens to state concerns to this Committee so that we can find answers for them or direct them to the BLM or Oregon Department of Energy. Scott asked Joel why inquiries of Jim & Fuji's "stop Idaho Power coalition" was the responsibility of the Advisory Committee. Irene stated that she resents Scott and that he has been meeting with the County Commissioners outside of this Committee. She stated that Scott is only staff to this Committee; he is not the boss of this Committee. She stated that if he wants to talk to the Commissioners he has to include the members of this Committee. She stated once again that he does not have that power, he is only staff. She says that we are receiving plenty of comments. Scott asked if we really are receiving comments. Joel said yes, verbal comments at these meetings.

Ray stated that in the beginning we started behind the 8 ball and we were in a hurry and had to learn the processes. He resents the fact that he thinks Scott is trying to narrow the role of this Committee.

Ted tried to explain to everyone that Scott is just trying to do what the Commissioners have asked him to do as County Planning Director. The Commissioners are the ones telling Scott until there are comments there is no reason to meet. Irene said that she needs to be meeting with the Commissioners also and that she is pissed and that Scott does not need to be screening the comments.

Ray Randall says that he feels like if the Commissioners are trying to narrow the role of this Committee, then comments could just be passed on by Darcy to the Commissioners. But he doesn't think that was the purpose of this Committee's establishment.

Joel Goldstein thinks that the Commissioners need to hear the Committee's side of the story. He also thinks that since our meeting minutes are full of public comments, we should have plenty of citizen input to discuss. He reminded everyone that we have approved that oral comments are acceptable. He also thinks that there is a lot going on. Ted says that all comments are to be submitted to Scott. He doesn't think that there are any comments for review, per criteria, at this time that need to be addressed that need to go to the Commissioners. Ted suggested a couple meetings ago that we establish a sub-committee to screen the comments but no one wanted to do help him do so.

Joel thinks that we currently have 3 members in this room who spend a great deal of time researching and meeting with people regarding B2H and he thinks that we need to hear that information at these meetings. Joel feels like eliminating meetings is squelching the voice of the public. Joel is concerned that if limited information is being shared with the Commissioners, Committee members may feel excluded. He thinks that members of this Committee need to meet with the Commissioners to encourage them to maintain regular meetings.

Irene stated that she personally does not like Scott speaking on behalf of the Committee. She stated that he had information shared with her from a member of the public that Scott told them that the “no option” is not an option, which Irene states is not true. She feels circumvented and she thinks he is speaking on behalf of this Committee in public.

Brad stated that Scott is a person and is entitled to his opinion. Brad states that our hands are really tied and that we need to keep moving forward. He states that we do not have the power to stop B2H, we are an Advisory Committee. He encouraged everyone to stay civil and try to stay focused on the task at hand. He feels like we need to focus on the Purpose of this Committee.

Ted stated once again that Scott is to report to the County Commissioners as directed by them. Ted said that the Commissioners receive our meeting minutes and do have opportunity to ask questions of this Committee as they need. Joel said reading minutes is different than having a conversation about the need of having meetings.

Ray Randall & Joel Goldstein did not have a report to the Committee.

Irene reported on her attendance of the Oregon Energy Facilities Siting Council & Oregon Department of Energy meetings. At the last meeting they stated they will be updating the Fish & Wildlife rules. They are receiving many letters of concern regarding wildlife impacts by establishing B2H line. These are the EFSC rules regarding wildlife not ODFW. The senate and house Oversight Committee on the Department of Energy had a meeting on Monday which Irene testified at. Irene said that they are having problems with the tax credits. Irene stated the Mr. & Mrs. White presented a nice letter to legislature.

Brad Allen shared that he had nothing to report, but appreciates every ones hard work.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Lois Barry, 60688 Morgan Lake Road LaGrande, OR 97850, Lois thanked the Committee for their hard work. She also shared that she was not aware that a comment needed to be placed on the comment form, but will use it moving forward. Lois gave the Committee documents to add to the public comment she gave. She gave quotes of the Idaho Power & Energy Trusts fiscal update news release.

She asked the B2H Advisory Committee to ask Idaho Power to provide parallel comparable numbers to compare to the Energy Trust reported savings fiscal reports. She thought this may help comparing conservation vs needs.

Lois attends almost all Board of Commissioners to stay informed and keep herself in the loop. She also attended the meeting when Senator Merkely was in LaGrande recently. She and others in the community gave Senator Merkely documents for his review and knowledge.

Irene asked if Lois would like this Committee to submit a letter to Idaho Power asking for the comparison. She also asked Lois to submit a draft letter for the Committee to review and submit to address this request of/with Idaho Power. Lois agreed that she would do this for us. Lois stated that she was happy to get to make public comment prior to 10 o'clock in the evening.

Fuji Kreider 60366 Marvin Road LaGrande, OR 97850, Fuji gave the Committee a list of questions that were presented to Senator Merkeley and asked if this

Committee could review these same questions and reply to as many as they could to her. She stated that she & Jim provide comments all of the time, and that they submit them to the Planning Department.

She would like to see meetings continue to meet to prepare for the final EIS & process. She thinks that this Committee had a lesson to learn when it was first established, that its feet were put to the fire. She thinks that this Committee should get caught up and be prepared for the EIS. That way this Committee is ready when the EIS is released. This would also lead into the State energy application process. She thinks that they can predict when these topics are coming up and they are happy to keep sharing all of this with this Committee so that the Committee is prepared and up to speed.

She said that she was surprised to find out about the "West Wide Corridor" during the meeting last weekend and doing further research. The West Wide Corridor would potentially be the prime corridor for wind energy as well as electrical power. 395 was established a scenic by-way, it is not going to go that way now. Our valley would directly be affected by it. Fuji stated that the Committee should focus on being prepared and continue to meet

Ted asked who mandated this corridor. Is it federal, state..? Fuji stated that Jim could answer more technical questions. She stated that she will share data with this Committee as they receive it. Joel asked if Fuji would like the Committee to ask if B2H comes through, are we opening the door to more energy development routes to enter this valley.

Charlie Gillis 601 N Avenue, LaGrande, OR 97850, he stated that he attended the meeting in Elgin last weekend and asked Senator Merkley, what protection private citizens have. Senator Merkley replied that there are elements of protection within FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission). Charlie asked that this Committee pass these protection avenues onto the County Commissioners. He thinks that this Committee should help provide the County Commissioners with these Federal protections for land owners. He also asked if there could be public comment forms provided on the table at the next meeting. Ted said that Darcy will make sure forms are available. Irene asked if Charlie thinks that this Committee should write a letter asking for further explanation of FERC resources. Charlie stated that he will contact FERC directly; as well as with our local Senator and Representative offices to help him provide feedback to the Committee.

Nathan Smutz. 59074 Foothill Road LaGrande, OR 97850, asked for clarification regarding the "grid stabilization". He asked how they would make up the difference. He asked if they had to be responsible for the diesel. He thought that there would be a line coming in to create what they need going out. Irene stated that they are going to adjust rates for rate payers to facilitate their needs/expenses. Nathan stated that if this goes to the point, is there anyone studying the value of the timber (per board foot) that will be sacrificed with this line being placed? He thinks that land owners and this Committee need ammunition to fight the potential economic impacts. Brad Allen said that Idaho Power and the land owner are supposed to settle this figure on their own, if that is not agreeable, and then it would go to a local County Court. Nathan thinks that

extra data would at least give you a baseline. Irene stated that this should go to the Legislative Oversight Committee and that she has submitted letters regarding this.

Irwin Smutz, 59074 Foothill Road LaGrande, OR 97850, Irwin stated that he found the meeting notice in the classified ads in The Observer, he thinks this is a bad spot for it. He would like to see the Counties work together to fight this line. He would like to see all Counties affected by the line to work together. He would like our representatives to step up and represent us. When the OFW said that they were bringing in a wildlife refuge area, they sent a letter to the land owners stating that they would condemn their land. He stated that the farmers all banded together and came up with fighting numbers to submit to legislatures and got the refuge stopped. As far as compensation, Irwin was paid a one-time payment and was left with a lifetime of dealing with the land damage that was left. Irwin stated that he is not interested in the money he just wants to line off his land. He is frustrated with himself for not being involved earlier, he thought that the line was planned to go up through the woods, so he wasn't concerned. Now that it's potentially going to go through his land he is not happy.

He was frustrated that the meeting Notice was in the classified ads and asked if we could place it somewhere else and add it to the meeting. He is very appreciative of this Committee trying to serve this community.

Ray stated that there is strength in numbers. He reported that Umatilla & Baker County have indicated they are not convinced that this line be placed. Ray would like this Committee to reach out to the neighboring Counties and try to work together with them. He thinks that this Committee should ask out Commissioners to do so. Irwin agreed that our County Commissioners should meet with these other Commissioners. Brad stated that Irwin suggesting to do this, is a great idea.

Irene recommended that we put the meeting announcements on the radio and the "Briefly" in the Observer. She also thought that Irwin could get farmers/ranchers in Umatilla County together with Union county farmers to band together if he wanted. He thinks that the wildlife should not take president over the humans. Brad shared that he has all of the same easements on his property in North Powder that he has and shared that he thinks that there is 2 ways to look at it. Should you have one route through your land or should there be multiple routes. Irwin thinks that there is no reason to run the route through the valley.

Jim Kreider, 60366 Marvin Road LaGrande, OR 97850, stated that if we didn't have these Advisory Committee meetings, the Committee would not hear his input or the reports on what he researches and comments they have to share. Jim did state that he has formed a "Stop the B2H line coalition" and that they are actively working with 6 other groups and currently have a dialogue. He stated that he has knowledge of a representative from the City of LaGrande has concerns with the line going in. The City of LaGrande shared with Jim that are establishing reservoir, construction of water ponds and mini hydro pumps that they are planning to build from Morgan Lake down to the City. They are also concerned with obstructions of the view shed also.

The "Stop the Line Coalition" has divided work into 4 major groups and is currently working on specific topics. Jim also thinks that this Advisory Committee should

become involved with these groups if they would like to educate themselves on what is going on.

Jim shared that Don Gonzalez from the BLM stated that the Supplemental statement is not pertinent. Jim thought that Scott had asked for supplemental budget for a mailing to effected land owners. He wasn't sure that this had been done, if so, he would suggest that letters be sent out to affected land owners within a 1 mile radiance.

Jim & Fuji submitted lists of questions to BLM & Idaho Power and has received comments/answers back from both of them. He shared these with the Planning Department and the Planning Department sent them to the B2H Advisory Committee. Jim stated that he thought that Don Gonzalez and Jeff Maffuccio gave him excellent complete insight back from his requests. He supports creating a meeting with neighboring County Committees and has asked Jack Howard to help him get on the agenda when the Oregon County Commissioners meet again this fall. Ted asked that Scott ask our Commissioners how they would like to meet with other County Commissioners regarding B2H. Brad asked if we could officially make that recommendation to the Commissioners by the B2H Advisory Committee. Ted did not think we could. Jim stated that BLM & Idaho Power still have 2 separate routes listed. He did state that Jeff at Idaho Power said that they would go with the route BLM chose. He stated that Idaho Power is not necessarily doing an EIS they are doing more of a survey of land and stability of tower sites. Ted said that BLM usually they won't release a supplemental document unless there is a change, like a new route that they did not study. He said it's either that or they have to admit they made a big error.

Jim would like to make sure we are ready to comment during a comment period on a supplemental EIS when they release another one prior to the final being released.

The Committee agreed that they will table this topic and work on this motion for request at the next meeting.

IV. COMMITTEE & ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

A. Ted proposed a Motion and will send this to the Planning Department Staff & the Advisory Committee via email. Ray gave suggestions to this motion and the Committee agreed. This motion was tabled until the next meeting. Irene stated that the Committee can comment back on the email Ted sends out so that all that information is readily available.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no additional public comment.

IX. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

The next regular Committee meeting will be Thursday, July 28th, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the Earl C. Misener Conference Room.

The Following items will be on the Agenda, under Committee Business for the next meeting.

1. Follow up on the possible motion for supplemental information regarding the BLM's EIS to the Commissioners.

X. ADJOURN

Ted adjourned the Union County B2H Advisory Committee meeting of June 30th, 2016 at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Darcy Johnson Carreiro
Senior Department Specialist II

Worksheet for Consideration of Topics Discussed at June 30, 2016 Meeting Regarding
Relevance to the Purpose of the Advisory Committee

Please indicate YES or NO for each topic, and if you indicate YES, note the Purpose of the Advisory Committee you believe the topic relates to

Topic	Relevant to Purpose?		Associated Purpose (1-4)
	YES	NO	
Request statistics on energy conservation from IPC	_____	_____	_____
Become more familiar with content of DEIS	_____	_____	_____
Assess appropriateness of routing any transmission line through Union County, given there is an established transmission corridor in Oregon	_____	_____	_____
Understand protections given to landowners by federal agencies for economic and other loss	_____	_____	_____
Develop more comprehensive ways to announce and provide information on Committee meetings	_____	_____	_____
Request our Board of Commissioners to coordinate fully with Boards in other affected counties	_____	_____	_____
Become familiar with City of La Grande's plans for new water storage facility, hydropower generation, and transmission of electricity into the city	_____	_____	_____
Review Google map from IPC that shows access roads, laydown areas, and other features of the B2H line	_____	_____	_____
Send recommendation to our Board of Commissioners requesting a Supplemental EIS be issued by BLM before the current DEIS is finalized	_____	_____	_____
Send letters to landowners on and one mile either side of the agency proposed route to provide better notice of BLM/IPC plans and their impacts	_____	_____	_____

B2H Advisory Committee

Potential Topics to Consider, Based on Public Comments at the Advisory Committee Meeting on June 30, 2016

From Ted 7/1/16
additional comments
from Joel & crew
in color
7/2/16
Via Email

NOTE: THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, JULY 28, AT 6:30 P.M.

At the meeting, attended by five committee members and several members of the public, commenters and some committee members believe the committee should meet regularly to consider important topics, some of which are presently under discussion among members of the Stop B2H Coalition and other interested parties, or will be discussed in the future as BLM and Idaho Power (IPC) documents are prepared, finalized, and released, and the Oregon Energy Facilities Siting Council (EFSC) evaluates the IPC Site Application, and the Oregon Public Utilities Commission receives and evaluates the 2017 IRP to be submitted by IPC.

The topics are listed in the order they were presented and discussed, and are based exclusively on notes taken by the Chairman at the meeting. They may not strictly contain the content of the comments made.

From Lois Berry. The committee should request statistics from IPC on energy conservation actions taken and planned by IPC, to determine whether such actions should or can be enhanced, to potentially reduce the "need" for the B2H Project (I believe she suggested that Idaho Power provide a summary of their practices that is comparable to Oregon's summary). Lois provided a copy of the Oregon information and agreed to draft a letter for the committee to consider asking the Commissioners to send.

From Fuji Kreider. The committee should become more familiar with the content of the DEIS, to be better prepared to evaluate the FEIS when it is issued by BLM. Note: On a related matter, members of the committee (Edvalson) have offered to provide briefings on the EFSC process and criteria, and Scott Hartell has offered to invite Max Woods from ODOE (the agency's EFSC coordinator) to provide a briefing.

Irene Gilbert has offered to provide a briefing on the material Idaho Power previously submitted to the EFSC including topics important to Union County.

From Fuji Kreider. The committee should assess the appropriateness of routing the B2H line or any transmission line through Union County, when there is an established corridor through Oregon (lying on an east-west plane south of Union County) that was developed under the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

From Charlie Gillis. The committee should understand the protections provided to landowners by federal agencies from economic and other losses associated with energy development. Charlie stated he would be following up on this and would share his findings as comments at a future meeting

From Irwin Smutz. The committee should develop more comprehensive ways to announce and provide information on committee meetings, as the official notice of meetings is difficult to find in the newspaper. Note: several options were discussed, including the need to contact radio stations and submit information to the community calendar in the Observer. Ted stated he would write another letter for the newspaper.

From Irwin Smutz. The committee should request that the Union County Board of Commissioners coordinate fully with the Boards of Commissioners in other affected Oregon counties, as some of these Boards and other interested parties have had some success in encouraging BLM to modify previously proposed routes for B2H.

From Jim Kreider. The committee should become familiar with the concerns expressed by the City of La Grande regarding the city's plans for water storage, hydropower generation, and transmission into the city.

From Jim Kreider. The committee should review the recent Google map provided by IPC that illustrates potential access roads, laydown areas, and other features that will be associated with the B2H project if it is constructed and operated.

From Jim Kreider. The committee should consider passing a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners regarding the need for BLM to either open a new comment period on the DEIS (perhaps as requested by Sen. Wyden) or and prepare a Supplement to the DEIS before the EIS is finalized. The precise action suggested is somewhat unclear.

I recommend rewriting the above comment to say: "Recommended that the Advisory Committee send a recommendation to the County Commissioners asking them to request a supplemental EIS prior to issuing the final EIS." This is necessary as both of the currently proposed routes have sections that were not a part of the original EIS. There are people along these lines that have never been notified that a transmission ROW may be going through their property. In addition, there was no EIS evaluation of the impacts the transmission line will have in these areas as is required by statute. I have attached 771.130 which is the law which applies to this situation.

From Jim Kreider. The committee should use part of its budget to send letters to landowners along the proposed route, and perhaps up to one mile from the route's centerline, providing better notice of BLM/IPC plans and their impacts.

Submitted electronically to the committee by Ted Taylor, Chairman, on July 1.

Ted, I highlighted above in red what I think should be deleted, in blue what I think should be added, and in orange a clarification of what I believe Lois was asking.

Joel

Ted: My recommendations and comments are in the orange boxes. Irene

From Irene
7/1/2016
Via : email

§ 771.130

approvals or grants to establish whether or not the approved environmental document or CE designation remains valid for the requested Administration action. These consultations will be documented when determined necessary by the Administration.

[52 FR 32660, Aug. 28, 1987; 53 FR 11066, Apr. 5, 1988, as amended at 74 FR 12530, Mar. 24, 2009]

§ 771.130 Supplemental environmental impact statements.

(a) A draft EIS, final EIS, or supplemental EIS may be supplemented at any time. An EIS shall be supplemented whenever the Administration determines that:

(1) Changes to the proposed action would result in significant environmental impacts that were not evaluated in the EIS; or

(2) New information or circumstances relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts would result in significant environmental impacts not evaluated in the EIS.

(b) However, a supplemental EIS will not be necessary where:

(1) The changes to the proposed action, new information, or new circumstances result in a lessening of adverse environmental impacts evaluated in the EIS without causing other environmental impacts that are significant and were not evaluated in the EIS; or

(2) The Administration decides to approve an alternative fully evaluated in an approved final EIS but not identified as the preferred alternative. In such a case, a revised ROD shall be prepared and circulated in accordance with § 771.127(b).

(c) Where the Administration is uncertain of the significance of the new impacts, the applicant will develop appropriate environmental studies or, if the Administration deems appropriate, an EA to assess the impacts of the changes, new information, or new circumstances. If, based upon the studies, the Administration determines that a supplemental EIS is not necessary, the Administration shall so indicate in the project file.

(d) A supplement is to be developed using the same process and format (*i.e.*, draft EIS, final EIS, and ROD) as an

23 CFR Ch. I (4-1-11 Edition)

original EIS, except that scoping is not required.

(e) A supplemental draft EIS may be necessary for major new fixed guideway capital projects proposed for FTA funding if there is a substantial change in the level of detail on project impacts during project planning and development. The supplement will address site-specific impacts and refined cost estimates that have been developed since the original draft EIS.

(f) In some cases, a supplemental EIS may be required to address issues of limited scope, such as the extent of proposed mitigation or the evaluation of location or design variations for a limited portion of the overall project. Where this is the case, the preparation of a supplemental EIS shall not necessarily:

(1) Prevent the granting of new approvals;

(2) Require the withdrawal of previous approvals; or

(3) Require the suspension of project activities; for any activity not directly affected by the supplement. If the changes in question are of such magnitude to require a reassessment of the entire action, or more than a limited portion of the overall action, the Administration shall suspend any activities which would have an adverse environmental impact or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives, until the supplemental EIS is completed.

[52 FR 32660, Aug. 28, 1987, as amended at 70 FR 24470, May 9, 2005; 74 FR 12530, Mar. 24, 2009]

§ 771.131 Emergency action procedures.

Requests for deviations from the procedures in this regulation because of emergency circumstances (40 CFR 1506.11) shall be referred to the Administration's headquarters for evaluation and decision after consultation with CEQ.

§ 771.133 Compliance with other requirements.

The final EIS or FONSI should document compliance with requirements of all applicable environmental laws, Executive orders, and other related requirements. If full compliance is not possible by the time the final EIS or

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

7-10-2016

Comments:

Scott, et.al,

I was going over the responses that received from Don Gonzales, and this one jumped out at me as related to the question that I asked you about regarding the West Wide Corridor. Is the corridor (that 230 goes through) a formal utility corridor in the County land use plan? Thx, Fuji

our question:

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

Don:

The potential route thru Union/Umatilla county boarder right now is called the Preliminary Agency Preferred Alternative Route. You should contact either county if you think they are planning on designating a formal utility corridor in the same location.

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

7-8-2016

Comments:

Scott, et.al,

Can you help in better understanding the West-Wide Corridor situation in relation to the B2H? While at face value they seem unrelated, if B2H is sited as proposed, what would prevent it from becoming the de-facto national/regional corridor for future transmission, pipelines, etc. While I think an established and agreeable "corridor" is a good idea, in theory, I am also in favor of siting things as close as possible to the source. What is the easiest way for all the wind power in Morrow County to get to the currently identified corridor in Southern Oregon (east-west)? It looks like there will be another EIS process; and again in theory, it would be best to have the corridors established/approved before other corridors are created. Here's a link: <http://corridoreis.anl.gov/index.cfm>

We will continue to look into this as well; however, the magnitude of this could be bigger than B2H and I think more eyes taking a look at it, is warranted. Hope you agree. Thx, Fuji

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

6/30/2016

Comments:

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Fully Rider 6-30-16

Sample Questions on the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line (B2H)

US Sen. Jeff Merkley - Union County Town Hall

June 25, 2016

- How can BLM create a new "Preliminary Agency Preferred Alternative," following the 230 line/Oregon Trail, without it being in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)? No one will have an opportunity to comment on it until the final EIS comes out, and then have only 30 days, which is grossly unfair? Would you ask the BLM for a supplemental EIS thus allowing concerned citizens and governmental entities ample opportunity to research and comment on this new route.
- What is your position on the B2H?
- Why is this line not being cited in Oregon in accordance with "Section 368/west-wide energy corridors" per Section 368(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005? Our fear is that if the B2H is put in on its current preferred route this will become the defacto energy corridor. The BLM has initiated a study of these corridors. (See press release & map. Jim will have a copy and can backfill on this question.)
- We are trying to get to the bottom of the "need" rationale for the B2H. All documents (and agencies) seem to point to each other. The NW Power Planning Council (in their recent report: "Seventh Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan") says we have enough power in the NW. Idaho Power says they do not use the data from the NWPPC to determine need. Who and where is need determined? Vetted?
- The utility business is changing so quickly, that the capacity of high-tension power lines will go unused in the future. Will poorer members of Idaho Power's service areas be the only ones left to pay for this line? [alternative wording: Given the changing business model of big utilities and more and more people are able to leave the grid, who will be left to pay for the B2H line? Will it be the people who are least able to afford it? Will they be stuck with the bill?]
- As you know, we in EO will bear the brunt of the 305 mile transmission line. As Oregonians, we have done an outstanding job at energy conservation and developing renewable portfolios. In Idaho, their history of energy conservation is abysmal. And now worse, the Idaho Power Corp is doing everything they can to discourage development of private renewables by anyone other than Idaho Power Corp. How can we stand by and let another state—and corporate interests—do damages to our land while not changing their behavior? What can be done at the federal level to encourage Idaho to take our example of energy conservation and good stewardship for the planet --- rather than take our land?
- RE: National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), including environmental impact statements, which gives a lot of protections on federal lands. Do we as private landowners and citizens have similar protections?
- Why is the B2H mostly (2/3rds) on state and private lands and only 1/3rd on federal lands? Why are we not using more of the federal lands if this project will benefit other states?
- 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 regulations for this? Can we verify or demand that the performance bond that Idaho Power Corp will put up -- and ensure that it's a cash bond in case of bankruptcy ?
- Forest fires & power lines? Should we be concerned?
- What about decorative tower designs (e.g.: Finland's) how can they be brought into the mix? & When? -can they make them look attractive--like oregon trail motif. <http://www.choishine.com/Projects/giants.html>
<http://www.mymodernmet.com/profiles/blogs/design-depot-deer-shaped-electrical-towers>
- The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission rules require the costs of transmission lines to customers be commensurate with the benefits they receive. Can he find out what benefits the citizens of Union County, since we mostly see only "costs?"

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:

Charlie Gillis

6/30/2016

Comments:

Charlie Gillis 601 N Avenue, LaGrande, OR 97850, he stated that he attended the meeting in Elgin last weekend and asked Senator Merkley, what protection private citizens have. Senator Merkley replied that there are elements of protection within FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission). Charlie asked that this Committee pass these protection avenues onto the County Commissioners. He thinks that this Committee should help provide the County Commissioners with these Federal protections for land owners. He also asked if there could be public comment forms provided on the table at the next meeting. Ted said that Darcy will make sure forms are available. Irene asked if Charlie thinks that this Committee should write a letter asking for further explanation of FERC resources. Charlie sated that he will contact FERC directly; as well as with our local Senator and Representative offices to help him provide feedback to the Committee.

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

6/30/2016

Comments:

Nathan Smutz, 59074 Foothill Road LaGrande, OR 97850, asked for clarification regarding the "grid stabilization". He asked how they would make up the difference. He asked if they had to be responsible for the diesel. He thought that there would be a line coming in to create what they need going out. Irene stated that they are going to adjust rates for rate payers to facilitate their needs/expenses. Nathan stated that if this goes to the point, is there anyone studying the value of the timber (per board foot) that will be sacrificed with this line being placed? He thinks that land owners and this Committee need ammunition to fight the potential economic impacts. Brad Allen said that Idaho Power and the land owner are supposed to settle this figure on their own, if that is not agreeable, and then it would go to a local County Court. Nathan thinks that extra data would at least give you a baseline. Irene stated that this should go to the Legislative Oversight Committee and that she has submitted letters regarding this.

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

6/30/2016

Comments:

Irwin Smutz, 59074 Foothill Road LaGrande, OR 97850, Irwin stated that he found the meeting notice in the classified ads in The Observer, he thinks this is a bad spot for it. He would like to see the Counties work together to fight this line. He would like to see all Counties affected by the line to work together. He would like our representatives to step up and represent us. When the OFW said that they were bringing in a wildlife refuge area, they sent a letter to the land owners stating that they would condemn their land. He stated that the farmers all banded together and came up with fighting numbers to submit to legislatures and got the refuge stopped. As far as compensation, Irwin was paid a one-time payment and was left with a lifetime of dealing with the land damage that was left. Irwin stated that he is not interested in the money he just wants to line off his land. He is frustrated with himself for not being involved earlier, he thought that the line was planned to go up through the woods, so he wasn't concerned. Now that it is potentially going to go through his land he is not happy.

He was frustrated that the meeting Notice was in the classified ads and asked if we could place it somewhere else and add it to the meeting. He is very appreciative of this Committee trying to serve this community.

Ray stated that there is strength in numbers. He reported that Umatilla & Baker County have indicated they are not convinced that this line be placed. Ray would like this Committee to reach out to the neighboring Counties and try to work together with them. He thinks that this Committee should ask out Commissioners to do so. Irwin agreed that our County Commissioners should meet with these other Commissioners. Brad stated that Irwin suggesting to do this, is a great idea.

Irene recommended that we put the meeting announcements on the radio and the "Briefly" in the Observer. She also thought that Irwin could get farmers/ranchers in Umatilla County together with Union county farmers to ban together if he wanted. He thinks that the wildlife should not take president over the humans. Brad shared that he has all of the same easements on his property in North Powder that he has and shared that he thinks that there is 2 ways to look at it. Should you have one route through your land or should there be multiple routes. Irwin thinks that there is no reason to run the route through the valley.

B2H Advisory Committee Public Comment Form

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Name:

Date:

Jim Kreider

6/30/2016

Comments:

Jim Kreider, 60366 Marvin Road LaGrande, OR 97850, stated that if we didn't have these Advisory Committee meetings, the Committee would not hear his input or the reports on what he researches and comments they have to share. Jim did state that he has formed a "Stop the B2H line coalition" and that they are actively working with 6 other groups and currently have a dialogue. He stated that he has knowledge of a representative from the City of LaGrande has concerns with the line going in. The City of LaGrande shared with Jim that they are establishing reservoir, construction of water ponds and mini hydro pumps that they are planning to build from Morgan Lake down to the City. They are also concerned with obstructions of the view shed also.

The "Stop the Line Coalition" has divided work into 4 major groups and is currently working on specific topics. Jim also thinks that this Advisory Committee should become involved with these groups if they would like to educate themselves on what is going on.

Jim shared that Don Gonzalez from the BLM stated that the Supplemental statement is not pertinent. Jim thought that Scott had asked for supplemental budget for a mailing to affected land owners. He wasn't sure that this had been done, if so, he would suggest that letters be sent out to affected land owners within a 1 mile radiance.

Jim & Fuji submitted lists of questions to BLM & Idaho Power and has received comments/answers back from both of them. He shared these with the Planning Department and the Planning Department sent them to the B2H Advisory Committee. Jim stated that he thought that Don Gonzalez and Jeff Maffuccio gave him excellent complete insight back from his requests. He supports creating a meeting with neighboring County Committees and has asked Jack Howard to help him get on the agenda when the Oregon County Commissioners meet again this fall. Ted asked that Scott ask our Commissioners how they would like to meet with other County Commissioners regarding B2H. Brad asked if we could officially make that recommendation to the Commissioners by the B2H Advisory Committee. Ted did not think we could. Jim stated that BLM & Idaho Power still have 2 separate routes listed. He did state that Jeff at Idaho Power said that they would go with the route BLM chose. He stated that Idaho Power is not necessarily doing an EIS they are doing more of a survey of land and stability of tower sites. Ted said that BLM usually they won't release a supplemental document unless there is a change, like a new route that they did not study. He said it's either that or they have to admit they made a big error.

Jim would like to make sure we are ready to comment during a comment period on a supplemental EIS when they release another one prior to the final being released.

The Committee agreed that they will table this topic and work on this motion for request at the next meeting.

B2H Advisory Committee Public Comment Form

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Name:

Date:

Lois Barry

6/30/2016

Comments:

Lois Barry, 60688 Morgan Lake Road LaGrande, OR 97850, Lois thanked the Committee for their hard work. She also shared that she was not aware that a comment needed to be placed on the comment form, but will use it moving forward. Lois gave the Committee documents to add to the public comment she gave. She gave quotes of the Idaho Power & Energy Trusts fiscal update news release.

She asked the B2H Advisory Committee to ask Idaho Power to provide parallel comparable numbers to compare to the Energy Trust reported savings fiscal reports. She thought this may help comparing conservation vs needs.

Lois attends almost all Board of Commissioners to stay informed and keep herself in the loop. She also attended the meeting when Senator Merkely was in LaGrande recently. She and others in the community gave Senator Merkely documents for his review and knowledge.

Irene asked if Lois would like this Committee to submit a letter to Idaho Power asking for the comparison. She also asked Lois to submit a draft letter for the Committee to review and submit to address this request of/with Idaho Power. Lois agreed that she would do this for us. Lois stated that she was happy to get to make public comment prior to 10 o'clock in the evening.

NEWS

June 29, 2016

New report shows Oregonians saved \$362 million on energy bills in 2015

Energy Trust of Oregon helped 83,000 homeowners and businesses around the state benefit from clean energy innovations

PORTLAND, Ore. — June 29, 2016 — Energy Trust of Oregon announced today its 2015 annual results, including utility bill savings of \$362 million for participating customers. Energy Trust is a nonprofit helping utility customers save energy in their homes and businesses, and invest in renewable energy systems that power Oregon with clean energy.

Energy Trust exceeded its 2015 goals for electric savings, natural gas savings and renewable generation, and achieved all Oregon Public Utility Commission annual minimum performance measures, including keeping program and administrative costs low at 5.5 percent of annual revenues.

"I am proud to see us performing at our best, and delivering the cleanest, lowest-cost energy we can buy for 1.5 million utility customers," said Margie Harris, executive director, Energy Trust.

"In 2015, Energy Trust continued its legacy of innovation, adapting to a dynamic market and creating new opportunities for customers to participate and reap lasting clean energy benefits," said Harris. "Not only did we exceed 2015 goals, we are well on our way to meeting our aggressive 2015-2019 Strategic Plan goals."

Working with utilities, trade ally contractors, green energy professionals and customers in 2015, Energy Trust drove adoption of advancing clean energy technologies like LEDs, engaged designers and builders in adding more efficiency and solar features to residential and commercial construction, and delivered benefits in addition to energy savings and generation — from water savings to rural economic development to environmental health.

"When customers have lower energy bills, it frees up resources that flow into the economy, expanding purchasing power and creating jobs, higher wages and new business income," said Debbie Kitchin, president of the board of directors, Energy Trust. "Since 2002, Energy Trust has added \$4.8 billion to Oregon's economy, including \$1.5 billion in wages and \$266 million in small business income. Energy Trust's investments led to employment equivalent to 3,900 jobs lasting a decade."

Portland area residents, businesses benefited from clean energy at 49,000 locations

In 2015, Portland metro and Hood River area participating customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power and NW Natural invested in energy-efficient and renewable energy upgrades at 49,000 homes, businesses, manufacturers and farms:

- With expert guidance and incentives from Energy Trust, Orchards at Orenco, an affordable housing complex in Hillsboro, will save roughly \$58,000 annually from energy-efficient features like a super-insulated building shell, triple-pane windows and heat recovery ventilators. "Since moving in last summer, we have never turned on our heat," said Sylvia Barber, Orchards resident. **"We have zero heating bills."**
- Energy Trust helped Willamette View Senior Living in Portland save approximately \$123,000 by installing LED lighting; upgrading heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems; and adding efficiency features to a kitchen and dining room. "Residents are so happy with the quantity and quality of light that they're starting to request LEDs in their apartments," said Meredith Rizzari, facilities and sustainability coordinator, Willamette View. "And our kitchen employees couldn't be happier because their new space is brighter and much more comfortable."
- Awetash Tsegay cut her annual energy costs by \$230 a year compared to a similarly sized home built to code when she and her two teenagers moved into a new home constructed by Willamette West Habitat for Humanity. Habitat worked with Energy Trust to make sure her home has a low EPS™, energy performance score, indicating low energy consumption and carbon footprint. "I'm happy," said Tsegay. "The house stays comfortable year-round. I like the nice quiet neighborhood. And this home is ours."

See detailed 2015 results and more customer stories
at www.energytrust.org/annualreport.

Energy Trust of Oregon is an independent nonprofit organization guided by a non-stakeholder board of directors and dedicated to providing utility customers with affordable, clean energy solutions. Energy Trust investments accelerate economic benefits throughout Oregon and have added \$4.8 billion to the state's economy. Our work helps keep energy costs as low as possible, creates jobs and builds a sustainable energy future. Energy Trust is funded by and serves Oregon customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power and Cascade Natural Gas, and Oregon and Washington customers of NW Natural.

END

WIN FALLS — Ever wonder what that energy efficiency charge on your bill is going toward?

Idaho Power spent \$35.2 million in energy efficiency and demand-response programs last year. The company has submitted its annual request to the Public Utilities Commission, which will determine if those funds were "prudently incurred."

The application will not impact rates, but is to ensure that energy-saving programs benefit all customers, PUC spokesman Gene Fadness said.

"That is what that 4 percent rider (on customer bills) pays for," he said.

About \$28.5 million of the investment is related to energy efficiency and would be recovered through the 4 percent rider. The remaining \$6.7 million includes demand reduction incentive payments to program participants.

In general, the commission allows Idaho Power an opportunity to recover its demand-response expense through rates if the expenses were prudently incurred. If the commission finds otherwise, the disallowed portion of expense is borne by shareholders, not ratepayers.

Each year, Idaho Power pools funds from customers for programs that offer financial incentives for people to use energy efficient products.

"It's not about turning off a light," said Theresa Drake, manager of customer relations and energy efficiency. "It's about replacing that light bulb with a more energy efficient light bulb."

The company also offers three demand-response programs that work to reduce power usage during high-demand times. Power is more expensive during these times, so reducing that usage benefits all customers, Fadness said.

The Irrigation Peak Rewards program has gotten a large number of participating irrigation customers in the Twin Falls area, Drake said. With this program, customers agree to turn off irrigation pumps during peak periods of use. Idaho Power also has demand-response programs for residential and commercial users.

Idaho Power spent more on its programs in 2015 than 2014, but works to ensure the cost to operate them is less than what it would take to build another generation resource, Drake said.

The PUC is taking public comment on the application through July 14.

Energy efficiency programs resulted in 162,533 megawatt-hours of savings. The largest savings came from the commercial/industrial sector, saving 102,074 mwh.

Demand reduction programs lowered demand of the system by 376 megawatts, saving customers about \$1.6 million.

-
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ANNUAL RESULTS

In 2015, Energy Trust exceeded all organizational goals while maintaining very low costs and high customer satisfaction ratings. It was also one of our top years for electric savings, our highest year for natural gas savings and a record year for new solar installations.

ENERGY SAVINGS AND GENERATION

- ✓ Exceeded electric savings goal with 54.1 average megawatts saved
- ✓ Exceeded natural gas savings goal with 6.5 million annual therms saved
- ✓ Exceeded renewable generation goal with 3.9 aMW generated

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Revenues totaled \$144.4 million, on target with budget
- ✓ Expenditures totaled \$164 million, on target with budget¹
- ✓ Delivered \$95.2 million in incentives
- ✓ Achieved an unmodified financial opinion from an independent auditor, available online at www.energytrust.org/financials

¹ As intended, Energy Trust used program reserves to meet expenses in excess of revenue.

LEVELIZED COSTS

Levelized cost is Energy Trust's total cost to save or generate each unit of energy over the life of an upgrade, which can range from one to more than 20 years. Efficiency is the lowest-cost energy we can buy at just a fraction of the cost utilities would otherwise pay to buy energy from other sources.

- ✓ 2.6 cents/kWh (compared to 7.6 cents/kWh utilities would otherwise pay)
- ✓ 26.6 cents/therm (compared to 47 cents/therm utilities would otherwise pay)

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES SET BY THE OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

- ✓ Achieved low administrative support costs at 5.5 percent of annual revenues
- ✓ Paid and committed \$2 million in project development assistance to 35 biopower, hydropower, geothermal and wind projects
- ✓ Achieved 95 percent overall customer satisfaction
- ✓ Achieved all other performance measures, available online at www.energytrust.org/annualreport



3 million
LED lights installed



2,400 contractors and
professionals received business
leads and training as part of
Energy Trust's Trade Ally Network



600 new building construction
projects supported



7,600 homeowners received
personalized energy
recommendations through
a simple online tool



350 farms and
30 nurseries
saved energy and water



2 hydropower and
2 biopower systems
reached commercial operation

14 YEARS OF AFFORDABLE ENERGY



\$4.8 BILLION
ADDED TO OREGON'S
ECONOMY

Lower energy bills free up resources that flow into the economy, expanding purchasing power and creating jobs, higher wages and new business income. Energy Trust investments have cumulatively spurred \$4.8 billion in local economic activity since 2002, including \$1.5 billion in wages, \$266 million in small business income and employment equivalent to 3,900 jobs lasting a decade.



17.4 MILLION
TONS OF CARBON
DIOXIDE AVOIDED

We all breathe a little easier when we use less energy from fossil-fueled power plants. Energy Trust investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy have kept 17.4 million tons of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere, equal to removing 3 million cars from Oregon roads for a year.



\$5.6 BILLION
SAVED ON
UTILITY BILLS

Since 2002, Energy Trust has invested \$1.3 billion to help participants save \$2.3 billion on their energy bills. Over time, the savings will add up to nearly \$5.6 billion.



To see more of our 2015 achievements, customer stories and financial information, visit www.energytrust.org/annualreport

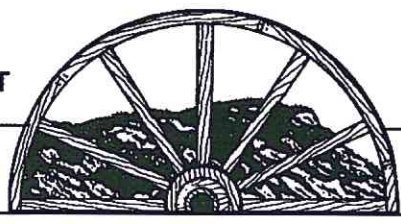
Energy Trust of Oregon
421 SW Oak St., Suite 300, Portland, OR 97204
1.866.368.7878



Rec'd from No. 14011
7/22/16

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

800 X Avenue
La Grande, OR 97850
Phone (541) 962-1325
FAX (541) 963-3608



CITY OF

LA GRANDE

THE HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON

Honorable Senator Ron Wyden
SAC Annex Building
105 Fir Street
La Grande, Oregon 97850

Re: B2H Power Line

Dear Senator Wyden,

On behalf of the Mayor and Council of the City of La Grande, I am writing to you to address potential adverse impacts to the City of La Grande related to the Boardman to Hemmingway Power line where it passes to the south of the City in the Grande Ronde Valley. As the representative of the City of La Grande to the Union County B2H Committee, these impacts were discussed with the Committee; however, I would like to make sure that you are personally aware to assist you understanding the issues from the City's perspective. The following concerns may create a hardship for the City depending on the final location of the proposed power line:

Future Drinking Water Reservoir Site on South 12th Street – The City has addressed with the property owner and our consultants about the need for an additional drinking water storage reservoir on the south end of town on 12th Street. One of the proposed power line locations will place this new system in the immediate proximity of the site location that has been under consideration. Construction of the proposed power line could restrict or limit the City's ability of being able to consider this site for water storage to meet the future needs of the area, especially if the property falls within the B2H easement area. This area is shown in pink on the attached map.

Existing Drinking Water Reservoir Site Areas – If the new proposed power lines cross any of the existing piping in the area of the reservoirs it could adversely impact our access and maintenance of these existing drinking water pipeline sections. I have personally seen this water line rupture as a result of heavy equipment working on top of the pipeline. If this were to occur, it could jeopardize the powerline itself. This water line serves the entire city with drinking water and a power line of the nature of what is proposed may result in conflicts when we maintain and/or repair this water supply system; when Idaho Power maintains, their power line; and the potential for damage to our drinking water line when they are constructing the power line. The existing two

reservoirs are shown on the attached map and reflected inside of the area shown in yellow.

The Beaver Creek Supply Drinking Water Line – La Grande has a drinking water supply line that takes water from the La Grande Reservoir located 17 miles south of La Grande and transports water to the storage reservoir just south of La Grande. Any easements placed over this water line may restrict the City's ability to repair, maintain, or replace this line when the need arises. Working within a power line easement of this size usually requires a lengthy permitting and review process which has added costs and could severely limit our ability to make timely repairs. In addition to those limitations, some construction equipment may not be able to work directly under the power lines because of the safety risks that can occur from electrical arcing of the high voltage lines. These restrictions usually increase the costs of performing these kinds of jobs. This water pipeline is shown in orange on the attached map.

Construction of a Water Treatment Plant – In the future, state and federal regulatory agencies have indicated that the Safe Drinking Water Act may require municipal ground water sources to be treated with a water treatment plant. If the City were to construct a treatment facility, the logical location would be in the vicinity of the existing drinking water storage reservoirs. With a new power line system passing within these prime areas for this facility, it could eliminate the city's ability to construct this facility within the best area or could place limitations on the type of facility to be constructed. Staff believes that it is not a matter of "if they will require a water treatment plant" but "when will they require a water treatment plant." The logical area for a treatment plant is shown in yellow on the attached map.

Anticipated Hydro Generating Capabilities – The City has an existing Water Master Plan that includes the possibility of placing in-line generators within the Beaver Creek water transmission line to generate electricity when a treatment plant is constructed. It is anticipated that there could be as many as four units placed within the water transmission line in the area from Morgan Lake to La Grande. The City believes that because of the nature of two alternating power sources crossing each other, there could be a transfer of power from one system to another. If the City should construct a power generating system with overhead transmission lines, there would be impacts that would be encountered that would restrict the city's ability to recover this power resource revenue. The area shown by the orange line on the map reflects the location the in-line turbines would be installed.

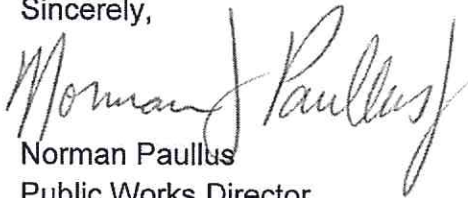
The View Shed – Residents of the City of La Grande, as well as other Grande Ronde Valley residents and visitors to the area have always had the pleasure of minimal man-made disturbances to the natural scenery. This newly proposed mega system of power lines will have a significant impact on the view shed that is already impacted by the

existing power supply lines coming from both Bonneville Power and Idaho Power. Not only would this distract from the natural beauty that we have had the pleasure of enjoying in our everyday lives but also could create an adverse impact to tourism industry in our area. As an example I would relate it to something similar to the recent construction of the wind mills in the Arlington – Biggs area. At first there was a few which weren't too bad and now the area is littered with them.

Morgan Lake Recreational Area – Morgan Lake is a popular, heavily used recreational area since the mid 1900's. Recreational users enjoy areas close to town for brief periods of outdoor enjoyment. If the power lines are to be located within close proximity of the Morgan Lake Recreational area it would detract from the enjoyment of the many people that take advantage of this unique opportunity. With diminished use, it could become an area of little use or need by the public and adversely impact our quality of life. The Morgan Lake Recreational area is shown just off of the map and reflected by a yellow post-it.

While some of the things mentioned above may seem small in nature to some, the improvements proposed by the B2H project are major and permanent in nature. The B2H power line project has a wide range of impacts that reach far greater than those that I have addressed in its' proposed course of construction and establishment throughout its course from Boardman to Hemmingway. Those that I see in the Union County vicinity are major and need to be scrutinized in greater detail. I hope this helps and if you have any questions concerning this project and its impacts to the City please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Norman J. Paullus". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

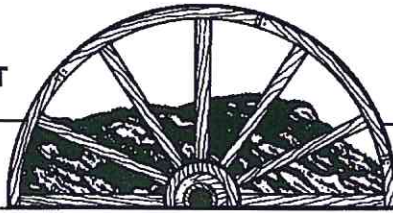
Norman Paullus
Public Works Director

*Keval from No. 11/14/16
7/22/16*

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

800 X Avenue
La Grande, OR 97850
Phone (541) 962-1325
FAX (541) 963-3608

CITY OF



LA GRANDE

THE HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON

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1211 Washington Avenue
La Grande, Oregon 97850

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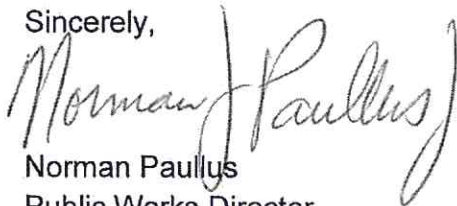
The View Shed – Residents of the City of La Grande, as well as other Grande Ronde Valley residents and visitors to the area have always had the pleasure of minimal man-made disturbances to the natural scenery. This newly proposed mega system of power lines will have a significant impact on the view shed that is already impacted by the existing power supply lines coming from both Bonneville Power and Idaho Power. Not only would this distract from the natural beauty that we have had the pleasure of enjoying in our everyday lives but also could create an adverse impact to tourism

industry in our area. As an example I would relate it to something similar to the recent construction of the wind mills in the Arlington – Biggs area. At first there was a few which weren't too bad and now the area is littered with them.

Morgan Lake Recreational Area – Morgan Lake is a popular, heavily used recreational area since the mid 1900's. Recreational users enjoy areas close to town for brief periods of outdoor enjoyment. If the power lines are to be located within close proximity of the Morgan Lake Recreational area it would detract from the enjoyment of the many people that take advantage of this unique opportunity. With diminished use, it could become an area of little use or need by the public and adversely impact our quality of life. The Morgan Lake Recreational area is shown just off of the map and reflected by a yellow post-it.

While some of the things mentioned above may seem small in nature to some, the improvements proposed by the B2H project are major and permanent in nature. The B2H power line project has a wide range of impacts that reach far greater than those that I have addressed in its' proposed course of construction and establishment throughout its course from Boardman to Hemmingway. Those that I see in the Union County vicinity are major and need to be scrutinized in greater detail. I hope this helps and if you have any questions concerning this project and its impacts to the City please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Norman Paullus". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name and title.

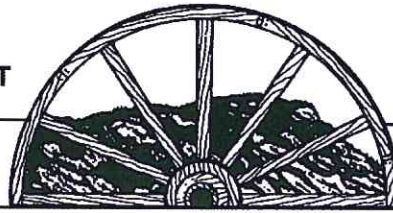
Norman Paullus
Public Works Director

LCVA from N. Pauline
7/22/16

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

800 X Avenue
La Grande, OR 97850
Phone (541) 962-1325
FAX (541) 963-3608

CITY OF



LA GRANDE

THE HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON

Honorable Senator Jeff Merkley
310 SE Second Street, Suite 105
Pendleton, Oregon 97801

Re: B2H Power Line

Dear Senator Merkley,

On behalf of the Mayor and Council of the City of La Grande, I am writing to you to address potential adverse impacts to the City of La Grande related to the Boardman to Hemmingway Power line where it passes to the south of the City in the Grande Ronde Valley. As the representative of the City of La Grande to the Union County B2H Committee, these impacts were discussed with the Committee; however, I would like to make sure that you are personally aware to assist you understanding the issues from the City's perspective. The following concerns may create a hardship for the City depending on the final location of the proposed power line:

Future Drinking Water Reservoir Site on South 12th Street – The City has addressed with the property owner and our consultants about the need for an additional drinking water storage reservoir on the south end of town on 12th Street. One of the proposed power line locations will place this new system in the immediate proximity of the site location that has been under consideration. Construction of the proposed power line could restrict or limit the City's ability of being able to consider this site for water storage to meet the future needs of the area, especially if the property falls within the B2H easement area. This area is shown in pink on the attached map.

Existing Drinking Water Reservoir Site Areas – If the new proposed power lines cross any of the existing piping in the area of the reservoirs it could adversely impact our access and maintenance of these existing drinking water pipeline sections. I have personally seen this water line rupture as a result of heavy equipment working on top of the pipeline. If this were to occur, it could jeopardize the powerline itself. This water line serves the entire city with drinking water and a power line of the nature of what is proposed may result in conflicts when we maintain and/or repair this water supply system; when Idaho Power maintains, their power line; and the potential for damage to our drinking water line when they are constructing the power line. The existing two reservoirs are shown on the attached map and reflected inside of the area shown in yellow.

The Beaver Creek Supply Drinking Water Line – La Grande has a drinking water supply line that takes water from the La Grande Reservoir located 17 miles south of La Grande and transports water to the storage reservoir just south of La Grande. Any easements placed over this water line may restrict the City's ability to repair, maintain, or replace this line when the need arises. Working within a power line easement of this size usually requires a lengthy permitting and review process which has added costs and could severely limit our ability to make timely repairs. In addition to those limitations, some construction equipment may not be able to work directly under the power lines because of the safety risks that can occur from electrical arcing of the high voltage lines. These restrictions usually increase the costs of performing these kinds of jobs. This water pipeline is shown in orange on the attached map.

Construction of a Water Treatment Plant – In the future, state and federal regulatory agencies have indicated that the Safe Drinking Water Act may require municipal ground water sources to be treated with a water treatment plant. If the City were to construct a treatment facility, the logical location would be in the vicinity of the existing drinking water storage reservoirs. With a new power line system passing within these prime areas for this facility, it could eliminate the city's ability to construct this facility within the best area or could place limitations on the type of facility to be constructed. Staff believes that it is not a matter of "if they will require a water treatment plant" but "when will they require a water treatment plant." The logical area for a treatment plant is shown in yellow on the attached map.

Anticipated Hydro Generating Capabilities – The City has an existing Water Master Plan that includes the possibility of placing in-line generators within the Beaver Creek water transmission line to generate electricity when a treatment plant is constructed. It is anticipated that there could be as many as four units placed within the water transmission line in the area from Morgan Lake to La Grande. The City believes that because of the nature of two alternating power sources crossing each other, there could be a transfer of power from one system to another. If the City should construct a power generating system with overhead transmission lines, there would be impacts that would be encountered that would restrict the city's ability to recover this power resource revenue. The area shown by the orange line on the map reflects the location the in-line turbines would be installed.

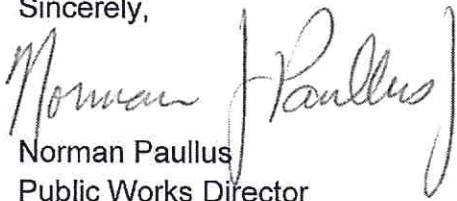
The View Shed – Residents of the City of La Grande, as well as other Grande Ronde Valley residents and visitors to the area have always had the pleasure of minimal man-made disturbances to the natural scenery. This newly proposed mega system of power lines will have a significant impact on the view shed that is already impacted by the existing power supply lines coming from both Bonneville Power and Idaho Power. Not only would this distract from the natural beauty that we have had the pleasure of enjoying in our everyday lives but also could create an adverse impact to tourism

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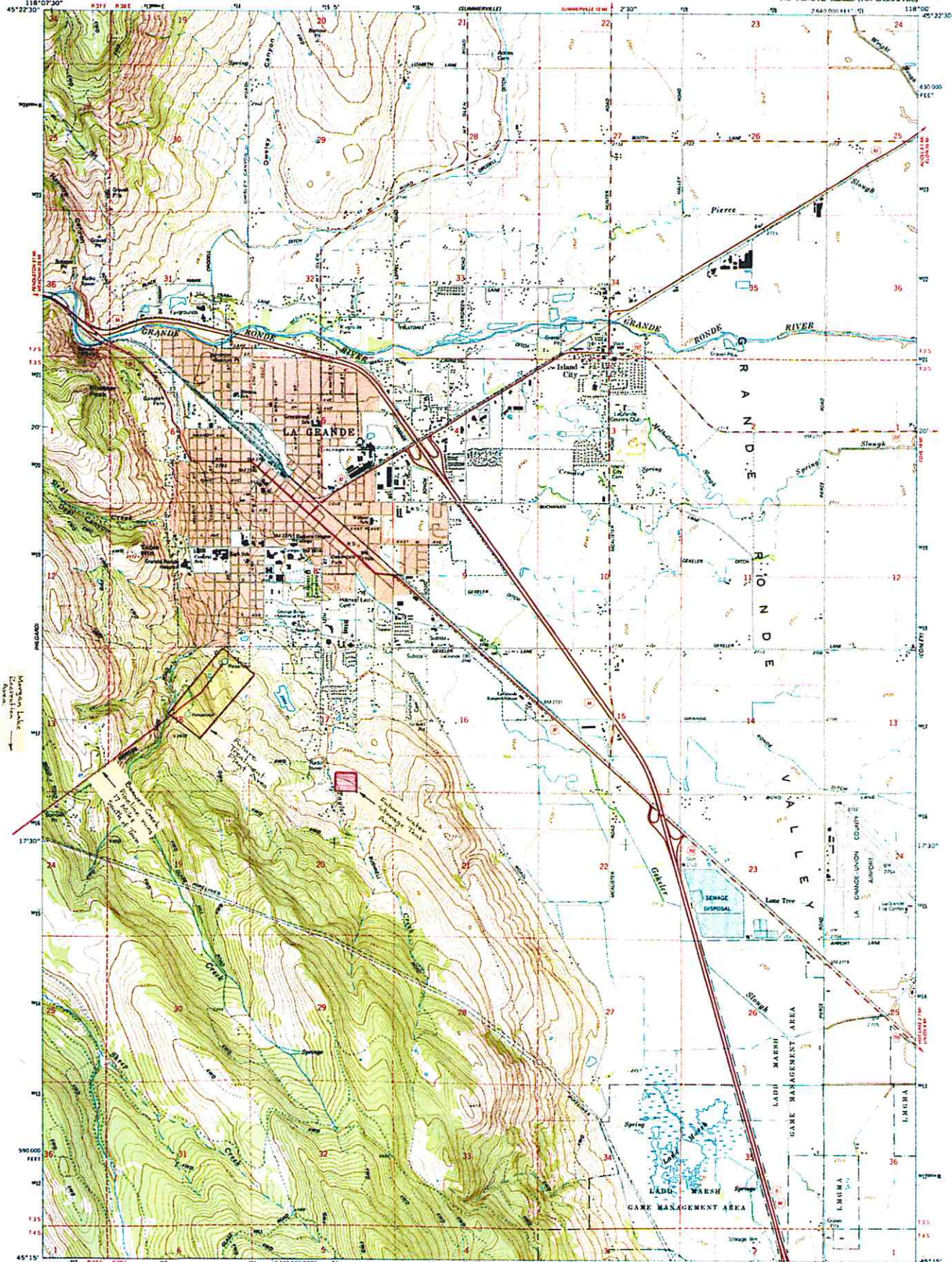
Sincerely,

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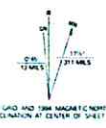
Norman Paullus
Public Works Director

KCVA from N. Powell
 LA GRANDE QUADRANGLE
 OREGON-UNION CO
 7.5-MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
 7/22/16

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA and USBR
 Compiled from aerial photographs taken 1957. Revised from aerial
 photographs taken 1988 and other sources. Fields checked 1992.
 Map revised 1994.
 North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and
 10,000-foot scale. Oregon Coordinate System, north zone
 Lambert Conformal Conic.
 Blue 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM), zone 11
 North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed
 corner ticks. The values of the ticks between NAD 27 and NAD 83
 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geographic
 Survey HADCON software.
 There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the
 National or State reservations shown on this map.
 Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown.



CONTOUR INTERVAL, 20 FEET
 SUPPLEMENTARY CONTOUR INTERVALS (1:1)
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 Heavy-duty — Light-duty
 Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt
 Interstate Route — U.S. Route — State Route

THIS MAP COMPLES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

LA GRANDE, OR
 4518C1-74-024
 1994
 DMA 2374 1 N-SERIES 1992

KICVA FROM K. CATHE
7/26/16

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 15, 2016

Darrel Anderson
President and CEO
Idaho Power
P.O. Box 70
Boise, ID 83707

Dear Mr. Anderson:

I am writing to request Idaho Power to more explicitly identify benefits to Eastern Oregon communities impacted by your company's plan for the Boardman to Hemingway 500 kV transmission line project (B2H Project). Your company furnished me with a Frequently Asked Questions document in April 2015; however, potential benefits to the communities and landowners are not shown in a detailed way and are certainly not well understood.

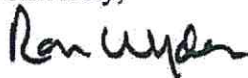
I understand that siting and planning for this project has been ongoing since 2007, and that Idaho Power conducted a Community Advisory Process to inform the public. However, parts of the review, consultation and discussion have occurred outside the broader community's view. There are deep concerns about the siting process, particularly in La Grande, Oregon, where a new route has only recently been developed, and which appears to be the Agency Preferred Alternative.

At a recent town hall meeting in La Grande, concerns were expressed about the need for the project and the sense that the community will incur impacts to important community, habitat and cultural resources with no real local benefits. I believe that specific information from your company identifying community benefits—in terms of electrical and economic opportunities for communities, compensation for affected landowners, potential for renewable energy growth and reductions in carbon emissions—would be significant and helpful. Ideally, these benefits would be identified at the county level for each of the Oregon counties through which the B2H Project would pass.

Further, I would strongly encourage your company to continue working closely with the Bureau of Land Management and affected property owners and neighbors to finalize a route that avoids important cultural and historic resources, has the least negative impacts and provides opportunity to minimize and mitigate negative effects, wherever possible.

Idaho Power has been responsive in the past to my requests, and I appreciate your attention and immediate response to these concerns expressed by my constituents.

Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
United States Senator

Keval from KLAH
7/26/16



Darrel T. Anderson
President & Chief Executive Officer
danderson@idahopower.com / 208-388-2650

July 19, 2016

The Honorable Ron Wyden
United States Senate
Dirksen Senate Office Bldg - 221
Washington, D.C. 20510

Subject: Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project Benefits

Dear Senator Wyden:

I am writing in response to your letter dated June 15, 2016, requesting additional information regarding the benefits of the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project (B2H or Project). As discussed below, B2H will economically benefit affected Oregon communities by creating construction jobs, increasing the tax base, and creating opportunities for renewable energy development and other development projects that would benefit from access to additional transmission facilities.

The increase in transmission capacity between the Pacific Northwest and Rocky Mountain regions will help the region meet federal and Oregon clean power policies. The Project will benefit Idaho Power customers in Malheur and Baker counties by providing access to low-cost energy to meet electric power demands. The Project will also provide access to low-cost energy for customers in Baker, Union, Umatilla and Morrow counties served directly or indirectly by B2H partners PacifiCorp and Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). Finally, the project will benefit customers in each of these counties by relieving existing transmission capacity constraints and allowing more flexibility to operate and maintain the existing transmission system.

You will also find more detail below about ways in which Idaho Power has worked, and continues to work, diligently with affected communities, landowners, agencies and others to finalize a route that avoids, or minimizes, impacts to resources and stakeholders.

I. IDAHO POWER IS COMMITTED TO WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

As a preliminary matter, I would like to highlight Idaho Power's community involvement. Idaho Power began permitting the Project approximately eight years ago. During this timeframe, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), various stakeholders, and Idaho Power have analyzed numerous routes and termination alternatives. As you know, this analysis involved extensive public input. Idaho Power facilitated a comprehensive community advisory process that spanned several years and included approximately 49 public meetings with roughly 2,200 attendees consisting of elected officials, business owners, landowners, opposition groups, environmental groups, and community members. Nearly 50 different routes in 11 different counties were considered during the community advisory process. In addition to Idaho Power's community

advisory process, BLM-led scoping consisted of an additional 14 meetings with approximately 450 attendees. In all, Idaho Power has led or participated in 113 public meetings intended to engage the public and develop solutions that minimize project impacts and best fit the region's needs and Project's purpose.

Since the BLM published the Draft Environmental Impact Statement in December 2014, a number of new route variations have been introduced to address concerns raised by affected communities and other stakeholders. Idaho Power supports the BLM process and believes that the BLM has done well in soliciting and considering local stakeholder input. For instance, it is my understanding that the route variations recently added for analysis in Union County were developed based on community input from Union County's B2H Advisory Committee in January 2016. Idaho Power feels strongly that the BLM-led National Environmental Policy Act process is working as intended, as it considers a reasonable range of alternatives and incorporates stakeholder input in arriving at an Agency Preferred route.

II. B2H WILL BRING CONSTRUCTION JOBS, AN INCREASED TAX BASE, AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO EASTERN OREGON COMMUNITIES

The Project will provide economic benefits to affected Oregon communities by creating construction jobs, increasing the annual tax base, and providing access to low-cost energy to the region for many years to come.

First, Idaho Power expects the Project will create approximately 500 construction jobs¹ and provide economic opportunities for local service industries supporting the construction efforts—e.g., housing for workers, food services, and equipment and material suppliers.

Second, since 2010, the Project has paid more than \$600,000 in tax dollars to the five affected Oregon counties. Based on Idaho Power's 21 percent interest in the permitting phase of the Project, when the project is complete we expect Idaho Power to pay approximately \$1.2 to \$1.3 million in taxes, annually, for the five Oregon counties the Project crosses. This estimate does not take into account any associated taxes, if applicable, for the other 79 percent of the Project that PacifiCorp and BPA could fund and operate, should our Project Partners move forward with an ownership percentage commensurate with their existing permitting allocation.

Third, based on Idaho Power's experience serving our customers, we know that transmission capacity can provide economic development opportunities. For example, Idaho Power has experienced and continues to see considerable interest and growth of renewable energy generation in Baker County, Malheur County, Union County, and throughout Oregon. Under federal open access transmission rules, Idaho Power is required to provide generation interconnection and allow use of available transmission capacity to all requesting parties supporting growth of new resources. But the existing transmission system in eastern Oregon is

¹ http://boardmantoohemingway.com/documents/RRTT_Press_Release_10-5-2011.pdf

congested and used to its full capacity and, without transmission infrastructure upgrades such as B2H, it has limited, if any, ability to integrate new renewable energy. B2H will increase transmission capacity through eastern Oregon, providing increased opportunities for renewable energy development and other development projects that would benefit from access to additional transmission facilities.

Finally, while the footprint of the Project will be limited, Idaho Power will compensate landowners who are directly impacted by the Project through the purchase of easements or other real property rights.

III. B2H WILL PROVIDE BENEFITS EMBODIED IN THE FEDERAL AND OREGON CLEAN POWER POLICIES

The Project is needed to meet projected demand for power in our Oregon and Idaho service area as the demand for electricity continues to increase. At the same time, B2H is consistent with the goals of EPA's Clean Power Plan and Oregon's Clean Electricity and Coal Transition Plan (HB 4036); by providing additional transmission capacity to utilize existing clean resources more efficiently, providing additional transmission capacity to integrate renewable energy on a regional basis, and facilitating the redispatch of existing carbon-based generation. Idaho Power, like other regional utilities, is on a glide-path away from coal-powered generation. Projects like B2H provide Idaho Power, and the broader region, the ability to cost-effectively replace lost resource capacity resulting from early coal-fired plant retirements. Additionally, the Project answers the call that President Obama made several years ago to develop nationally-significant transmission lines to increase grid capacity, integrate renewable energy, and create jobs, as one of seven pilot projects for the Rapid Response Team for Transmission.²

IV. B2H WILL PROVIDE ACCESS TO LOW-COST ELECTRIC POWER AND INCREASE ELECTRIC POWER RELIABILITY IN EASTERN OREGON COMMUNITIES

To address future Idaho Power customer demands, including our customers in Oregon, Idaho Power develops a biennial Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). The IRP is Idaho Power's official resource planning document and is filed with both the Oregon and Idaho Public Utility Commissions. Starting with the 2009 IRP, B2H has consistently been identified in the IRP as part of the preferred resource portfolio for providing low-cost, reliable energy to meet projected customer demand. Through the IRP process, which includes public involvement, Idaho Power evaluates various resource alternatives and resource futures, including the possible shutdown of certain carbon emitting facilities. Idaho Power will be starting the 2017 IRP this August, and we welcome your constituents to participate.

Idaho Power serves customers in Malheur and Baker Counties. As mentioned previously, Idaho Power's IRP analysis indicates that the B2H Project is the cost-effective resource to serve future

² http://boardmantohemingway.com/documents/RRTT_Press_Release_10-5-2011.pdf

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Page 4 of 4
July 19, 2016

customer demands. Therefore, the B2H Project will allow Idaho Power customers in both counties to maintain low rates and reliable service.

Idaho Power's understanding is that customers in each of the other Oregon counties through which the line will be constructed are served either directly or indirectly by B2H co-participants PacifiCorp or BPA. Accordingly, the same way that B2H will allow Idaho Power to move regional low-cost energy to the benefit of our customers, the Project seeks to do the same for the customers served Morrow, Union, Umatilla and Baker counties.

For each of the five counties crossed in Oregon, B2H will relieve existing transmission capacity constraints and will provide more flexibility to operate and maintain the existing transmission system. Finally, B2H can benefit local communities by providing the ability to tap the line in the future at intermediate locations along the line should the need for additional local area transmission capacity present itself, either for additional demand or for connecting new generation projects.

With respect to Morrow County specifically, the proposed B2H terminus at the Longhorn Station will provide a robust connection to the Pacific Northwest electrical grid at this location, providing additional reliability to the area and opportunities for future generation resource integration.

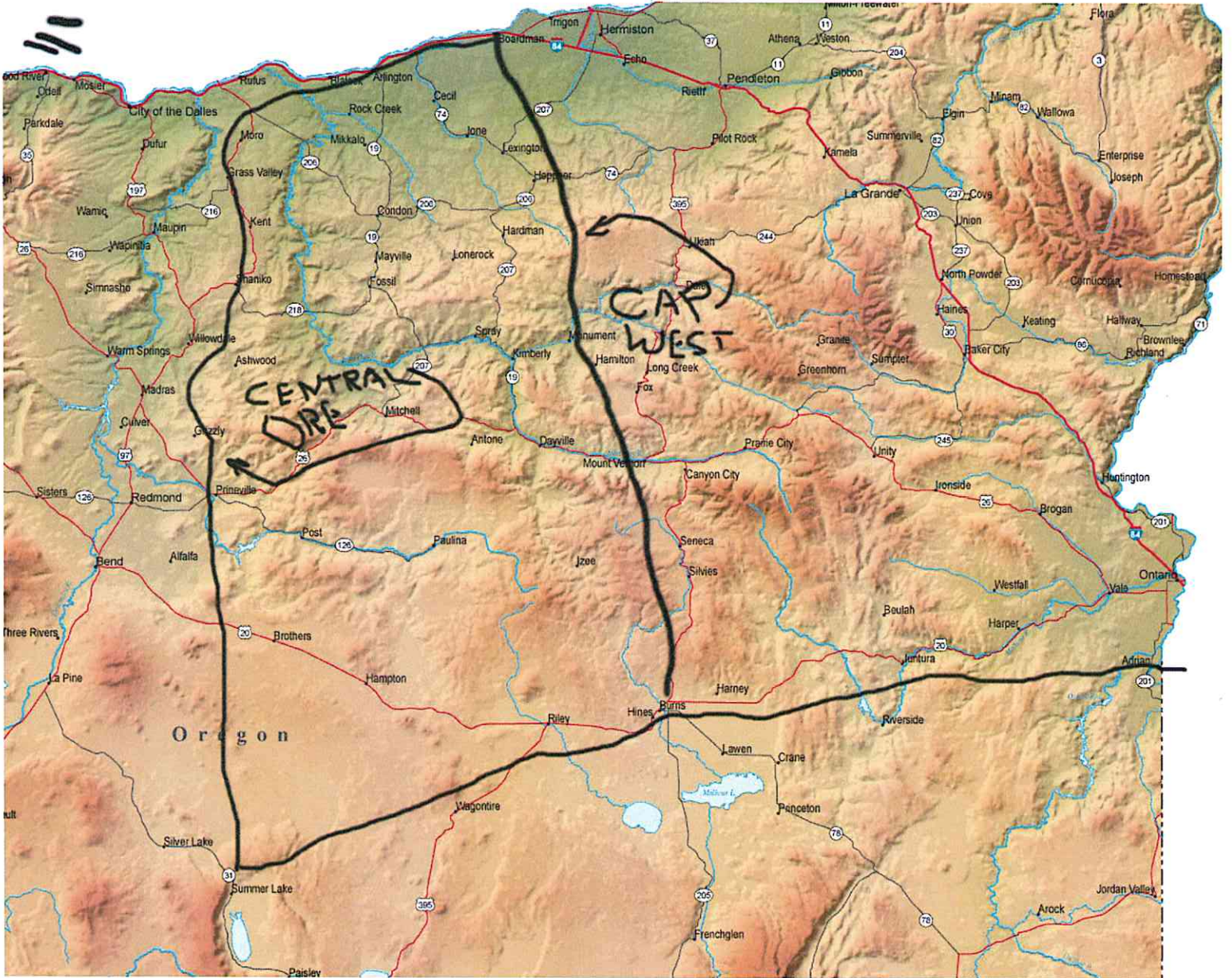
Idaho Power appreciates the time you have taken to seek additional information about the B2H Project. We believe the Project supports the need for access to low-cost and reliable electric service for customers of Idaho Power and our permitting partners, supports economic development in the affected Oregon communities, is a key component of the President's plan for new transmission line infrastructure, and supports federal and Oregon carbon emission reduction goals. Idaho Power hopes you support this beneficial Project.

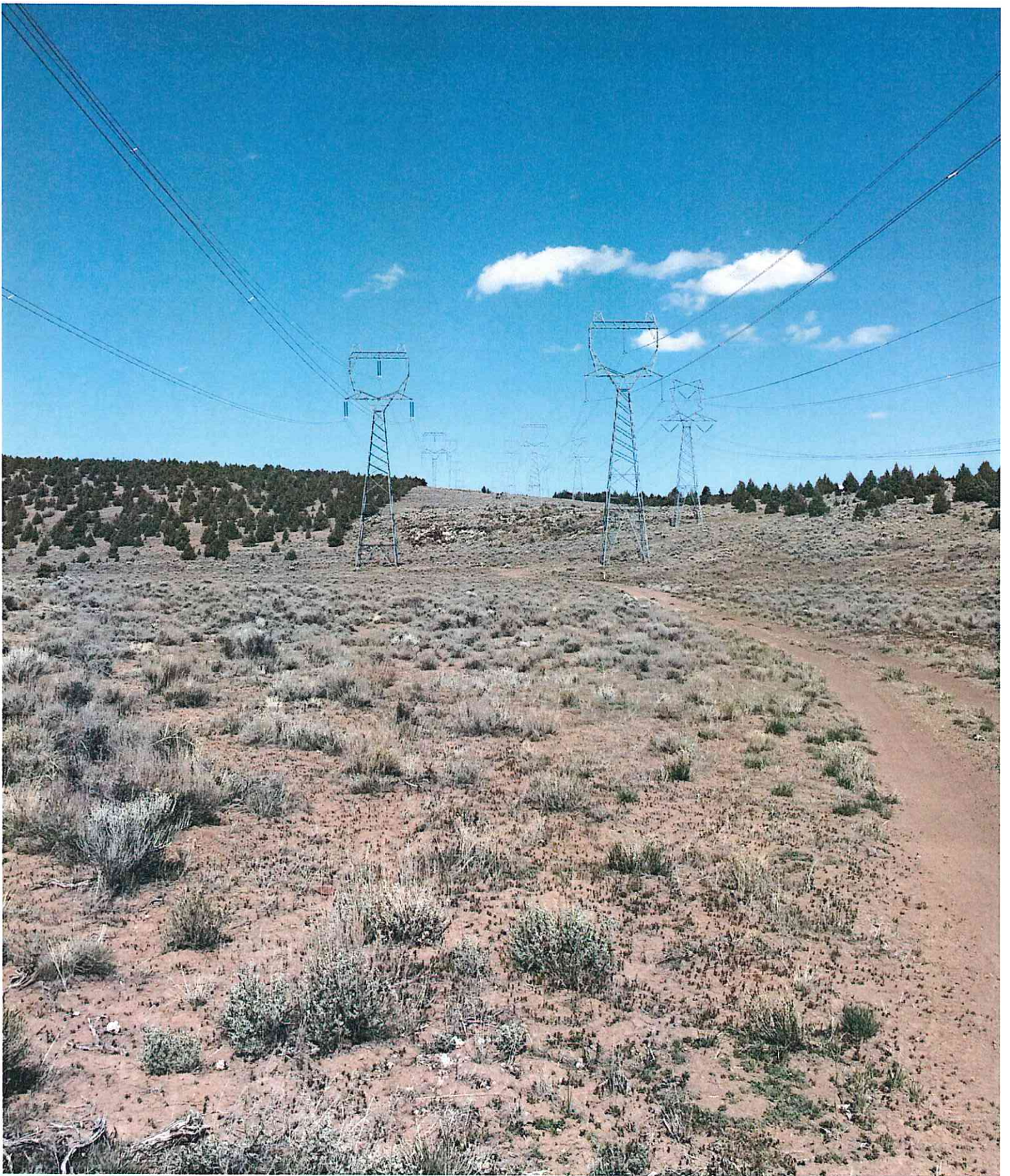
Sincerely,



Darrel T. Anderson
President and Chief Executive Officer

Received 8 pages from
Fuji Kreider 7/27/16





**West-wide Energy Corridor
Programmatic EIS
Proposed Section 368
Energy Corridors
November 2008**

Corridor Transmission Designation*

-  Multi-modal
-  Electric-only, Upgrade-only
-  Electric-only
-  Underground-only
-  Locally Designated

* Corridor widths are not to scale.

 State Owned

 Tribal Lands

 DOD Installations and Ranges

Federal Ownership

 Bureau of Land Management

 Bureau of Reclamation

 Department of Defense

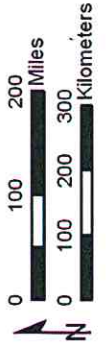
 Department of Energy

 Fish and Wildlife Service

 National Park Service

 Other

 US Forest Service



Darcy Johnson Carreiro

From: fkreider@campblackdog.org
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 9:05 AM
To: shartell@union-county.org; jayhawkted@gmail.com; 'Darcy Johnson Carreiro'
Cc: ottoirene@frontier.com; 'bradallen4030'; 'Ray & Lynn Randall'; tedvalson@eoni.com; jgold@eoni.com; 'George Mead'; npaullus@cityoflagrande.org
Subject: FW: B2H Advisory Comment-West Wide Corridor Question-Info
Attachments: image002.jpg; image004.jpg; oregon map1.jpg; ROW Central Oregon.jpg; Section368Corridors_Nov2008.pdf

July 27, 2016

Scott, Ted and B2H Advisory Committee,

Thank you for including my question about the West Wide Corridor in the committee's meeting packet. At the last meeting, I asked the Committee to look into the existing federal corridor system (West Wide Corridor.) I expressed concerns about B2H becoming the de-facto federal energy corridor for eastern Oregon (N-S) to connect with the one going E-W near Hwy 20. My question also infers, why are not the current corridors being used/considered?

I will not be present at the meeting—my apologies—however, I wanted to share my latest information on this issue. Some of this (map & photo) is from Gail Carbiener of the OR-CA Trails Association. Other info I gleaned from these sources: <http://corridoreis.anl.gov/> and <http://www.boardmantohemingway.com/documents.aspx>

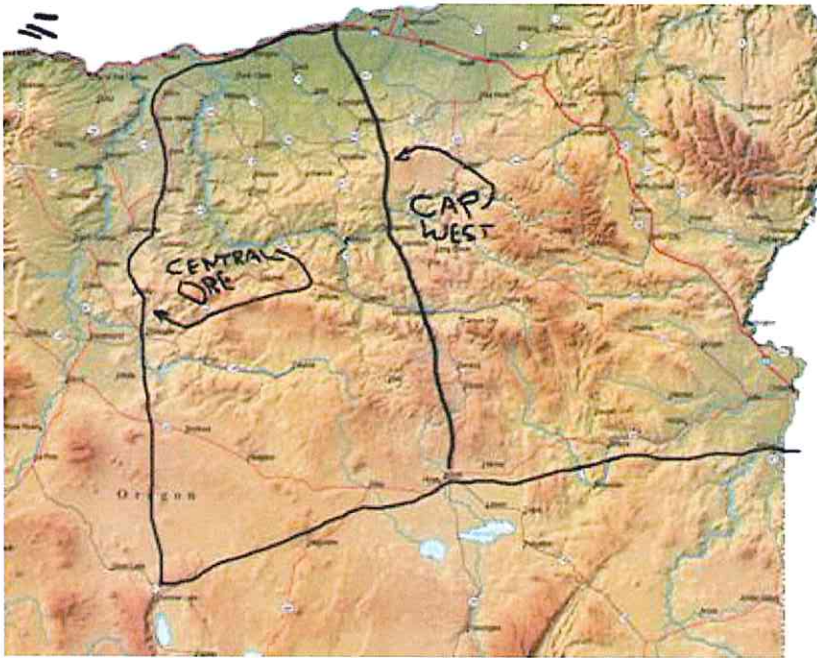
All the best for a successful meeting,
Fuji Kreider
60366 Marvin Road

1) The West Wide Corridor includes designated Federal Energy Corridors in the western United States. A "Programmatic EIS" has been conducted and recently released but unfortunately I have not been able to read any of it. Maybe Scott or others have some knowledge of it? My sense is that B2H is not addressed in the PEIS; there does not appear to be a N-S federal corridor; but a small N-S section near Huntington is. I feel it is critical that the committee understand more about the "what and why" of these established federal energy corridors. Why is there not a N-S route? The programmatic EIS mentions something about a regular review of the corridors and my fear is that B2H is a future idea that has not yet come to fruition (therefore, not in the PEIS); but could soon become the federal energy corridor.

http://www.corridoreis.anl.gov/eis/documents/fpeis/maps/Section368Corridors_Nov2008.pdf also attached.

2) That said, there is a N-S corridor that does exist! Apparently, it is not part of the "west wide" designation. The existing Right-of-Way from the Columbia River down via Central Oregon to the Summer Lake substation, then directly east to Burns and Hemingway has not been analyzed. Why?

3) This corridor or "right of way" (ROW) would be about 90 – 100 miles more in distance, for Idaho Power Corp to link Boardman to Hemingway, which is possibly why it has not been considered? This is an existing 500kV corridor all the way. FYI: Idaho Power recently "exchanged" assets with PacifiCorp and became the owner of the Summer Lake substation.



- 4) The north-south “right of way” or “corridor” that I spoke of at the last meeting (near 395), was actually the “CAP West route.” I seemed to have mixed them up because I didn’t realize that there are actually two N-S routes. One is the existing 500 kv line (called Central Ore, in the map) and the other is called the “CAP West,” which was analyzed during the CAP process conducted by Idaho Power.
- 5) The CAP routes (specifically the “CAP West” route), did not go far enough west to include the Central Oregon existing ROW. No doubt the distance will be the factor that Idaho Power will argue against. However the ROW exists, permits and mitigation should be less...? See above map.
- 6) The CAP West route, which would be more of a direct southerly route through Morrow County’s wind farms, was not in the DEIS and was removed before the DEIS was released. As I researched this more, I learned that it was removed because it would require a new corridor (approximately 110 miles) on USFS Umatilla and Malheur Forests. This was considered “technically unfeasible.”

In conclusion, I believe that there is a strong potential for the B2H to become the de-facto corridor for the eastern side of the state. The Committee may want to discuss how to inform the Commissioners of this potential, as I believe it fulfills the spirit of their role to advise the Commission on issues of concern. Thank you.

PS: In the interest of time, I tried to cc most of the committee members I know. Please share with all! Thx again, Fuji

West-wide Energy Corridor Information Center

An online public information and involvement resource

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Go



West-wide Energy Corridor Information Center

This website is the online center for public information for the designated Section 368 West-wide Energy Corridors.



Announcements

Corridor Study Released

On May 20, 2016, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Department of Energy (DOE), and the U.S. Forest Service (FS) released the *Section 368 Corridor Study*. The BLM has issued a [Press Release](#) briefly summarizing the history and purpose of the corridor study. The study provides a foundation for additional periodic reviews of the Section 368 corridors to assess the need for future corridor modifications.

[Section 368 Corridor Study \(19.7 MB\)](#)

Regional Reviews Initiated

Public engagement opportunities and background information for the [Regional Periodic Reviews](#) of the Section 368 Corridors will be forthcoming. To receive updates and announcements, subscribe below.

Email Address:

[Map of Priority Regions for Review of Section 368 Energy Corridors \(1.6 MB\)](#)

[Map of Energy Corridors in Region One \(851 KB\)](#)

The United States Department of Energy, the United States Department of the Interior (DOI) Bureau of Land Management, the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, and United States Department of Defense (the Agencies) issued a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) on November 16, 2007 and a Final PEIS on November 20, 2008 that evaluated issues associated with the designation of energy corridors on federal lands in eleven Western states. The PEIS identified potential corridors; evaluated effects of potential future development within designated corridors; identified mitigation measures for such effects; and developed Interagency Operating Procedures (IOPs) applicable to planning, construction, operation, and decommissioning of future projects within the corridors.

Based upon the information and analyses developed in the PEIS, the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture signed Records of Decision (RODs) in 2009 designating Section 368 corridors by amending land and resource management plans on lands administered by their respective agencies in the eleven Western states.

News

- Corridor Study Released
- Memorandum of Understanding
- Settlement Agreement

Subscribe

Enter your e-mail address below to receive updates and announcements.

[more info >](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

The designation of energy transport corridors in land and resource management plans identified the preferred locations for development of energy transport projects on lands administered by the Forest Service (FS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM). These locations were selected to avoid significant known resource and environmental conflicts, promote renewable energy development in the West, improve reliability, relieve congestion, and enhance the capability of the national grid to deliver electricity.

The IOPs are intended to expedite the permitting process; provide coordinated, consistent interagency management procedures for permitting rights of way (ROWS) within the corridors; and identify mandatory requirements for future projects.

Settlement Agreement

In July 2009, the Wilderness Society, BARK, Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife, Great Old Broads for Wilderness, Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, National Parks Conservation Association, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Natural Resources Defense Council, Oregon Natural Desert Association, Sierra Club, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, Western Resource Advocates, Western Watersheds Project, and County of San Miguel, Colorado (Plaintiffs) filed a complaint against the Agencies challenging the PEIS, DOI and FS RODs, and associated energy corridor designations (Wilderness Society, et al. v. United States Department of the Interior, et al., No. 3:09-cv-03048-JW [N.D. Cal.]) pursuant to the Energy Policy Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. In July 2012, the BLM, FS, Department of Energy (DOE), and the Department of Justice developed a Settlement Agreement with the Plaintiffs that contains specific actions to resolve the challenges in the Complaint.

The four principal components of the Settlement Agreement require the Agencies to:

1. Complete an interagency Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) addressing [periodic corridor reviews](#);
2. Update agency guidance;
3. Update agency training; and
4. Complete a [corridor study](#).

The Settlement Agreement also identifies specific Section 368 "Corridors of Concern" and directs the agencies to consider five general principles for the revision, deletion, or addition of future corridors. For more information about the Settlement Agreement, including timeline, documents, implementation of periodic reviews, agency guidance and training, and the corridor study, see the [Settlement Agreement](#) section.

Background Information

[Section 368](#) of the [Energy Policy Act of 2005](#) (the Act), Public Law 109-58 (H.R. 6), enacted August 8, 2005, directed the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Energy, and the Interior (the Agencies) to designate under their respective authorities **corridors on federal land** in 11 Western States (Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) for **oil, gas, and hydrogen pipelines and electricity transmission and distribution facilities** (energy corridors).

Section 368 required the Agencies to conduct any "environmental reviews" necessary to complete the designation of Section 368 energy corridors. The designation of Section 368 energy corridors does not result in any direct impacts on the ground that may

significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Nevertheless, the Agencies prepared a PEIS from 2006 to 2008 to conduct a detailed environmental analysis at the programmatic level and to integrate NEPA at the earliest possible time.

The evaluation of future project-related environmental impacts must await site-specific proposals and the required site-specific environmental review. A quantifiable and accurate evaluation of impacts at the local project level can be made only in response to an actual proposed energy project, when a proposal for an action with specific environmental consequences exists.

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Darcy Johnson Carreiro

*Rec'd from Lois Barry
7/27/16*

From: Scott Hartell <shartell@union-county.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 10:45 AM
To: Darcy Johnson Carreiro
Subject: FW: Letter requested by B2H committee

Gift for B2H Advisory Committee.

Scott

From: lois barry [<mailto:loisbarry31@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 10:31 AM
To: Scott Hartell
Subject: Re: Letter requested by B2H committee

Letter requested by B2H committee

Inbox

X



lois barry <loisbarry31@gmail.com>

Jul 25 (2 days ago)



to Scott



Scott, Here's the draft of a letter that the Committee might want to send to Idaho Power. Any changes that they want to make, or if the committee decides they don't want to send it, either is fine with me.

Jeff Maffuccio

Idaho Power

Dear Jeff,

We would appreciate receiving a brief summary of Idaho Power's conservation and demand response figures for the state of Idaho (not including the 3% of your clients in Oregon) from your 2015-2016 Annual Report.

Please provide the following:

Electric savings: _____ aMW saved

Natural gas savings: _____ therms saved

Renewable generation: _____ aMW generated

Delivered incentives: \$ _____

Number of solar systems installed: _____

Number of commercial buildings _____ and homes _____ built with energy savings

Any other information, such as number of businesses supported, homeowners educated, etc. that you consider relevant would be welcome.

Yours very truly,

Scott Hartell for the Union County B2H Advisory Committee